Appollo Yianni

29/3/2017

Rage Capping:

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission.

Please note I am 67 years old. I am Electrical / Electronic Engineer by trade/Handyman/ Off grid accredited installer...etc..

Rates can be cut by 30% and not affect the services that they are supposed to provide, if corruption is eliminated. This does not apply to all council but applies to most councils.

I would like to make a submission to the "The Environment, National Resources and Regional Development Committee " or Sustainability and operational challengers of Victoria’s Rural and Regional Councils.

This applies to all councils, whether they are city based or regional.

It is almost impossible to get any accurate information about the conduct of councils, and employers, contracts and what the councils do with “our” money. The government can get more accurate data.

Let us start with some personal experiences.

When I was at university (40 years ago) I worked on a construction site. A truck load of bricks was brought on a construction site. I was told to put half of the bricks on a trailer, and they would be taken to a different location. Only to find out later they were taken to the building site, that the inspectors owns, flats that were being built 3 km away. Then I asked the builder why? I was told,” If I do not I will not get this job. “

The foundation of a building should be 20mm lower than the building inspector says it should be 600mm not 580mm $5,000 cash and I will pass it or remove all reo (reo=steel) and make it deeper. If time is a problem builder will pay $5,000.

How can a contractor who cuts grass at a park 5 hours a week ( OR AS REQUIRED ) get $66,000 a year.

Can you please reply that you have received this letter. Thank Appol

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Why do contracts less than $150,000 do not go to tender? (MVCC) Or even made public, some times.

How can councils put overlays on one property and the one next door, has non. Someone in council wants that property. The overlay comes off once the council has the property. Property bought at reduced price due to overlay.

How can the council value one property at $2,000 and a similar property be valued at $150,000 less than 2 km away. Council say the land it is on flood plain (I have never seen it flood in 45 years. My experience. If it was on a flood plain why was it sold in the first place.

Why are over 50% of complaints to VCAT council related complaints.

Why does council take you to VACT only to pull out at the last moment after you have spent lots of effort to prepare you defense.

There is never enough money for services but always enough for legal fees, interstate trips, overseas education trips. Why?

CEO have overall control of council and they just about do as they like, and if any body complains they loose their job.

Why are council projects about three times more expensive than the same project by private enterprise.

Council are “more powerful” than Politicians. Politicians can not hurt you, councils can.

Let me explain:

I did not want the smart meter. Jemena came with the police to my home and installed the smart meter then disconnected from the pole. I had a sign on my property stating what Jemena did and asked “Who takes responsibility for medical Problems caused by smart meters”

This sign had plenty of attention. The council “had the opinion that my property was unsightly” Although I had every person in the street sign a petition(38 persons) saying they had no concerns with how my property looked. They took me to court on an opinion, and won. The council was not concerned about my property, the council or someone else wanted the sign removed. Politicians could do nothing council could.
I was protesting at the Moonee Valley City Council about corruption peacefully, I was quite effective. The council then made me a “Prohibited Person” The reason was the “safety of councilors ,and the public”. NOTE: The police station less than 200 meters way. Me: one person 66 years old with both hands half numb can not lift more than 10 kg, and I am a danger to them. Seven councilors, about, 12 male staff, and about 10 other support staff and mostly my self and may be a few members of the public. ( less than 5) ( see letter )

So far I have had the By law inspector/ environment inspector/ health inspector/ next week there will be animal inspector ( cat runs in /out of my property.. who owns him? ) Then there will be the rain inspector and any other inspectors to give me a hard time.

Why does the Mayor of the Moonee valley council get over $2,000 a week allowance. What does she spend our money on. This should be made public.

Why does the Premier of Victoria get $280,000 a year and the CEO of the Moonee Valley City council get $350,000? Are they are a private Corporation or a government?

How much of our rates money is in over seas bank accounts in council name? 
( about 30% estimated )

How does MOV help the rate payer. Why does Moonee Valley pay $66,000 to MOV?

