

K A C KIRKLAND'S AUCTION CO.

AUCTIONEERS-LIQUIDATORS-APPRAISERS
ALL TYPES OF AUCTIONS
Industry-machinery-construction-restaurant equipment-photograph-office furniture
Oriental rugs-quilts-art-general merchandise

1633 TAFT STREET
Gary, IN 46404

AUCTIONEER
COL. CHARLES KIRKLAND
#AUO9200098

(219) 944-8785

HAVE GAVEL

WILL TRAVEL

Mr. Ryan Kitchell, Chairman
STATE DISTRESS UNIT APPEAL BOARD
200 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN

January 29, 2009

RE: ABANDONED VEHICLES FINANCE REPORTS, CITY OF GARY.

Over the past seven (7) years, pursuant to I.C. 9-22-1-23, 9-22-1-31 and Gary City Ordinance No. 7389 as amended 10-1-02, abandoned vehicles towed and stored by local selected tow operators have been sold at public auctions conducted by City employees. The Gary City Council ordained the following for the sale of the abandoned vehicles:

- 1. Section 1. A non-reverting abandoned vehicles fund be established.**
- 2. Section 2. That said non-reverting abandoned vehicles fund be established by the City City Controller.**
- 3. Section 3. The cost incurred by the City of Gary in administering the said Ordinance shall be paid from the Abandoned Vehicles Fund. Expenses which are unrelated to clearing the City of Abandoned Vehicles shall not be covered by the fund.**
- 4. Section 4. The fiscal body shall annually appropriate sufficient money to the fund to carry out the ordinance. Money remaining in the fund at the end of the year shall remain in the fund and does not revert to the general fund for the City.**

Chairman Kitchell, that I am a local citizen, highly concerned with the present and future status of this our City and being a Professional Auctioneer; I have before and at present offered and/or applied to provide professional services to dispose the here before mentioned abandoned vehicles and unclaimed properties confiscated by the Gary Police Department. Except after two (2) years of attempting to have an opportunity to provide services for the City, I have been denied. In 2004, former Mayor King, ordered the Board of Works and Public Safety to use the services of Kirkland's Auction Company to sell the abandoned vehicles and confiscated properties. In 2004, operating under the terms of a contract drafted by the City Attorney who serves on the Board of Works and Public Safety, I arranged and was in the process of performing an auction to dispose of accumulated vehicles at one of the selected two sites. Within three hours more vehicles and scrap were sold from the site than sold from five sites during two auctions conducted by City Employees. During said auction at which time Mayor King was on vacation, the City Controller with a police officer stopped the sales and before the matter was resolved Mayor King resigned.

Prior to my direct involvement as an auctioneer for the City, the majority of the vehicles were donated to the tow operators plus paying the required maximum fees for towing and storage.

Because no reports are published or made available for view by the Controller's office or the Board of Public Works and Safety for each sale detailing the income, expenses and disposition of the properties involved, I have repeated requests for reports. Although I have recently communicated with the Public Access section of Attorney General Zoller's office following a recent request under the Freedom of Information Act for reports, because the City has applied for assistance from the State Distress Unit Appeal Board for assistance and the City has advertised a sale for February 7, 2009, this communication is here submitted for your information. If there are questions or suggestions pertaining to this or other matters, please contact me at your convenience. Here enclosed is the ad for the mentioned February sales.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles Kirkland

CK/ck

cc:

Encl: 1. + 1



K A C

KIRKLAND'S AUCTION CO.



AUCTIONEERS-LIQUIDATORS-APPRAISERS

ALL TYPES OF AUCTIONS

Industry-machinery-construction-restaurant equipment-photograph-office furniture
Oriental rugs-quilts-art-general merchandise

1633 TAFT STREET
Gary, IN 46404

(219) 944-8785

HAVE GAVEL



WILL TRAVEL



AUCTIONEER
COL. CHARLES KIRKLAND
#AU09200098



The Honorable Geraldine B. Tousant
DEPUTY MAYOR, CITY OF GARY, IN
401 Broadway
Gary, IN 46402

December 16, 2008

RE: REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORTS.

Dear Madam Deputy Mayor:

Over the past seventy (70) plus years, I have been a citizen of this our City. Over the past fifty (50) plus years, I have been a private entrepreneur functioning as a Real Estate Broker, General Contractor, Mortgage Broker, Certified Fee Appraiser (CRA), Certified Real Estate Manager (CREM) and as a Professional Auctioneer.

The facts that, presently I am the only licensed auctioneer in the City, sales of properties owned or controlled by the City are being conducted by City employees, reports of the sales conducted December 6, 2008 have not been published and as here before, no reply has been received to my expressed interest and availability to perform a revenue producing professional auction service for the City; this correspondence as other before is here submitted.

Under the FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT, I do here request a copy of the sales clerk's reports for the sales conducted December 6, 2008, pursuant to City of Gary Ordinance No. 7389. Said reports should list the properties offered, the winning bid and bid amount for each property sold. The sales summary reports should further itemize the 12/06/08 sales as follows: For each vehicle, the year, make, model, ID number, buyers, bids amounts, City fees, fees for sales staff and sales totals. minus expenses.

I am available and willing to come to your office or others to obtain the information here requested, if necessary to avoid a delay in providing said reports. Respectfully as a fellow citizen and as a brother in spirit; I am trusting that within seven (7) days from this date, said reports will be available or a written response from your office stating the date the reports will be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Kirkland
CK/ck

cc:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION BY THE CITY OF GARY
 The following described abandoned motor vehicles will be sold at public auction pursuant to the City of Gary Ordinance No. 7399 on Saturday, February 7, 2009 starting at 8:00am at Republic Frame and Axle, 7500 Melton Road; immediately followed by Oldenburg Towing Inc., 2319 Cline Avenue; immediately followed by S&S Towing, 3651 W. 4th Avenue; then ending at Bennie's Towing Inc., 2160 W. 10th Avenue. Bidders must comply with the following terms: titles must be applied for. TERMS OF SALE: Money orders, cash, or other certified funds. NO PERSONAL CHECKS OR CREDIT CARDS. Winning bidders must pay in full upon completion of the auction. Vehicles are available for viewing before auction or by appointment.

GARY POLICE DEPARTMENT SEIZED VEHICLES - 2160 W. 10TH AVENUE

VEH #	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VEHICLE ID NUMBER
1	1995	BUICK	PARK AVE	1G4CW52K55H620270
2	2002	CHEVY	MONTE CARLO	2G1WW15E929109478
3	1987	MERCURY	GRAND MARQUIS	2MEBM74F1HX698554
4	1993	CHEVY	VAN	1GBEG25Z7PF348619
5	1990	LINCOLN	TOWN CAR	11NLN81F5L7737585
6	1997	CHEVY	MONTE CARLO	2G1WW12M7V9114744
7	1987	OLDS	CUTLASS	1G3GR115H9P307570
8	1999	CADILLAC	DEVILLE	1G6KD54Y1XU733237
9	1991	LEXUS	LS400	JT8UF1E5M0095613
10	1998	CADILLAC	DEVILLE	1G6KD54Y7WU797846
11	1998	GMC	YUKON	1GKEK13R7WJ700587
12	1994	CADILLAC	ELDORADO	1G6EL12Y8RU623834
13	1986	GMC	JIMMY	1G5EK18H3GF505609
14	1995	CHEVY	MONTE CARLO	2G1WX12X7S9163428
15	1991	CHEVY	CAPRICE	1G1BL53E8MW206053
16	1993	GMC	SUBURBAN	1GKEC16K9P752297
17	1999	CHRYSLER	300	2C3HE66G7XH573015

BENNIE'S TOWING - 2160 W. 10TH AVENUE

1	1994	Chevy	Lumina	2G1WL54TGR9163301
2	1999	Chevy	Lumina	2G1WL52M4X1105470
3	1996	Olds	Cutlass	1G3WH12M3TF364309
4	1994	Olds	Cutlass	1G3WH15X9RD338078
5	1987	Olds	88	1G3HY5432HW372493
6	1987	Olds	88	1G3CW5135H1324973
7	1992	Buick	LeSabre	1G4HP53L9NH570200
8	1996	Buick	LeSabre	1G4HR52K0TH409508
9	1997	Cadillac	Deville	1G6KD54YXVU239214
10	1993	Cadillac	Seville	1G6KY5292PU814134
11	1992	Cadillac	Deville	1G6CD53BKXN4210359
12	1994	Chrysler	LHS	2C3ED56F5RH127990
13	2006	Ford	Taurus	1FAFP53U16A102329
14	1993	Cadillac	Eldorado	1G6EL12B4PU619580
15	1996	Cadillac	Eldorado	1G6ET1297TU603204
16	1997	Cadillac	Seville	1G6KS52Y9VU809874
17	1991	Buick	Park Ave	1G4CU53L8M1655314
18	1994	Chevy	Cavalier	1G1JC8449R7242483
19	1998	Chevy	Cavalier	1G1JC5247W7180062
20	1994	Chrysler	Concord	2C3EL56T8RH109184
21	1990	Pontiac	Bonneville	1G2HX54C4L1203766
22	1993	Olds	98	1G3CW53L4P4310749
23	1997	Olds	98	1G3HN52K2V4840281
24	1999	Chevy	Malibu	1G1ND524X6226930
25	1991	Chevy	Caprice	1G1BL53E5MR122965
26	1997	Chevy	Lumina	2G1WL52M8V1130935
27	2000	Chevy	Malibu	1G1NE52J7Y6253926
28	1997	Chrysler	LHS	2C3HC56F7VH581071
29	1995	Ford	Taurus	1FALP52UX5G173823
30	1994	Buick	LeSabre	1G4HR52L5RH434003
31	1989	Pontiac	Grand Am	1G2NE14U1KC814559
32	1990	Olds	98	1G3CV54C0L4358986
33	1991	Mercury	Cougar	1MEPM6048MH655585
34	1996	Ford	Crown Victoria	2FALP71W9T9187108
35	1992	Mitsubishi	Diamante	JA3X4756N0Y017493
36	1985	Cadillac	Fleetwood	1G6DW699XK9954865
37	1993	Mercury	Sable	1MELM5049P8A62320
38	1994	Chevy	Beretta	1G1LV15M5RY134364
39	1997	Ford	Contour	3FALP6531VM111990
40	1994	Dodge	Caravan	2B4GH2537RR735189
41	1989	Chevy	Corsica	1G1LT54W7KY162687
42	1995	Toyota	Camry	4T1SK12E2SU552284
43	1993	Cadillac	Seville	1G6KS52B8PU809080
44	1993	Buick	LeSabre	1G4HP53L7PH500083
45	1989	Olds	88	1G4HY53C8KX381238
46	1989	Chevy	Cavalier	1G1DF11W9K7230490
47	1992	Chevy	Cavalier	1G1JF34T5N7301427
48	1995	Ford	Contour	1FALP66L1SK157756
49	1995	Olds	Cutlass	1G3WT32X7SD305956
50	1991	Pontiac	Bonneville	
51	1994	Toyota	Camry	4T1SK12E3RU457744
52	1995	Chevy	Monte Carlo	2G1WW12M1S9346588
53	1992	Chevy	Lumina	2G1WN54T7N9150366
54	1994	Chevy	Corsica	1G1LD55M8RY102552
55	1994	Chevy	Beretta	1G1LV15M0RY118814
56	1995	Chevy	Beretta	1G1LV1540Y135993
57	1993	Buick	LeSabre	1G4HP53L4PH509467
58	2000	Chrysler	Cirrus	1C3EJ56H5YN148239
59	1992	Pontiac	Bonneville	1G2H252L9N1274204
60	1995	Pontiac	Grand Am	1G2NE55M0M4543767
61	1986	Chevy	Monte Carlo	1G1GZ37Z9G124352
62	1986	Chevy	Caprice	1G1BN69HXG9116195
63	1994	Pontiac	Grand Am	1G2NE15M7RM576025
64	1992	Chrysler	Fifth Ave	1C3XV66R7ND762707
65	1997	Ford	Windstar	2FMDA5146VBD18624
66	1993	Ford	Explorer	1FMDU34X6PUC02113
67	1993	Ford	Taurus	1FACP52U1PG127093
68	1991	Buick	LeSabre	1G4HP54C7MH428795
69	1976	Dodge	Sportsman	176918D5313
70	1987	GMC	Vandura	2GDHG31K4H4508692
71	1991	Cadillac	Deville	1G6CD53B5M4299367
72	1996	Chevy	Cavalier	1G1JC1244T7286702
73	1996	Cadillac	Deville	1G6KD52Y0TU242675
74	1993	Pontiac	Grand Am	1G2NW54N9PC809114
75	1996	Chevy	Lumina	2G1WL52M7T9256797
76	1996	Dodge	Ram	2B6HB21Y6TK115089
77	1992	Jeep	Cherokee	1J4GZ78S25C677095
78	2000	Pontiac	Grand Prix	1G2WP52K3YF300582
79	1994	Dodge	Spirit	3B3AA46K4RT308548
80	1998	Chevy	Bleazer	1GNCS13W2W2121744
81	2002	Olds	Alero	1G3NK52F02C224773
82	1996	Plymouth	Voyager	1P4GP44R0TB291579
83	1996	Dodge	Intrepid	1B3HD46P9TF167857
84	1999	Chevy	Cavalier	1G1JF5270X7206145
85	1997	Dodge	Intrepid	2B3HD46T8VH575628
86	1994	Buick	Roadmaster	1G4BN52P2RR433096
87	1986	Chevy	Caprice	1G1BN69HXG9102233
88	1997	Dodge	Intrepid	1B3ES47YXVD172041
89	1993	Ford	Explorer	1FMDU34X8PB38477
90	1999	Dodge	Intrepid	2B3HD46R2XH677899
91	2001	Chevy	Malibu	1G1ND52J016117081
92	1997	Mercury	Sable	1MELM50U9V602748
93	1999	Pontiac	Grand Am	1G2NE12T7WC767232
94	1990	Chevy	Cheyenne	2GCEC19K7L1177693
95	1996	Ford	Explorer	1FMDU35P9TUC39505
96	1994	Cadillac	Deville	1G6KD52B1RU305475
97	1998	Olds	Achieva	1G3NL52M1WM324134
98	1988	Chevy	Caprice	1G1BN81Y3JA169723
99	2001	Dodge	Intrepid	2B3HD56J81H628066
100	1999	Pontiac	Grand Am	1G2NE52T3XC504857
101	1991	Chevy	Lumina	2G1WL54T1M1123697
102	1996	Dodge	Intrepid	1B3HD46T7TF160301
103	1994	Ford	Van	1FDEE14N9RH87930
104	1995	Chevy	Corsica	1G1LD55M0SY200545
105	2007	Hyundai	Sonata	5NPEU46F97H201857

