



AN OPEN LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS OF HAWTHORNE:

In accordance with our commitment to transparency, the City of Hawthorne is posting this notice for all residents.

In mid-March of 2018, the City became aware that in 2014, the previous City Manager, Mike Goodson, had authorized a loan of public funds in the amount of \$25,000 provided to the City Finance Director without disclosing it to the public and city council. This is further evidence that the City Council was just in terminating Mr. Goodson as the City Manager in 2015. This loan had not been disclosed to anyone until recently.

Since the allegation involved a senior-level employee, a full investigation by an independent, outside law firm was commissioned to review the matter.

The Finance Director has been placed on administrative leave and the investigation concluded this week.

As of today, the City Council initiated action during a Special Council Meeting to resolve this issue by directing the City Attorney to prepare and finalize a separation, repayment and settlement agreement with the Finance Director.

This continues to be a personnel matter which precludes the City from discussing certain facets of the case in accordance with employment law and to prevent any liability to the City.

Hawthorne is committed to the highest level of ethical behavior by its employees as well as transparency to the public.