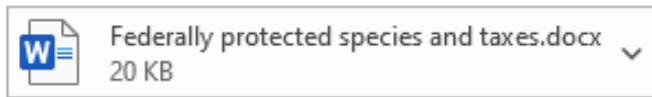


From: Cheryl Lundberg <clundberg@embarqmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 4:49 PM
To: clerk <clerk@miamicountyks.org>
Subject: Federally protected species and taxes



****This email originated from outside of County of Miami****

Dear Commissioners,

We live at 23225 Waverly Road, Spring Hill and thank you for the opportunity to make comments and respond to the opposition of Golden.

We would like to, through this correspondence, address 3 different issues. Those issues are 1) environmental factors and federally protected species, 2) the prospect of my taxes increasing, and 3) the opposition's comparison of Golden to Linn Valley.

Environmental Factors and Federally Protected Species

As you may know, there are at least 6 Bald Eagles nesting around Lake Hillsdale. Two of the nests are about a ¼ mile east of the Antioch Boat Dock. There are federal statutes protecting these eagles. We believe any industrial development that disturbs Lake Hillsdale is also disturbing these federally protected eagles by disturbing their nests and food sources. If approving the city of Golden is not possible please do SOMETHING to protect the federally protected wildlife in the Lake Hillsdale area and the Hillsdale Watershed. The county may be violating the law if nothing is done.

<https://www.fws.gov/midwest/eagle/history/protections.html>

Taxes and the Linn Valley Comparison

We understand the oppositions concerns regarding increasing taxes, enacting ordinances, and enforcing those ordinances. Do I want to pay more taxes? Heck no! However, we can ensure that those taxes are kept to a minimum by being very active in the community: attending council meetings to voice our opinion, visiting with council members individually, and possibly running for city council.

We see the increased taxes in this case as insurance that our property is not devalued.

The opposition has tried to compare Golden, Kansas with Linn Valley, Kansas. There really is no comparison. While Linn Valley has a budget of over one million dollars, one must also consider the fact that, according to their

website, the city is “largely comprised of a recreational development, Linn Valley Lakes that features an 18 hole golf course and lake offering a variety of water sports.” I read that to mean that Linn Valley Lakes is a subdivision in Linn Valley- the subdivision is part of the city. This city has chosen to have their own police force of three officers and their own fire department which adds to the budget. Of course Linn Valley has a large budget. But Golden is not Linn Valley.

A much better comparison is the city of Fontana, Kansas, also in Miami County. Fontana is also a Class III city with just over 200 total residents and a property tax income of \$16, 919. Golden, Kansas would have 776 residents and at 3 mil would generate an estimated annual property tax income of \$42, 867. We truly believe that Golden could operate very well within that budget with citizens who are involved in their government-especially considering that Golden residents are already paying taxes to the county for many services.

Linn Valley/Fontana - Comparison of Budgets

<i>Line Item</i>	<i>Police</i>	<i>Fire Department</i>	<i>Sewer</i>	<i>Payroll</i>	<i>Everything Else</i>	<i>Total Expenses</i>
Linn Valley	\$39,000	\$26,500	\$449,182	\$450,000		\$785,579
Linn Valley Lakes	0	0	\$259,000			\$236,314
LV total	\$39,000	\$26,500	\$708,182			\$1,021,893
Fontana	0	0	0	\$21,800	\$21,237	\$43,037

- * As Fontana is the better comparison to Golden we thought it fair to include complete total for Fontana
- * Fontana has revenue sources in addition to the ad valorem tax
- *We can provide the budget documents used in compiling this table.
- *We are not accountants and there may be small inaccuracies in the table above.
<https://cityoflinnvalley.com/visitors/>

The opposition complains that there is no “plan” for Golden. Our understanding is that it is not possible to enter into inter-local agreements with the county until a city is incorporated. Much information has been compiled in order to be ready for such a time when those agreements can be negotiated.

We are asking the county commission to please take all these factors into consideration and the best interests of all Miami County citizens as you deliberate the petition for incorporating Golden, Kansas.

Bless you!

Kevin and Cheryl Lundberg



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