KIRKLAND'S AUCTION CO.
 1633 Taft Street Gary, IN 46404
"Have Gavel Will Travel"

OLDENBERG TOWING - 2310 CLINE AVENUE

1	1995	CHEVY	MONTE CARLO	2G1WX12X659192838
2	2000	FORD	F-150	1FTRX17WXNC11921

104	1995	Chevy	Corsica	1G1LD55M0SY200545
105	2007	Hyundai	Sonata	5NPEU46F97H201857
		OLDENBERG TOWING - 2310 CLINE AVENUE		
1	1995	CHEVY	MONTE CARLO	2G1WX12X6S9192838
2	2000	FORD	F-150	1FTRX17WXYNC11921
3	2002	CHEVY	BLAZER	1GNDS13S122423196
4	1999	BUICK	CENTURY	2G4WS52M4X1618210
5	1995	BUICK	LESABRE	1G4HP52L5SH546747
6	1996	CADILLAC	DEVILLE	1G6KD52Y7TU251711
7	1989	CHEVY	BOX VAN	2GDHG31K8K4512008
8	1996	PONTIAC	GRAND AM	1G2NW52M1TC782897
9	1997	PONTIAC	GRAND AM	1G2NE12M5VC806956
10	1995	CHEVY	BLAZER	1GNDT13W1S2220857
11	1999	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX	1G2WP52K1XF203640
12	2005	FORD	EXPLORER	1FMZU73E05ZA60368
13	1997	GMC	JIMMY	1GKDT13W7VK514488
		REPUBLIC TOWING - 7500 MELTON ROAD		
1	2001	HONDA	CIVIC	1HGES267X1L041169
2	1999	CADILLAC	DEVILLE	1G6KDS54Y9XU786767
3	1997	CADILLAC	SLS	1G6KSS2Y2VU834681
4	2004	HYUNDAI	SANTA FE	KM8SC13D34U737028
5	2001	DODGE	INTREPID	2B3HD46R71H583279
6	2002	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX	1G2WR52132F101380
		S & S TOWING - 3651 WEST 4TH AVENUE		
1	1996	CHEVY	S-10	1GCCS19XXT8167954
2	1992	CADILLAC	SEVILLE	1G6KS53B6NU813861
3	1997	PONTIAC	SUNFIRE	3G2JB5243VS808391
4	1992	CADILLAC	ELDORADO	1G6EL13B9NU607078
5	1998	PONTIAC	GRAND AM	1G2NE52T4WM523748
6	1995	BUICK	RIVIERA	1G4GD2214S4724317
7	1997	BUICK	RIVIERA	1G4GD221XV4711138
8	1997	BUICK	LESABRE	1G4HR52K7VH529096
9	1999	CHRYSLER	SEBRING	3C3EL45H3XT563208
10	1998	MERCURY	MOUNTAINEER	4M2ZU55P9WUJ50070
11	1993	MAZDA	MILLENNIA	JM1HD4612P0207644
12	2000	PONTIAC	BONNEVILLE	1G2HX54K1Y4253456
13	1991	OLDS	CUTLASS	2G3AM54N2M2319688
14	2003	CHEVY	IMPALA	2G1WF52E739125580
15	1992	FORD	F-250	1FTHF25H8NNA14461
16	1998	FORD	ECONOLINE	1FTNE24L2WHB54937
17	1989	FORD	F-150	1FTEF15N3KLA44056
18	1999	CHRYSLER	CONCORDE	2C3HD46R1XH788477
19	1991	FORD	EXPLORER	1FMDU34X2MUA79938
20	1995	CHEVY	CAPRICE	1G1BL52W7SR155490
21	1988	CHEVY	CAPRICE	1G1BN51H4JR134091
22	2005	FORD	TAURUS	1FAPF53235A282965
23	1992	BUICK	LESABRE	1G4HP53L7NH530729
24	1992	ISUZU	RODEO	4S2CY58Z5N4306329
25	2004	FORD	ECONOLINE	1FTSE34L64HA76104
26	1999	MERCURY	SABLE	1MEFM50U7XA653605
27	1993	GMC	SONOMA	1GTCS14Z7P8516115
28	2006	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX	2G2WR554361228665
29	1984	MERCEDES	300 SD	WDBCB20A0EA031745
30	1993	CHEVY	SUBURBAN	1GNEC16K1PJ310696
31	1997	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX	1G2WP52K0VF264040
32	1994	SUZUKI	SIDEKICK	JS3TD03V8R4112030
33	1991	TOYOTA	CRESSIDA	JT2MX83E2M0070875
34	2000	BUICK	LESABRE	1G4HP54K9Y4224018
35	1994	MERCURY	COUGAR	1MELM62W9RH667409
36	1993	TOYOTA	T-100	JT4VD10C6P0009127
37	1994	CHEVY	CAVALIER	1G1JC1446R7210842
38	1995	CADILLAC	DEVILLE	1G6KDS2B3SU202385
39	2001	PONTIAC	GRAND AM	1G2NW12E91M663021

(2)

Russo, Stephanie

From: nglenn [nglenn@netnitco.net]
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2009 10:50 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: Allied Contract Null and Void

great news!
You go, Doug!
----- Original Message -----

From: Barb Hansen
To: nglenn
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2009 6:36 AM
Subject: Allied Contract Null and Void

Once again the MCC shows that they don't just look out for themselves but all citizens in the city.

Judge dumps city's new trash contract

Recommend
Comments

February 7, 2009
By Jon Seidel

Post-Tribune staff writer

GARY -- The Gary Sanitary District's attempt to privatize trash collection last fall was "against the laws and public policy of the State of Indiana," a special judge ruled this week, rendering its contract with Allied Waste "null and void."

Judge Thomas W. Webber made his ruling in Lake County Superior Court in response to a class-action lawsuit filed by the Miller Citizens Corp., whose members were upset that Allied Waste got the business without a public bidding process.

Gary turned garbage collection over to Allied Waste in October and the Sanitary District implemented a garbage collection fee of \$12 per household. The move, which eliminated several city jobs, was made while Gary was trying to survive a \$13 million budget shortfall in 2008. It also happened in anticipation of major money losses in 2009.

It wasn't clear Friday afternoon what will happen next in the case. More urgently, no one seemed to know how garbage will now be collected.

Mayor Rudy Clay, special administrator for the Gary Sanitary District, said he hadn't seen the ruling Friday afternoon. Neither had district lawyer Hamilton Carmouche. Both declined to comment.

Allied Waste's representatives didn't return calls by press time.

MCC president Douglas Grimes called the ruling "a breath of fresh air" that reminds his more jaded members of the difference they can make in local government.

"We got to the point where we thought nothing could happen. We couldn't do anything," Grimes said. "It kind of renews your faith a little bit."

The MCC objected to the contract on the grounds that the Gary Sanitary District never sought bids for garbage collection. Nor, Grimes said, did the MCC believe the Sanitary District's board of commissioners had the right to impose the new collection fee.

"That was the province of the City Council," Grimes said.

Carmouche has argued that no bidding process was necessary because the Sanitary District was modifying an existing contract with Allied Waste.

An ordinance that would ratify the Sanitary District board's decision to impose a garbage fee was introduced to the City Council last year, only to be withdrawn.

Despite the court ruling, Grimes said the responsibility for picking up trash remains the city's responsibility.

"We do pay for basic services when we pay our taxes," Grimes said. "The city has a responsibility to pick it up. It is a basic service

Russo, Stephanie

From: by way of Jack Lund <londonjack@sbcglobal.net> [Beach46403@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2009 1:36 PM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: The likely future pertaining to trash pickup (Gary's 'contract' with Allied negated)

This decision by Judge Webber declaring the contract between GSD and Allied Waste null and void, really puts the City in the trick bag. Now, if the City wants to continue along the course of outsourcing the trash pickup, they will need to do so following all necessary due process. And in doing so, the ability to outsource and settle on a service provider (or providers) is likely 8 to 12 months away. So who has to pick up the trash in the meantime? The City of course. But will they? And will they do a good job? And when will they? And how will they?

