

From: [Aaron Zornes](#)
To: [Al Royse](#); [Marie Chuang](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Larry May](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: public commentary for "special" town council meeting 25-Aug-2022 to cancel election
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 7:25:14 PM

Please enter this comment into the Public Record.

As this meeting is scheduled at a time when most of us residents have to work (9am), I am sending this public comment via email and request that it be read to the attendees in my 3 minute public comment allotment. Next time, in the spirit of transparency and open governance, please schedule important town meetings after work, so that all can participate.

As my council member campaign team publicly noted during the 2020 election campaign, our council members had previously been appointed in 4 of the past 5 town elections (pre-2020). For that and other reasons noted below, **my election team strongly opposes any resolution that appoints a member (or members) to Council during an election year due to a lack of "official" candidates.**

There are three reasons for this position:

#1 - Along with my ~2,500 supporters (2020 council election), I am deeply disappointed in the failures of the current Council to deliver on their promises made during the 2020 campaign regarding actions on: (1) gas-powered leaf blowers, (2) a reset on the cell tower issue, (3) a viable evacuation plan in the event of wildfire or earthquake, and (4) an update to provide a reliable emergency communication system for our residents.

#2 - It is notable that two years ago my council member candidacy was sabotaged by unnamed character assassins via anonymous email campaigns against me and my family as well as haranguing phone calls to my published list of supporters. As a result, we know that certain high-quality candidates are opting NOT to run in Hillsborough town council elections for fear that they and their families will be subject to such unwarranted and unjustified attacks. Clearly, a democratic election that allows for write-in candidates to be elected is the right and just path. There are at least two such candidates that have been identified by me and the Hillsborough Citizens Alliance (HCA with 750+ members).

#3 - Although our Council has responded to some of town residents' concerns re: lack of transparency and need for open governance, much more needs to be done— such as providing that written or emailed public comments be read into the public record to receive the same time allocated in public comment periods as the loud Zoom or phoned-in participants. Repeatedly, I hear from neighbors and concerned residents (via emails, social network DMs and phone calls to me) complaining that their voices don't matter here. They regret that they see the "same people running over and over again". And the so-called "new" ones are essentially pre-vetted and blessed. Think about the 2020 election during which three candidates all ran as a bloc. The downside is the very groupthink that can steer any Council off a cliff.

SUMMARY: On behalf of the approximate 2,500 registered voters who have engaged with, volunteered for, and who voted for me based on my strongly held beliefs in accountability, accessibility, transparency, candor, civic participation and respect for due process in local government, **we urge Hillsborough City Council to make sure the 2022 election for two Council seats be allowed to go as planned.** Yes, it will cost money but that is the cost of democracy. Moreover, fresh thinking and new voices are what is needed for any democratically elected body.

Hillsborough City Council is no exception. "Yet another appointment" throws cold water on the democratic process that we residents want and need.

Elections, not appointments. Keep in place the democratic election process with its write-in capability (!)

Aaron Zornes

Hillsborough resident & community activist for 30+ years

2020 candidate for Hillsborough Town Council

From: [Tito Pombra](#)
To: [Marie Chuang](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Larry May](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#); [Al Roysse](#)
Subject: NO to Resolution Appointing New Council Members
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 8:59:36 PM

Please enter this comment into the Public Record.

We strongly oppose any resolution that appoints a member (or members) to Council during an election year due to a lack of official candidates.

#1 - We are deeply disappointed in the failures of the current Council to deliver on the promises made during the 2020 campaign regarding (a) gas-powered leaf blowers, (b) a reset on the cell tower issue, (c) a viable evacuation plan in the event of wildfire or earthquake, and (d) an update to provide a reliable emergency communication system.

#2 - Although our Council has responded to some of town residents' concerns re: lack of transparency and need for open governance, much more needs to be done. We hear time and time again from neighbors, complaining that their voices don't matter here. They say they see the same people running over and over again. And the "new" ones are essentially pre-vetted and blessed. Think about the 2020 election during which three candidates all ran as a bloc. The downside is the very groupthink that can steer any Council off a cliff.

In pursuit of transparency, candor, civic participation and respect for due process and collaborative in local government, **we urge Hillsborough City Council to make sure the 2022 election for two Council seats be allowed to proceed as planned.** Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear. Moreover, fresh thinking and new voices is what is needed for any democratically elected body. Hillsborough City Council is no exception.

Thanks

Manoj and Hema Pombra


From: [Arlene](#)
To: [Lisa Natusch](#)
Subject: Council election
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 10:15:15 PM

Please do not appoint the council members. We need to vote in November.

