

## Victoria Lozzi Remarks at PVrrg Forum

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-rLlt9pUNqk&feature=youtu.be>

“My obligation as City Treasurer is to make sure our residents have all the information they need to make a thoughtful and well informed decision when they go to vote.” (1:45)

“Our overall revenues a little under \$14 million; our public safety alone – just the fire and the police - right about \$12 million. At least \$2 million for everything else we have to do in the city. I mean the math just doesn’t work. Even if we went to the Sheriff. Let’s say the Sheriff was \$4 million. Even if it was \$4 million that leaves us \$5 million for everything else. The math doesn’t work” (2:30)

“From where I stand I think it was a mistake to tie this to the Police. A parcel tax is not a question of Police vs. Sheriff. It’s the overall financial position of our City. It’s concerning to me. I feel that kinda the work wasn’t done over the past year. It was surprising to me that a thorough evaluation of the financial condition – a forecast on where things were going ... wasn’t performed before placing Measure E on the ballot. And I really specifically mean a detailed analysis of revenues and projecting that out. And a detailed analysis of expenses and projecting it out.” (3:00)

“The focus should have been on providing residents with the accurate information they need to make a voting decision.” (3:45)

“Once it was decided to tie it to the parcel tax, then it did have to become a question of Police vs. Sheriff” (4:05)

“It seems like many, if not most residents probably would like to keep the Police, but that can’t be a ‘That’s how it’s always been done’ sort of decision. It becomes an affordability decision, I think. At least to consider it. When we’re looking at affordability, we need to be looking at the long-term success of the City.” (4:12)

“I think you’d rather hear what the picture is, and then make a decision, I think. I think you are being asked to make a decision without all the information.” (5:00)

“When you talk about outsourcing, who outsources something without getting a cost estimate – a scope of work and what it costs. The unwillingness I think to get that I don’t understand, but I don’t know how you make a voting decision without that.” (5:35)

“The good news I will say, I think, and finally, and really at the pushing really of not giving up of PVrrg, the City Council did finally form a Finance Advisory Committee. It took a year of not wanting to do that.” (6:27)

“So now you say, “Well, if we vote Yes on this. You know, you get the \$5 million and you hang onto the Police. Well, what happens in 2 or 3 years when we really figure out we probably can’t afford it. OK, so if you want to make a change, there goes the tax because the tax is tied to the Police. So if we may decide to go from Police to Sheriff, there goes that money so now we’re back in the hole where we started.” (8:00)

“I guess I kinda feel like we need to go back and do the work right, and get it right, and come back with the true story, even if it’s not rosy. But, I think you’d rather know the story and then make a decision, rather than trying to guess based on what people say may or may not be the story.” (8:50)