



Rep. Tom Emmer on the Ruthless Podcast

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HOST:

Well, we always have a lot of fun with this guy and it is a perverse incentive for a guy like me to give my co hosts a little bit of a Minnesota education with the majority whip, Tom Emmer. How are you, sir?

REP. TOM EMMER:

I'm doing great. Listen, we were talking just before the show before we get into the serious stuff. It's hockey season ramping up. And you obviously have played a big role in a whole bunch of different levels of hockey as one does in Minnesota. You were telling me a little bit about the referees, the way you're handling all these things. What's happening these days?

HOST:

These days? I mean, it's first when it comes to hockey, you know, we come from a state where this is like a religion almost.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Yes. And I have to explain to my colleagues from Louisiana in particular, you guys don't seem to understand. There is only one sport that has actually been delivered to us straight from God above. And that is the sport of hockey. And they'll start to complain. You know, it's football. This I don't have any problem with football. But remember, ice only exists in heaven. It can't exist in hell. So we are the only one. So there it is. We are the chosen ones.

HOST:

Logical deduction. It really is. If you just you got to think a little bit, a little bit. Or as we say, where we come from, you got to tink a little bit.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Oh, well, there's a lot of tinkering going on in Congress these days, or maybe not so much. tinkling, maybe not tinkering.

HOST:

Yeah, government shutdown. It's still going on. Listen, you all did your job. That's so long ago, I barely even remember it. I mean, you guys gave the Senate several weeks of preparation to try to figure out how to keep the government open, get benefits to people, do all the basics of government. And then somewhere along the line, Chuck Schumer figured out that he could maybe wedge some electoral advantage, particularly in Virginia, if he creates a partisan fight, disassociates federal workers, creates problems for people, that's good for them. And so we've spent a month arguing about nothing in particular. I mean, a CR that they refused to pass that, you know, basically was authored initially by Democrats, which they refused to pass. And now you found



yourself in a situation the day after election day where they're like, oh, let's talk.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Yeah, I think they're full of you know what, first off, you're right, we passed a clean CR on September 19, well in advance of the midnight on September 30 funding deadline. And it's the same CR that Chuck and company voted for last March. More importantly, it's the same one they voted for 13 times under Joe Biden, which is why I make the argument Chuck Schumer wrote the damn CR. All right, right. Why did he do it? Well, it's very clear why he did it. I think you're giving him too much credit by suggesting that he actually has the intellectual capability of saying, oh, this is an electoral strategy. No, you're a moron. This is a scared old man. This is an aging athlete past his prime who is desperately afraid of losing his leadership position before he announces he is not running in another election. That's what you're dealing with. And there's news. And here we go. Now. Yes, they couldn't open it before yesterday. Because if they did, the violent virulent pro terrorist wing of their party, remember, 50% of Democrats polled in one poll, I didn't have a problem with Donald Trump being assassinated. Yeah, a third of their party now supports terrorists, Hamas, right? This is real. So they could not open the government because they would become the object of their anger. Right? Yeah. So they keep it open through yesterday. And you just know, it's coming where they're gonna say we won. What? You won in Virginia. Oh, we kind of expected that Abigail Spanberger was going to win. By the way, Abigail Spanberger, very good at campaigning as someone that she is not. She is literally Tim Walz in a dress. Okay, get ready. She is just as whacked as that guy. And she lies about everything because you're gonna find out in Virginia. You know, the sad part of Virginia is and they're celebrating this the Attorney General called for the murder of his opponent and his family in texts. You actually voted for him. Yeah, that's sick. And then New Jersey, they win New Jersey. Okay, big deal. All right. Why don't we look at the island? Because this is people don't do this. Let's talk about congressional races. You realize that there are two districts, I the third district that used to be represented by a fabulist and is now represented by a Tom Suozzi character. And there's a fourth district that was represented by Anthony de Esposito, a good friend who fought a really good fight last time, but it was way too close. And the Democrats got both of those seats. Do you know that the county executive in Nassau County, which has 75% of the fourth district, I believe it is, and 100% of the third district. It was an 11 point increase between the last election and this one. Those are two in these Democrats in the left wing media want to tell us who is a big bellwether. Okay, good. It's bellwether. We're gonna win.