Arlene and Phil Bernstein

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sara Greer](#)
To: [Al Royse](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Larry May](#); [Marie Chuang](#)
Cc: [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: Opposed to Resolution Appointing Council Members
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 10:57:44 PM

Transparency, candor, and civic participation are the foundation of local government. I urge Hillsborough City Council to VOTE NO any resolution that appoints anyone to City Council during an election year. We also urge Council to ensure the 2022 election be allowed to happen as planned and allow for write-in candidates. Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Bob Yee](#)
To: [Al Royle](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Larry May](#); [Marie Chuang](#)
Cc: [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: Opposed to Resolution Appointing Council Members
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:26:05 PM

Transparency, candor, and civic participation are the foundation of local government. I urge Hillsborough City Council to VOTE NO any resolution that appoints anyone to City Council during an election year. We also urge Council to ensure the 2022 election be allowed to happen as planned and allow for write-in candidates. Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear.

Thank you.

From: [leonard Mezhvinsky](#)
To: [Al Royle](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Larry May](#); [Marie Chuang](#)
Cc: [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: Opposed to Resolution Appointing Council Members
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:38:35 PM

Transparency, candor, and civic participation are the foundation of local government. I urge Hillsborough City Council to VOTE NO any resolution that appoints anyone to City Council during an election year. We also urge Council to ensure the 2022 election be allowed to happen as planned and allow for write-in candidates. Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear.

Thank you.

Regards, Leonard

From: [Mark Lester](#)
To: [Al Royse](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Larry May](#); [Marie Chuang](#)
Cc: [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: Opposed to Resolution Appointing Council Members
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2022 12:08:26 AM

Transparency, candor, and civic participation are the foundation of local government. I urge Hillsborough City Council to VOTE NO any resolution that appoints anyone to City Council during an election year. We also urge Council to ensure the 2022 election be allowed to happen as planned and allow for write-in candidates. Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Tina Fong](#)
To: [Al Royle](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Larry May](#); [Marie Chuang](#)
Cc: [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: Opposed to Resolution Appointing Council Members
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2022 12:32:09 AM

Transparency, candor, and civic participation are the foundation of local government. I urge Hillsborough City Council to VOTE NO any resolution that appoints anyone to City Council during an election year. We also urge Council to ensure the 2022 election be allowed to happen as planned and allow for write-in candidates. Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sascha Mornell](#)
To: [Al Royse](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Larry May](#); [Marie Chuang](#)
Cc: [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: Opposed to Resolution Appointing Council Members
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2022 5:33:53 AM

Transparency, candor, and civic participation are the foundation of local government. I urge Hillsborough City Council to VOTE NO any resolution that appoints anyone to City Council during an election year. We also urge Council to ensure the 2022 election be allowed to happen as planned and allow for write-in candidates. Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear.

Thank you.

From: [Arlene](#)
To: [Al Royle](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Larry May](#); [Marie Chuang](#)
Cc: [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: Opposed to Resolution Appointing Council Members
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2022 6:30:46 AM

Transparency, candor, and civic participation are the foundation of local government. I urge Hillsborough City Council to VOTE NO any resolution that appoints anyone to City Council during an election year. We also urge Council to ensure the 2022 election be allowed to happen as planned and allow for write-in candidates. Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Vijay Hingorani](#)
To: [Al Royse](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Larry May](#); [Marie Chuang](#)
Cc: [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: Opposed to Resolution Appointing Council Members
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2022 6:39:43 AM

Transparency, candor, and civic participation are the foundation of local government. I urge Hillsborough City Council to VOTE NO any resolution that appoints anyone to City Council during an election year. We also urge Council to ensure the 2022 election be allowed to happen as planned and allow for write-in candidates. Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear. Thank you.

From: [Sean Karn](#)
To: [Al Royle](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Larry May](#); [Marie Chuang](#)
Cc: [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: Opposed to Resolution Appointing Council Members
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2022 7:17:44 AM

Transparency, candor, and civic participation are the foundation of local government. I urge Hillsborough City Council to VOTE NO any resolution that appoints anyone to City Council during an election year. We also urge Council to ensure the 2022 election be allowed to happen as planned and allow for write-in candidates. Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear.

Thank you.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Peggy Andrews](#)
To: [Al Royse](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Larry May](#); [Marie Chuang](#)
Cc: [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: Opposed to Resolution Appointing Council Members
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2022 7:19:23 AM

Transparency, candor, and civic participation are the foundation of local government. I urge Hillsborough City Council to VOTE NO any resolution that appoints anyone to City Council during an election year. We also urge Council to ensure the 2022 election be allowed to happen as planned and allow for write-in candidates. Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear.

Thank you.

Peggy Andrews

From: [Joelle Conn](#)
To: [Al Royle](#); [Christine Krolik](#); [Sophie Cole](#); [Larry May](#); [Marie Chuang](#)
Cc: [Lisa Natusch](#); [Christopher Diaz](#)
Subject: Opposed to Resolution Appointing Council Members
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2022 7:47:43 AM

Transparency, candor, and civic participation are the foundation of local government. I urge Hillsborough City Council to VOTE NO any resolution that appoints anyone to City Council during an election year. We also urge Council to ensure the 2022 election be allowed to happen as planned and allow for write-in candidates. Yes, it will cost money, but that is the cost of the very democracy we hold dear.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone