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Questions Raised About Summerfield Town Manager's Financial Past

Public records suggest a 20-year history of evictions, debts, and failure to pay taxes

WICHITA, Kansas – An online background check anonymously sent to the American Association of Municipal Executives suggests that Summerfield town manager Charles “Twig” Rollins has repeatedly been evicted, stiffed creditors, and dodged state tax payments.

The 37-page document emblazoned with the PeopleFinders.com logo contains information about a Charles Rollins with a phone number matching one that the town manager has publicly posted to his North Carolina City & County Management Association profile.

The documents indicate Rollins failed to pay more than \$60,000 to small businesses and the State of North Carolina over the last twenty years. Additionally, Rollins was evicted twice during this period.

Over the last few weeks, the Summerfield town council and Rollins have suggested that the orchestrated smear campaign against former town manager Scott Whitaker and other employees was necessary in the name of transparency and accountability.

“Did the Summerfield town council hire a deadbeat to oversee millions of tax dollars?” asked Joe Turner, CEO of the American Association of Municipal Executives. “The council needs to address whether they conducted a background check and what they found during their due diligence.”

Below is a detailed accounting of the evictions, judgments, and liens listed in the report:

- Eviction #1 (Mar. 2006 in Wilmington) - Case #: 2006CVM001013
- Eviction #2 (Sept. 2013 in Wilmington) - Case #: 2013CVM003229
- Judgment #1: Andrews Mortuary (\$8,900) - Case #: 2005CVD3839
- Judgment #2: Clarence Alford, Jr. (\$6,800) - Case #: 2019CVM00157
- State Tax Lien #1: Amount Owed (\$25,534) - Case #: 2013M001502
- State Tax Lien #2: Amount Owed (\$7,081) - Case #: 2013M001508
- State Tax Lien #3: Amount Owed (\$13,972) - Case #: 2019M000413

Curiously, a letter from the North Carolina Department of Revenue to the New Hanover County Court of the Superior Clerk, dated October 16, 2024, asked for a cancellation of the Certificate of Tax Liability filed against Rollins back in 2013.

Rollins began his tenure as town manager just three days earlier on October 13th.

“You have to question the judgment of the governing body if they hired someone who has repeatedly failed to honor their word and pay their debts,” Turner said. “And you have to question what they knew and when they knew it.”

The American Association of Municipal Executives is a newly formed professional organization that advocates on behalf of city managers and other public sector executives. It was founded by Joe Turner and other public sector leaders. Turner is also the host of the City Manager Unfiltered podcast – widely regarded as the most influential local government podcast in the nation.