

Name: David Super

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: COVID Mask Mandate

Comment:

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please count me among the apparent minority of Rapid Citians who favor some manner of a local government-sanctioned mask mandate. It's pointless - at this time - to argue with (against) those who are against any proposal to require wearing protective masks. I am powerless to write something persuasive enough to change the mind of even one from that group.

I am honored, however, to add my written voice to those who favor our city government taking action. I also want to congratulate Ms. Armstrong and others on the City Council for courageously advocating their point of view. They will continue have my respect and support.

Sincerely,

David Super

Name: Glenda Halter

Rapid City, SD57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

To Mayor Allender and City Council Members:

I am offering support of Laura Armstrong.

I believe the information Laura provided regarding businesses that followed CDC guidelines was very well intended and helpful and in no way blacklisted any business. I am grateful for the council's service and submit my support on this matter very respectfully.

Name: Jo Nelson

Address: Rapid City, SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook page: Caring Businesses in Rapid City

Comment:

I am writing in support of Laura Armstrong. I view the Facebook posting of Caring Businesses in Rapid City to be a public health service. I appreciate that Laura always supports the CDC guidelines and that she and others have put together a list of businesses in Rapid City that require patrons to wear masks. As someone who has Stage 4 Metastatic Breast Cancer, I am extremely careful about where and when I go places. I cannot just go driving through town to try find business who have mask requirements. I go to some of the big box stores to do most of my shopping because they have "wear a mask" requirements. It is incredibly helpful to have the list of local small business so I can do my part to support our local economy by shopping at one of those stores.

Name: Sybille Hanson

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook page: Caring businesses in Rapid City

Comment:

Am I to understand that the actions of Laura Armstrong in trying to keep Rapid Citians safe during this pandemic are considered reason for censure? That is truly an act of personal vindictiveness against the hardest worker on the city council.

Name: brent cox

Address:

Sturgis, SD 57785

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Masks in businesses

Comment:

Councilwoman Laura Armstrong is doing her job by letting the public know what businesses are requiring masks and which are not to protect people from catching and dying from Covid 19. What she is doing places public safety out where we can find it and not hidden like some would like to keep it. This information is imperative to keep people safe by showing us which businesses are doing their best to protect us against this deadly virus and those who are not. She should be praised and awarded for her efforts here. Anyone complaining should be ashamed and should immediately start instituting rules at their businesses that will protect customers from this deadly virus.

Name: Dennyce Korb

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I am writing in support of Councilwoman Laura Armstrong. The characterization of the Facebook page she started as a “naughty list” is unfair and inaccurate. This page was a place for citizens who are trying to take responsibility for their own health and well-being to find information about local businesses that require masks, and those that do not. It’s intention was not to shame or condemn, but rather to inform. Why should those businesses that have made a decision not to require masks be offended by a resource that informs the community of their choice? It merely gives consumers useful information in making informed decisions about where they feel comfortable doing business. I fully support Laura Armstrong’s efforts on behalf of the people of this community.

Name: Joni Zaiser

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Laura Armstrong- support 100%

Comment:

Laura Armstrong is my council person. I voted for her, stand with her 100% and appreciate how much she cares about the people in this community. I have read the complaints regarding her and the rest of the council. I really don't understand why this has become such an issue. We all have different views on this. I choose to shop where mask are required, others are free to shop where masks aren't. I don't harass shops that don't require masks, I just choose not to shop there. It's really not that hard. I follow Laura on facebook and appreciate the information she shares. She shares positive information and has never been negative in any post I have seen. If someone does not like what she posts they have the right to disagree with her but they absolutely do not have the right to threaten and harass her or anyone on the council. This is wrong and needs to stop.

Name: Karen Pettigrew

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Caring Businesses Facebook Page

Comment:

Please know that I fully support the creation of a FB page that lists local businesses that require adherence to CDC guidelines during this time of pandemic. The listing of factual information on social media is not to be discouraged or punished, but should be encouraged. I appreciate the list because I choose to patronize those businesses as I do all that I can to avoid contracting COVID. If being a business that does not require masks is viewed as a good thing, then why not have those proponents start their own "freedom" Facebook page instead of crying "foul"? And I object to the vilification of alderwoman, Laura Armstrong for ""attitude". If you to see examples of public "servants" who project attitude of arrogance, pettiness and cruelty from their positions of leadership, look to Washington DC; they are admired. Armstrong has done NOTHING to merit censure or removal from the city council.

