(Statement read by Councilor Zach Cramer)

"It is with a heavy heart that I bring this matter before the council, but I believe it is a necessary step to ensure the financial health and transparency of our city. I am asking the council to appropriate funds for a forensic audit of our city's finances.

This request is not made lightly but rather out of a deep responsibility to our residents, who deserve clear answers about how their tax dollars are being managed. A forensic audit will allow us to thoroughly review our financial operations, identify any inefficiencies or discrepancies, and implement measures to strengthen our fiscal oversight moving forward.

This is an opportunity to restore confidence in our financial practices and demonstrate our commitment to accountability and stewardship. I trust this council will carefully consider this request, and I look forward to working together to ensure the long-term stability of our city. Thank you."