HOST:

Yeah, yeah. I mean, from a house perspective, you're, you're entirely right. I mean, look, I don't think any Republican anywhere in the country likes to see a Republican lose anywhere. But the idea that somehow off year elections with a party out of power in very blue states, two states that Donald Trump's never won, is somehow a bellwether is crazy, except when you dig into the numbers, as it affects your particular house. Yeah. And except it's not crazy. I guess if you write for the New York Times and the Washington Post.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Well, that's his problem. Yeah. He's the guy that talks. He's the only one that talks to all those. It is it and I just want to ask your special language. There is super secret language. And it's usually a chill shibly. Yeah, decoder ring out. Yeah, it's it all comes out as bullshit. One way or the other. But I do want to ask you, because you mentioned the shutdown. And I gotta think that in the negotiations, if Democrats ever decide to come back to the table, there's going to be a new date set for extending the current funding the federal government right now under the current CR that are the Democrats have rejected 13 times in the Senate, even though they supported it 13 times in the past. It was set for November the 21st. I'm guessing that date is probably going to change. Yes, rather than do it twice in a week.



HOST:

Yeah, yeah. Well, it's right now it is the date. And unless the Senate does something with the CR that we sent over, it will be the date. I at some point, I'm sure our speaker will sit back and say, All right, I you've exhausted you run the clock out, which, if we think about it, they should be ending it immediately. I mean, first, it's been needless. But after your last night, you got your your off ramp, but do it and then get back to the negotiating table. But if they don't, what's the next big inflection point? It's probably Thanksgiving, the busiest travel day. Yeah, right. Right. So I November 21. At some point, the speaker has to say, All right, we got to do another clean CR. This is what it's going to go to whatever. We're not there yet. Yeah, we're at a place where the Senate has the ball, we still have time on the clock, even though they burn the first five weeks of it. Right. Yeah. So while there's time on the clock, do something with it. This is the thing that's really interesting is Chuck Schumer, who I you can probably tell I'm not a fan. It turns out not not not.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Yeah, he's found it. He's done. It's over. Chuck, it's over. I he didn't have a way out. He has a way out now. So you would expect him to take that way out now and then move on. I don't know that he can. And until until you run out of time, the house has done its job. Yeah, there's there's not. Oh, that's what I was going to tell you is Chucky, I'm sure we're trying to show them my show them polling. Oh, look, we're winning the shutdown. Well, you know what, up till last week, the vast majority of Americans didn't notice and hadn't been impacted. Yeah, it started literally last week. I mean, we can talk about the 65,500 small businesses across the country, the contract with the federal government that the chamber says lost, like \$12 billion in the first month of the shutdown. But that's not 300 million people, right? When you start shutting down the airspace, when you have major flight delays, when you get 42 million low income Americans that depend on a certain benefit to survive, people are going to notice and by the way, when they notice I this is my belief, I don't have any proof of it, we'll see as the time goes on. But when it starts to impact them, then they get serious and they will figure out very quickly who is causing this. And it's not the Republicans.

HOST:

Yeah. So I got another question for you that's shutdown related. Chuck Schumer, who you've talked about last year voted for the governor of Minnesota, Tim Walz to be vice president of the United States. And there has been a lot of reporting about the SNAP program that Tim Walz is running with federal funds in the state of Minnesota and a \$77 million fraud that took place. And I'm wondering, you know, I'm sure you know all about this. I'm wondering what what sort of steps you you know, in in leadership position in the federal government can take to investigate and get to the bottom of how this happened and how to stop it from happening again?

REP. TOM EMMER:

I it's a great question. So obviously, I am a Minnesotan and I love my state. Tim Walz is a very corrupt, fraudulent human being. I there seems to be a theme. Oh, don't show it. Listen, he's he's lied about everything. He's lied about his military career. He lied about something as dumb as when he was at Tiananmen Square and got caught on national TV telling the lie. But here's the bigger thing to your question. Do you realize that according to the US Attorney's Office in Minnesota, the fraud that has occurred under the Walz administration, so this is a not just snap, snap is \$77 million last year, they overpaid it. And we better find out why I \$2 billion is the estimate in fraud. I mean, they are shutting down the daycare program, the housing program, you if you read anything about Minnesota, the feeding our future scandal was the largest \$250 million. It was the largest pandemic scam in the country. That this is all under this guy's watch. The guy was a gym teacher. I don't care what he tells you. He's never run anything in his life. To put him in charge of the state of Minnesota. He hasn't run that. Instead, when the RNC was going on last summer a year ago, he was protesting outside the RNC,