Name: Jocelyn (Jocie) Baker

Address:

Rapid City 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Laura Armstrong is an extraordinary asset to our City Council and community. She has posted positive comments about facial coverings being required by certain Rapid City businesses to the Facebook page so that citizens who have health issues, as I do, can visit businesses where masks are required. And where citizens can be relatively safe from contacting the Covid19 virus. I urge everyone in Rapid City to wear a mask. City council members, pass a mandate and protect all of your constituents from this pandemic disease.

Name: Rebecca Caselli-Smith

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Vote to remove president of council

Comment:

Thank you all for your service to this diverse community. I am grateful Laura Armstrong is our council president at this time . Ive only met her in the past few months as she donated time to plant and tend Wilson park and invited others in district 5 to join her. Ive watched the meetings regarding mask protection and have been in awe of her respectful treatment of all. As a 68 year old I consistently wear a mask to protect others as well as those I love. I've been shocked and disheartened at any mean spirited testimony by people who don't want a mask mandate. I support freedom of speech and shop locally. I seek out places and times when everyone is wearing masks. I can't understand how a business would expect locals of all ages and vulnerabilities to shop in their store if they don't wear masks to protect their customers. My letter is in strong support of maintaining our council president, Laura Armstrong.

Name: Dowell Caselli-Smith

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Supporting Laura Armstrong

Comment:

Much appreciation for Laura's leadership in protection of my public health and safety. Being vulnerable, I have mostly conceded my freedom to shop. A list of stores requiring masks could well be life saving for me and my wife. Masks are not foolproof but certainly reduce the risk.

Also, the list allows those afraid of masks to avoid them. While in a grocery store in Rapid, I was verbally assaulted by a much younger man for wearing a mask. Basically, I was a fool and the virus a hoax. For his own peace of mind, he needs to know if he is going to encounter us vulnerable folks with masks on.

I would come to the meeting and yell at you public servants but my mask would dampen the effect and it might traumatize some of the opposition.

Name: Sandra Olson

Address:

Piedmont SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Wearing of masks

Comment:

I support the wearing of masks and will not shop in stores that do not require them. Therefore I support having a list of stores who enforce masks.

Name: Shannon White

Address: RC 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I would like to submit my support for Laura Armstrong. Laura is an upstanding citizen & a pillar of strength in our community & on city council. Laura's only goal is the betterment of our community as well as the health & safety of our citizens. If Laura has ties to a FB page which promotes businesses that follow CDC recommendations and require masks, then I commend her for providing a resource for those of us that want to know what businesses provide a masked & safe environment. Freedom is what the "Citizens for Liberty" seeking group wants, but they only believe freedom is one sided. These complaints against Laura are a manipulation, harassment and bullying. Citizens have the right and freedom to discuss businesses that they feel are safe/masked or not, especially during a global pandemic. It is not their right to silence others. These complaints need to be thrown out. I support Laura & want her to continue on City Council.

Name: David A. Hubbard

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Group wants city council to remove council president for Facebook post regarding masks

Comment:

If you are going out of your home, wear a damn mask! All these complainers are also the same people who claim that COVID-19 is "fake news."

In order to defeat the pandemic we all need to make sacrifices. Unlike other residents, I have been home since the end of January after my first total knee replacement surgery. I was home bound again when the pandemic broke out and once more after my second total knee replacement in May. everyone else needs to get off their high horses.

Every legitimate study has proven wearing a mask reduces the spread of COVID-19 more than 75%. It's just that simple. I would like to know how many "hundreds" of people are complaining. 200? 300? 1,000? With a population of greater than 75,500+ people 1,000 complaints would be less than 1.33%. Stay home, sit down, and shut up!! The minuscule minority does not rule.

Name: Suzan Nolan

Address: Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Facebook Page

Comment:

Dear Members of the City Council, I am in full support of Alderwoman Laura Armstrong's Facebook page listing businesses that require masks. Some of you showed such a lack of leadership by not passing a mask mandate and now that Laura has made it possible to see the businesses that do require masks, a right wing fringe group wants her out of leadership. This is beyond abhorrent and ridiculous. I urge you to keep her exactly where she is, as president of the City Council and support the FB page which is helpful to so many of us who are being careful with this raging virus. I am just amazed at what some people in our community will do to create a problem where none should exist. Honestly, we should be about trying to protect people, not launching attacks on those who want us to be safe.

