



Collins Corner

"Connecting with the Constituents of District 2"

Legislative Update . August 4, 2008

Dear Constituents of District 2,

When I asked for your support for City Council, I committed to transparency in government, and that commitment remains unchanged. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on a very important matter, the Erie Street Market.

As many of you already know, at last week's City Council meeting I called for a Committee of the Whole Meeting to discuss the Erie Street Market. This meeting has been scheduled for this Wednesday, August 6th at 1:00pm. The meeting will take place in City Council chambers, and is open to the public. If your schedule permits, I strongly encourage you to attend.

The Mayor has attempted to conceal from City Council, and the taxpayers of the City of Toledo, the monies and contracts, which were let for remodeling of Bay Four at the Erie Street Market. In my opinion, this is unacceptable! I have numerous questions that I will be asking the Administration at Wednesday's meeting, including the following:

- Under whose authority did the project go forward?
- Under whose authority were contractors hired, with no competitive bids?
- How did we arrive at the decision that we should, for all practical intents and purposes, become a nightclub?
- Given Mr. Croak's criminal background, and the fact that he owes the IRS \$88,538.23 and the State of Ohio \$25,904.20 in back taxes as well as other personal obligations; how is it that he was chosen to promote the events?
- What was the justification for the Verso Group being granted a \$9,000.00 plus, painting contract for the project? The Verso Group is Mr. Croak.
- What was the justification of contracting with Moussa Salloukh to manage the beverage service? Is a 60% City 40% Salloukh the standard?

These are just a few of the questions that I have. I have been emailed several questions from citizens, and plan on asking them as well. Your thoughts and questions are welcome.

Thanks for the trust and confidence you have placed in me,

Respectfully,

D. Michael Collins