Why are over 50% OF OUR RATES going to pay persons who work at councils.

The Moonee Valley City council pays over $280,000 to organizations such as “child care center association” sport parks association etc.

I estimate 20% inefficiency in the Victorian economy is caused by corruption, in councils. ( court cases VCAT etc.) I am a bit of an activist when it comes to councils I talk to a lots of people / builders / pensioners, etc. even council workers admit corruption, privately. Councils are in general seen to be corrupt by many people. People know Politicians are corrupt, ( sorry for being honest )

If you fix up councils make them more accountable, and less corrupt you will get more efficiency, better productivity, smoother running society.
I am not suggesting you get rid of councils, they do collect my rubbish, provide me with parks, fix up local swings, look after pensioners, library’s etc. They can and do over charge for things to be done and if is not made public, corruption.

I would like to recommend the following: To make councils accountable. (less corruption)

1. A special court only for council complaints.

2. Make all complaints about councils public (proven or unproven) If you get one complaint it means nothing, if you get 100 complaints you have a problem, about the same problem or person. (Person making complain not to be named)

2.1. This should keep council workers honest.

3. Any person in council who if found guilty, “spends time in jail” not fined. We the rates payers pay the fine.

4. Any person hears of an offence is guilty as well, or is party to the offence. (this will encourage persons workers to speak up.) (working for councils)

5. All complaints about “a” local council to be made available to the residence of that council. I get a monthly magazine telling me how good they are, and what events are on. Nothing about that they take persons to court about dogs not on a leach, not cutting grass, unsightly property etc. Parking fines etc. interstate trips / overseas educational trips / no costings, on trips.

6. The salary of all persons working for council to be made public, the top 10%.

7. Any victimization by council person on a rate payer will go to jail. Not fined.”

8. Councils should not use fines as a source of revenue. This causes great resentment towards council. I was fined for parking on the nature strip in front of my home. Council says I could damage water and gas pipes under ground. Note; water and gas pipes are on the other side of the road.

9. News letter from councils: all “By laws” to be published when they are made. All By Laws to be made available in book form, and available, and on line (older persons usually have no internet.) There are eight pensioners in my street, none have internet.
10. All contracts given to persons or companies by council to be made public, on a Website.

Example: Cutting the local park, grass.

Contract No. 12345

Description... Cut grass in park “Parliament Park” (50m X50m)

Location: 155 John Howard Avenue,

Suburb: Paul Keating 9999

To: Tony Abort

Cost of contract; $1,000,000

The reaction from the public will be enormous. If they know about it.

12. No contact made by council to a contractor or indvivial to be kept confidential.

13. If a council takes a person or company to court or VACT and then the council with draws the complaint, the person making the complain from council or on the council behalf, will spend “Time in jail.” This should stop a lot of wasted time and our money.

I would to be invited as a witness in any future hearings.
NOTICE OF DECLARATION OF PROHIBITED PERSON

Made in reliance of section 9(1)(d) of the Summary Offences Act 1966

In order to promote efficiently conducted meetings or events, and in reliance of its obligations to provide a safe working environment for Councillors, Council staff and a safe place for visiting members of the public, Moonee Valley City Council (Council) hereby declares Appollo Yianni to be a prescribed person who is prohibited from attending any Council Meetings, Public Forums, Events or any other public meeting held at Council's Civic Centre located at 9 Kellaway Avenue, Moonee Ponds, Victoria or at any other Council owned or managed property.

For the purposes of enforcement, Victoria Police will be provided with a copy of this declaration after service of a copy is effected on Appollo Yianni.

Take notice that a breach of this declaration may result in arrest and a penalty of up to $3,500 or imprisonment for 6 months.

This declaration remains in force for a period of 12 months unless varied or revoked by Council.

Date of declaration: 20 July 2016.

SIGNED under delegation on behalf of
Moonee Valley City Council by its Acting Chief
Executive Officer ANTHONY SMITH