

Berkhout, Keith

From: John S Strauss <johnstrauss@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2016 11:00 AM
To: Berkhout, Keith
Subject: MAXXAM

Mr. Berkout,

I was a trustee for the Village of Campton Hills for 5 years. Some have called me foolish for my support of KIVA. While my vote cost me a place on the VCH board, it was the right thing to do. This facility has been vacant for a long time. The KIVA vote cost the village millions of dollars (\$7,000,000 over 20 years) in revenues and kept the property off of the tax rolls. Given what's happening in the state, this was a financially costly mistake to village residents. Shamefully, the current VCH board feels like it has no choice but to continue their NIMBY opposition. More than a few years have passed since KIVA and no one has stepped forward to find a use for the property or they lacked sufficient funds to purchase it. I listened to 10 hours of public comment during the KIVA event – most of it nonsensical rhetoric. You may subjected to the same NIMBY rhetoric from the well-funded opposition.

We all know:

- That the facility already exists!!
- That it is a shame to have facilities boarded up
- That the area needs to support business
- That the tax revenues are needed - \$350,000/Yr.
- That this business doesn't pollute the air
- That this business doesn't contaminate our water
- That this business doesn't taint our food
- That this business performs a needed social service; Prescription drug abuse and heroin use is on the rise.
- That this business provides jobs
- That customers and their families/friends will spend money in the greater area; restaurants, hotels, etc.
- That the facility can be a great resource to local authorities; especially schools, where drugs are easily available.

Fact is I can only think of one reason to vote against MAXXAM and that is to satisfy Abram Andrzejewski. Sadly, he has enough money to hire attorney's etc. to affect a future which in his mind, is good for him. His actions indicate to me that he cares little about the community. He, of course, dresses up his wishes in the rhetoric of what's good for the community is good for him but this is not the case.

In my view, this is about a rich guy using his financial muscle to get his way.

It takes courage to do the right thing. I hope that you will find the courage to support Maxxam.

John S Strauss
Resident - VCH