

You may or may not be aware – I am retiring after serving the City for over 19 years as an employee assigned to the police department. After attempting to have an in-person meeting with you, which proved to be impossible, I am forced to express my thoughts and feelings to you via an e-mail.

The way you handled the Wright critical incident and your actions in the days following deeply sadden and disappoint me. Retired Officer Kim Potter has been my best friend for over 23 years. You painted her as a prejudiced person and turned the situation into a race issue. You know nothing about her personally or professionally. She dedicated her entire law enforcement career to serving and protecting the Brooklyn Center Community all the while being active in community outreach. All citizens of the United States of America are allowed the right to due process – why did you not wait for the investigation to be complete? Instead, you chose to glorify the situation for your own personal gain. I am not interested in knowing what your hidden/political agenda is; your actions have destroyed numerous lives and certainly the trust of City staff and the community. You have glorified criminals, again, for your personal gain and those that have challenged you were quickly dismissed. You have compared the Wright critical incident to the Floyd critical incident that occurred in Minneapolis. Open your eyes; they are not comparable situations. You fail to look at the facts of the Wright incident just as you failed to look at the facts of the Dimock-Heisler incident. You have ‘stacked’ your special meetings with non-residents and fail to hear from the residents that you were elected to serve. You have become extremely quiet since the lawsuits have been filed against the estate of Daunte Wright. Could it be because now you have egg on your face or possibly because you yourself have made some mistakes?

You are trying to reform the police department, yet you have never participated in a ride-along or utilized the eye opening virtual training room at the police department (some current Multicultural Advisory Committee members have). Since you became Mayor of Brooklyn Center you have made little to no effort to visit the police department, speak with the police department staff, or learn more about law enforcement efforts in your community directly from the mouths of department staff. It is obvious to me that you are attempting to reform something that you know nothing about. You have repeatedly belittled the officers; they have worked tirelessly investing many years building trust with community that they serve and protect.

You have not taken into account what the majority of Brooklyn Center citizens want, which is to have their voices heard. I personally fielded hundreds of calls and e-mails from residents of the City expressing their support of the Brooklyn Center Police Department and retired Officer Potter. Much of the public sees that this clearly was a horrible and unfortunate mistake. I hope that you acknowledge the truth, hear from the residents you were elected to serve, and do the right thing from now on as this City has already lost many good, hard-working people due to your inappropriate and disgusting leadership.

Becky Boie
Retired Crime Prevention Specialist