

FOREfront

Working for the People of Roseville

"I know of no safe depository of the powers of society but the people themselves." ... Thomas Jefferson

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Webster's Dictionary definition of **INTEGRITY**:
"Strict adherence to a standard of value or conduct."

There are adopted rules and guidelines that govern the appropriate use of public funds for travel/lodging and meals that were revised in Jan. 1999. There are also regulations for the use of bank credit cards by councilmembers and department heads.

ONLY dept. heads and councilmembers are authorized to use bank credit cards.

NO alcoholic beverages may be purchased with a city credit card.

CARDS are not to be used for the purchase of equipment.

UNLESS work or conference related, meals for other city employees are not authorized expenses.

ALL charge slips/receipts are to be turned in to the Finance Dept. as soon as possible after charge is incurred. This is to expedite payments to avoid interest or penalty charges.

THE purpose of the charge is to be noted on the charge slip. If charge is for meals, the names of the participants are to be listed.

INAPPROPRIATE items or expenses:

ALCOHOLIC beverages – In-room movies at lodging – Charges for mini or honor bars in rooms at lodging - Non-essential program activities such as sports tournaments or spousal tours/events - Any costs applicable to spouses or significant others which may accompany employees, Council members or Commission members during travel while on City business.

The following is an interview with Theresa McInnes and is a continuation of an investigation and review of the spending habits of Roseville City Councilmembers and management briefly

covered in a previous newsletter and a recent The Press-Tribune story on this subject.

Theresa McInnes, retired from California Attorney General's office, was a former auditor for California Dept. of Finance, and Special Agent and Chief of Investigations for the State Office of Economic Opportunity, has impeccable credentials to undertake this review of expenditures. She is doing this huge investigation on her own because she feels the public has a right to know and should be aware of this information.

Interview of Theresa McInnes by Sandra Saraceni:

When did you start your study of city council and management expenses? *In the spring of 2002.*

Did you have any idea of what you were getting into? *I did not expect the amount of time and effort it would take to compile the information. But because of the enormous amount of travel and expenses incurred on almost a daily basis, there were literally thousands of pages of documents to go through.*

It sounds like you have spent literally hundreds of dollars to get copies for your research. Yes, and there is still more documentation for me to pick up that I requested in December.

Would you say it would be easy for anyone from the public to go in and look through documents and know what each councilmember or city manager was spending for travel, meals or events, etc.? *No, It would be very difficult because the documentation is in many different locations and under different categories.*

I chose to look at travel and meal expenditures because I knew, based upon my experience, this category of expenditures very often reflects the

Indian casino forum on Channel 8 at 6 pm May 30