

Re: IMPORTANT: Request for Comment

Adam Andrzejewski <Adam@openthebooks.com>

Tue 3/1/2022 11:53 AM

To: Kelleher, KC (Comptroller) <KC.Kelleher@baltimorecity.gov>

Cc: Adam Andrzejewski <Adam@openthebooks.com>

Thank you for responding. Do you have a comment?

Adam

Adam Andrzejewski (say: Angie-eff-ski)

CEO & Founder

OpenTheBooks.com | 312.320.1867

From: Kelleher, KC (Comptroller) <KC.Kelleher@baltimorecity.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 11:38 AM

To: Adam Andrzejewski <Adam@openthebooks.com>

Cc: Bentley, James <JBentley@baltimorecity.gov>; French, Jack (Mayor's Office) <Jack.French@baltimorecity.gov>; Shannon, Geoff (Comptroller) <Geoff.Shannon@baltimorecity.gov>

Subject: RE: IMPORTANT: Request for Comment

Good afternoon Mr. Andrzejewski,

Thank you for reaching out to the Office of the Comptroller.

The checkbook was created by the Mayor's Office and supporting agencies. The Comptroller's agency is not responsible for updating this website, nor do we have the data you are requesting.

I've cc'd the Mayor's Office to assist with your request.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

KC Kelleher (*she/hers*)

Director of Communication



Office of Comptroller Bill Henry

O: 410-396-4755 C: 410-804-4289

Web: Comptroller.BaltimoreCity.gov

E-mail: kc.kelleher@baltimorecity.gov

100 Holliday St., Baltimore MD 21202

From: Adam Andrzejewski <Adam@openthebooks.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 11:46 AM
To: Shannon, Geoff (Comptroller) <Geoff.Shannon@baltimorecity.gov>
Cc: Adam Andrzejewski <Adam@openthebooks.com>
Subject: IMPORTANT: Request for Comment

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REQUEST FOR COMMENT -- BILL HENRY

My name is Adam Andrzejewski and I'm the CEO of OpenTheBooks.com, author the Waste of the Day column at Real Clear Politics, and a subject matter expert on transparency scheduled to interview with FOX45 on Friday.

I am exploring the open checkbook website within the city:

[https://app.powerbigov.us/view?](https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrljoiMjJjODE1ZGMtZGJlZS00NDE1LWFiNzQtYjgyMmUyYzVhMm11iwidCl6jMxMmNiMTI2LWM2YWUtNGZjMi04MDBkLTMxOGU2NzljZTZjNyJ9&pageName=ReportSectiond854c858804b0a3816ed)

[r=eyJrljoiMjJjODE1ZGMtZGJlZS00NDE1LWFiNzQtYjgyMmUyYzVhMm11iwidCl6jMxMmNiMTI2LWM2YWUtNGZjMi04MDBkLTMxOGU2NzljZTZjNyJ9&pageName=ReportSectiond854c858804b0a3816ed](https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrljoiMjJjODE1ZGMtZGJlZS00NDE1LWFiNzQtYjgyMmUyYzVhMm11iwidCl6jMxMmNiMTI2LWM2YWUtNGZjMi04MDBkLTMxOGU2NzljZTZjNyJ9&pageName=ReportSectiond854c858804b0a3816ed)

Our auditors at OpenTheBooks.com found that the link to download the line-by-line vendor checkbook transaction data is broken (see attached screen record). A notice on the top of the website tells of a transaction date error on data listed between the months of December 2020 and March 2021. Furthermore, the FY2021 checkbook data is incomplete -- four months of data in FY2021 isn't posted on the site yet (the fiscal year ended eight months ago).

Last week, our auditors tried to call the number listed on the site for help. **No one called us back.** Then, we sent in an open records request for the FY2021 city vendor checkbook. **Today we received a note from the officer that they might charge us a fee for the data!**

You were elected on a promise to open the books on city spending. The FY2020 city checkbook was initially posted online, and our auditors successfully downloaded it at the time. You had embraced the transparency revolution and electronic age.

Please respond to this request for comment to provide a response, context, or more information. For example, can you please fix the website problems before Friday?

On Friday, I have a scheduled interview on FOX45 to discuss this situation. Having your feedback is critical to presenting this issue in the proper context.

Our deadline for your response is 5pm ET Thursday, March 3.

Any context, feedback, or comment would be important to our readers and those folks watching my interview on Sinclair local TV station.

Adam

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