

FOSTERING, MANAGING, AND MAINTAINING EFFECTIVE RELATIONSHIPS

2025 CML NEW MUNICIPAL

ATTORNEY WORKSHOP

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TOPICS FOR TODAY

- Attorney-Client Relationships
- Positions Vs. People
- Suggestions For:
 - Fostering
 - Managing
 - Maintaining
- When All Else Fails



Attorney-Client Relationships

- The municipal attorney's relationship with the governmental client is unique
- Necessary to fulfill ethical obligations to the client



Effectiveness

- Schrodinger's Cat
- Attorney-government client relationship matrix

Good/Effective	Bad/Effective
Good/Ineffective	Bad/Ineffective

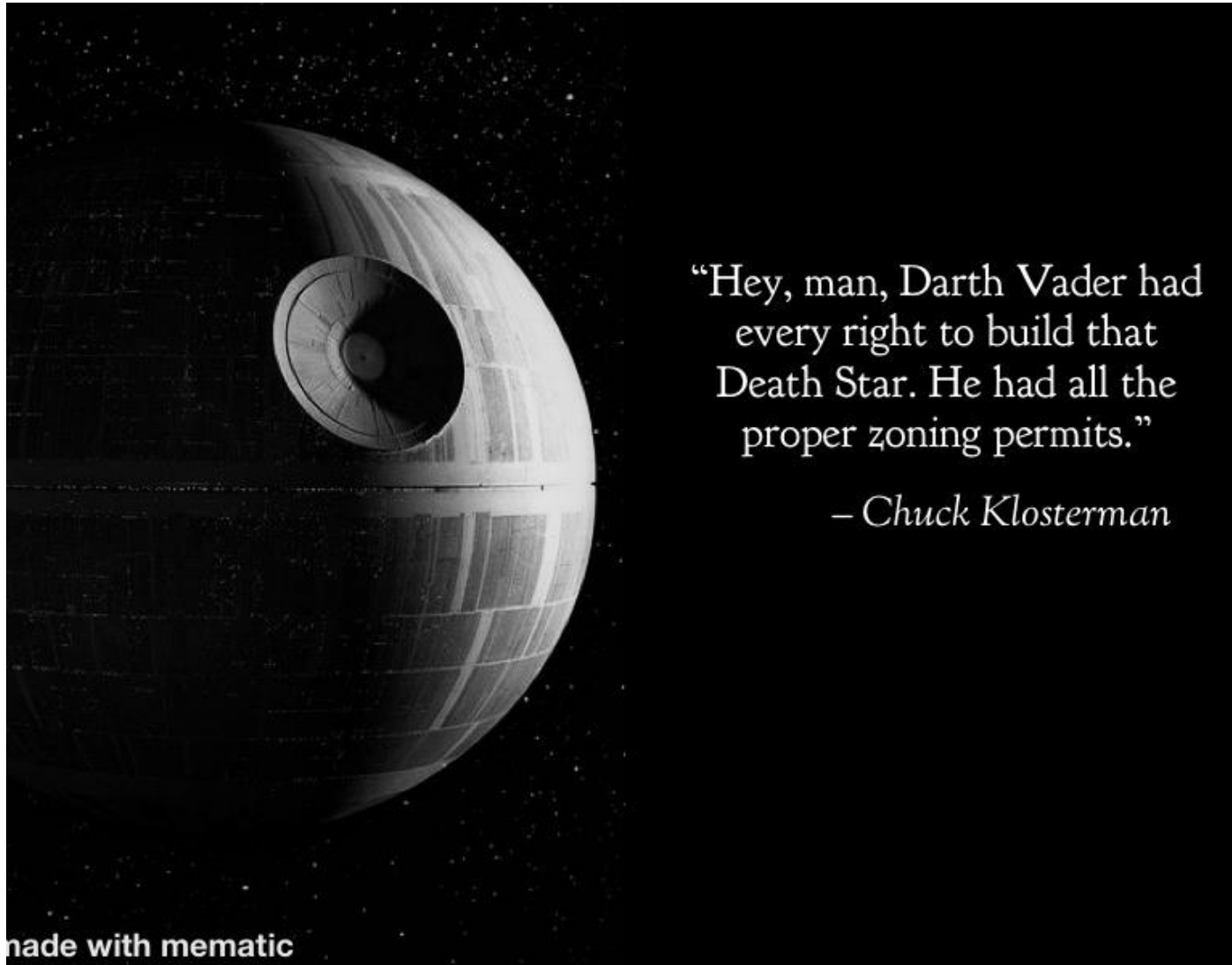


HETEROZYGOATS

Just allele uneven.

Positions vs. People

- Positions are easy, people are hard
- Everything is on a spectrum
- Balance a professional approach with a personal touch



Fostering Relationships

- It's your responsibility
- Sooner is better
- What is their role?
- What is their motivation?
- Find common ground
- Assume good intentions in the beginning
- Be the resource for context

Look. We're both
winding up in
therapy, so let's
make it worth our
while.



nematic.net

Managing Relationships

- Be intentional
- Know your own expectations
- Set reasonable boundaries and honor them
- Don't let problems languish
- Strive for clear, consistent meaning



Maintaining Relationships

- Trust is built on consistency
- Be prepared to change tactics
- It never ends, until there is turnover in the position and then it starts all over again



WELL, F***.

When All Else Fails

- Can you diagnose the cause(s)?
- Did you contribute to the problem?
- Start over
 - Find common ground
 - Reestablish boundaries
- Pull back the curtain

BE CAREFUL WHEN YOU
BLINDLY FOLLOW
THE MASSES...
SOMETIMES THE
'M' IS SILENT.



InspirationalQuotes.Club

Thank You!

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