

Local Government Humor

Courtesy of Gabe Gabrielsen

The Haircut

Early Monday morning a local florist stopped by the local barber. After his haircut, he pulled out his wallet but the barber replied, "I will not accept any money today. Life has been good to my family and I so this week I am doing a community service and giving everyone who comes in a free haircut". The florist was impressed and left the shop with a smile. Later that afternoon a package arrived; it was a 'Thank You' card and a dozen roses.

Right after lunch a local baker stopped in for a haircut and when he tried to pay his bill, the barber said "Life has been good and I am doing a community service this week by not accepting money for haircuts". The baker left happy. The next morning when the barber arrived to open shop there were a dozen donuts and a 'Thank You' card waiting at his door.

On Tuesday, the first customer was a local city council member; when he went to pay his bill, barber said "Life has been good and I am doing a community service this week by not accepting money for haircuts". The City Council member ran from the shop and twenty minutes later the other five city council members were lined up waiting for their free haircuts.

Do you have a Second.

A question by Gabe Gabrielsen, OEO

The following reflects an actual event that took place in a community. Read the issue then discuss the options with a friend.

Imagine you are a Local Public Official

For as long as people can remember your City Library has had soft drink vending machines. A recent audit discovered the assistant librarian has been taking all discarded alumni cans home with her (for at least the past 12 years) then selling the cans for cash at a local recycler.

One of your city council colleagues makes a motion to "terminate her immediately" for stealing government property. However, since neither the Library nor the City Office has a specific policy regarding the disposition of discarded aluminum cans on file for city owned or operated vending machines another city council member recommends the asst Librarian she be talked but no disciplinary action be taken.

As a member on this city council what action would you support.

- A) Vote to immediately terminate the asst librarian
- B) Have the City Manager and head Librarian talk to her
- C) Propose another course of action?

To cast your vote visit website www.betterpublicofficials.com or call 800-274-7757 and leave a voice message. You can monitor the progress of this survey by visiting the "Reader Survey Poll" on www.betterpublicofficials.com. beginning Dec 1st, 2010

Last month's survey involved a school districts need to cut spending. Currently, the school district offers two foreign languages: French and German. Most board members agree one must be cut. A third wanted both of them eliminated and replaced with Spanish, a language that will benefit modern day students. The decision of the board was to cut French and keep German due to the community's cultural background.

We will be to a monthly section with Gabe Start April Issue

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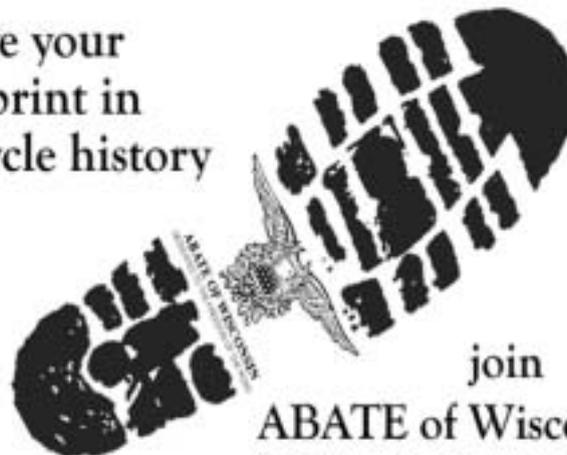
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