

Mayor Robert Chatfield
Prospect Town Hall
36 Center Street
Prospect, Ct 06712

September 15, 2020

Dear Mayor Chatfield,

During the Town Council Meetings in June of 2020, I posed several questions to the Town Council, who responded that they didn't have access to that information, and indicated that they would ask you to get back to me. Specifically during the June 23rd session you stated that you'd check on one topic and respond directly to me. I understand that everyone has a lot going on, but as I've not heard back from you since, I thought I'd try to reach out again in hopes of possibly getting some answers. The two (2) specific areas of concern are:

- As you had indicated earlier this year, the 'General Fund balance was well in excess of \$2m. I specifically asked you to identify the actual source(s) of those funds. As Region 16 had previously provided me with detailed information going back a number of years, it appeared that the education tax dollars the Town had collected specifically for Region 16 and which the Region subsequently either 'refunded' or allowed the Town to 'Retain' were probably in excess of what you reported was in the General Funds, I was hoping to get a better understanding from you as to where that money is coming from, and being used for. As noted earlier, I'm still awaiting your response.
- Earlier this year you reported that over the period from late-2017 through sometime 2019 that 'about' \$250,000 had 'gone missing' from the Town's Payroll Checking Account at Webster Bank. Being a career banker, there were several aspects of that story which did not ring true, including that no one in your administration was actually reviewing the monthly bank statements, or was even aware any thefts had been ongoing for over a year. While indicative of really serious problems, I specifically noted that the \$250,000 could not have been 'stolen' unless at least that amount of funds, 'in excess' of what was needed to cover the payroll checks, had been deposited by someone into that account. You made some reference to the banks requiring the Town to carry a 'compensating balance' in that account to 'negate bank service charges'. Again, I found it highly unusual that the bank would require such a large amount be held in a 'transaction' type account where they themselves would have been exposed to higher government reserve requirements. You stated that you were unsure of the exact amount, but that you'd get back to me; and I'm still waiting.

I'm also copying Town Council Chair Jeff Slapikas so as to have this included in Correspondence for their September 15th Meeting with the expectation that the Council has not heard back from you, and that the information requested should be of interest to them also. I'm sure that if they had heard from you that they would have responded directly to my earlier questions.

As Always, Best Regards and Stay Healthy,

Thomas J. Galvin

Thomas J. Galvin
27 Rockridge Terrace
Prospect, CT 06712

Copy To: Town Council Chair J. Slapikas (as Correspondence for the September 15, 2020 Meeting)