

Clifton Journal  
Too many lies 4/17/16

I am sick of this council and administration lying to the public, lying about issues that are easily proven through OPRA requests. A prime example is the statement from the city in the June 10 Skate Park article that "the purchase began with delays because the Bergen Borough took months to deliver the skate park equipment." This is a down right lie. Here is the truth I obtained

through an open public records act request.

This council passed a resolution on March 11, 2015 to purchase skate park equipment from Fort Lee for \$65,000, which was a good thing. However, for months the administration failed to act on this resolution. The purchase order to generate the check was not done until June 3, 2015, almost three months after the council's resolution. The check (number 106766) was not issued until October 2015 and was dated Oct. 7, 2015 - four months after the purchase order was generated and seven months after the council's resolution.

However, the city did not pick up the equipment until early December - in fact, Fort Lee kept calling the city throughout this time asking why it was taking so long to pay and pick up the equipment. Why lie when the facts and truth can be easily obtained by the public?

Could it be the city wants the public to forget that they allowed a contractor to store sewer pipes, rocks and soil on the closed skate park - all for free without a written agreement with this contractor? Or could it be the city wants the public to forget that back in 2014 they claimed the park needed just a small uplift and would be opened by the spring of 2015? Or could it be they want to public to forget that this public park has been closed and locked for over four years?

The excuse now is that the \$65,000 worth of equipment they purchased requires "more space than is currently available within the existing area." What a joke! With in-house engineers and building professionals, didn't anyone in Clifton do their homework and research exactly what they were buying and the space needed to put this equipment? I guess not.

The other lame excuse is that they can't start working on the

park until they install security to protect the park against vandals. Why is it this council can find over \$300,000 for unwanted Dwasline sidewalks to fulfill their campaign promises to a special interest group but can't find \$20,000 for security cameras for a park which would benefit the entire community rather than a selected few.

The bottom line the lying to the taxpayers and residents of Clifton by this council and administration has to stop. We the public demand the truth. Guess like at the BOE it is time to clean house at the council.

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