

09-1717

AUDITS & GOVERNMENTAL EFFICIENCY JUL 10 2009

MOTION FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL AGENDA TO BE POSTED

#56

for 7.21.09

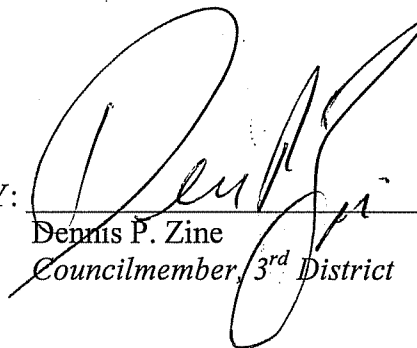
A recent letter from the City Controller pointed out that the City paid \$48,826 for approximately 3,500 boxed lunches for emergency personnel assigned to the Michael Jackson memorial. The letter further indicated that this expenditure was much higher than normal market rate prices for this type of food purchase. Furthermore, the meals were bought from a vendor located nearly 80 miles outside the City of Los Angeles. Thus the taxpayers paid for overpriced lunches that provided no economic benefit to the City.

Subsequently, the Emergency Management Department defended the purchase by stating that there was an existing contract with the vendor to provide large numbers of meals at short notice. The purchase was also within existing City policy authorizing expedited approval of emergency expenditures under \$100,000. However, the fact that this purchase complied with City policy does not make it a prudent one.

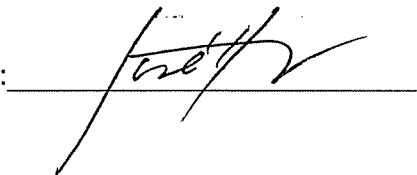
If the City's contracting process did indeed lead to the selection of this overpriced and distant vendor, it suggests that the current policy is flawed. The City Council should examine why no other business actually located within City limits could have provided a similar service at a lower cost. The City's contracting requirements must not become so onerous that taxpayers are left footing exorbitant bills from non-local businesses.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Chief Legislative Analyst report to the City Council on the selection process for vendors to the City, specifically with regard to the myriad requirements placed on vendors that may limit the pool of bidders to the point that few, if any, of these businesses are located within the City or are able to provide the service at a reasonable cost to taxpayers.

PRESENTED BY:

  
Dennis P. Zine  
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

JUL 10 2009

