

04/02/2025

Waldport City Council,

It was brought to my attention that this Thursday, April 3rd, you will be voting on whether or not to put Dann Cutter on administrative leave and conduct an investigation on him. This really troubles me on several levels. Not just as an employee of the city but also as a long-time citizen of Waldport.

I have lived in Waldport since 1980, raised all 3 of my children here, and have genuinely loved this town. I hate seeing it change little by little each year, but I guess progress and with new people moving in that is bound to happen.

I was lucky enough to get a job with Public Works 18 years ago in 2007. I thought that was great because I could give back a little bit to the town that has given me so many good memories throughout my life.

Since I've been working here, I have seen 5 different Mayors come and go, 3 different City Managers and 3 different Public Works Directors. Some were a big loss for the city when they left, others didn't seem to affect the city one bit. Not trying to make that statement sound negative, it's just a matter of how much you put into your job and how much dedication you have to Waldport.

This leads me to my point, I'm really confused why you would use the taxpayers of Waldport's money, to investigate the most transparent City Manager that Waldport has ever had. From what I've heard an investigation like this could be up to 25,000 dollars not including the paid administrative leave.

Sometimes Dann and I disagree on a few things, if you know me that shouldn't surprise you, but most of our disagreements are over me trying to do good ol boy stuff, and he tells me we can't do it that way, we have to do it by the book. He's beating the good ol boy out of me slowly but surely and it should only take about 5 or 10 more years.

This is the first time in 18 years of working here that all the departments get along great, and we all work well with each other. That attitude starts at the top and works its way down. If you choose to do this and he is gone for 2 or 3 months, I really feel that your choice will have a huge negative impact on the C.O.W. staff. And if you go through with it and the investigation finds nothing wrong, I think the Waldport Citizens will not be impressed with the money and time wasted.

Thanks for allowing me to express my opinion, I'm just having trouble trying to figure out how a person gets reprimanded for doing their job and doing it well. If Dann (my boss) were to do that to me, I'm not sure I'd want to work for him or the City of Waldport anymore.

Thanks for your time,

Michael R. Lee, Superintendent/Citizen

