

Edit Referral

H-22-150 Referral Information

Hotline ID: H-22-150

Date of Submission: 4/28/2022

Entity Type: Local

Entity Category Type: City/Town

Entity: Lind, Town of

Sub Entity Name:

Category: Billings/Receivables

1-2 sentence description of concern: Mayor commits code violations when dealing with residents, misrepresents the facts to council, falsely overcharges residents.

Report Issued: No

Reporting Type: Verbal Resolution

Report Number:

Investigation Contracted: No

Contract Number:

Contract Name:

Billing Time Code:

Costs:

Public Records Request: No

Flag For Annual Report: No

Substantiated: No

ARRA: No

Action: Referred to Audit Team - Consider Next Audit

Audit Team: Tri-Cities

Audit Team Contact: waltmang@sao.wa.gov

cc:

Referral Date: 4/29/2022

Action Taken: No

Response Date:

Report Date:

Follow Up Date:

Date Closed: 5/12/2022

Edit Referral

H-22-150 Contact Information

Hotline ID: H-22-150

Date of Submission: 4/28/2022

Submission Method: Web

Submission Type: Citizen

Staff:

Author(Last, First): Dobbins , Anna

Address: 3 N Neilson Rd, Po Box 164

City: LIND

State: WA **Zip:** 99341

Home Phone: 3605235353

Work Phone:

Mobile Phone:

Email: anniedwoman@gmail.com

Can Contact: Yes

Contact Preference: Mobile Phone

Anonymous: No

Waived Confidentiality: No

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H-22-150 Referral Details

Hotline ID: H-22-150

What state or local organization is involved?

Please identify the specific concerns you are hoping the audit will address.

Mayor commits code violations when dealing with residents, misrepresents the facts to council, falsely overcharges residents.

Please provide a detailed description of the assertion or outstanding achievement, including who, when, where, what, how and how much.

Town employees not performing duties, and when brought up to the mayor the issue is not immediately addressed and the Lind code procedure for this issue was not followed. 13.10.200 b.3. When brought to the council meeting the mayor refused to let me speak of the issue and publicly told me that what I said was not true despite pictures.

How did this issue come to your attention?

When we received an overage on the water bill that was not addressed until I went in to pay the bill. At that time I was made to pay the full water bill despite my dispute of the overage. They violated the code by having me pay the disputed portion rather than only the base charge. And further violated the code by not allowing me to properly present the dispute to council.

What employee(s), contractors, etc., were involved in the assertion or achievement? Please include employee titles if possible.

Mayor Paula Bell, Clerk/Treasurer Barbara Pence, Councilperson Myra Horton(reading meters) and Town employee Cagney Wills.

Please provide the names of any witnesses to the assertion or achievement, if possible.

Lind Council Meeting 4/26/2022 on youtube. (still uploading 4/28/2022). This issue was presented in the last 30 minutes of the meeting by me ,also earlier in the meeting councilman Robert Dew presented a similar issue and was told by the mayor that he needed proof.

Please provide any additional details or comments that would help us understand your assertion or achievement.

This is not the first instance, this is just the final straw. There are monetary issues currently being looked at as to where grant funds disappeared to.

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H-22-150
Activity
Log
Hotline ID: H-22-150

Entry Date ▼	Log Entry
05/12/2022	Referral updated by 'JEANA Gillis (gillisj)'.
05/12/2022	Can close out. This will be covered in a regular audit review of utility billing. The overage charges were only \$5-6 which she has already paid. Also has concerns about COVID relief funding – this is reviewed in H-22-152 which has the same concern as COVID funding. Citizen was fine with our conversation and no additional action is needed. --waltmang
05/02/2022	Spoke with citizen - the overage charges were only about \$5-\$6. She plans to send us her account history. She also expressed concerns about use of the COVID relief funds. She stated the City received about \$78,000 in COVID relief funds and deposited these funds into the water fund, without establishing a program for utility/customer assistance. --olearyd
05/02/2022	5/2/2022 - left voice mail for citizen to return my call. --olearyd
04/29/2022	Referral updated by 'JEANA Gillis (gillisj)'.
04/29/2022	Task assigned to 'waltmang@sao.wa.gov'. Team notification email sent to: waltmang@sao.wa.gov
04/29/2022	Referral updated by 'JEANA Gillis (gillisj)'. Action changed from (not set) to Referred to Audit Team - Consider Next Audit.