

December 1, 2021

Jason Miller

Argus Observer

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Oregon Law Center's representation of Mrs. Heriberta Contreras Granados.

The crux of the issue is the excessive fines levied by the City of Ontario for nuisance violations, unlawful procedures as well the unfair appeals process that required a large non-refundable fee.

It has been common practice for the Code Enforcement Department, administered by the Chief Police and the City Manager, to allow excessive fines to be levied and accumulate against properties and citizens. Some fines reached as high as \$227,000.

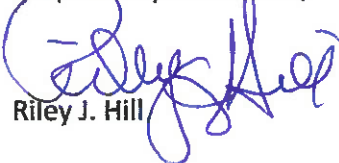
There is no impartial appeals process; those fined are guilty as charged and expected to pay the exorbitant fines. This compelled me to take the City to task where I incurred \$30,000 in legal fees to expose the city's unfair practices. This effort resulted in the current City Council recognizing these biased and unjust fines.

Another factor related to this issue, is that Officer Brockett filed a written complaint against the Chief of Police about fines levied on different properties; it does not appear that the City has made a full investigation by an independent third party into the complaint.

The present City Council decided that the process in place was not beneficial to the City and stopped the unjust process. They appointed an Ad Hoc committee to review and assess the process, make recommendations, and present solutions to the City Council.

I hope to put this problem to rest and come to a good resolution. My reason for running for Mayor was to ensure fiscal responsibility and accountability, make certain all citizens are treated equitably, engage in long-range strategic planning that will restore Ontario to its prominence in the Treasure Valley making it a strong, healthy, safe community where residents are proud to live, work, and enjoy life.

Respectfully Submitted,



Riley J. Hill