

## Desert Sun

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**Your voice / Former Desert Hot Springs city manager Jerry Hanson: Letters to the editor for Sunday, August 15, 2005**  
*Readers*  
*The Desert Sun*

Politicians not savvy

The problem in Desert Hot Springs and most other cities is the council members don't understand how to run a business. They have never had to meet a payroll and don't understand what health benefits, vacation, car allowance, etc., really cost. In what other vocation can an employee retire in 30 years with 90 percent of their salary and health insurance for the rest of their lives? This one benefit alone will come to bankrupt many cities in the not so distant future.

Most council members are teachers, postal carriers, housewives, etc., and don't understand the long-term effects of their discussions. I would like to see the Desert Sun do an in-depth report on the valley's city employee retirement system and if our cities can survive.

In the meantime, it's not the employees' responsibility to limit his or her pay. It's the governing body: the city council members.

It's a shame the city didn't turn over the records requested on day one; the story would have been long gone by now - another example of a bad business decision.

- Dennis Silletto

Palm Desert

Did he have inside dirt?

While I have had so many thoughts about our previous city manager, Jerry Hanson ("Manager wrote his own deal," Aug. 6), why did he fire a chief of police who was so respected by his men?

More to the point, did he have something on the City Council?

Thanks to The Desert Sun and a local television station. I now know. Yes, he had something on the City Council: Ignorance.

- Nicky Nichols

Desert Hot Springs

Self-serving agenda shows

It appears Hanson had only one agenda - his own exuberant profitability from a city in desperate financial need and leadership ("Manager wrote his own deal," Aug. 6). Desert Hot Springs was raped by him and his "contract," and now who's stuck yet again footing the bill?

- Anthony J. Mauceri

Palm Springs