MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION
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James Klahr
Executive Director

July 20, 2015

City of Hannibal
320 Broadway
Hannibal MO 63401

MEC No. 15-0028-I

To Whom It May Concern:

The Missouri Ethics Commission considered the complaint filed against the City of Hannibal at its July 20, 2015 meeting. The complaint alleges that City of Hannibal illegally expended City funds to favorably advocate the passage of two Ballot Measures in the April 2015 election to support a "Use Tax" through the publication of six (6) newspaper articles in the Hannibal Courier-Post and the circulation of a "brochure" all relative to the ballot measures, which contained inaccurate or no "paid for by" disclosure. Investigation further determined the City exceeded $500 in expenditures while distributing said literature relative to a ballot measure which requires the filing of a Non Committee Expenditure Report.

The staff review of this complaint found that neither the Mayor nor city council members had any involvement in the drafting or publication of the newspaper articles or flyer.

From the facts presented, the Commission finds no reasonable grounds exist to support a violation of Chapter 115, RSMo, or Chapter 130 RSMo, against the Mayor and city council members and is dismissing the complaint against these individuals.

Sincerely,

James Klahr

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Executive Director