

Statement for NMB Commission Meeting April 8, 2021

Can we all stop pretending that there's a legitimate search for a City Manager? Everyone already knows that Arthur "Duke" Sorey has been offered the job, out of the Sunshine, by Michael Joseph, McKenzie Fleurimond, Paule Villard, and Daniela Jean, a/k/a Team Apocalypse. If any of you four thought that Duke would keep your secret negotiations under wraps, you are sadly mistaken.

Duke has announced to dozens of North Miami employees and residents that he's been promised the position by Team Apocalypse. Multiple sources have told me he's already packed up his office, thrown himself a bon voyage party, and can't wait to run your City – into the ground.

This is evidenced by the fact that he was North Miami Interim Manager, not once but twice, and he was passed over for the permanent position, not once but twice.

Let's just take a look at his record in North Miami. When he first took over as Interim Manager in 2016, he took a Fiscal Year 2015 surplus of \$9.1 million and turned it into a \$.9 million deficit the very next year. Under his watch, North Miami ended up with a \$14.6 million deficit by the end of Fiscal Year 2019.

In fact, as of today, North Miami has a nearly \$6.5 million deficit for the current Fiscal Year. So far. And there's still more than six months to go.

North Miami employees are incredulous that any city wants to hire Duke, much less one as successful, thriving, and financially solvent as NMB. They know first-hand the destruction that is headed your way and they send NMB residents their sincere condolences, even as they jump for joy that their nightmare is almost over.

In the meantime, there are approximately 65 applicants who are each anxiously hoping for the opportunity to become your City Manager. I feel for them. They actually thought they had a chance.

The truth is that Team Apocalypse already told Duke the job is his – the same way they did with the uniquely incompetent Hans Ottinot. This is nothing but kabuki theater being performed on this stage as we speak.

Michael Joseph, McKenzie Fleurimond, Paule Villard, and Daniela Jean are not concerned with anyone else but their own personal agenda, their own "community," and yes, lining their own pockets with your hard-earned tax dollars – among other "perks."

Applicants, go home. You never stood a chance. Arthur "Duke" Sorey is about to be crowned as the King of North Miami Beach.

Good luck with that.