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Subject: Re: [FWD: Gene Melody for Municipal Judge]
From: Borough Council <dconnelly@eatontownnj.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 27, 2013 3:04 pm
To: "<atalerico@eatontownnj.com>" <atalerico@eatontownnj.com>

I hit "reply all" to Janice's email. Have a great day!

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 27, 2013, at 10:22 AM, <atalerico@eatontownnj.com> wrote:

Sorry to send this so late. I thought I sent it when it was received, but I saw it was never sent:

>>

Councilman Connelly,

You have advised us of your choice and outlined the detailed rationale for it. Your email was sent to four elected officials, meaning that five elected officials were involved. Please do not include me in any emails where the Open Public Meetings Act is violated.

My comments on the Judge and other professional appointments will be on January 1.

Thanks
a.t.

Anthony Talerico, Jr.
Council President
Borough of Eatontown

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: [FWD: Gene Melody for Municipal Judge]
From: <dconnelly@eatontownnj.com>
Date: Wed, December 18, 2013 12:31 pm
To: jkroposky@eatontownnj.com, "Gerald Tarantolo" <mayor@eatontownnj.com>, atalerico@eatontownnj.com
Cc: mregan@eatontownnj.com

Janice,

The letters campaign for Gene Melody comes to all of us and there is no need to forward them. This is the first time in my 5 years on council that I have witnessed this type of campaign for a professional appointment. I actually find it to be an immature approach to try and seek an appointment within our borough. I am well aware of Eugene Melody's life accomplishments and resume, that is why there are RFQs to look over. In this case, I have know Gene his entire life and I have always admired him as a child and now an adult.

This borough has just lost thousands of dollars in expected revenue from not appointing the right person for this same position. If the job is not handled to our satisfaction (like we just experienced) we are unable to guide, discipline or dismiss the person we select. So although I know Gene Melody is a good man, I really don't know his capabilities in the courtroom as a lawyer. No one knows, with certainty, that he would be able to perform the task of MC Judge and gain the respect needed to be successful in this position.

Our police department is full of young aggressive officers that have been producing more summonses than we have seen in several years. If these officers get discouraged by our selections for the position of judge and or prosecutor, this town will see those numbers decline. Judge Thompson has earned the respect from the public, attorneys and police officers. He has a known and consistence sentencing formula which is very similar to our previous Judge Mark Apostolou that also had the respect of everyone in and outside the courtroom. Defense attorneys come into his courtroom and are well aware of his abilities and knowledge so they don't even attempt to try to outsmart or out-lawyer him, this also saves time and money when moving the court's large calendars.

I will remind everyone that I consider Gene Melody a friend and a great product of Eatontown. Unfortunately, we can not just appoint our friends in positions of this magnitude when we have someone with a proven record and ability to be appointed without any risk or concern of his ability to do the job we all expect from this position.

I hope that this helps everyone reach the same conclusion to appoint the most qualified individual as MC Judge for the next 3 year term. That person is Richard Thompson.

Best regards,

Dennis J. Connelly
Eatontown Borough Councilman
Cell: 732-546-2827
Home: 732-935-1102

----- Original Message -----

Subject: [FWD: Gene Melody for Municipal Judge]
From: <jkroposky@eatontownnj.com>
Date: Wed, December 18, 2013 11:34 am
To: "Gerald Tarantolo" <mayor@eatontownnj.com>, atalerico@eatontownnj.com, dconnelly@eatontownnj.com
Cc: mregan@eatontownnj.com

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Gene Melody for Municipal Judge
From: Ken East <east1825@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, December 18, 2013 8:53 am

To: "jkroposky@eatontownnj.com"
<jkroposky@eatontownnj.com>

Hi Janice,

I understand Gene Melody is being considered for the Borough Municipal Judgeship. I have known Gene since he was a kid growing up in town. As Chairman of the Lions Club Scholarship Committee I was proud to award him one of our very competitive scholarships when he graduated Monmouth Regional High School.

Since that time Gene has distinguished himself as a lawyer and community minded citizen as he regularly coaches the mock trial team at MRHS which has won this competition against very strong competition. In addition, he has appeared numerous times in various municipal courts over the last ten years. He is smart, forceful and experienced.

Please support one of our own by endorsing him for our municipal judgeship.

Most sincerely,

Ken and Virginia East

Sent from my iPad

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