right? The Pam Bondi, God bless her. She has gone into Minnesota, she is starting to look under the hood. It's not just our US Attorney's Office that has done phenomenal work. I even under a Biden appointed US Attorney, and now under a Trump appointed US Attorney, they are continuing to look into this stuff. But Pam Bondi has gone in asking for voting records, for instance, we want all of you. And by the way, the federal government's entitled to that because you have a presidential race, you have congressional races, you have Senate races. So even though it's a state based system, the federal government is entitled to have those records. You know, Minnesota has refused to provide them. I wonder why. I wonder why do you think there's any fraud in Minneapolis? Do you think there's any fraud in St. Paul? I don't know about a local hearing where they, you know, they basically concluded that you get a driver's license without any citizenship whatsoever. And that same driver's license can be used to not only register to vote, but actually cast a ballot. And they looked at everybody in the government in Minnesota who was arguing the other side of this. And they were basically like, yeah. No, that's the law, Josh.

HOST:

Yeah. Three years ago, two years ago, they passed a law that illegals can have driver's licenses in Minnesota. They were celebrating it. Well, and by the way, anecdotally, you know how many as a member of Congress, people who see things call you, you know how it's anecdotal. Our US Attorney and others are our US Justice Department need to investigate this stuff. But literally, people were have been telling me that when you went into apply for your driver's license as an illegal that nobody asks you whether you're legal or not. They also give you a voter registration card. Minnesota's got other problems, though. It's a you know, I might have been in a race back about a decade ago that was decided by 8100 ballots. Everybody remembers Norm Coleman's. In mine, I there were stacks of ballots in Hennepin County, which is Minneapolis, that literally had one person's name checked. And it wasn't mine. So it's it would you ask the question, what can we do keep encouraging the US Department of Justice to investigate whether it's the handling of the Minnesota housing development program, whether it's the the program that delivered all these daycare funds to different immigrant communities who literally were bilking the Minnesota taxpayers out of all this money. You got to have a tandem approach. The other problem we have, we got one of the most worthless, it calls itself a newspaper. It's basically a blog. Now. It's called the Minneapolis Tribune. They report nothing. Yeah, nothing. I mean, it's laughable. You guys the week after Tim Walls embarrassed himself on national TV telling a lie. Yeah. Two headlines in that that fish wrap the following week. The first the first one was, wait, is this the paper your friends called the Red Star?

REP. TOM EMMER:

Yeah, yeah, I don't even give it that credit. I mean, it really is something that there probably be a better use and it probably be toilet paper. The first headline was Governor Walls vows to own his misstatements. Their lives. The next one, two days later, America's sweetheart goes on Kimmel. You do not have investigative reporting on all the fraud. You don't have investigative reporting on the voter stuff. Nothing. They just look the other way. No wonder how it happens.

HOST:

Is there is there a role of congressional oversight for the house? As we get beyond the government shutdown? To look at Minnesota, we can all talk till we're blue in the face about everything that Tim Walls has done. I got to imagine that California and a whole bunch of other blue states have similar problems as a role for the house to provide some investigatory action on this, you think?

REP. TOM EMMER:



Absolutely. I mean, Jim Jordan already had a hearing. Yeah, he had a hearing where he called in Governor Hockel. JB Pritzker. There's another winner. The old fat man. He's ready for winter. Yeah. It's tough. I don't know why the word buffet came to my mind. And then they called in Governor Walls. And that was the hearing where the question was, why have you created sanctuary states? Because Tim Walls has put illegals and criminals ahead of all Minnesotans. Again, the worthless media doesn't report any of it. But it's actual fact. So yes, I mean, Jim Jordan does have a oversight responsibility. Jamie Comer has an oversight responsibility. Their counterparts on the Senate side have an oversight responsibility. This is something that needs to happen and it's long overdue. We got a long story. It's long overdue.

HOST:

Can we talk sports for a little bit?

REP. TOM EMMER:

Yeah, let's do it. First of all, I don't know if I know anything.

HOST:

How about how about JJ last Sunday against

REP. TOM EMMER:

Okay, come on, Josh, we got a winner. Guy figures it out, right? We got a winner. I love that they tried to criticize at the end with well, you know, some throws really good. And some were a little off, you know, he kind of slid back in. Yeah, he won. Yeah, he won. He won. He won. And he finds a way to win. That's the only thing we asked. Now we just got to see if he can stay healthy.

JOSH:

Yeah, no kidding. It's our year. It's a it's feels like it again. It's happening. Kind of feels like it's my Colts year, but it's okay. We can just talk Ohio, Minnesota all the time. It'd be great Super Bowl matchup. Vikings Colts. Can you imagine that?

REP. TOM EMMER:

No, I can't. I can

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