How will they assume the routes? Besides the couple of trucks which have still been tooling around the city doing political favors for supporters of the administration, the rest of the trucks have been parked through the dead of winter. How do you suppose that these trucks are going to be put back in service by this week to pickup our garbage? And who is going to drive them? Well, surely any of the few Gary drivers that got hired by Allied will soon be looking for work, but that means that Clay will have to expand the payroll. How is he going to explain that to the DUAB? He just got done bragging to them that this contract was saving the city millions. Well, we all knew that wasn't true when he said it, so don't get all excited and worried about losing these savings.

So as Monday passes, and Tuesday passes, and Wednesday passes, and so on--but no garbage trucks pass your house, don't get all shocked. And don't expect to see any Allied trucks anytime soon. They aren't going to get a dime. They've been picking up trash since December. Remember, they were "helping the city out"--out of the goodness of their heart--showing that corporate love. The contract has been declared null and void. (I'll bet their love affair with Rudy and the gang has also just lost its magic.) So hopefully, they can't sue the City or GSD for breach of contract. They are just plain screwed. I wonder how much longer it'll be before they can Jerome Prince. His hiring was part of the quid pro quo. His only experience in the garbage business was not running the Recycling Department for the City of Gary. And what now with the Recycling Department? Will Prince be allowed to go back to not running that again?

According to the Post, as of yesterday's press time, neither Clay or Carmouche had yet even heard about the judge's ruling. How do they get their information? You'd think that with all of those information resource departments that they have, they'd have known before the rest of us. Of course they can appeal the decision, likely to no avail, but still, who will pickup the trash in the meantime? Not Allied. They just learned a very expensive lesson. No, they are going to be heading back to Crown Point with their tail curled firmly between their legs. How will Jim Metros explain this to corporate? I wonder if he and Rudy will still be friends? Will they still be meeting for dinner at Gamba's?

So Clay is in a real pickle here. That's too bad. He couldn't get the trash picked up when he had a system in place to do so. He inherited a functioning garbage collection department. But then he deliberately destroyed it and then purposely dismantled it. Do you think he will be able to sort out the pieces and put them back together? By next week? Impossible! And even if they could get the trucks back on their routes by next week, where are they going to dump the trash? Remember how GSD and Clay finagled this thing through the first time? They modified the old contract (most likely Carmouche's trick). This was the old contract under which Allied received the loads of trash from the garbage trucks. So there is no old contract anymore. This was twisted and contorted into the new contract--the one that is now null and void. So now, the City lost their service provider and their landfill provider.

Do you think that Allied is just going to take it on the chin like this and go back to the old arrangement? I don't think so. They are going to be looking for revenge. They are going to be looking to make up for some very significant losses. They will be "renegotiating" this landfill arrangement. They are in an excellent position to bend Rudy over a barrel. And they will. He lied to them. His people lied to them. They were told these guys had everything under control. Oops! Not quite. This is the kind of sleazy deal that people wind up in the trunks of cars over.

But Rudy will have some 'splainin' to do. He'll have to explain to his constituents why their trash isn't getting picked up before next week is over. He'll surely blame it on those "troublemakers" over in Miller--those people that don't love the city like he does. He'll tell everyone willing to listen, that everything was beautiful until these "haters" ruined everything. If he gets worked up enough, he may even suggest to the crowds at his "revival-style" meetings, to take out their angers on the MCC and the other groups that objected vocally and publicly to his perfect plan. Not him. None of this mess he has gotten us into will be his fault. At least that's what he will tell us. Don't buy even one syllable. It is all his fault!

I wonder what he'll say at the upcoming State of the City meeting? By then this garbage problem will be fully manifested. And by then, the DUAB may have made their decision. What will he talk about? The Sheraton? The new Walgreens? What about the new

General services building? He's already worn all that stuff out on us. What will he say about all of the potholes? What will he say about the general lack of services? Or will the State of the City luncheon be like one of those 3-D Superbowl commercials? Will he hand out some special glasses and earpieces at the door for all to wear--devices that will distort the perception of reality and obscure the truth of the situation? Hey...maybe that's his problem, somebody has given him these glasses and this earpiece, that would explain why he still thinks everything is wonderful when actually everything is collapsing around him.

He always has one move left--one move which will do everyone some good. He can move out! We'll all help you pack!

While we're at it, we ought to help at least 66% of the city council pack their stuff as well. They make no effort to protect us from these types of illegal schemes, they facilitate them! And while we're at it, let's chase this worthless GSD board out. They don't even deserve being allowed the time to pack their things. Prepare the tar and feathers!

I think that anybody with even the fewest of little gray cells working, can clearly see who the people are that really care about the city, and who is simply making every effort possible to manipulate things to his own advantage and to the benefit of his associates and cronies.

This next week is sure to be very interesting!

Russo, Stephanie

From: andrea basarich [abasarich@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2009 3:22 PM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: The likely future pertaining to trash pickup

--- On Sat, 2/7/09, Beach46403@aol.com <Beach46403@aol.com> wrote:

From: Beach46403@aol.com <Beach46403@aol.com>
Subject: The likely future pertaining to trash pickup
To: nglenn@netnitco.net
Date: Saturday, February 7, 2009, 11:55 AM

This decision by Judge Webber declaring the contract between GSD and Allied Waste null and void, really puts the City in the trick bag. Now, if the City wants to continue along the course of outsourcing the trash pickup, they will need to do so following all necessary due process. And in doing so, the ability to outsource and settle on a service provider (or providers) is likely 8 to 12 months away. So who has to pick up the trash in the meantime? The City of course. But will they? And will they do a good job? And when will they? And how will they?

How will they assume the routes? Besides the couple of trucks which have still been tooling around the city doing political favors for supporters of the administration, the rest of the trucks have been parked through the dead of winter. How do you suppose that these trucks are going to be put back in service by this week to pickup our garbage? And who is going to drive them? Well, surely any of the few Gary drivers that got hired by Allied will soon be looking for work, but that means that Clay will have to expand the payroll. How is he going to explain that to the DUAB? He just got done bragging to them that this contract was saving the city millions. Well, we all knew that wasn't true when he said it, so don't get all excited and worried about losing these savings.

So as Monday passes, and Tuesday passes, and Wednesday passes, and so on--but no garbage trucks pass your house, don't get all shocked. And don't expect to see any Allied trucks anytime soon. They aren't going to get a dime. They've been picking up trash since December. Remember, they were "helping the city out"--out of the goodness of their heart--showing that corporate love. The contract has been declared null and void. (I'll bet their love affair with Rudy and the gang has also just lost its magic.) So hopefully, they can't sue the City or GSD for breach of contract. They are just plain screwed. I wonder how much longer it'll be before they can Jerome Prince. His hiring was part of the quid pro quo. His only experience in the garbage business was not running the Recycling Department for the City of Gary. And what now with the Recycling Department? Will Prince be allowed to go back to not running that again?

According to the Post, as of yesterday's press time, neither Clay or Carmouche had yet even heard about the judge's ruling. How do they get their information? You'd think that with all of those information resource departments that they have, they'd have known before the rest of us. Of course they can appeal the decision, likely to no avail, but still, who will pickup the trash in the meantime? Not Allied. They just learned a very expensive lesson. No, they are going to be heading back to Crown Point with their tail curled firmly between their legs. How will Jim Metros explain this to corporate? I wonder if he and Rudy will still be friends? Will they still be meeting for dinner at Gamba's?

So Clay is in a real pickle here. That's too bad. He couldn't get the trash picked up when he had a system in place to do so. He inherited a functioning garbage collection department. But then he deliberately destroyed it and then purposely dismantled it. Do you think he will be able to sort out the pieces and put them back together? By next week? Impossible! And even if they could get the trucks back on their routes by next week, where are they going to dump the trash? Remember how GSD and Clay finagled this thing through the first time? They modified the old contract (most likely Carmouche's trick). This was the old contract under which Allied received the loads of trash from the garbage trucks. So there is no old contract anymore. This was twisted and contorted into the new contract--the one that is now null and void. So now, the City lost their service provider and their landfill provider.

Do you think that Allied is just going to take it on the chin like this and go back to the old arrangement? I don't think so. They are going to be looking for revenge. They are going to be looking to make up for some very significant losses. They will be "renegotiating" this landfill arrangement. They are in an excellent position to bend Rudy over a barrel. And they will. He lied to them. His people lied to them. They were told these guys had everything under control. Oops! Not quite. This is

the kind of sleazy deal that people wind up in the trunks of cars over.

But Rudy will have some 'splainin' to do. He'll have to explain to his constituents why their trash isn't getting picked up before next week is over. He'll surely blame it on those "troublemakers" over in Miller--those people that don't love the city like he does. He'll tell everyone willing to listen, that everything was beautiful until these "haters" ruined everything. If he gets worked up enough, he may even suggest to the crowds at his "revival-style" meetings, to take out their angers on the MCC and the other groups that objected vocally and publicly to his perfect plan. Not him. None of this mess he has gotten us into will be his fault. At least that's what he will tell us. Don't buy even one syllable. It is all his fault!

I wonder what he'll say at the upcoming State of the City meeting? By then this garbage problem will be fully manifested. And by then, the DUAB may have made their decision. What will he talk about? The Sheraton? The new Walgreens? What about the new General services building? He's already worn all that stuff out on us. What will he say about all of the potholes? What will he say about the general lack of services? Or will the State of the City luncheon be like one of those 3-D Superbowl commercials? Will he hand out some special glasses and earpieces at the door for all to wear--devices that will distort the perception of reality and obscure the truth of the situation? Hey...maybe that's his problem, somebody has given him these glasses and this earpiece, that would explain why he still thinks everything is wonderful when actually everything is collapsing around him.

He always has one move left--one move which will do everyone some good. He can move out! We'll all help you pack!

While we're at it, we ought to help at least 66% of the city council pack their stuff as well. They make no effort to protect us from these types of illegal schemes, they facilitate them! And while we're at it, let's chase this worthless GSD board out. They don't even deserve being allowed the time to pack their things. Prepare the tar and feathers!

I think that anybody with even the fewest of little gray cells working, can clearly see who the people are that really care about the city, and who is simply making every effort possible to manipulate things to his own advantage and to the benefit of his associates and cronies.

This next week is sure to be very interesting!

Great Deals on Dell Laptops. Starting at \$499.

Russo, Stephanie

From: nglenn [nglenn@netnitco.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2009 10:29 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: The likely future pertaining to trash pickup

Importance: High

We have garbage trucks and people to operate them. What's the problem?

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2009 10:55 AM
Subject: The likely future pertaining to trash pickup

This decision by Judge Webber declaring the contract between GSD and Allied Waste null and void, really puts the City in the trick bag. Now, if the City wants to continue along the course of outsourcing the trash pickup, they will need to do so following all necessary due process. And in doing so, the ability to outsource and settle on a service provider (or providers) is likely 8 to 12 months away. So who has to pick up the trash in the meantime? The City of course. But will they? And will they do a good job? And when will they? And how will they?