Name: Kevin Carroll

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook page: Caring Businesses of Rapid City

Comment:

Councilwoman Laura Armstrong should be applauded, not punished.

The moment that a public servant is removed from office because they exercise their 1st Amendment right, we no longer have democracy.

The Caring Businesses of Rapid City Facebook page was created for the benefit of our citizens who choose to patronize businesses that follow CDC guidelines, nothing more. Councilwoman Laura Armstrong should be rewarded for being a part of this FB group, not punished for it.

Those who believe that this Facebook page "blacklists" businesses in Rapid City that don't following CDC guidelines are wrong, and their agenda is to misinform the public and silence the voice of those with whom they disagree. Don't allow this to happen.

Name: Britton Vidal

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Laura Armstrong

Comment:

I support Laura Armstrong. As one of the city council members that supported a mask mandate and keeping our community safe, I support her. As a healthcare provider for COVID19 patients in the hospital and a business owner providing health services, I see firsthand that masks work. Offering a place to list businesses that require masks for high risk people in our community to know where they can shop the safest is smart. If Ms. Armstrong provided access to that information, thank you!

Name: Mary Blair

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: FB page:Caring businesses in Rapid City

Comment:

Is it possible that those of us who desire to stay safe by following CDC guidelines are a silent majority? Yesterday I heard from an employee who takes extra precautions to keep her customers and herself safe that she has been harassed by some customers. It hurt to hear that. (I had waited for her checkout instead of being assisted by a maskless employee sooner). With regards to the Facebook page, I believe free speech is protected by the constitution and I appreciate knowing that I can shop more safely at places listed there. I often walk out of stores in which precautions aren't being taken to ensure my safety anyway. It just makes it a little easier to have this list. Please do not allow those who have extreme positions to influence your actions on this issue. Many of us benefit by information that helps us to keep ourselves and our loved ones safe.

Name: Kay Foland

Address:

RAPID CITY, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook page: Caring Businesses in Rapid City

Comment:

To the City Council, I am distressed that you would even consider the complaint against Laura Armstrong. A Facebook page is public. It is freedom of speech which is part of the US Constitution. If another or others don't like it doesn't mean it should be taken down or that the persons who constructed it should be punished for its existence. That FaceBook page doesn't say anything against anyone else. There are those of us in Rapid City who have health issues and significant concerns and we are extra cautious about exposure to the coronavirus. This Facebook page helps us where we can shop and dine safely.

Name: Rachel Lindvall

Address:

Rapid City, SD. 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Laura Armstrong

Comment:

I fully support Ms. Armstrong's actions in helping the public discern which local businesses cultivate a safe environment for their clientele. The Facebook page did not call out businesses who did not choose to make such efforts merely helped us who wished to stay safe do so.

Unfortunately, not enough businesses chose to prioritize such safety measures. I have yet to find a completely safe place to buy groceries. Although several stores required customers to wear masks, they lacked either the personnel or the motivation to enforce the requirements. Two weeks ago, I tested positive for Covid despite being a conscientious mask wearer. Although I will never know for certain, I believe that my case came from unmasked fellow grocery shoppers at one of our major grocery chains.

I personally want to thank Ms. Armstrong for caring enough about the people of Rapid City to make the efforts that she has.

Name: Claudia Wieland-Randall

Address: Rapid City SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook: Caring Businesses

Comment:

This Facebook page is providing s service to people looking to care for their health during a pandemic. It helps us decide where it is safe(r) to shop. There is nothing defamatory about other businesses.

Name: Thomas Thorson

Address:

Custer, SD, 57730

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook page: Caring Businesses in Rapid City.

Comment:

Those who would remove Laura Armstrong from chair of the council must revile those of the greatest generation for their sacrifices during national hardship; going without gasoline, sugar, leather, leaving home to fight on battle fronts with no cell phone contact with loved ones from home all for your liberty. If such simple guidelines as wearing a cotton mask is too much to ask you should be spanked. People are dying. This isn't abstract. The hospital is full of people sick and dying. I like knowing who would not put me at risk to get sick and die. Those that don't care can still feel good about their liberty to patronize you.

Name: Sherry Oswald

Address:

Rapid City SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type:

Agenda Item: Facebook page: Caring Businesses in Rapid City

Comment:

As a citizen in the high risk category for contracting COVID and more importantly, at risk for passing along the virus to my elderly mother, it is vital for me to have this page as a resource. It allows me the freedom to continue shopping and supporting the Rapid City economy.

