



● **McQUISTON ASSOCIATES**

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CF09-2560, 2560-S3, 10-0225

ITEMS 7, 10, 25 COUNCIL 5/3/11

B. Walters

**STATEMENT of J.H. McQUISTON on
COLLECTION ISSUE**

Honorable President and Members of the Council:

1. No doubt the **apparent amount owed the City is tantalizing, but it may not legally-collectible**. There are issues concerning whether all the amounts set forth are **truly-owed**, or whether they are bogus.

From personal experience I know the above is a true fact.

The FMS, when operational, should be given a try before embarking on another expensive layer of financial fact-finding as proposed in the proposals. One *raison d'etre* for FMS is to identify-quickly collectible-funds.

The Mayor as Executive is required by law to collect the City's debts. If the Mayor falls, the BLACK MARK on the Mayor will shorten his future in public service. That is the Intent of the City Charter.

This Council will be wise to impress on the Mayor the above points.

2. Moreover, **appointing an Inspector General implies Finance is CORRUPT. There is no allegation that substantiates that implication, but such a SMEAR demoralizes Finance's loyal, hard-working staff which must not be falsely-denigrated.**

3. I supported Councilmember Zine's reasoned position at the Special Joint Meeting of B & F and Audits Committees April 25, 2011: The proposed process and financial outlay yields **nothing of value to the City.**

4. **The City already is collecting large arrears by conventional and common collection-force; the City Attorney merely obtains collection by Court action. An Inspector General (or other title) can do no better, and its time and funds necessarily-consumed will instead JEOPARDIZE recovery.**

I pray this Council not to proceed with this rash, unproductive and costly approach. Let the City Attorney take on collections **per standard collection process.**

Respectfully submitted,

c: Interested parties

J. H. McQuiston