

**From:** [Hayner, Jeff](#)  
**To:** [Taylor, Christopher \(Mayor\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: public threats  
**Date:** Friday, January 22, 2021 7:33:00 AM

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I filed a police report months ago based on private threats and very direct threats made on social media. These people have been emboldened to now call in and make their hate public. We even appear to have a major donor to you and your slates campaigns offering cash rewards to those who call in and heckle me. You have “liked” many remarks made by these people on social media. Like it or not, you are viewed by these people as their leader. Your constant suggestions that I and others are inventing this, or playing the victim, or can somehow reflect our way out of this –is disgusting, and less than useless.

Amazing that after two years of failing to respond to my emails you only begin to do so when you need to provide cover for your very real role in fomenting these despicable behaviors.

Jeff Hayner

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**From:** Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <CTaylor@a2gov.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 3:12 PM  
**To:** Hayner, Jeff <JHayner@a2gov.org>  
**Subject:** Re: public threats

CM Hayner,

A member of the public has expressed their view about the manner in which you and, I infer, others, perform your role as Councilmember. They have done so in a manner that was pointed, but measured. I have not ignored the comment, for there is no cause to do so. Indeed, I have taken some time to reflect upon the important role that uncomfortable and challenging public comments play in our government, having been on the business end of several of such critiques, some spurious, some legitimate -- because we all make mistakes. It appears, to the contrary, that you have ignored it -- both as an opportunity for reflection and, assuming with charity that you were in earnest about your concerns for your physical safety, by your seeming failure to report it to the AAPD.

Perhaps if the resident had had more time he would have also engaged the tendency of authoritarians and fascists (unwitting and otherwise) to falsely style themselves as victims and to see everywhere (more accurately, invent) the malicious hand of a shadowy leader supported by fifth columnists, when, of course, no such cabal exists. Maybe such a line of

comment would have inspired some of the more grievance-driven members of our polity to pause, if but for a moment, to entertain the idea that folks with whom they disagree might actually just in good faith see the world differently, to focus instead on getting things done rather than trying to again troll a perceived opponent or self-soothe by fomenting conflict. Perhaps we'll get there, as the public communicates time and again that we all are simply tired of the irrational discord. I hope so.

Sincerely,

Christopher

Christopher Taylor  
Mayor of the City of Ann Arbor  
301 East Huron Street  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104  
734-794-6161  
*he/him/his*

***Wear your Mask. That is all.***

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**From:** Hayner, Jeff <[JHayner@a2gov.org](mailto:JHayner@a2gov.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 12:04 PM  
**To:** Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <[CTaylor@a2gov.org](mailto:CTaylor@a2gov.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: public threats

Ignore it and it will go away, right?

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**From:** Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <[CTaylor@a2gov.org](mailto:CTaylor@a2gov.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 20, 2021 2:12 PM  
**To:** Hayner, Jeff <[JHayner@a2gov.org](mailto:JHayner@a2gov.org)>  
**Cc:** Cox, Michael <[MCox@a2gov.org](mailto:MCox@a2gov.org)>; Crawford, Tom <[TCrawford@a2gov.org](mailto:TCrawford@a2gov.org)>; Higgins, Sara <[SHiggins@a2gov.org](mailto:SHiggins@a2gov.org)>; Postema, Stephen <[SPostema@a2gov.org](mailto:SPostema@a2gov.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: public threats

CM Hayner,

I have again listened to the referenced Public Comment and do not understand anything the speaker said to constitute a threat. Rather than threaten you with harm, I believe that the only reasonable interpretation of the speaker's comment to be that he used a well known quotation regarding subconscious authoritarian tendencies as the launching point to criticize you and others for the fascistic -- in his view -- manner in which you perform your role(s) as Councilmember(s). The quote has been widely used in this way, most recently to my quick research, by Bill Kristol in reference to the January 6 insurrectionists clearly to mean that the

rioters were fascists, even if they didn't know it.

See <https://twitter.com/BillKristol/status/1350868121742151681>.

It is my practice to forward specific allegations of corruption and/or criminal wrong-doing to City authorities, no matter my view as to the credibility of the assertion. You have reported to me that you felt threatened by the speaker, a crime, and so I refer the matter here to Chief Cox for investigation.

Sincerely,

Christopher

Christopher Taylor  
Mayor of the City of Ann Arbor  
301 East Huron Street  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104  
734-794-6161  
*he/him/his*

***Wear your Mask. That is all.***

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**From:** Hayner, Jeff <[JHayner@a2gov.org](mailto:JHayner@a2gov.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 20, 2021 1:42 AM  
**To:** Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <[CTaylor@a2gov.org](mailto:CTaylor@a2gov.org)>  
**Subject:** public threats

Dear Mayor Taylor,

Now you can no longer say with a straight face that you have never heard a threat made against a council member in the public arena. Mr. Vasquez clearly threatened me in tonight's council comments, add this to his numerous private threats and also threats made in other public forums (social media), and it's clear that you have helped foster an environment of extreme divisiveness, and created a dangerous work environment for myself and other council members. Again, I urge you to speak publicly and unambiguously to condemn this violent rhetoric.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hayner  
Ward 1 City Council