

From: [Ralph Boccock](#)
To: [Haddon, Stacey](#)
Subject: Comments for Aug 3 Meeting
Date: Sunday, August 1, 2021 1:14:28 PM

I was pleased to have a budget passed by the deadline last month and even more pleased that it had a \$1.3 million surplus. Now, a little more than a month after, we've mysteriously given up \$1,097,532 in pay raises to the fire and police departments, and city manager. Hilarious that some of the council people condemn previous councils of backdoor shenanigans. Makes me also wonder why we haven't heard about the \$6 million windfall from the government from Covid relief. I can only imagine what additional shenanigans are in store for a deteriorating Lompoc.

On the agenda for Tuesday is a proposal to open the city to event pot parties. With absolutely no police traffic control and "thousands" of impaired drivers leaving the event, the fire department will earn their pay raise.

I read an article in Noozhawk that suggested when growth ceases, death occurs. Lompoc growth is increasingly dependent on wine (from the Dick DeWees days) and now cannabis. Lompoc was founded in 1874 as a temperance colony but grew through rebellion and tolerance and a great climate to the flower capital of the world. Something we could be proud of, display, parade about. Now we seem to be on the downhill track. What is next? A Pot Parade? Aside from a coffee shop, or two, I see no meaningful growth in the pipeline. Is it a secret? Or is it "vapor" growth?

Thank you for your time.

Ralph Boccock

PS Didn't utility rates go up? Or the delay of scheduled increases expiring, as Councilmember Starbucks wanted to be emphasized. I don't see the increases published on the website.

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