How will they assume the routes? Besides the couple of trucks which have still been tooling around the city doing political favors for supporters of the administration, the rest of the trucks have been parked through the dead of winter. How do you suppose that these trucks are going to be put back in service by this week to pickup our garbage? And who is going to drive them? Well, surely any of the few Gary drivers that got hired by Allied will soon be looking for work, but that means that Clay will have to expand the payroll. How is he going to explain that to the DUAB? He just got done bragging to them that this contract was saving the city millions. Well, we all knew that wasn't true when he said it, so don't get all excited and worried about losing these savings.

So as Monday passes, and Tuesday passes, and Wednesday passes, and so on--but no garbage trucks pass your house, don't get all shocked. And don't expect to see any Allied trucks anytime soon. They aren't going to get a dime. They've been picking up trash since December. Remember, they were "helping the city out"--out of the goodness of their heart--showing that corporate love. The contract has been declared null and void. (I'll bet their love affair with Rudy and the gang has also just lost its magic.) So hopefully, they can't sue the City or GSD for breach of contract. They are just plain screwed. I wonder how much longer it'll be before they can Jerome Prince. His hiring was part of the quid pro quo. His only experience in the garbage business was not running the Recycling Department for the City of Gary. And what now with the Recycling Department? Will Prince be allowed to go back to not running that again?

According to the Post, as of yesterday's press time, neither Clay or Carmouche had yet even heard about the judge's ruling. How do they get their information? You'd think that with all of those information resource departments that they have, they'd have known before the rest of us. Of course they can appeal the decision, likely to no avail, but still, who will pickup the trash in the meantime? Not Allied. They just learned a very expensive lesson. No, they are going to be heading back to Crown Point with their tail curled firmly between their legs. How will Jim Metros explain this to corporate? I wonder if he and Rudy will still be friends? Will they still be meeting for dinner at Gamba's?

So Clay is in a real pickle here. That's too bad. He couldn't get the trash picked up when he had a system in place to do so. He inherited a functioning garbage collection department. But then he deliberately destroyed it and then purposely dismantled it. Do you think he will be able to sort out the pieces and put them back together? By next week? Impossible! And even if they could get the trucks back on their routes by next week, where are they going to dump the trash? Remember how GSD and Clay finagled this thing through the first time? They modified the old contract (most likely Carmouche's trick). This was the old contract under which Allied received the loads of trash from the garbage trucks. So there is no old contract anymore. This was twisted and contorted into the new contract--the one that is now null and void. So now, the City lost their service provider and their landfill provider.

Do you think that Allied is just going to take it on the chin like this and go back to the old arrangement? I don't think so. They are going to be looking for revenge. They are going to be looking to make up for some very significant losses. They will be "renegotiating" this landfill arrangement. They are in an excellent position to bend Rudy over a barrel. And they will.

He lied to them. His people lied to them. They were told these guys had everything under control. Oops! Not quite. This is the kind of sleazy deal that people wind up in the trunks of cars over.

But Rudy will have some 'splainin' to do. He'll have to explain to his constituents why their trash isn't getting picked up before next week is over. He'll surely blame it on those "troublemakers" over in Miller--those people that don't love the city like he does. He'll tell everyone willing to listen, that everything was beautiful until these "haters" ruined everything. If he gets worked up enough, he may even suggest to the crowds at his "revival-style" meetings, to take out their angers on the MCC and the other groups that objected vocally and publicly to his perfect plan. Not him. None of this mess he has gotten us into will be his fault. At least that's what he will tell us. Don't buy even one syllable. It is all his fault!

I wonder what he'll say at the upcoming State of the City meeting? By then this garbage problem will be fully manifested. And by then, the DUAB may have made their decision. What will he talk about? The Sheraton? The new Walgreens? What about the new General services building? He's already worn all that stuff out on us. What will he say about all of the potholes? What will he say about the general lack of services? Or will the State of the City luncheon be like one of those 3-D Superbowl commercials? Will he hand out some special glasses and earpieces at the door for all to wear--devices that will distort the perception of reality and obscure the truth of the situation? Hey...maybe that's his problem, somebody has given him these glasses and this earpiece, that would explain why he still thinks everything is wonderful when actually everything is collapsing around him.

He always has one move left--one move which will do everyone some good. He can move out! We'll all help you pack!

While we're at it, we ought to help at least 66% of the city council pack their stuff as well. They make no effort to protect us from these types of illegal schemes, they facilitate them! And while we're at it, let's chase this worthless GSD board out. They don't even deserve being allowed the time to pack their things. Prepare the tar and feathers!

I think that anybody with even the fewest of little gray cells working, can clearly see who the people are that really care about the city, and who is simply making every effort possible to manipulate things to his own advantage and to the benefit of his associates and cronies.

This next week is sure to be very interesting!

Great Deals on Dell Laptops. Starting at \$499.

Russo, Stephanie

From: Pbjancovech@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2009 11:10 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Gary Indiana DUAB

Dear Distressed Unit Appeal Board,

We support assisting Gary officials to reorganize the structure and size of city government to live and operate with the budget they have **without increasing the tax burden on businesses or individuals.**

During our prolonged fight for the 2% cap, it was revealed that over 30,000 parcels pay no property tax at all. Supporting the City of Gary is too large a burden to be shouldered by a few.

My husband and I grew up in Gary Indiana and currently live in Indianapolis, a city that works. Our extended family still resides in Gary. We had a property that we had to sell in 2005 due to the extreme property tax increases.

We recommend that the City of Gary and Lake County become Uni-Gov like the City of Indianapolis and Marion County.

We read the distressed appeal file. It doesn't mention how inferior all the services already are. My mother-in-law had shots fired at her house, called the police, they never came. When my husband called the next day, they said they went to the wrong house. The library is inefficient, The schools have graduation rates below 50%. Young adults move out of Gary when they have children. The parks are unkempt. All this for the highest taxes in the country. The City of Gary is the best example of the worst city in America. Politicians cannot be voted out, because the majority who pay little or no taxes support them.

If Gary cannot survive within their budget, it should be eliminated, and annexed by another city in Lake County.

Sincerely,
Alan & Pamela Jancovech

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. See yours in just 2 easy steps!

Russo, Stephanie

From: nglenn [nglenn@netnitco.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2009 11:41 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: Thank you MCC! Carmouche should Resign!

Importance: High

omg

----- Original Message -----

From: Gary Votes
To: nglenn Nora
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2009 9:11 AM
Subject: Thank you MCC! Carmouche should Resign!

We would like to thank Doug Grimes and the MCC for taking the necessary legal action to cancel the illegal contract the City of Gary has with Allied Waste. It was a no-brainer to those familiar with the law.

City Attorney Carmouche should have known that this arrangement with Allied Waste was illegal and not in compliance with the laws of the State of Indiana regarding the required bidding process. You just don't decide to hand out a \$5,500,000.00 contract without putting it out for competitive bids. This law is designed to protect taxpayers from insider-deals and keep their interests at heart. Rudy Clay did NOT have the best interests of his constituency at heart.

Carmouche didn't pick up on that. He gave the City of Gary bad advice. It could have stopped this deal from moving forward but he didn't.

Carmouche has not given good legal advice to the City of Gary on other issues, either. He has knowingly violated the law.

Either he knew it was a violation and he should be thrown out for being dishonest,

or

he did not know it was a violation and he thrown out for being incompetent.

Either-or, you can't have it both ways!

**He should resign from the city as counsel and attorney.
He is costing us money and should be dumped.**

And don't feel sorry for Allied Waste! They have attorneys, too. They know how the game works, and the process that is required by the State of Indiana to get a contract from a governmental agency. They negotiated a deal with the City of Gary and they knew it was illegal. They should dump their attorneys, too!

Thank you, Doug Grimes and members of the MCC... It is good to know that when you do the right thing you can set the record straight.

Russo, Stephanie

From: Kitchell, Ryan
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2009 10:15 PM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: FW: City of Gary Mayor's petition for exemption from statewide property caps

From: Marie Furmanski [mailto:mariefurmanski@comcast.net]
Sent: Wed 1/28/2009 10:07 PM
To: Kitchell, Ryan
Subject: City of Gary Mayor's petition for exemption from statewide property caps

Dear Mr. Kitchell,

I have been a lifelong Northwest Indiana resident for nearly 50 years. For much of my working life I have been forced to commute to Illinois for employment. It wasn't until four years ago that I was able to be employed in Indiana. I work for an Occupational Medical clinic in Gary. The doctors I work for are great people who opened up the clinic in an area of Indiana without a whole lot of great jobs. The clinic employs 30 people that live in Northwest Indiana. One of the physicians is from Illinois.

The doctors have seen their tax bill recently go up from \$20,000 to \$80,000 and in addition they, (like everyone else in this crazy state that can't seem to get the bills out properly) have only two weeks to pay this bill. They are now seriously considering relocating the clinic and with it go the jobs; or they will be required to reduce the jobs.

The reason why I am writing to you specifically, though, is the Mayor of Gary, Rudy Clay and the city council of Gary are said to be petitioning your department for an exemption from new statewide property tax caps. Please do not answer this petition affirmatively as this will add an unreasonable and unrealistic burden to all employers in Northwest Indiana. Frankly, Mr. Kitchell, we need all the help we can get to attract and retain employers in Northwest Indiana. State of Illinois is much more favorable to business up here and has attracted much business over the years from Indiana. This forces Indiana residents to commute long distances to find work. It would be great if we could have and keep good jobs in Indiana.

Thank you for your time,

Marie A. Furmanski
1307 Aspen Dr
Valparaiso, IN 46385



6100 Southport • Portage, IN 46368 • 219.763.6303 Phone • 219.763.2653 Fax • www.nwforum.org

January 23, 2009

Reference

Petitions of Gary Corporation, Gary Airport District, Gary Public Transit District and Gary Sanitary Districts ("Petitioners") to the Distressed Unit Appeals Board

Dear Members of the Distressed Unit Appeal Board ("DUAB"):

The Northwest Indiana Forum is a regional economic development organization serving Lake, Porter and LaPorte Counties. Our constituency of 130 members represents over \$40 billion of commerce.

As a board we are strong advocates for responsible, quality development in our region for the benefit of all its citizens. That said, while we have tremendous empathy for the residents of the City of Gary who face many challenges in these tough economic times we must be in opposition to the proposal of the Petitioners presented at your January 5, 2009 hearing.

Placing a disproportionate share of the cost of government on business and industry will stifle investment and encourage more businesses to leave Gary at the very time organizations like the Forum are trying to lure new investors and encourage existing businesses to continue to invest in Gary.

Certainly Gary and other northwest Indiana communities have many difficult decisions to make. We also recognize that northwest Indiana's problems did not develop over night. We expect that it will take a concerted effort behind a well thought out long term plan to effectively rebuild our region. We at the Forum will continue to work with elected officials and community leaders to that end.

In closing, although the Northwest Indiana Forum as well as other effectual organizations were not privy to timely information prior to public hearings we would welcome the opportunity to present the regional business perspective to the DUAB relative to any northwest Indiana community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vincent H. Galbiati", is written over a horizontal line.

Vincent H. Galbiati

President & CEO

Northwest Indiana Forum

The Northwest Indiana Forum is a regional economic development organization dedicated to Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties. Its corporate members represents over \$40 billion in commerce in Northwest Indiana.

