

MAYOR DAVE ALVORD'S LETTER TO THE CITY OF SOUTH JORDAN COUNCIL AND ATTORNEY, SEPT. 23, 2015

These are the events to the best of my memory: One summer evening, shortly after the primary election, I was visited, unexpectedly, by Andrew Petersen. I was wearing my swimsuit and had dressed my kids for swimming and was about to head out the door to the Daybreak pool.

Andrew knocked on my door and asked for a moment to speak with him. I told him that I was about to leave, but could give him a few minutes. I expressed my condolences on his recent election loss. I told him that he needed more signs and more funding and offered some other big-brother advice for if he ever runs again. He smiled and asked me a question: "Will you be running for mayor again?" I told him that I wasn't sure, that I may indeed want to – it depended on how the new council and I got along. He said that he heard that I wasn't running again and that he was disappointed to learn that I may not be running because he had an idea.

He said that he had spoken to Paul Bateman and that Paul had agreed to drop out of the race. I recall wondering if that was true. It seemed odd that Paul would go along with Andrew's idea. But nonetheless, that was Andrew's claim.

Andrew proceeded to tell me that he had come into some money from a family member and that they had pledged \$10,000. All that he needed to do was convince Paul and Chuck to withdraw their names and that he would then run, this time, well-funded.

I asked him whether Sherrie Swenson's office had confirmed that it "worked that way." I told him that I didn't think the law allowed for his plan. He said that he would check, but to assume that it's legal. "OK," I said, now out of pure curiosity. "How do you convince Chuck to drop out?" I asked. He said: "We promise to support him in his race for mayor." I reminded Andrew that I was considering running again, so that was a problem. I also said something to the effect of "you're a nice guy, and I am sorry to disappoint you, but I think that this is highly irregular. I don't think it's legal and I don't think Chuck would have any reason to drop out. After all, Chuck is running close. He may win. Chuck has been working hard (etc.). I don't think that the voters would like this. We just had an election (etc.)."

Andrew persisted in thinking that he had a good plan. Again out of curiosity, I asked: "How in the world will you convince Chuck?" (In my mind I was thinking that Andrew had zero chance of success). Andrew said, "we will support his campaign for mayor."

Andrew persisted, and by then, my kids were tugging on my hands, getting very impatient. I wanted to get rid of him, without being rude. So I said: "Check with (Salt Lake County Clerk) Sherrie Swensen and then check with Mr. Newton and then get back to me." I didn't think he'd have any chance... but I was curious to hear what they say. I fully expected him to be disappointed in both respects.

Note: It should not surprise any who know of my and Mr. Newton's relationship that I would not favor *any* scheme that leads to Chuck Newton becoming the next mayor. It's too bad that Andrew didn't realize this.