

**LETTER**

Clifton Journal 3/16/18

**Council is supposed to air all of its meetings**

All regular and special meetings of the Clifton Municipal Council are supposed to be aired live on the Clifton Cable TV station. This is clearly stated in the bylaws of the the Clifton CATV committee. Therefore, this council has been breaking the law not airing any special meeting of the council. For example, the March 10 Special Council Budget Meeting should have been shown live on the cable TV station as well as the Special Council meeting in July where the Police Chief made a huge presentation to this council about understaffing and overtime costs.

The residents of Clifton are entitled to open and transparent government. Each one of the seven council members took an oath of office to uphold the laws of Clifton and the constitution. None of the seven members can pick and choose which laws to abide by.

Each subcommittee of this council is only an advisory committee to the council and has no power to act without the majority vote of the council. This includes the Clifton CATV committee. The committee's own by-

laws state every council meeting - regular or special - must be shown live on TV. Time after time residents have spoken at council meetings begging for special meetings to be televised only to be ignored by this council. In fact, recently one resident even read the bylaws to this council and still no action was taken to air all special council meetings.

Why haven't the three city attorneys advised this council they are breaking the law by not airing the special meetings? Isn't that their job? What is this council afraid of? Are they afraid the residents will see how much padding is in the annual budget? Was this council afraid the residents would hear the police chief's statement about Clifton's crime rate?

This council answers to us - the residents and taxpayers of Clifton. We demand this council start following the law. All council meetings including the budget meetings should be shown live on the cable TV station.

P.S. - Don't try to change the bylaws to remove this mission statement. We are all watching your actions.

**Mary Sadrakula**  
Clifton