"Northwest Indiana - Where Global Companies Find World Class Locations"



6100 Southport • Portage, IN 46368 - 219.763.6303 Phone - 219.763.2653 Fax • www.nwiforum.org

CC: Mayor Rudy Clay
Senator Earline Rogers
Mr. Chris Curry
Gary Sanitary
Gary Public Transit
Mr. Chuck Hughes, Gary Chamber of Commerce

The Northwest Indiana Forum is a regional economic development organization dedicated to Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties.
Its corporate members represents over \$40 billion in commerce in Northwest Indiana.

"Northwest Indiana - Where Global Companies Find World Class Locations"

Russo, Stephanie

From: andrea basarich [abasarich@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2009 5:41 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: How to Cut Gary's Budget for Dummies

--- On Tue, 1/27/09, nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net> wrote:
From: nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net>
Subject: Fw: How to Cut Gary's Budget for Dummies
To: Undisclosed-Recipient@yahoo.com
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2009, 11:36 PM

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2009 10:46 AM
Subject: How to Cut Gary's Budget for Dummies

Attention all City of Gary Administrators;

Month One:

To begin immediately;

Eliminate the Department of Redevelopment. Shift all duties related to any viable "work in progress" to the legal department. (This shouldn't pose much of a problem.)

Close the City Jail. For real, not just reassign jail workers to other make-work jobs. The jail itself doesn't eat, it's all the staff that costs us.

Eliminate the In-house Demolition Department.

Eliminate the Civil Defense Department.

Actively solicit buyers/lessees for the Airport, the Genesis Center, the Hudson-Campbell Center, Gleason Golf Course (operator to maintain and expand current golf operations)

Find operator to manage Lake St. Beach. Applicants would require the wherewithal to significantly increase activity at this facility.

Combine Park Maintenance with General Services.

Inventory all rolling stock and mobile equipment. Eliminate unneeded and nonfunctioning assets.

Eliminate the position of Chief of Staff.

Eliminate all City Council assistants. Maintain the best candidate to assist all council members.

Eliminate all mayoral security personnel and chauffeur.

Eliminate all major in-house vehicle maintenance. Keep a minimum amount of mechanics to perform only minor repairs and periodic maintenance.

Get all departments back in City Hall. Vacate 839 Broadway Annex building.

Eliminate the Planning Department. Consolidate any viable duties with the Building Department.

Get all vehicle support services and General Services under one roof.

Consolidate any grounds maintenance and park grounds maintenance into one unit.

Plow drivers should be drawn first from Park Maintenance employees. (just like in the private sector, landscapers become snow removal contractors in the winter)

Eliminate tow truck drivers. Sell all tow trucks.

Privatize the management of the Marquette Pavilion.

Consolidate all General Services/Motor Pool/Vehicle storage/Equipment storage to one site.

Consolidate Zoning with the Building Department. Eliminate one department head in the process.

Divest all unnecessary and unused/underused buildings and facilities.

Initiate a marketing program for all surplus real estate owned by the City.

Sell all surplus heavy equipment.

Contract with local private vendors to perform vehicle maintenance and repairs.

Outsource pool maintenance and OPEN the pools during the summer season.

Sell the old Coast Guard station at the end of Lake St. to the highest bidder. Relocate or eliminate Gary Artworks to allow for this. This is the city's most prime piece of real estate. It must be used for its highest and best use. Work with the Charter School of the Dunes to relocate their operation.

Eliminate the Board-Up Department.

Contract out Animal Control duties to local kennels or Humane Society. (except for actual pickup of animals)

Eliminate video technicians from City Council budget. Work with IUN and Ivy Tech to see if their Audio/Video department could assume these duties as part of a vocational training course.

Cancel the mayor's sons' videotaping contracts immediately!

Consolidate Labor Relations, Human Relations, Personnel, and Status of Women departments into one.

Consolidate Mayor's office support staff with Division of City Operations and reduce staff accordingly.

Consolidate the Environmental Affairs Department with Public Works/Engineering.

Eliminate Division of Community Services.

Eliminate Department of Public Information. Transfer these duties to the Mayor's Office.

Eliminate MIS/Information Resource Department. Shift any viable functions to Mayor's Office.

Insist on an across-the-board budget reduction from the General Services Department, the Clerk's Office, City Court, and the Parks Department of at least 30%.

Embark on these budget-cutting measures immediately. Next month look to reduce General Services, Parks, City Court, and Clerk's Office budgets more significantly.

Step One; You must first decide that you are willing to cut the budget.

Then the rest is easy. Like a walk in one of our overgrown, unmaintained, and neglected parks. Or like a day at the underused, unmaintained, and mismanaged beach.

Step Two; Do it!

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. See yours in just 2 easy steps!

Russo, Stephanie

From: andrea basarich [abasarich@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 8:52 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: Take-home cars

--- On Sun, 2/1/09, nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net> wrote:

From: nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net>
Subject: Fw: Take-home cars
To: Undisclosed-Recipient@yahoo.com
Date: Sunday, February 1, 2009, 6:04 PM

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 9:17 AM
Subject: Take-home cars

Not to stick up for Lalosa Burns, but she is hardly the only one with a take-home car. There are still nearly a hundred city workers with take-home cars, that as far as I can see, have no good reason to have them. Why do secretaries and receptionists have take-home cars?

There was a big deal made in the newspaper last year about take-home cars using city gas. The gas thing may have been stopped for the most part, but they never took away the cars. And while these cars may no longer be filling up at the city pumps, are we sure that they aren't filling up at the local gas stations using a city credit card?

Unless it is written that an employee receives a complimentary car as part of their compensation package, or in lieu of other compensation, they should not have one. They should all be parked or sold to the city workers that are driving them -wearing them out. The more cars the city has on the road, the more their insurance costs. The more miles driven in city vehicles, the more chance of an accident. And who pays for the repair and upkeep of these cars? I've got a pretty good idea! How could Clay even consider cutting public safety before eliminating the take-home car program?

And back to Lalosa Burns; Do we really need a public relations person? Can we really afford one? What the heck does she do all day? How can this be a full-time job? I thought this is what Linda Key got the personal service contract for. Evidently we're paying for several PR people. You'd think we'd be getting some better PR!

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. See yours in just 2 easy steps!

Russo, Stephanie

From: andrea basarich [abasarich@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 8:48 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway

--- On Sun, 2/1/09, nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net> wrote:

From: nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net>
Subject: Fw: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway
To: Undisclosed-Recipient@yahoo.com
Date: Sunday, February 1, 2009, 6:15 PM

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 12:07 PM
Subject: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway

Where does the line start for this gravy train?

I wrote the following a little over a year ago. But I am reposting it because the Department of Public Works just saw fit to re-renew this BS contract at their last meeting.

How could Clay or Rinzer Williams, the head of the DPW, see fit to renew such an obviously fluff personal-service contract? And Carmouche and Celita Green and Geraldine Tousant were right there voting to approve it. Aren't they all petitioning the DUAB for taxpayer-funded relief? Do you think the DUAB is aware that they are still handing out these plum, do-absolutely-nothing contracts to their old pals? I doubt it as I didn't see this one mentioned in their stupid proposal. They didn't mention cutting it anywhere along the way, up to and including Year 2012. So that tells me that old-buddy Darryl is probably good until at least 2013. Lucky him! Unlucky us!

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net

Sent: Saturday, January 05, 2008 8:43 AM

Subject: Darryl Baker, who does this guy know?

Darryl Baker, Dba DBE (Darryl Baker Enterprises) just got his contract renewed at yesterday's meeting of the Board of Public Works. This is one of those plum contracts where he really doesn't have to do anything. Ostensibly, the contract is to supervise maintenance at the City Hall Annex building and the Public Safety Center. However, it is no more than a no-show position for which he is rewarded with \$65,000.00 of our money annually. And this is not the first year that he has the contract, he had it all last year also.

This guy doesn't even need to own a screwdriver, all he needs is a cell phone and a yellow pages. Can't they just create a list of contractors to respond to various problems that may arise? Wouldn't staff already on the payroll be ably qualified to call someone on the phone? Why not individuals from the Department of Redevelopment?--they're certainly not doing anything!

Now of course he (DB) came on the scene as excess baggage when Clay did. Now he may be there to ensure that someone DOESN'T just pick up a phone directory and call just anyone. Maybe part of his job is to guarantee that only contractors that the city would approve of are called.

Besides all of that, when asked several months ago, the security guards at the Annex Building had never heard of him, and never seen him. In fact, they didn't even have his number to call if there were some type of maintenance-related emergency. Darryl Baker Enterprises is based out of a residence. Is this guy really the most qualified individual for this position? Of course not! Is this position even necessary? Of course not! When Clay was doing his dance about cutting the budget, why didn't he start here? Oh, right, he's one of his pals.

When questioned again just last week, the security staff still hadn't heard of him, and more importantly didn't have his contact info in case of an emergency.

How serious do you see the Clay administration being about cutting the city's budget? Not at all concerned when it comes to patronage expenditures from where I'm standing. They appear not to take the business of running the city very seriously. Their ONLY concern seems to be for the perpetuation of their patronage army and political machine which it supports.

Great Deals on Dell Laptops. Starting at \$499.

Russo, Stephanie

From: andrea basarich [abasarich@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 8:45 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

--- On Sun, 2/1/09, nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net> wrote:

From: nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net>
Subject: Fw: I'm really pissed at the GSD.
To: Undisclosed-Recipient@yahoo.com
Date: Sunday, February 1, 2009, 7:52 PM

They suck. I hope there's a way to hold them accountable for their bogusness. Don't waste your time with Ursula Suggs; talk to her supervisor. Let's make a stink about this. Aren't we the customers?

YES! ng

P.S.--You know Clay is the \$68K c.e.o. of this mess.

----- Original Message -----

From: Patty Kostro
To: nglenn
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 6:43 PM
Subject: Re: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

A similiar situation happened to us. We never got a bill, but a shut off notice. I made the payment at the office in December, but when I got my January bill, it was HUGE (\$175.00). They told me they still had to charge me the \$50 shut off fee even though I was not shut off. None of the amounts they telling me over the phone were making sense to me. I am still trying to research previous payments and bills. This happened last Friday when I payed another bill before shut off. What is going on?

----- Original Message -----

From: nglenn
To: Undisclosed-Recipient;
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 5:52 PM
Subject: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

I never got or lost my Nov. bill.

When I got my Jan. bill, it was really high and I called. I sent a check for both Nov. and Jan. right away.

A week ago last Sat., I got a shut-off notice.

I called and said I sent a check for both amounts.

They sent my check back, and I had to pay by cash, money order or cred.card at the GSD office on Broadway, across from NIPSCO before 4:45 p.m., M-F.

They don't take checks when there's a shut-off notice.

When I complained about this process* to Customer Relations Rep. (NOT) Ursula Suggs, she said among other things that I could have come and paid my bill instead of wasting all this time complaining. She also said that utilities give an extra 10 days, before other creditors, I guess, before cutting off service. Don't we own this utility?

I don't appreciate over-paying for shitty service and abuse. How about you?

*No one told me about the shut-off date when I called initially about the big Jan. bill.

I sent the check for the entire amount before I ever received a shut-off notice.

If my Nov. bill was unpaid, why is the first notice I'm getting about that, a giant Jan. bill and a shut-off bill a week later?

They can't take payment from a card over the phone.

I have never missed a payment in 20 years.

This process sucks ass. Change it!

Unfortunately I didn't get a chance to say the last line to the Sea Hag Ursula-----grrrrrrrrrrrrrr.

