

From: Theresa Kelly
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 11:32 AM
To: Janice Callaghan
Cc: Theresa Kelly
Subject: FW: OPRA #6: Public Works Department / Removal of Planter(s) from Streets

Janice,

I had another meeting this morning with David Smith, Superintendent of Public Works and Thomas Klein, Supervisor of Water and sewer concerning the planters.

Both gentlemen assured me that Public works employees had nothing to do with the movement of these planters. The planters belong to Ventnor City but neither gentlemen can say how the planters were placed where the pictures show them.

When looking at the picture of the planter with the green tree we see in the background Campbell Marina and a buoy. It means the picture had to be taken from land and that is why we believe it was a photo shot. We further believe this is in the city of Margate.

The planter with the dead tree is on our property and it has been removed. I understand that at one time, before my time in politics, a public works commissioner had the planters placed in the area near Shalom to help I believe to slow down traffic. Not sure exactly but I was told that.

The public works employee who has been mentioned was out of work from October until March so could not have been involved in this particular situation.

After two meetings with these gentlemen that is the best we can do with this Opera.

Theresa Kelly
Commissioner

From: Paula Hawks-DeLuca [<mailto:phd4321@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 12:04 PM
To: Theresa Kelly
Subject: Re: OPRA #6: Public Works Department / Removal of Planter(s) from Streets

Mike Carr posted the two photos, but I don't know if he took them or if someone else who's also a regular boater out around Ventnor West's shoreline sent them to him for posting. I tend to doubt that they were PhotoShopped. The overlay of evergreen needles in front of the dark rim of the receptacle would take some major PhotoShopping skills -- and a lot of time -- to pull off.

The "rumor mill" posits that the PW employee got chewed out for how he handled DPW equipment on somebody's private property and that the removal of the planter with LIVE tree was some kind of "act out" / "get revenge" behavior.

The "party line" via Peter Mokover is that the planters were becoming receptacles for littering and that DPW kindly removed them from the streets and into storage.

Whatever!!!!!!!!!!

On Wed, May 8, 2013 at 9:53 AM, Paula Hawks-DeLuca <phd4321@gmail.com> wrote:
Photo of the living tree was on Facebook last September or October.
Photo of the dead tree was on Facebook a couple weeks ago.

On Wed, May 8, 2013 at 9:40 AM, Theresa Kelly <tkelly@ventnorcity.org> wrote:

Janice,

The picture showing the dead tree in the planter was on our property and it has been removed.

The picture showing the green tree and planter is not on our property. It appears to me that someone did a photo shot of this tree. We have no green trees in any planter.

Thanks

Theresa

From: Paula Hawks-DeLuca [mailto:phd4321@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 9:22 AM
To: Janice Callaghan
Cc: Theresa Kelly
Subject: OPRA #6: Public Works Department / Removal of Planter(s) from Streets

Dear City Clerk Callahan,

In connection with some photos which are "making the rounds" in social media and which are attached to this email, this is a request for public information under the Open Public Records Act.

Please provide a copy of the Work Order pursuant to which planter(s) were removed from city streets to what appears to be a remote location somewhere near the water in Ventnor West.

Please provide a copy of the invoices pursuant to which the city paid for the planters.

Please provide a copy of the invoices pursuant to which the city paid for the trees and/or shrubs placed in street-scaping planters.

Please provide public records indicating which Public Works employees were assigned work details to carry out this task.

It is Requestor's informal information that PW employee Bill "Clammer" Sandberg may have been a member of that work detail. What is not known is whether the "work" was fully authorized, whether it involved the use of city equipment (e.g., forklift), and what might have been the policy decision underlying an activity which found heavy planters being removed to such a remote location.

Thank you for your timely attention to this request.

Paula DeLuca