

From: [Ken Malmin](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Item 894
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 10:58:27 PM

Testimony for Wednesday, Oct 26 council meeting.

Regarding agenda item 894 proposing accepting the Kemper Sports bid to manage city golf courses:

I am an avid golfer that's has regularly been playing the city's courses for 47 years. I also have played at Kemper managed courses countless times.

I sincerely believe it is a mistake to approve this contract for the following reasons:

1. It is a commonly held belief among avid golfers that golf management done by locals rather than national corporations is superior in serving the local golfing community. I have heard this opinion strongly voiced by dozens of Portland golfers.
2. When I travel and play at Kemper managed courses I both experience the difference as well as hear the same above opinion voiced by golfers I meet there. It seems that golfers perspective is that Kemper talks a better game than they actually play.
3. The perception of the Portland golfers I encounter is that we are all appalled at the council's seeming "backroom secret handshake" approach to keeping the public and interested parties in the dark until this 11th hour quick approval just days before the current contract expires.
4. Those of us who understand the golf industry find it incredulous to believe that with this contract the city won't be wasting millions of dollars that could be saved or invested in course improvements for the benefit of all Portland golfers.
5. All of this makes it look like something shady is going on at a time when city hall can ill afford to further weaken its credibility.

Sincerely,
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