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Former Mayor Don Leard campaigns to muddy reputation of successor

October 21, 2010



Don Leard, resident of Newberg, and former Mayor of Lafayette is using his Lafayette rental properties to attempt to smear the reputation of his successor, current Mayor Chris Heisler.

Signs you see around town impugning the reputation of the Mayor may not be supported by the resident where the sign is placed.

The bulk, if not all, of the properties involved in the mudslinging are owned by the former Mayor Don Leard.

At one point, Leard owned nearly 50 rental properties in Lafayette. It is unknown how many properties in the city are currently owned by Leard.

Leard is now accusing Mayor Heisler of “back door deals” through his signs being displayed on his many downtown properties.

There have been no specifics or proof provided of any such “deals.”

Leard was defeated in 2007 by Mayor Heisler by nearly 80% of the votes.

Another accusation still being thrown at Mayor Heisler is a complaint that “he violated City Charter” nearly a year ago when he [refused to sign a resolution](#) that he believed was deceptive to the citizens of Lafayette. Mayor Heisler had consulted with an attorney before making his decision not to sign, stating he believed it was “unethical” for him to sign the document.

Lafayette City Charter does not require the Mayor to sign resolutions. However, as recent as this month, the Mayor is still being accused of violating the Charter over that incident.

Other accusations of lies or back door dealings have not been substantiated.

Mayor Heisler himself fought hard over the past 18 months to stop even any perception of “backroom deals,” and other communication that seemed to be continuing outside of City Charter rules.

On several occasions he [addressed the former councilors](#) via memos or emails telling them to stop communication he deemed “inappropriate” as elected officials.

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This entry was posted on October 21, 2010 at 8:59 pm and is filed under [Feature](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed.

3 Responses to *Former Mayor Don Leard campaigns to muddy reputation of successor*



1. Citizen on October 27, 2010 at 1:49 pm

I'm curious Gary why his tenants would have no rights? Please explain. Also, while I do not personally know where Mr. Leard lives, he claims residency in Lafayette owns property in Lafayette in which he pays property taxes so I fail to see how he also has no rights here.

[Reply](#)



o stephanie on October 27, 2010 at 7:13 pm

I am curious as to why someone cares where or why he has the doors and I also fail to see why this is written on this site.

[Reply](#)



2. Gary Garretson on October 25, 2010 at 5:17 pm

What gives Mr. Leard the right to do anything with-in the city limits of Lafayette or participate in any functions of the city government when he is not a resident of Lafayette. HE DOES NOT LIVE HERE ! Even his tenants have no rights

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