

It is with utter amazement that I stand before you this evening and I have noted, under your list of resolutions, an intent to spend a large amount of money on a new position. How can you spend any money whatsoever when the City, State and Federal Government are in serious trouble?

In regards to Dean Peschel's employment agreement, it is my understanding that you are giving this man an enormous 18% raise. We cannot afford it. You are appointing him as Deputy Director of Community Services. This is nothing but an advancement to build up Mr. Peschel's retirement benefits and it stands in complete disregard with the agreement made between the City and myself. This agreement states as follows:" Dover City's Managers will no longer unilaterally award employees lavish compensation Packages." It is because of this agreement that I made the decision to drop the court case against the City as the result of this agreement would now become an ongoing saving to the city which was originally my goal. I will repeat this: Citizens "My goal was to save you money and I did reach that goal."

You might say this is not a unilateral award but it is still a lavish

compensation package which should not happen because of the previous mentioned agreement between the City Manager and myself.

The salary of our present Director is such that he should be able to complete all of the assigned duties of that position very well without assigning him an assistant.

When asked at the last meeting , if Mr. Peschel's position would be filled in the future or near future, the City Manager's reply was "it is not in the present budget." Would this answer be a "yes" or "No" or a maybe? I feel that the citizens should know exactly the true meaning of this answer.

If this truly means the final effect will be that we will soon be adding payroll , then I believe that in these trying times, it definitely is not a necessity. I find it hard to believe the words of our city manager saying that this will not cost our city anything. We have had a hold on all contracts because of the 125 rule so why not hold this one back also.

It appears that, during this economic downturn , that we should all be curtailing spending NOT increasing spending. It is my desire, and that of many citizens that you follow the curtailed spending attitude of the times. If you don't conserve now, when will you ever conserve? If not now, there is no hope.