Subject: Re: Public input

Date: Wed, 27 Oct 2004 18:06:00 -0700

From: "Valerie Moller" <valeriem@blaze.ca>

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Councilor Walton was quick to assure me it was not a personal attack when he cut me off during Public Input at last Monday's council meeting. His explanation of how he interpreted my comments is understandable, even if I don't agree.

Because I felt angry about the development issue, I put a lot of thought into preparing what I wanted to say to Council. I was surprised my wording was not acceptable (it was not intentional), and that the same statements with slightly different wording would probably have been alright. Which brings me to the point that the "average Joe citizen" does not have the mind of a lawyer, and I feel concerned as to how one is supposed to speak on contentious issues with every word having to be analyzed. I hope this will not discourage people from speaking their minds on such issues.

Having said that, I believe Councilor Walton to be a fair-minded person who did what he thought was right. I agree with Liz James that he chaired a well-run meeting.

Enough said..... Regards, Val Moller.