Russo, Stephanie

From: Patrick Lee [pmlee@pmlee.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 9:45 PM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Ongoing Gary extravagance.....
Attachments: Fw: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway; Fw: Take-home cars

Please see attached.....

Russo, Stephanie

From: nglenn [nglenn@netnitco.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 6:15 PM
To: "Undisclosed-Recipient;"
Subject: Fw: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 12:07 PM
Subject: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway

Where does the line start for this gravy train?

I wrote the following a little over a year ago. But I am reposting it because the Department of Public Works just saw fit to re-renew this BS contract at their last meeting.

How could Clay or Rinzer Williams, the head of the DPW, see fit to renew such an obviously fluff personal-service contract? And Carmouche and Celita Green and Geraldine Tousant were right there voting to approve it. Aren't they all petitioning the DUAB for taxpayer-funded relief? Do you think the DUAB is aware that they are still handing out these plum, do-absolutely-nothing contracts to their old pals? I doubt it as I didn't see this one mentioned in their stupid proposal. They didn't mention cutting it anywhere along the way, up to and including Year 2012. So that tells me that old-buddy Darryl is probably good until at least 2013. Lucky him! Unlucky us!

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net

Sent: Saturday, January 05, 2008 8:43 AM

Subject: Darryl Baker, who does this guy know?

Darryl Baker, Dba DBE (Darryl Baker Enterprises) just got his contract renewed at yesterday's meeting of the Board of Public Works. This is one of those plum contracts where he really doesn't have to do anything. Ostensibly, the contract is to supervise maintenance at the City Hall Annex building and the Public Safety Center. However, it is no more than a no-show position for which he is rewarded with \$65,000.00 of our money annually. And this is not the first year that he has the contract, he had it all last year also. This guy doesn't even need to own a screwdriver, all he needs is a cell phone and a yellow pages. Can't they just create a list of contractors to respond to various problems that may arise? Wouldn't staff already on the payroll be ably qualified to call someone on the phone? Why not individuals from the Department of Redevelopment?-- they're certainly not doing anything! Now of course he (DB) came on the scene as excess baggage when Clay did. Now he may be there to ensure that someone DOESN'T just pick up a phone directory and call just anyone. Maybe part of his job is to guarantee that only contractors that the city would approve of are called. Besides all of that, when asked several months ago, the security guards at the Annex Building had never heard of him, and never seen him. In fact, they didn't even have his number to call if there were some type of maintenance-related emergency. Darryl Baker Enterprises is based out of a residence. Is this guy really the most qualified individual for this position? Of course not! Is this position even necessary? Of course not! When Clay was doing his dance about cutting the budget, why didn't he start here? Oh, right, he's one of his pals.

When questioned again just last week, the security staff still hadn't heard of him, and more importantly didn't have his contact info in case of an emergency.

How serious do you see the Clay administration being about cutting the city's budget? Not at all concerned when it comes to patronage expenditures from where I'm standing. They appear not to take the business of running the city very seriously. Their ONLY concern seems to be for the perpetuation of their patronage army and political machine which it supports.

Great Deals on Dell Laptops. Starting at \$499.

Russo, Stephanie

From: nglenn [nglenn@netnitco.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 6:05 PM
To: "Undisclosed-Recipient;"
Subject: Fw: Take-home cars

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 9:17 AM
Subject: Take-home cars

Not to stick up for Lalosa Burns, but she is hardly the only one with a take-home car. There are still nearly a hundred city workers with take-home cars, that as far as I can see, have no good reason to have them. Why do secretaries and receptionists have take-home cars?

There was a big deal made in the newspaper last year about take-home cars using city gas. The gas thing may have been stopped for the most part, but they never took away the cars. And while these cars may no longer be filling up at the city pumps, are we sure that they aren't filling up at the local gas stations using a city credit card?

Unless it is written that an employee receives a complimentary car as part of their compensation package, or in lieu of other compensation, they should not have one. They should all be parked or sold to the city workers that are driving them-wearing them out. The more cars the city has on the road, the more their insurance costs. The more miles driven in city vehicles, the more chance of an accident. And who pays for the repair and upkeep of these cars? I've got a pretty good idea! How could Clay even consider cutting public safety before eliminating the take-home car program?

And back to Lalosa Burns; Do we really need a public relations person? Can we really afford one? What the heck does she do all day? How can this be a full-time job? I thought this is what Linda Key got the personal service contract for. Evidently we're paying for several PR people. You'd think we'd be getting some better PR!

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. See yours in just 2 easy steps!

Russo, Stephanie

From: Ted Prettyman [mcctedp@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 9:14 PM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway

Thought this would serve to enhance the case against a Gary bail out.

Ted Prettyman
Gary, Indiana

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net>
To: Undisclosed-Recipient@yahoo.com
Sent: Sunday, February 1, 2009 5:15:13 PM
Subject: Fw: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 12:07 PM
Subject: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway

Where does the line start for this gravy train?

I wrote the following a little over a year ago. But I am reposting it because the Department of Public Works just saw fit to re-renew this BS contract at their last meeting.

How could Clay or Rinzer Williams, the head of the DPW, see fit to renew such an obviously fluff personal-service contract? And Carmouche and Celita Green and Geraldine Tousant were right there voting to approve it. Aren't they all petitioning the DUAB for taxpayer-funded relief? Do you think the DUAB is aware that they are still handing out these plum, do-absolutely-nothing contracts to their old pals? I doubt it as I didn't see this one mentioned in their stupid proposal. They didn't mention cutting it anywhere along the way, up to and including Year 2012. So that tells me that old-buddy Darryl is probably good until at least 2013. Lucky him! Unlucky us!

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net

Sent: Saturday, January 05, 2008 8:43 AM

Subject: Darryl Baker, who does this guy know?

Darryl Baker, Dba DBE (Darryl Baker Enterprises) just got his contract renewed at yesterday's meeting of the Board of Public Works. This is one of those plum contracts where he really doesn't have to do anything. Ostensibly, the contract is to supervise maintenance at the City Hall Annex building and the Public Safety Center. However, it is no more than a no-show position for which he is rewarded with \$65,000.00 of our money annually. And this is not the first year that he has the contract, he had it all last year also. This guy doesn't even need to own a screwdriver, all he needs is a cell phone and a yellow pages. Can't they just create a list of contractors to respond to various problems that may arise? Wouldn't staff already on the payroll be ably qualified to call someone on the phone? Why not individuals from the Department of Redevelopment?-- they're certainly not doing anything! Now of course he (DB) came on the scene as excess baggage when Clay did. Now he may be there to ensure that someone DOESN'T just pick up a phone directory and call just anyone. Maybe part of his job is to guarantee that only contractors that the city would approve of are called.

Besides all of that, when asked several months ago, the security guards at the Annex Building had never heard of him, and never seen him. In fact, they didn't even have his number to call if there were some type of maintenance-related emergency. Darryl Baker Enterprises is based out of a residence. Is this guy really the most qualified individual for this position? Of course not! Is this position even necessary? Of course not! When Clay was doing his dance about cutting the budget, why didn't he start here? Oh, right, he's one of his pals.

When questioned again just last week, the security staff still hadn't heard of him, and more importantly didn't have his contact info in case of an emergency.

How serious do you see the Clay administration being about cutting the city's budget? Not at all concerned when it comes to patronage expenditures from where I'm standing. They appear not to take the business of running the city very seriously. Their ONLY concern seems to be for the perpetuation of their patronage army and political machine which it supports.

Great Deals on Dell Laptops. Starting at \$499.

Russo, Stephanie

From: andrea basarich [abasarich@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 5:51 PM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway

--- On Sun, 2/1/09, Beach46403@aol.com <Beach46403@aol.com> wrote:

From: Beach46403@aol.com <Beach46403@aol.com>
Subject: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway
To: nglenn@netnitco.net
Date: Sunday, February 1, 2009, 1:07 PM

Where does the line start for this gravy train?

I wrote the following a little over a year ago. But I am reposting it because the Department of Public Works just saw fit to re-renew this BS contract at their last meeting.

How could Clay or Rinzer Williams, the head of the DPW, see fit to renew such an obviously fluff personal-service contract? And Carmouche and Celita Green and Geraldine Tousant were right there voting to approve it. Aren't they all petitioning the DUAB for taxpayer-funded relief? Do you think the DUAB is aware that they are still handing out these plum, do-absolutely-nothing contracts to their old pals? I doubt it as I didn't see this one mentioned in their stupid proposal. They didn't mention cutting it anywhere along the way, up to and including Year 2012. So that tells me that old-buddy Darryl is probably good until at least 2013. Lucky him! Unlucky us!

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net

Sent: Saturday, January 05, 2008 8:43 AM

Subject: Darryl Baker, who does this guy know?

Darryl Baker, Dba DBE (Darryl Baker Enterprises) just got his contract renewed at yesterday's meeting of the Board of Public Works. This is one of those plum contracts where he really doesn't have to do anything. Ostensibly, the contract is to supervise maintenance at the City Hall Annex building and the Public Safety Center. However, it is no more than a no-show position for which he is rewarded with \$65,000.00 of our money annually. And this is not the first year that he has the contract, he had it all last year also. This guy doesn't even need to own a screwdriver, all he needs is a cell phone and a yellow pages. Can't they just create a list of contractors to respond to various problems that may arise? Wouldn't staff already on the payroll be ably qualified to call someone on the phone? Why not individuals from the Department of Redevelopment?-- they're certainly not doing anything! Now of course he (DB) came on the scene as excess baggage when Clay did. Now he may be there to ensure that someone DOESN'T just pick up a phone directory and call just anyone. Maybe part of his job is to guarantee that only contractors that the city would approve of are called. Besides all of that, when asked several months ago, the security guards at the Annex Building had never heard of him, and never seen him. In fact, they didn't even have his number to call if there were some type of maintenance-related emergency. Darryl Baker Enterprises is based out of a residence. Is this guy really the most qualified individual for this position? Of course not! Is this position even necessary? Of course not! When Clay was doing his dance about cutting the budget, why didn't he start here? Oh, right, he's one of his pals.

When questioned again just last week, the security staff still hadn't heard of him, and more importantly didn't have his contact info in case of an emergency.

How serious do you see the Clay administration being about cutting the city's budget? Not at all concerned when it comes to patronage expenditures from where I'm standing. They appear not to take the business of running the city very seriously. Their ONLY concern seems to be for the perpetuation of their patronage army and political machine which it supports.

Great Deals on Dell Laptops. Starting at \$499.

Russo, Stephanie

From: by way of Jack Lund <londonjack@sbcglobal.net> [Beach46403@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 4:13 PM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: It's all who you know! Darryl Baker--839 Broadway, Gary - \$65,000 a year for doing nothing?

Where does the line start for this gravy train?

I wrote the following a little over a year ago. But I am reposting it because the Department of Public Works just saw fit to re-renew this BS contract at their last meeting.

How could Clay or Rinzer Williams, the head of the DPW, see fit to renew such an obviously fluff personal-service contract? And Carmouche and Celita Green and Geraldine Tousant were right there voting to approve it. Aren't they all petitioning the DUAB for taxpayer-funded relief? Do you think the DUAB is aware that they are still handing out these plum, do-absolutely-nothing contracts to their old pals? I doubt it as I didn't see this one mentioned in their stupid proposal. They didn't mention cutting it anywhere along the way, up to and including Year 2012. So that tells me that old-buddy Darryl is probably good until at least 2013. Lucky him! Unlucky us!

