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BYLINE: Readers

BODY:

Volgy's promises are empty

Regarding the Volgy for mayor campaign and his numerous broken promises to those who elected him: In 1985 Tom Volgy promised he would serve his whole City Council term if elected. He abandoned the seat to run for mayor in 1987.

In 1987 Volgy promised that he wasn't going to use the mayor's office as a stepping stone for a congressional run. He broke that promise, too. So I had to laugh when Volgy recently said, yet again, he is not interested in running for Congress.

Ambitious career politicians like Volgy will say anything to get elected. He lied to us in the past, so why should we believe him this time? I am sick of his empty promises for his personal gain.

ED NUSKA

Walkup has poor record

Regarding Jill Blondin's Oct. 24 column, "Dissenting view: Volgy is best choice for mayor": When Bob Walkup ran for mayor he kept saying he would go here, there and wherever to bring jobs to Tucson: Make Tucson bigger, not necessarily better.

Indeed he travels so much he even needed a new steam iron to press his suits, so he bought one at Wal-Mart and put it on the city tab, along with thousand-dollar meals while entertaining businessmen from Mexico, which of course would lead to more jobs. For who? Malaysia?

We have an ordinance to remove billboards. Walkup has been a party to delaying its enforcement. A cop has sex in a patrol car and videotapes it, but only gets put on paid leave so the resource cops can study the situation. The mayor is silent.

Walkup has not uttered a word that a fellow Republican running for City Council has never bothered to vote in a city election in his life. Does that prepare one to govern others? Armando Rios would only provide Walkup with another slam-dunk vote at council meetings. That's not representation. That's ramrodding.

Walkup presides over a movement to excuse the biggest businesses in Tucson from having to pay new fees for out of city purchases, instigating an exemption for the largest earners in our community. No explanation as to why this is fair.

MARY BLYTHE

Volgy is the better choice

When Jill Blondin documented her reasons why Tom Volgy should be elected mayor, this could have been the "swing column" that may get Volgy elected. When Blondin gets on a soap box, as she has done on previous occasions, it seems to turn into a classic.

She articulated so well that Volgy is a straight shooter. Walkup and his gang have hurt themselves with some juvenile mudslinging, which Volgy refuses to do.

What I most remember about Walkup's regime are the permanent potholes. The city refused to fill in potholes leading up to Walkup's disastrous and ill-fated transportation campaign. I ruined two tires from these potholes.

Walkup also defended the inept city police reaction to the burning of Fourth Avenue after a key University of Arizona basketball loss. Rioters almost burned part of downtown while the police waited and waited to swing into action.

On a personal note, I asked the city revenue division three times to help me fill out my city transient tax form - a new form. I was completely ignored until I wrote Walkup, with copy to Tom Volgy, before I finally got some action.

LOU PAVLOVICH SR.

Ibarra blindsides constituent

Regarding the Oct. 17 Citizen editorial, "In Ward 1 race, no dynamos; Edge to Ibarra": Sitting on the City Council can't be an easy job. It pays so very poorly. Imagine how difficult it is to try and please everyone? A councilman can change his mind on an issue from time to time but whatever happened to the common courtesy of informing your constituent of your intentions?

As a small business owner, I visited each council office on an upcoming issue. Jose Ibarra said he supported my rezoning request, but when it came time to vote, he changed his mind and voted against it. All the other council members kept their word. He is not to be trusted.

I called his office 12 times and e-mailed him twice to discuss the issue, as it was granted a reconsideration date. I got absolutely no response.

If this is his "strength" then we're in trouble. A simple phone call could have made a big difference. Is this how to treat your constituents? The Citizen stated he was small-minded. Might I add just plain rude.

KATHY KEA

Endorsement of Ibarra ridiculous

If Jose Ibarra, after two terms and numerous problems with Ward 1 infrastructure, lacks a vision for how to fix the problem, why endorse him? Is the Citizen so enamored with the Ibarra's idea of light rail - a very bad and costly idea for a city as small as Tucson - that his lack of leadership isn't disturbing? Does his incessant desire to spend enormous sums of money on projects the city can ill afford not give the Citizen pause?

At least Armando Rios has a practical vision for Tucson's future. It is not a bad thing for a candidate to want to fully fund basic city services before we fund secondary social programs.

The Citizen states that, "Ibarra can seem small-minded. He does a good job for his ward, but lacks the voice and the vision to lead the city forward as the 21st century unfolds." This is an endorsement? You also say, "While Rios has a broad vision of the city's problems, he is short on specific solutions."

So let me get this straight: the guy with a broad vision for the future but few specifics is less palatable to the Citizen than a guy who appears small-minded with no vision. Yeah, that makes sense.

I guess I should be thankful for this sorry excuse for an

endorsement. It reminds me, once again, why I no longer buy the Tucson Citizen.

STEVE GLASKER

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