

## Thank Vagim for his efforts

Look up the “ad hominem” in the dictionary. There should be a picture of Fresno’s city officials beside it.

Recently, Doug Vagim spoke out about the city’s intent to double our water rates. The officials retaliated by impugning his character and questioning his knowledge of the issue.

But how groundless were Vagim’s statements? It’s telling that after he suggested a less expensive plan, Team Swearingin miraculously found a way to reduce the projected rate hikes.

Local, state and federal authorities control the water supply. What’s to stop rates from skyrocketing, with hefty fines for infractions? This could happen in addition to doubled rates for financing infrastructure projects. Anything is possible without watchdogs to keep the situation in check. Remember, the government thinks fish are more important than people where water is concerned.

Vagim did not question the need for water improvements. He simply offered a more sensible, affordable plan appropriate for the situation. The community owes him heartfelt appreciation and thanks for his effort and concern.

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