It is increasingly difficult to understand the anger and resistance to wearing a mask as a minor act of protection of the citizens of Rapid City.

I very much respect that council member Laura Armstrong favors keeping members of the community safe.

Name: barbara Patterson

Address:

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Laura Armstrong

Comment:

I want you to know I was glad that there was a place I could go that took the virus seriously! There are so many people disregarding CDC rules that I stay home as much as possible. I don't believe that Laura Armstrong has done anything wrong. I want to go to businesses that have strict mask mandates and I don't want to go where people are not wearing masks, This sounds like a bunch of people who don't or will not wear masks for the safety of others. I do not want to be around those people!!!! If Kristi Noem had taken this seriously we would not be in the spot we are now!

Name: Karlen Fields

Address:

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I want to formally call for the resignation of Laura Armstrong. You are not a medical professional, you work for the people of Rapid City! The overwhelming population that opposed the mask mandate were mistreated by Laura. You do not have our safety at interest! You are simply pushing your own agenda and shaming businesses who reserve their constitutional right to allow people to decide how to care for their own health. Masks are not a health issue, in fact if you did your research they do not help a virus that has a 99.6% survival rate!! Laura has violated conduct mandates by targeting businesses negatively and abusing her power. Laura I call for you to resign!

Name: Gwendolyn C Menke

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Laura Armstrong/masks

Comment:

Unless I'm not getting the full story, I see nothing wrong with Laura Armstrong listing businesses who follow CDC guidelines. That information is good to know if a person has an aversion to wearing masks they don't need to shop at store, if a person only wishes to honor stores who do comply then it saves anxiety. If what I am seeing is correct, there are a number of people who like to bully those who have a different opinion than their own and that's just not right.

Name: George Larson II

Address:

RAPID CITY SD 57702

WARD 3

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I support Laura Armstrong's efforts to fight for the health of our Rapid City community.

I oppose any efforts for recall or censure, and would recommend that the entire council voice their support for her.

Name: Carol E Bell

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook Page: Caring Businesses in Rapid City

Comment:

I have been so please that Ms Armstrong helped those of us who need to know where we can shop and not be exposed to people who refuse to mask or follow the CDC guidelines. Although I had hoped that the city would pass a resolution that would have help me know where I could shop safely with my autoimmune disorder...it didn't pass. The Caring Businesses in RC FB page has allowed me to shop local now instead of the online shopping I was doing. Laura nor other council members should not be removed for being kindly neighbors and have their freedom of speech questioned. The council responded to the anti maskers freedom, let me have freedom to know where I can shop.

Name: Molly Larson

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Dear Mr. Mayor and Rapid City Council,

I am writing to express my ardent support for City Council President Laura Armstrong. She has served our city well during her time on the council - and her efforts and statements for the health of our community are no exception.

In every action, meeting, and decision Councilwoman Armstrong has led foremost with compassion. She cares genuinely about the views of her fellow council members and constituents; it is evident that she weighs all of these before any statement and decision.

She makes herself continually accessible to the community for questions and input. Her knowledge and support has been invaluable - to our community and to me personally.

It would be a great loss to the council and the community if she were to be removed from her position.

Molly Larson

Ward 3

Name: Mary Garrigan

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Armstrong petition

Comment:

Council member Laura Armstrong's work in support of mask wearing during a Covid pandemic is an important contribution to public health in Rapid City and should be applauded, not criticized. She has every right to inform citizens in this way and I support her efforts to do so.

Name: Cynthia Hilton

Address:

Rapid City

South Dakota

57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I'm writing to state my unconditional support for council woman Laura Armstrong.

Laura has done an outstanding job on the council and especially as president of the council.

Regarding her stance on face masks... I commend her for trying to make Rapid City as safe as it can be.

Freedom of speech is a right we all have and in expressing herself for the need to wear masks Laura has every right to speak out.

Also..... the Facebook page in no way blackballed restaurants but only shared with concerned patrons where they can shop and dine safely.

Stop this foolishness of trying to remove her and let the the council get back to taking care of addressing the business of our city.

Name: Michele M Kohn

Address:

RCSD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook Page 'Caring Rapid City Businesses'

Comment:

I had not heard of this page until the last council meeting. Now that I have checked it out, I appreciate knowing what businesses follow CDC guidelines without needing to call them myself.

Actually, the guidelines should, in fact, urge all businesses to consider their bottom line..... not the politics some have interjected. A piece of cloth, a seatbelt, shoes, shirt, not texting/talking on cell & driving, not bringing in food from the outside Why is it such a challenge for some to disregard others?

