

From: Sandra J W Brown <sandorajwbrown@gmail.com>
Sent: 10/27/2021 9:48:52 AM
To: Debra Campbell <dcampbell@ashevillenc.gov>, Esther Manheimer <esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com>, antanettesmosley@avlcouncil.com, councilgroup <AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov>, gwenwisler@avlcouncil.com, sageturner@avlcouncil.com, sandrakilgore@avlcouncil.com
Cc:
Subject: Lease, NOT Grant

I have listened closely to city council meetings for several years now. I have been a fairly silent critic of many things decided upon by (mostly) past councils. I was surprised, but very pleased that the city will enter into a LEASE agreement for Grind, LLC at the same rate as several other leases the city holds with various tenants. I absolutely HATE the idea of this being called a grant and was shocked to hear a Councilwoman suggest that it otherwise sets a precedent for _____. I am respectfully asking you, this historic city council, to honor your Lease agreement as our Vice Mayor proposed. From my understanding after the discussion this evening, you have 30 days to make a decision which way to word this contract. Please make the right one. The just one. The honorable one. Calling it a grant instead of treating it like the several other city owned property lease contracts is flat out insulting.

While I'm here, I am asking again to fix the problem of our historically racist, At Large Voting system. As a WNC "native", I'm aghast that we didn't follow the Law, which would have finally "reversed" our Jim Crow Era designed voting system. Especially since, if memory serves, the "at large" system is how our school board will be voted in during the next election? Both of my daughters attend ACS schools and we are watching y'all make the right decision.

I know it has been said before, and as I said above, you are a historic council, I'm looking at you to make long lasting, positive changes for our community as a whole.

Sandra JW Brown
Resident of West Asheville