An Open Letter to Payson Voters

The voting process, leading up to the in-person election on November 3, has begun. Two candidates are vying for the last open seat on the Payson Town Council. The philosophical differences between them couldn't be more stark.

Jolynn Schinstock has promised to work for you and with the other members of the Town Council. She has vowed to be an independent voice and cast votes that will move our town forward. In her professional life, she oversaw a $400,000,000 Army budget with accountability for those expenditures, a skill Payson critically needs at this time. Deborah Rose, on the other hand, has pledged her allegiance not to you, but to Mayor Tom Morrissey. In fact, Morrissey has said that without Rose on the Payson Town Council "the next two years will be wasted." That outlandish statement in itself is a threat to good governance.

Morrissey's mayoral record has been dismal. His bad judgment has cost us over $57,000 in wasted legal fees. He supports projects that are in excess of what the town can afford. His actions and rhetoric have divided our community. His unprovoked illegal attacks on the town's largest charity and the RCEA stand as examples of his ignorance and incompetence. He has voted for an over-budget splash pad at the expense of the Taylor Pool. Now Rose has indicated in her ads that the mayor has already secured "private funding" for the Taylor pool cover. How does she know this? Is she already meeting and planning with Morrissey to the exclusion of other town council members? His agenda has not benefited us but regretfully has bled the town treasury of our hard-earned tax dollars. With Rose's help things will only get worse.

Finally, when the two candidates agreed to two debates it was done so with the mutual understanding that they would discuss the issues and not engage in any mudslinging. At the first debate, on September 30, Deborah broke her promise and made a spectacle of herself by personally attacking Jolynn, spewing lies and distortions. Subsequently, Jolynn, in an ad in The Roundup, respectfully and with good reason, explained why she was pulling out of the second debate. She had no choice.

As a citizen of Payson, it is your right to expect fair, unbiased, and reasoned representation. A council member has an obligation to provide that and more. Please vote for Jolynn Schinstock. Payson cannot afford the alternative.

Respectfully,
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