



Missouri Ethics Commission

Elizabeth L. Ziegler
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Commission Action: MEC No. 22-0067-I, Michael McDonough, Damon Hodges, Ryan Myers and Perry Gorrell, Raytown, Missouri

Date: 11/18/2022

The Missouri Ethics Commission took final consideration of the complaint filed against Raytown Mayor Michael McDonough, City Administrator Damon Hodges, Alderman Ryan Myers and Park Board Director Perry Gorrell at its November 18, 2022, meeting.

The complaint filed with the Commission alleged that Respondents used public funds to support ballot measures which appeared on the August 2, 2022, ballot when they contracted for the development of a “brand” and created a website, both of which were later used by a campaign committee which supported three questions on the ballot relating to general obligation bonds to be used for infrastructure and sewer systems and a mill levy increase.

Specifically, the city contracted with Macy Consulting Services dba LINK to create the “One Raytown Brand” with support at public meetings, development of communication tools, fact sheets, yard signs, door hangers, and use of social media and local press releases. City staff developed the website, www.oneraytown.com which provided the information. Raytown Forward, a continuing committee (PAC) also created materials which advocated for the ballot measures and also directed citizens to the website.

Section 115.646, RSMo, prohibits the use of public funds to support or oppose a ballot measure. In this instance, all materials produced with city funds were informational only and did not advocate for or against the ballot measures. There is no law prohibiting a continuing committee (PAC) to utilize public information to advocate for a measure.

From the facts presented, the Commission found no reasonable grounds exist to support a violation of Chapter 115, RSMo, and dismissed the complaint.

Elizabeth L. Ziegler
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