Health and safety is a good thing. If you have managed to remain COVID free---good for you. Not all are so fortunate. I'm surely not proud of the South Dakota numbers. So many families are missing a loved one right now.

Please be kind and caring.

Name: Dennis Murray

Address:

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook page: Caring Businesses in Rapid City

Comment:

As was stated in my last email to the Council, as a long time residents of RC, we left town due to the anti-mask mentality. I am a combat Vietnam Vet and suffer from the effects of Agent Orange. We temporarily re-located for my safety. SD is a dangerous state.

Now my Council person is under attack. I resent this action by local malcontents who insist on perpetuating ignorant concepts.

Your citizens are dying; you need to do better.

Let Laura speak to the safety of her constituents. Her leadership is exemplary.

Others are sadly lacking.

Name: Christy Heacock

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: "Facebook page: Caring Businesses in Rapid City."

Comment:

I am writing in support of Laura Armstrong's service as Rapid City's councilperson and to express my dismay with an angry group's efforts to turn the Caring Businesses in Rapid City Facebook page into a controversial item that divides our community. The Facebook page contains no naughty list, it simply lets people know which businesses are following CDC guidelines. Our community contains people who wish to follow the safety guidelines and those who are adamantly against them. For those against masks, the Caring Businesses page is a naughty list of businesses not to patronize because they do require masks. It's important to note that businesses that do not wish to follow CDC guidelines are not blacklisted; they simply aren't on the list. Please do not spend your energy dividing our City over a harmless Facebook page that provides useful information to those who support masks as well as those who do not.

Name: Donna Fisher

Address:

Deadwood, SD 57732. (Rural Pennington Co.)

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook page

Comment:

I live 20 miles from Rapid City, the place where I bank, shop, worship, volunteer, and contribute to charity and civic causes. My doctors, dentist, hair stylist, financial adviser and other services are in Rapid City. At age 80, I am endangered by businesses, their employees and patrons who refuse to follow CDC guidelines regarding masks and distancing.

The Facebook page in question (NOT a blacklist!) is a freedom -of-speech effort that helps me know how to negotiate business in Rapid City with safety. I support Ms Armstrong's right and that of every council member to use social media in a civil manner. Furthermore, I urge other council members to join efforts to help businesses follow CDC guidelines.

As a medical center, Rapid City needs best public health practice for persons who come for treatment and for their families. Attacks on promoting such practice are neither expressions of freedom or nor good business.

Name: Tracy Pfeiffer

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Thank you Laura Armstrong for showing leadership during a public health crisis.

Name: lisa knigge

Address:

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Laura Armstrong

Comment:

I am stating my support for Miss Laura and to let her know how much I truly appreciate the SD COVID Bus page. I am a single mom and I have bronchiectasis with other health issues plus my 84 yr old mom with lung cancer lives with me. I HAVE to know where its safe to shop. I get COVID or my mom we are probably not going to make it. Its not hyperbole but fact. Those 2 councilmen and the so called freedom people suing are not going to take care of my son or my house payment if something happens to me. The way I see it if a store values my life to take masks and social distancing serious then they can have my hard earned money. If they chose not to, great, but I can also choose to shop elsewhere and that is MY RIGHT. That's MY FREEDOM and those 2 gents are infringing upon it by saying I don't get to know where it's safe to go.

Name: Karen Hall

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Caring Businesses Facebook Page

Comment:

Please ignore the group of citizens who are asking you to remove Laura Armstrong as President of the Council. As a 71-year-old citizen who has health issues that put me at risk for COVID-19, I appreciate the Facebook page that Ms. Armstrong and her friends put together. I'm grateful to them for providing me with information about safe places to shop and eat. I've been a follower of that page since last spring, and have not seen anything there but positive comments about businesses. Free speech is a foundational notion of our country, and we shouldn't let a few vocal people who want to control what we all see to infringe on everyone else's free speech!

Name: Natalie LaFrance-Slack

Address: Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I'm writing in support of Laura Armstrong. The Tonchi Weaver/Citizens for Liberty attempt to have her removed is a ridiculous and baseless claim. I am the co-founder and current moderator of the Facebook page Laura has been accused of starting/maintaining. Our hope was that my parents (both cancer patients) would be able to easily access a resource list of local businesses that are upholding CDC guidelines (or operating with care and safety) during the pandemic, especially without a mask mandate. My parents WANT to shop local and hope to support small businesses in the Black Hills. The stated purpose of the page AND it's continued intent is not to shame or "bash" any business who chooses not to operate safely, but to champion and cheer for those who do. Laura continues to lead with integrity and is an absolute example to our community as to what an involved, compassionate, mindful leader should be. Thank you.

