

From: Justin Londagin [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 4, 2021 12:44 AM
To: TownCouncil Mailbox
Subject: Ballott Questions

After an e-mail notifying me about possible ballot questions for the upcoming November election, I am reaching out to the Town Council. I was appalled when I read the potential questions. I would speak in person on Tuesday, but I will be traveling due to work responsibilities. Therefore, I will bestow my opinions on each item.

1) New Home Tax: If you want to destroy the Town's growth, this is the precise way. If I am a buyer looking to build a home and my realtor informs me Castle Rock has a \$15K tax on my average size residence, I'm building someplace else. Question: will this tax be placed on new businesses? Or is the Town just taxing hardworking Coloradans who want to live the American Dream?

Where will this funding go? The Castle Rock Police and Fire. I will be okay with this once our police commenced enforcement of basic traffic laws. I served on the city council in Augusta, KS. Our police chief educated the council that traffic enforcement decreases crime. Eastborough, KS, has a strict speed limit policy. Any vehicle going 21 MPH in the 20 MPH speed limit town receives a ticket. Why? Because it kept the criminals out of the Town. Do you think a crook wants to risk pulled over? No.

2) Lodging Tax: This is the precise way to destroy tourism in our Town. Hotel chains are now including taxes in hotel rates when a traveler is examining nightly rates. Suppose I am a traveler or a business looking at hotel rates between two hotels. One in Castle Rock and one just a mere drive north of Town, I'm spending my money there. I'm spending my dining budget there. I'm shopping at Park Meadows.

3) .1% sales tax increase. Would you please stop it? You passed on a marijuana tax. You passed on a tobacco tax; when we are confronting a health crisis that is vaping? But you want to raise the tax I pay when purchasing a car or buying a snowblower at Lowe's?

4). TABOR timeout. First, I despise TABOR. It's a farce. It's why Colorado has some of the most defective roads I have driven on in the USA. I travel this country for my profession, and I know roads. But for you to get selfish and retain what TABOR allows citizens to be refunded, no.

Here is how you finance your city:

1) Notify the police chief to institute a strict no speeding policy. For example, pull over and ticket every driver driving 3 MPH over posted speed limits.

2) Run enforcement in all school zones weekly.

3) Enforce all "No Right Turn on Red" signs. I banter with my wife that the Town could fund its entire budget by enforcing the "No Right Turn on Red" at Founders and Allen. I challenge you each to sit at that intersection for one hour during the day and count how many drivers break that law.

4) Enforce the fundamental traffic law of turning into the first available lane. Again, I invite you each to sit at the intersection of Prairie Hawk and Meadows Parkway. Count how many motorists violate this law. But, considering I have seen Castle Rock's police department violate this law in their police vehicles, I suspect they will not enforce this law.

5) Raise all traffic fines by 50%. The increase can be done without a vote of the people.

6) Allow marijuana dispensaries. The Town voters are already driving north to buy the product. Douglass County only has a ban of dispensaries in unincorporated sections of the county.

7) Increase the tax on all vaping products to decrease teen vaping use.

I ask you to read this letter during the town council meeting on Tuesday. Remember, you are employed by the 75,000 plus citizens of Castle Rock and me.

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