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com

To: nglenn@netnitco.net

Sent: Saturday, January 05, 2008 8:43 AM

Subject: Darryl Baker, who does this guy know?

Darryl Baker, Dba DBE (Darryl Baker Enterprises) just got his contract renewed at yesterday's meeting of the Board of Public Works. This is one of those plum contracts where he really doesn't have to do anything. Ostensibly, the contract is to supervise maintenance at the City Hall Annex building and the Public Safety Center. However, it is no more than a no-show position for which he is rewarded with \$65,000.00 of our money annually. And this is not the first year that he has the contract, he had it all last year also.

This guy doesn't even need to own a screwdriver, all he needs is a cell phone and a yellow pages. Can't they just create a list of contractors to respond to various problems that may arise? Wouldn't staff already on the payroll be ably qualified to call someone on the phone? Why not individuals from the Department of Redevelopment?-- they're certainly not doing anything!

Now of course he (DB) came on the scene as excess baggage when Clay did. Now he may be there to ensure that someone DOESN'T just pick up a phone directory and call just anyone. Maybe part of his job is to guarantee that only contractors that the city would approve of are called.

Besides all of that, when asked several months ago, the security guards at the Annex Building had never heard of him, and never seen him. In fact, they didn't even have his number to call if there were some type of maintenance-related emergency. Darryl Baker Enterprises is based out of a residence. Is this guy really the most qualified individual for this position? Of course not! Is this position even necessary? Of course not!

When Clay was doing his dance about cutting the budget, why didn't he start here? Oh, right, he's one of his pals.

When questioned again just last week, the security staff still hadn't heard of him, and more importantly didn't have his contact info in case of an emergency.

How serious do you see the Clay administration being about cutting the city's budget? Not at all concerned when it comes to patronage expenditures from where I'm standing. They appear not to take the business of running the city very seriously. Their ONLY concern seems to be for the perpetuation of their patronage army and political machine which it supports.

Russo, Stephanie

From: AYoung7550@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 10:26 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Guest column by local banker and attorney re Gary

Some suggestions to help Gary rebound, prosper

[Recommend](#)
[Comments](#)

January 28, 2009
By Calvin Bellamy

Post-Tribune guest columnist

To the people of Gary:

You may think it rather presumptuous of me to advise you about ways to enhance Gary's prospects. After all, I don't work or live in the city. I know I am an outsider, but I like to think that I am nevertheless a friend. Sometimes friends at some distance can be helpful.

First, the positives. Gary has many advantages. More than 30 percent of Indiana's entire Lake Michigan frontage lies within Gary's city limits. What a potential for future development! You have the area's only professional team (the RailCats and formerly the Steelheads).

Indiana University Northwest and Ivy Tech Community College are in your city. You have major employers, like U.S. Steel, and many smaller companies. Your airport is said by just about everyone to be one of the most important economic development opportunities in all of Northwest Indiana. You have ready access to Chicago via the South Shore. You have an outstanding interstate highway network -- the Indiana Toll Road at the north end, Interstate 80/94 at the south end and I-65 running the length of the city. You have more people than any other town or city in Lake or Porter counties and your faith community is strong and vibrant. When you add it all up, no other community in Northwest Indiana has more pluses than Gary.

So why is Gary a "distressed community?" Why do we hear about streets not being snowplowed, garbage not being picked up and high crime? Why is the city devoid of major retailers? Why are the public schools in poor physical shape and test scores so low, despite able students and dedicated teachers?

Racism is often cited, and this is an important issue, but we can't let that stop us. The south side of Chicago is heavily African-American, yet many of its neighborhoods are revitalizing and have significant retail.

Another negative being repeated lately is the property tax cap. This, too, is serious. But Gary is not alone. True, Gary is hit harder than others, but every community is going through this painful adjustment. Some say Gary's problems started long ago and the community is just now experiencing this painful inheritance. This is certainly true to some extent. But what good does it do to complain about the past? It can't be changed. It's the future that needs our attention.

And so, dear people of Gary, what can be done to make your future better? I believe the key elements are committed leadership and an attitude of open-minded sharing. Those of us outside the community want you to succeed, and many of us are willing to help if you are open to partnering with us. I'm not talking about shipping in money and letting the powers that be spend it as they please. This has been tried it, and hasn't worked to your benefit.

Rather, I would like to suggest that rank-and-file Gary residents join with your non-political (and usually younger) professionals to brainstorm what can be done. Think outside the box. Be willing to sacrifice if necessary. Be open to experts from outside the community. Forget about fiefdoms and power struggles. Work out a solution for yourselves and take it to the mayor and City Council with a polite but firm demand that your plan be implemented.

For example, you might say that for the balance of 2009 the city should suspend all other activities, however good, and focus on basic municipal services -- like public safety, timely garbage pick-up, and proper street maintenance in all four seasons. Then for 2010 you might build on that success and focus on economic development, possibly even privatizing that function to remove politics and making it possible to hire the best professionals at market rates.

At the same time, you might turn to the School Board and insist that it hire an able superintendent and give him or her sufficient independence to accomplish needed reforms. Whatever you decide, I hope education attainment is high on the list. This is the ticket your youth need to succeed in the 21st century.

The foregoing are just suggestions. I don't actually know what the city needs or how it should be accomplished, but I am confident that you and your neighbors can figure it out. This is the time for a bottom-up solution. The old top-down approach hasn't worked.

Calvin Bellamy is a Hammond and Schererville attorney and former chairman of Bank Calumet.

Related Blog Posts

[Gary V - I Disagree!](#)

From AgentGenius.com- national real estate opinions

[Gary V - I Disagree!](#)

From AgentGenius.com- national real estate opinions

The views expressed in these blog posts are those of the author and not of the Post-Tribune.



dmw wrote:

[Unable to display image]

amki - maybe not everyone wants to do something, but there are some out there who do. I love my community, have great neighbors who look out for one another, so not everyone in Gary wants to live in a city where no one seems to care - there are caring people out there - what do you mean by "these folks"

1/28/2009 7:46 AM CST on post-trib.com

[RecommendReport Abuse](#)

dmw wrote:

[Unable to display image]

Calvin - your letter is so inspiring, if only we could get enough people to start it up! I'm definitely in.

DMW

1/28/2009 7:44 AM CST on post-trib.com

[RecommendReport Abuse](#)

[Unable to display image]

amki wrote:

all of your suggestions sound nice but do you REALLY think that these folks want to actually do

image]

something for themselves? if they did, they certainly would NOT be in the predicament they are in!

1/28/2009 7:15 AM CST on post-trib.com

RecommendReport Abuse

Great Deals on Dell Laptops. Starting at \$499.

Russo, Stephanie

From: andrea basarich [abasarich@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 8:26 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: money to Gary schools.

I see the state wants to give the Gary School Corp more money .Well all I can say is that I live right next door to Marquette Elelmentry School and the classrooms are not filled to capacity.As a matter of fact some classroom are not used at all.This is another entity of the City of Gary that needs close watching.Also did we not recieve monies to demolish buildings in the fall?. I see Rep.Visclosky has announced we are getting more money to do that yet not one building has come down yet.Thank you for your time.

Russo, Stephanie

From: AYoung7550@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 6:39 PM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Cc: AYoung7550@aol.com
Subject: Post-Tribune editorial from 1/29/2009

Taxing businesses not answer for Gary

[Recommend](#)
[Comments](#)

January 29, 2009

Gary's free-spending ways may come to a crashing halt soon. There are strong indications the state's Distressed Unit Appeals Board will come up with some sort of relief for the Steel City, whose new nickname could be "cash-strapped."

That relief is likely to come with strings. Appeals board members have suggested future spending would come with "consistent oversight" from the state.

Gary leaders are trying to avoid having their budget of \$63 million cut by as much as \$24 million this year because of the impact of property tax caps. Gary is the only city in Indiana to seek relief from the state to spare it from cutting so much money from its budget.

Three members of the Distressed Unit Appeals Board toured Gary last week. They visited the Police Department, they met with businesses and they talked to members of the Lake County Council about imposition of an income tax.

What they didn't see was Mayor Rudy Clay's brand-new 2009 Hummer H3, strategically moved from the view of appeals board members as they began their tour. While Clay goes out of his way to justify his ride, it has become a symbol of all that's wrong with the city.

The state rightfully will tell Gary it has to cut expenses. For that to happen, Clay and his administration have to ditch their wrong-headed belief that the city deserves to operate as it did in 1960. Previous mayors enjoyed luxurious rides and other perks. Council members had cash to dole out to "good" causes and cronies. Those days are over.

The city has made some attempts to cut costs, but asking businesses to pay more is a bad strategy. Perhaps if Clay can't make the cuts, a citizens committee can analyze spending and make recommendations.

After all, they foot the bill.

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. [See yours in just 2 easy steps!](#)

Russo, Stephanie

From: Jack Lund [londonjack@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 11:15 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Eliminate Gary's Secretaries' Take-home cars - Before Cops or Firemen

Not to stick up for Lalosa Burns, but she is hardly the only one with a take-home car. There are still nearly a hundred city workers with take-home cars, that as far as I can see, have no good reason to have them. Why do secretaries and receptionists have take-home cars?

There was a big deal made in the newspaper last year about take-home cars using city gas. The gas thing may have been stopped for the most part, but they never took away the cars. And while these cars may no longer be filling up at the city pumps, are we sure that they aren't filling up at the local gas stations using a city credit card?

Unless it is written that an employee receives a complimentary car as part of their compensation package, or in lieu of other compensation, they should not have one. They should all be parked or sold to the city workers that are driving them--wearing them out. The more cars the city has on the road, the more their insurance costs. The more miles driven in city vehicles, the more chance of an accident. And who pays for the repair and upkeep of these cars? I've got a pretty good idea! How could Clay even consider cutting public safety before eliminating the take-home car program?

And back to Lalosa Burns; Do we really need a public relations person? Can we really afford one? What the heck does she do all day? How can this be a full-time job? I thought this is what Linda Key got the personal service contract for. Evidently we're paying for several PR people. You'd think we'd be getting some better PR!

Russo, Stephanie

From: nglenn [nglenn@netnitco.net]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 7:21 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: Lalosa Burns

Lalosa Burns is the city's p.r. person. I didn't know she had a car.

----- Original Message -----

From: andrea.basarich

To: nglenn

Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 6:18 AM

Subject: Re: Fw: Lalosa Burns

Because no one is questioning her.

--- On Sat, 1/31/09, nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net> wrote:

From: nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net>

Subject: Fw: Lalosa Burns

To: Undisclosed-Recipient@yahoo.com

Date: Saturday, January 31, 2009, 6:06 AM

----- Original Message -----

To: nglenn@netnitco.net

Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2009 5:43 PM

Subject: Lalosa Burns

Why does she still have a take home city car? Probably city gas too.

Russo, Stephanie

From: nglenn [nglenn@netnitco.net]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 7:25 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: Overheard at the Gary Airport...(Re the Midway deal)

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2009 1:28 PM
Subject: Overheard at the Gary Airport...(Re the Midway deal)

...We had this thing and it was (expletive) golden. We shouldn't have given it away for (expletive) nothing. We shouldn't have done it.

But we did, and it's too late now.

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. See yours in just 2 easy steps!

Russo, Stephanie

From: nglenn [nglenn@netnitco.net]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 7:24 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: "Make no big plans!"

