

# NORTH BAY NUGGET - OPINION LETTERS

## Taxpayers group praised

Thursday, March 5, 2015 3:09:29 EST PM

### Letters



The following letter is in response to the article Deputy mayor calls association 'private club.' King fires back at Forgette, Nugget March 3.

To the editor:

I need to reiterate that I am one taxpayer who is extremely grateful for the efforts of the North Bay Taxpayers Association. Thank goodness for people like Mark King, Don Rennick, Miles Peters and Elizabeth Fournier. They seem to be the only voice of reason and due diligence to represent those of us who fund the operation of this city.

I simply cannot fathom how past and present councils have got away with spending money we don't have. Any individual or viable business cannot operate on this premise. It does not work. Yet councils continue to do this.

Is this OK? No, no, no!

North Bay taxpayers cannot afford the wages and benefits paid to its police service, firefighters and city officials.

We cannot afford to fund special interest groups or projects like the Memorial Gardens money pit.

We cannot afford to continue to fund this weakly managed and poorly operated organization.

Council needs to look to successful operators who run viable businesses to figure out how to run this city at a break-even point. Consider what we currently have as a budget, prioritize and pro-rate needs and divvy up the resources.

We have to get used to getting what we can afford.

What other business would be so foolish as to give individuals responsibilities based on how many votes they garnered and not on their experience, education and proven ability?

Perhaps we need to look at the resumes of those who run for council and base appointments on this criteria.

I voted for Sheldon Forgette hoping for some fresh, caring, unbiased input. Unfortunately, he is proving to be just an inexperienced kid.

Please, North Bay Taxpayers Association, know that you have the support and gratitude of a great many over-burdened, frustrated North Bayites.

Anna Olmsted