

Donna Conkling

From: Mayra Rodriguez Valladares <mrvassoc@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 27, 2016 10:36 AM
To: william stern
Cc: Mayor; Clerk's Department
Subject: Re: FOILS,social media 2

Dear Mr. Stern,

If anyone chooses to infer that I speak for residents, I cannot help it. I am not sure why you state that I 'pride myself on being quantitative and accurate.' However, I certainly believe that those skills are incredibly important. As a physicist, I am sure that you can appreciate that those skills are key in modeling. This is why many of us have been so critical of Ryan and of those who did not supervise him.

As for your comment on social media, I never said that I had 'likes.' What is your point? My followers on Twitter and LinkedIn can always leave if they do not like what I post.

I brought up the Ryan reval, because the problems that the last two administrations inflicted on residents remain unresolved. That you may not like to hear about the Ryan reval is a different matter. You can call my criticisms 'usual.' I have every right to call out problems when I see them; I shall not cease to do so until they are resolved.

Since you mentioned that you have spoken to residents who were happy with the reval, how many are there? Even a broken clock is twice right a day. Are you trying to

defend Ryan?? Even the mayor and the Village Manager have stated that Ryan did not complete numerous parts of his contract. The State came up with a valuation of Scarsdale property that was over \$1 billion dollars higher. Is that not a hint that Ryan was wrong? Not only did Ryan commit errors, he has yet to provide any documentation to support his computerized, one size fits all model. Given your professional background, I am stunned that you find anything to defend about Ryan's debacle.

If two mayors and board of trustees had done their job correctly, residents and I would not have to avail ourselves of the right to FOIL. Many of my FOILs still have not been completed. The Village Attorney and his staff are reportedly reading the emails. The more they delay this process, the more numerous residents and I believe that they are doing so to hide information from residents. You have yet to quantify what impact residents' FOIL requests have on village expenditures. Are they having to work overtime? And if they are working so hard on FOILs, why are they not done yet? Have you personally talked to the Village Attorney and his staff to find out what is going on? Maybe there is an efficiency problem.

You have stated several times that the reveal was made known to residents. That is true. However, the communication to residents was incredibly poor. Irrespective of the fact that the reveal was public, that did not give an excuse to mayors and BOT not to abide by their fiduciary responsibility to residents.

I respect the US's legal process. Yet, the Mayor, BOT and you had numerous opportunities to invalidate Ryan. You did not seek independent legal advise on how to invalidate it. You also refused Assemblywoman Paulin's offer to introduce legislation to invalidate Ryan. You have yet to explain why the former and current Mayor and BOT did not monitor Messrs. Gatta and Pappalardo, not to mention the Assessor and Attorney. You have yet to state what your plan is to improve how you will monitor Village Personnel. If things are so badly run at the Assessor's office, how can residents possibly trust that things are well run in public works, buildings, and other parts of Village Hall?

Regards,
Mayra

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From: william stern <stern_william@yahoo.com>
To: "mrvassoc@yahoo.com" <mrvassoc@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, November 27, 2016 3:00 AM
Subject: FOILS,social media

Dear Ms .Rodirgues Valladares:

Thanks for your response to my email. In many of your articles, emails and public comments you imply that you speak for Scarsdale residents as well as yourself. That is why I asked the question since you pride your self on being quantitative and accurate.Having followers and likes on social media sights does not imply support for your position on issues.

When I mentioned the cost of FOILS to the taxpayers you jumped to the Ryan reval and your usual criticism of the BOT. I will respond to both.

The village staff has many responsibilities including answering foils. You have requested massive amounts of foils which as I said before is your right. The unintended consequence of foil requests is that it takes up an enormous amount of time of the village staff. The process was explained many times publicly by the Village attorney. If one adds up the time spent by the Village staff on these Foils it gets to be very expensive for the taxpayers. I do not want you to stop your FOIL requests , I just wanted you to be informed since you, as we all are, are concerned about spending taxpayers money (e.g. your question about the cost of the library trip).

Now again in your email you bring up the Ryan reval, which was totally unrelated to our initial email conversation. However since you brought it up I would like to remind you of a few facts. The second reval was discussed at public meetings including a COW one in the 3rd floor conference room and at regular BOT meetings, and BOT agenda meetings which were well advertized and open to the public. The reval was brought up by Al Gatta who if I remember correctly presented several options. One was to engage Tyler,and one other one was to engage Ryan. The Tyler option was judged to be too expensive and the Ryan option much less expensive. The drive by method Ryan proposed was discussed and it was explained to us that this type of reval is done in many places and is fully vetted by assessors institutions. Ryan was presented as the person who vetted the Tyler reval, and Tyler had no objections to him or issues with him. Hence Ryan was vetted at this level.

It became clear after the Ryan reval was done that Ryan did not deliver on his contractual obligations and that there was great dissatisfaction with his work. We mostly heard about the failures but I have talked to residents who were happy with the Ryan reval because it corrected inequities caused by the Tyler reval.

The BOT has struggled with the effect of the Ryan reval and many of the conclusions were already espoused by our Mayor at the BOT meetings and elsewhere. The allegation that the Mayor and the BOT have refused to solve this problem may appear to you as correct but we have had many discussions on what our legal options might be and courses of actions that would produce results and not just publicity. For legal reasons we hold these discussions in executive sessions and we do not comment on them. When all the legal decisions are final and everything adjudicated this information will be released to the public. Attorneys who have active cases never discuss their cases in public. I would hope that you understand this and please do not take it as inaction as you have seemed to suggest. I hope you respect the legal process we have to go thru and the restraints we have.

Have a Blessed Day

Bill Stern