

Green Bay Press Gazette.

435. E Walnut St., P.O. Box 23430, Green Bay, WI 54305-3430

The Honorable Eric Genrich
Mayor, City of Green Bay
100 N Jefferson St.
Green Bay, WI 54301

November 10, 2021

Dear Mayor Genrich,

I'm writing to let you know about an incident that occurred after the Nov. 9 Common Council meeting, inside the Council Chambers, which created a hostile and potentially threatening work environment for one of our employees.

Four members of the audience confronted [REDACTED] following the meeting and engaged in a series of insults, some of them personal. They had researched [REDACTED] academic, personal and professional background and told [REDACTED] (among other things) [REDACTED] should leave the state of Wisconsin and quit [REDACTED] profession.

While we understand that people are entitled to their opinions, the manner in which this group isolated and verbally assaulted an employee creates concerns about [REDACTED] future ability to safely and securely do [REDACTED] job at City Hall. As we have seen in many communities, the verbal and personal insults can escalate to more threatening and dangerous behavior.

This harassment, with the intention of bullying a member of the press to stop doing [REDACTED] work as a journalist, threatens a key element of the democratic process.

We are taking steps within our company to protect our employee, but I felt it necessary to call this incident to your attention, as well. We expect that our employees and anyone attending public meetings can do so without fear of being accosted in such a way, or worse.

Please let me know if you have any questions or want to talk about this further. I can meet at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Mark Treinen

Editor, Green Bay Press-Gazette
920-431-8392 | 715-204-6086 (c) mtreinen@gannett.com