

`NOUGH ALREADY

I have rarely read such unsupported, half-truths, inaccurate and misleading blather as written over the past several weeks by Coombes and Stubbs. They apparently have a strong disagreement with the two of our Councilpersons that attempt to bring sanity to our legally, ethically and financially challenged City Manager and City Council.

Stubbs, kicked off a local web site for, among others, grossly misleading statements, is particularly galling for he continues this practice unabated. Coombes, absent any documentation or substantiating information, in a convoluted, rambling, poorly written full page advertisement, accuses Councilperson Linda Strickland of meddling because Hawthorne Suites chose to cancel their contract to build a hotel at BCGC.

Hawthorne, a financially astute company, likely foresaw the on-set of terrible financial conditions and cancelled their contract as it was no longer financially viable; the same reason hundreds of other construction projects were stopped and/or cancelled. In spite of this Coombes reiterates his same old mantra; Councilperson Linda Strickland is solely responsible for the cancellation and may have cost Boulder City thousands of dollars. Balderdash, come off it Coombes. Most people are aware your asinine conclusion is erroneous and certainly not based upon factual information.

If you wish to pursue pertinent issues investigate how much did Hawthorne pay to the City for defaulting on their 50 year, \$175,000/year contract (which adds up to \$8,750,000 disregarding escalating clauses). Find out why the many other "commitments", as Sol Bio, Volunteers of America, Hangtime Sports, the Windmill project, et. al, were granted by our City Council/City Manager/City Attorney without demanding "up front" money only to have them default, sometimes years later, with little or no lease payments and/or monetary penalty.

In private industry such continuous, flagrant, grievous financially culpable errors would have resulted in those responsible being fired.

Bart Hoppe