

# Letters to the Editor

## County Council follows "Rule of Man"

Once upon a time there was an America where most public servants reveled in the "Rule of Law." Our Founders blessed us with a Constitutional Republic. In a Republic, our rulers and those whom they rule, are subject to the "Rule of Law."

At a recent Dorchester County Council meeting, I saw how far we've drifted to the "Rule of Man." I witnessed six of seven councilmen vote against the "Rule of Law." One honorable councilman alerted the six to a legal opinion issued by our S.C. Attorney General's office.

After reviewing law regarding a recent Council decision to double tax the same residential property for the same purpose during the same taxing period, the opinion reached by the Attorney General's office was that Council had acted illegally.

The legal opinion of the Attorney General's office is that the School Districts and Dorchester County Council broke the law in approving a one mill tax increase to all Dorchester County residential property owners in order to fund Security Resource Officers for schools. One conscientious councilman made a motion to respect the "Rule of Law" by rescinding Council's ordinance

that approved the unlawful tax.

This concerns me. The 6-1 vote against the motion was preceded by councilmen arguing as to why Council should disregard the legal opinion of the Attorney General. We hear this argument often today: the end justifies the means. In other words, it's okay for our rulers to break the law, if for a good cause. In this case, it's "for the children." The six, one of whom may run for the SC legislature, voted against the "Rule of Law," and for the "Rule of Man." The "Rule of Man" prevails in a Democracy and the "Rule of Law" takes a back seat.

But constitutionally, America is a Republic. Our councilmen, and we

who elect them, are governed by the "Rule of Law." The righteous make righteous decisions because they are right decisions.

Until a righteous man can lawfully change a law, or opinion, or find a lawful way, he respects the "Rule of Law." Six councilmen rejected this concept.

To effect positive change, we can internalize our Constitution to right our ship of state, one town, one county at a time. If you agree and wish to restore our Constitutional Republic, consider a run for a Council seat.

Joan Holleman Brown  
Summerville

Dear Honorable, Governor Haley, 1-31-16  
With the eyes of the nation recently upon you - I draw your attention to our beloved Dorchester County and ask your help as our Top State Leader, Commander in Chief.

All is not well in our town of Summerville, with the powers that be, trying to depower our New Mayor Willy Johnson, to County Council acting illegally. This is not only our citizens opinion, but those of your own Attorney Generals office.

"Please, can you NOT help us? I have been your supporter & voted for you both elections; We need you, just like your old reelection ad. where the young girl was being bullied, ... stand up for us, As you did her.

Deepest Regards,

Ann George

