

From: Mary Shkut

Subject: Looking Ahead...

Date: June 1, 2018 at 4:09:35 PM EDT

To: Joe Pollino, Robert Epps, Nick Dispenziere, Kim Vandenberg

Cc: Melanie Cox

Dear Fellow Members of Council,

Thank you for appointing me to fill Mr. Ron Salimao's seat. I realize my appointment to the Council was not unanimous, and some on the Council will find my appointment worthy of contest. I am sorry to hear it. In the meantime, my attorneys advise I should remain in the seat, as an active part of the Council, unless or until a court deems differently, in accord with N.C.G.S. §128-6.

On a more positive note, I hope each of you will come to trust that my intentions are principled and I have valuable knowledge and experience which benefits the Village, as a whole, and has the potential to elevate conversations and discussions. Despite fears, I have no intention of launching personal attacks on character and hope I can expect the same from others. I have a great capacity to move past personnel issues and can appreciate the administrative insight granted by the experience.

Instead, one can expect me to engage in 'healthy' political debate, with regard to policy and administration. I don't believe any topic which falls within these categories should be subjects in which members are fearful to engage. In fact, when intentions are sound, politicians should welcome open and transparent discussions regarding the people's business.

I will be respectful of those who have different policy and administrative opinions, as long as those in opposition are able to maintain integrity and uphold similar values. And, in accord with my Oath of Office; including sworn oaths to support, maintain and defend the NC Constitution, NC Statutes and Village ordinances, I look forward to doing my utmost to protect the integrity and transparency of Council meetings and Village business.

I am looking forward, toward respectfully working with all of you, despite personal differences regarding policy. I hope we can all look ahead to cooperative and healthy exchanges, for the sake of the Village and our community.

Yours truly,

Mary G. Shkut

§128-6. Persons admitted to office deemed to hold lawfully.

Any person who shall, by the proper authority, be admitted and sworn into any office, shall be held, deemed, and taken, by force of such admission, to be rightfully in such office until, by judicial sentence, upon a proper proceeding, he shall be ousted therefrom, or his admission thereto be, in due course of law, declared void. (Const., art.4, s.25; 1844, c.38, s.2; 1848, c.64, s.1; R.C., c.77, s.3; Code, s.1872; Rev., s.2368; C.S., s.3204.)

CC: Bland, Villmer, Kline