Name: Joan Love

Address: Rapid City, South Dakota 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Remove Laura Armstrong

Comment:

I appreciate Laura Armstrong's effort to protect the health and safety of the citizens of Rapid City. I do not view her behavior as being politically motivated, whereas I do believe that attempting to remove her from her position on the City Council is.

Name: Deborah Gangloff

Address:

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook Page, Caring Businesses in Rapid City

Comment:

The FB page listing businesses that require a mask in RC is a SERVICE, and one that I appreciate. Without it I would be hesitant to visit any business. The covid virus is a public health issue, and I appreciate Laura Armstrong and other public servants who make information like this available to us so that we can make our own decisions to do all we can to protect ourselves and others. No one is forced to use this page. To deny the public access to this page would be a disservice.

Name: Marcia Dunsmore

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Facebook Page; Caring Businesses in Rapid City

Comment:

It pains me to think that fellow citizens want to punish Laura Armstrong for providing clear, easy to use information for those of us who wish to support local businesses that follow CDC guidelines. She should be commended for this effort, not censored.

Name: Tom Whillock

Address:

RC, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I am writing in support of Laura Armstrong and all she is doing for our city. She is a strong voice of reason and sanity. And we definitely needed a mask mandate a long time ago.

Name: Catherine Croteau

Address: Rapid City SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I am writing in as a concerned citizen who is immune compromised and frequently uses a Facebook page created by citizens to share what businesses are following CDC guidelines. For those complaining, you made your bed. You shouted about how masks don't work. Great, now I know I don't want to spend my money at your business because, besides not caring about my health during a pandemic it also makes me wonder what else you don't care about... I want to say thank you to the businesses requiring masks and trying their best to look out for everyone. I will continue to shop and support the people that support the health of everyone!

Name: Chris Coleman

Address:

Rapid City, SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Laura Armstrong

Comment:

I have been so impressed with the manner in which Ms Armstrong has handled this crisis and in her efforts to serve and protect our city and citizens. Ms Weaver and her crowd are wrong in their efforts to remove her. Their statements are often false and made to mislead the public. Please support Ms Armstrong and her work for Rapid City..

Name: Ann Stanton

Address: Rapid City, SD. 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Those who oppose Laura Armstrong's leadership in the effort to help control the spread of Covid in our city, refuse to see how the medical system is being stretched beyond capacity. Wearing a mask, washing hands, and practicing social distancing are tried and true scientifically approved methods of limiting the spread of a menace to all of us, personally and economically. Whatever Laura Armstrong has done and should continue to do is in our best interests, is altruistic, and in the spirit of "Love Thy Neighbor" that so many of her opponents would profess on Sunday, but reject on Monday. Laura Armstrong should be applauded, not trashed, for her role as the leader who acts responsibly at such a perilous moment.

Name: Mary Haan

Address:

Rapid City SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Council President Armstrong

Comment:

As one of the members of the "Caring Businesses" Facebook page, which was started by my sister, I can affirm that President Armstrong has been a fair and level-headed public figure regarding the content of that page. There are times when some of us have expressed exasperation and she is the one to remind us that this isn't a negative list to smear any names in our great city. Instead, she compassionately reminds us that this is a positive way to reflect on those businesses within the community who choose adherence to the CDC Guidelines regarding mask use. President Armstrong is the least petty person I know and she consistently calls our community to Do Big Things, Better, Together.

Name: Kyle Krause

Address:

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I recently read the Journal article regarding the formal complaints filed against Councilwoman Armstrong related to her involvement with the "Caring Businesses of Rapid City" Facebook page. The Council should not waste its time with this nonsense. Most sane people are not going to show up to a city council meeting right now, which permits a small group of whiny malcontents to be more influential than they should be. Just tell them to go away.

To the actual substance of the complaints: First, the factual premise of a "blacklist" appears highly suspect.

Second, even if there was one, there is still no code of conduct violation. Facilitating the dissemination of truthful information is not a code of conduct violation.

We have elections for a reason. The ballot box is the remedy for those that do not like Ms. Armstrong's beliefs. Most of us that voted for her want her to keep on doing what she is doing.