Halloway lambasts recall effort

The council member says remarks made by a recall leader "transcends normal political discourse."

By KEVIN GRAHAM Published November 6, 2005

TEMPLE TERRACE - City Council member Ken Halloway last week publicly admonished a recall effort that targeted him and two other members of the dais, calling it innuendo and an attempt to taint their reputations.

Although onetime mayoral candidate Ken Tozier has backed away from the recall drive, Halloway had stern words for Tozier at Tuesday's City Council meeting.

"By announcing the formation of a recall petition effort, and then abruptly placing everying on "hold,' he is doing nothing more than pursuing, by innuendo, a course of action whose sole intent can only be to sully the names and reputations of targeted city elected representatives in the eyes of the voting public," Halloway said.

He even warned Tozier, who did not attend the meeting, with a quote from King Solomon in the Bible that said, "He who troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind."

Halloway prefaced his remarks by saying that anyone who enters public office can expect to receive criticism, which too often becomes personal. Politicians should take the relevant comments and proceed with the business of the people, he said. But he maintains that Tozier's attack on him "transcends normal political discourse."

Tozier now says that recalling Halloway, Linda Shattles and Glenda Vendable will take too long. Instead, he intends to concentrate on supporting a slate of candidates to replace the three during the November 2006 election.

When he established the Citizens for Development in Temple Terrace Recall Political Action Committee last month, Tozier said the trio did not vote with citizen's wishes on certain issues for the N 56th Street redevelopment plan. The three, for example, supported the possibility of relocating City Hall into the southeast redevelopment quadrant.

Halloway dubbed the recall effort a "media event." Now it's Tozier accusing Halloway of overreacting.

"He's just making a big to-do about nothing," Tozier said. "I can assure you that we would not have gone through the steps that we did take if we were not 100 percent sincere."