

*Oberschulte*

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To: Sue Palmer, President, Empire Village Council:

At the last Village Council Meeting, I was about to be appointed to the Citizens Task Force charged with studying information and current updates to evaluate the installation of a wastewater treatment system in the Village of Empire. Discussion followed my nomination. Earlier a letter penned by Mr. Terry Bacon had been read. In accordance with his thoughts, the Council decided clarification was needed regarding how the nominees were selected and also the mission of the task force. Consequently, the process was adjourned to a work session.

In this communication, Mr. Bacon has set the tone for this task force. He indicated that those selected to serve may not be "fair and balanced". With this he catapulted the intended task into an arena of opinion as opposed to a researched scientific examination. He is opposed to "thrusting an unjustifiable expense on the "hoi polloi", which translates to the people, the commoner.

Examination of recent testing data from the watershed which drains into South Bar Lake, revisiting suggested topics of the wastewater feasibility report of 2018 and trying to find financial assistance becomes mute because Mr. Bacon has stated seven times in his letter that a wastewater treatment system has no environmental need. He has closed the door. To him the subject is dead on arrival.

Through the years I have followed the paths of Villages in our area while they move towards managing their waste. The impact on relationships of neighbors and friends has been devastating. Divisiveness becomes focus rather than meeting goals. We were in hopes that in Empire we could avoid this negativity among our Villagers and come together to solve concerns, collectively.

Unfortunately, Mr. Bacon has set the tone. SEVEN times stating there is NO ENVIRONMENTAL NEED for a wastewater treatment system, that UNJUSTIFIED EXPENSES WILL BE THRUST UPON THE PEOPLE, while the Village Council has the wherewithal to throw "unnecessary" funds with no safeguards at an unnecessary wastewater treatment system. We find that conclusive and insulting to a Council that approves every expense with responsibility and frugality. MR BACON HAS SET THE TONE. HE HAS PROCLAIMED THE PROJECT DEAD.

Before I, Marc, would consider serving on the task force the Village Council must come together. They must accept the findings of the Wastewater Feasibility Report of 2018 and agree that this new task force is appropriate and empowered to gather updated information. Until the Village Council comes to this common goal, I find it a waste of my time and expertise to serve on the task force.

Sincerely,

Marc Oberschulte

Diana Oberschulte