From: Shane McFarland
To: mindy gannon
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL]- Who are you representing
Date: Saturday, December 17, 2022 10:00:31 AM

Mindy:

Your email gives a great example with what's wrong with public dialogue today. I appreciate the fashion advice, but that video was from my Facebook Live Chats I have done for many years. They are very informal and not TV interviews. I would weather be about substance and not look. Nonetheless, here is my response.

I think you are misunderstood with what has been relayed or what is being said in public.

No one is saying that Boro Pride can't occur. No one is saying that anyone has an issue with the LBGQT community and their right to assemble. What the City is saying is that the "show" at the festival was not age appropriate or family friendly. The organizers and the city have met, and it was relayed we cannot, nor do we have the right to stop any festival, but we do have the right to monitor what happens on City Property and make sure they are in the guidelines set worth by the City of Murfreesboro and for that matter the State of Tennessee.

The TEP has decided again to submit an application with no adjustments or stipulations to monitor the show, make it age appropriate or any other assurances after the city met stating what our concerns and issues were. If that is the stance of the TEP, clearly, they don't want to compromise, and another group will have to take up the festival with those assurances.

The videos that were sent are not appropriate for children and that type of sexual content should not and will not be permitted on City Property. IF the group wants to have that type of show, there are other options. Including, having it on private property.

The narrative that the City is trying to stop the festival is just false. The Boro Pride festival has taken place in the City for many years and hasn't been a problem. This past year was a different situation. I would argue that if this type of "show" is worth throwing out a whole festival….that is on the organizers.

I hope that makes sense. BTW...are you a Murfreesboro resident?

Thank you!
Shane McFarland
Mayor City of Murfreesboro

From: mindy gannon <minnazg@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, December 17, 2022 9:51 AM
To: Shane McFarland <smcfarland@murfreesborotn.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]- Who are you representing

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Dear Mayor McFarland,

First, when representing Murfreesboro on channel 4 could you please look more professional. Your choice of attire gave an air of amateurism and incompetence, something most in Tennessee already associate with this city.

Second, please remember that are you perpetuating the view (not just with your wardrobe choice), that Murfreesboro will cater a right wing Neo Nazi group while denying another group access to city property. You do understand that you are giving justification to the the argument that Murfreesboro is the ugly, uneducated, backwater cousin of Franklin?

Third I viewed the video and it was way more tame then the vast majority of halftime high school performances (which are family events) that occur on a weekly basis all across this state on government property. The 5 complaints (that happened prior to the event) are not the voice of the majority. I am embarrassed that I told my gay nieghbor to vote for you.

Last, you should be more motivated to take on the following issues (in order of importance): lack of sidewalks/walkability, entertainment options for both young and old, the speeding/ aggressive driving, the inability to balance a budget while raising our property taxes and giving residents less services….yes I have many thoughts on the city improvement.

Murfreesboro needs better. You represent us all, so please quit pandering to the minority/ old guard. Start representing the majority, who don't just think "LBGTQ (Queer) people have a right to live here" but should also be able to use public space. It's not like Boro Residents are required to go if they don't want to! We are making Murfreesboro a commuter city, where people may live here but most go elsewhere to enjoy themselves. This is not good for Murfreesboro or our economy.

I will leave you with this question: If the NRA had a gathering at Cannonsburgh where children were allowed to handle weapons would you be as offended or outraged by the lack of good parenting as you were in regards to the drag show?

I look forward to a response or seeing you at the next Pride Festival,

Ms. Gannon