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Mayor's Memo Clarifies Intent of Recent Motion

February 23— On Sunday, February 22nd, Mayor Dennis Mulder sent a memorandum to the City Commissioners, City Manager and City Attorney. The memo concerns the recent Motion that deals with defending the City, the Commissioners and City staff from slander and libelous acts. The Mayor's message is included below, and clarifies the purpose for the Motion.

To City Commission, City Attorney, City Manager,

I thought it may be a good idea to clarify the motion regarding legal expenses for the protection of the city, city officials and staff. Further, I have asked the City Attorney to draft a revised motion approved by the legal staff which may better represent the intention of the commission for my comments section at the next commission meeting. It was always my intent to defend the city itself and all that is involved with the operation of the city. I read the motion and can truly understand why there may be some misunderstanding of my intentions, thus my request for official clarification via a new motion. I apologize for not being crystal clear on such an important issue.

I understand why folks who have not been narrowly exposed to this issue may not understand how bad things have gotten and why this is necessary. For clarification, preceding the revised motion that is upcoming, I want you all to be aware I plan on spending private money to defend myself, family and businesses, not public money.

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Public money would be used only to defend the city itself from damages current and future. The many personal references made in my presentation were made to illustrate the damage and danger of a select few. Assaulting, slandering etc. our staff members would be a different story of course, as would damages the city itself has suffered.

Again, I agree and plan to clarify the use of public money only where appropriate and not for personal reasons. The public has been amazing in its support for me thru phone calls, home visits, business visits etc. As a result of this story and the details of my presentation many have come forward with generous offers for assistance on the personal issues we face, my family is grateful and we stand ready to defend ourselves via private dollars.

Mayor Mulder

For more information, call Lee Lopez/Public Information Officer at (386)-878-8755.