From: Paul Clark
To: Lemos, June

Cc: CMAR (CMAR@MCN.ORG); Paul Clark

**Subject:** City Council Meeting 11/08/2021 Item 8 C 21-580

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Council members, I am glad to see some review of these fees. I recall seeing all the fees listed out in a spread sheet long ago when the city wanted to fleece any new business. It was an interesting process. The Mill site was thought to be ready to take off with development. I spoke then and now many years later seems time to do so again. If I recall, the fees to open say a laundromat, was around 90k. Restaurants were very high too. Ask the Brewery, restaurant expansion, around 30k I recall and the brewery expansion itself took a lot of working around to make it happen. I would suggest this be not just the CBD area, but everywhere. Why limit it to restaurants, Cafes, and coffee shop businesses? Anyway, having the fees for the community to see some of the obstacles a potential business has to pony up before opening the doors would be nice.

The resolution fails to mention the effect of the internet (Amazon) on retail businesses everywhere. The pandemic had its effect for sure, but I do wish the focus on the CBD was not always the case. We are all in this together, or should be. The rest of the business community sees that focus and once again it sets out someone or in this case some area for special treatment.

Paul Clark