I send you this stuff, so you all will get a feel of what is going on (or not) up here. Thanks for your patience with all of this mess! Nora

P.S.--I don't know whether you received (or I sent) the tip about the Sheraton project going belly up.

Clay's an idiot.

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com

To: undisclosed-recipients:

Sent: Friday, January 30, 2009 11:59 AM

Subject: "Make no big plans!"

The following was written by Gail Goldstein: [As any Chicagoan will tell you, the bold statement "make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood" should be credited to Daniel Burnham, the architect who, along with John Root, planned the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. His foresight and planning were also largely responsible for the rebuilding of Chicago after the fire of 1871. Churchill may have subscribed to a similar philosophy, but the words are Burnham's.]

I respectfully beg to differ as this philosophy applies to Gary. I say, "Quit making big plans!" These big plans are killing us! They haven't earned the right to make big plans, they aren't even capable of completing the smallest of plans. Maybe someday we can have the luxury of making big plans that will possess the magic to stir men's blood. But I would question whether we have earned that right yet. It wouldn't seem so. Any big plan the City has made on our behalf, has been an abysmal failure. But "failure" may imply that they finished it and it was borne out to be a bad idea. Their whole planning process is flawed. So flawed, that it would reject an actual good plan--big or small.

Even the planning process has been so completely corrupted, that no "good" plan will ever be considered, and that only "bad" plans could comply with the distorted criteria which has been established. The plans which most closely fit the mold of plans which conform to the City's de facto criteria, are plans that have no chance whatsoever of success. The "best" type of plan that they like, are the plans that cannot progress further than the drawing board. These are the best for the quick hit. Although they may not be quite as lucrative as some of the big plans like the Baseball Stadium, or the Public Safety Building, or GUEA's Emerson Project. But look at how long those took. Look at how much heat came down over those. Heat is still raining down from those ill-planned projects. "That'll teach us to do big plans!"

The type of plan that the City likes the best is something like this; a few shysters drift in to town. They have some connection to some local "mover and shaker" that has some in with someone in the City administration, or maybe is related to someone that does. They come up with some idiotic plan that was likely concocted in some drunken or drug-induced state of consciousness. They meet with the mayor, he tells his obsequious staff to support it 1000%, they of course do so without question. He talks about the plan in public every chance he gets, it zooms through any approval processes. The shysters are now able to get some publicly derived, or publicly guaranteed money. (It's always public money because private money is not stupid enough to fall for these cons.) They all peel their money off of the top, the "project" stalls, stagnates, stops, and fails. The shysters are gone. So is the money. But is the administration shamed? Absolutely not. Invariably, another group of shysters will emerge with a somewhat modified plan--a better plan. And the whole routine starts again. Over and over again. These are the plans that our city turns out. So again I suggest; "Make no more big plans, we can't afford to." Let's make some small plans for a change. Some plans that will actually get finished. There may not be the glory in these small plans. But city planning and prosperity are not about glory--at least they shouldn't be. I understand that it's pretty hard to steal a million off the top of a million-dollar deal. But can't you guys just quit being so greedy, aren't you willing to work just a little bit? Can't you just do it the way they do it in other cities? Usually corrupt city officials in other places are content to steal a thin percentage. If you guys would agree to only steal 10% or less from now on, we can probably get some real deals started. But as long as you insist on 50% or more, we'll never be able to attract any real developers. We'll be stuck with the "shyster model".

A good example of what I thought of as a small project, that received this very treatment, is the General Services Garage on 9th and Madison. This is a project that should have been up and running in 6 months. But instead it has been nearly two years--and it's still 6 months away from being done! And this is with the mayor's pal, Charles Prewitt getting paid a

special fee, an enormous fee by the way--several-hundred thousand-- to oversee the project. Geez, with his expert oversight, I can't imagine why it wasn't finished ahead of schedule! What other projects has he done to earn the opportunity to act as overlord of this one? Oh yeah...I remember now. It wasn't a building project, well not in this sense. He was the one that helped fix the precinct vote to get Clay elected after King resigned. That must also be why Clay gave him \$400,000.00 just weeks after becoming mayor, to spray paint the potholes and sidewalk defects. Here is an update on that project; potholes not repaired, sidewalks not fixed, paint markings washed away, our \$400,000.00 long gone. Oh, and back to the building on 9th and Madison; besides being years behind schedule, not surprisingly it is also millions over budget. As a direct comparison; the Truck City of Gary building on 25th Ave., which was built by a private contractor, was started after the City's project began, they have been in it for nearly a year, it is twice the facility--no make that four times the facility--and it was constructed within its budget. Good thing Prewitt didn't have anything to do with that project! They'd be out of business by now if he was! Hey, that's kind of like the General Services Department--it seems as though they're out of business. We can't get much general service. Maybe that's why!

And speaking of big plans; Chris Meyer just had his big Planning Committee meeting the other evening. He had to approve the City's new comprehensive plan. What a crock! We just spent nearly \$400,000.00 for this new plan. What do we need a planning department for if we have to hire out to get this plan done? I mean...I know Meyer isn't qualified to create a workable comprehensive plan on his own, but by the looks of this new fancy plan, neither was the firm that whipped it together. He (Meyer) should have at least been able to recognize that it is so flawed as to be worthless. (But then his job as a yes-man might be in jeopardy.) It is so obsolete already, that it has no value whatsoever. It goes before the City Council next week for approval, so there's still time for the public to complain about it. I would suggest that is exactly what should be done. These \$400,000.00 checks don't just grow on trees, although the City acts like they do. Just think of what could have been done with all of the money that has been wasted and stolen in this city. Billions and billions of dollars have passed through the greasy little hands of various administrators. Look what we have to show for it! But first, take off the rose-colored glasses that Clay suggests we look through. He keeps saying Gary's the best city in the country. What do you think? It is obviously the best city in the country in which sleazy, crooked politicians can fleece the taxpayers and citizens. Maybe that's what he means!

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. See yours in just 2 easy steps!

Russo, Stephanie

From: andrea basarich [abasarich@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 7:15 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: "Make no big plans!"

A must read...

--- On Sat, 1/31/09, nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net> wrote:

From: nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net>
Subject: Fw: "Make no big plans!"
To: Undisclosed-Recipient@yahoo.com
Date: Saturday, January 31, 2009, 6:19 AM

I think we should get ready for the Olympics.

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: undisclosed-recipients:
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2009 11:59 AM
Subject: "Make no big plans!"

The following was written by Gail Goldstein: [As any Chicagoan will tell you, the bold statement "make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood" should be credited to Daniel Burnham, the architect who, along with John Root, planned the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. His foresight and planning were also largely responsible for the rebuilding of Chicago after the fire of 1871. Churchill may have subscribed to a similar philosophy, but the words are Burnham's.]

I respectfully beg to differ as this philosophy applies to Gary. I say, "Quit making big plans!" These big plans are killing us! They haven't earned the right to make big plans, they aren't even capable of completing the smallest of plans. Maybe someday we can have the luxury of making big plans that will possess the magic to stir men's blood. But I would question whether we have earned that right yet. It wouldn't seem so. Any big plan the City has made on our behalf, has been an abysmal failure. But "failure" may imply that they finished it and it was borne out to be a bad idea. Their whole planning process is flawed. So flawed, that it would reject an actual good plan--big or small.

Even the planning process has been so completely corrupted, that no "good" plan will ever be considered, and that only "bad" plans could comply with the distorted criteria which has been established. The plans which most closely fit the mold of plans which conform to the City's de facto criteria, are plans that have no chance whatsoever of success. The "best" type of plan that they like, are the plans that cannot progress further than the drawing board. These are the best for the quick hit. Although they may not be quite as lucrative as some of the big plans like the Baseball Stadium, or the Public Safety Building, or GUEA's Emerson Project. But look at how long those took. Look at how much heat came down over those. Heat is still raining down from those ill-planned projects. "That'll teach us to do big plans!"

The type of plan that the City likes the best is something like this; a few shysters drift in to town. They have some connection to some local "mover and shaker" that has some in with someone in the City administration, or maybe is related to someone that does. They come up with some idiotic plan that was likely concocted in some drunken or drug-induced state of consciousness. They meet with the mayor, he tells his obsequious staff to support it 1000%, they of course do so without question. He talks about the plan in public every chance he gets, it zooms through any approval processes. The shysters are now able to get some publicly derived, or publicly guaranteed money. (It's always public money because private money is not stupid enough to fall for these cons.) They all peel their money off of the top, the "project" stalls, stagnates, stops, and fails. The shysters are gone. So is the money. But is the administration shamed? Absolutely not. Invariably, another group of shysters will emerge with a somewhat modified plan--a better plan. And the whole routine starts again. Over and over again. These are the plans that our city turns out. So again I suggest; "Make no more big plans, we can't afford to." Let's make some small plans for a change. Some plans that will actually get finished. There may not be the glory in these small plans. But city planning and prosperity are not about glory--at least they shouldn't be. I understand that it's pretty hard to steal a million off the top of a million-dollar deal. But can't you guys just quit being so greedy, aren't you willing to work just a little bit? Can't you just do it the way they do it in other cities? Usually

corrupt city officials in other places are content to steal a thin percentage. If you guys would agree to only steal 10% or less from now on, we can probably get some real deals started. But as long as you insist on 50% or more, we'll never be able to attract any real developers. We'll be stuck with the "shyster model".

A good example of what I thought of as a small project, that received this very treatment, is the General Services Garage on 9th and Madison. This is a project that should have been up and running in 6 months. But instead it has been nearly two years--and it's still 6 months away from being done! And this is with the mayor's pal, Charles Prewitt getting paid a special fee, an enormous fee by the way--several-hundred thousand-- to oversee the project. Geez, with his expert oversight, I can't imagine why it wasn't finished ahead of schedule! What other projects has he done to earn the opportunity to act as overlord of this one? Oh yeah...I remember now. It wasn't a building project, well not in this sense. He was the one that helped fix the precinct vote to get Clay elected after King resigned. That must also be why Clay gave him \$400,000.00 just weeks after becoming mayor, to spray paint the potholes and sidewalk defects. Here is an update on that project; potholes not repaired, sidewalks not fixed, paint markings washed away, our \$400,000.00 long gone. Oh, and back to the building on 9th and Madison; besides being years behind schedule, not surprisingly it is also millions over budget. As a direct comparison; the Truck City of Gary building on 25th Ave., which was built by a private contractor, was started after the City's project began, they have been in it for nearly a year, it is twice the facility--no make that four times the facility--and it was constructed within its budget. Good thing Prewitt didn't have anything to do with that project! They'd be out of business by now if he was! Hey, that's kind of like the General Services Department--it seems as though they're out of business. We can't get much general service. Maybe that's why!

And speaking of big plans; Chris Meyer just had his big Planning Committee meeting the other evening. He had to approve the City's new comprehensive plan. What a crock! We just spent nearly \$400,000.00 for this new plan. What do we need a planning department for if we have to hire out to get this plan done? I mean...I know Meyer isn't qualified to create a workable comprehensive plan on his own, but by the looks of this new fancy plan, neither was the firm that whipped it together. He (Meyer) should have at least been able to recognize that it is so flawed as to be worthless. (But then his job as a yes-man might be in jeopardy.) It is so obsolete already, that it has no value whatsoever. It goes before the City Council next week for approval, so there's still time for the public to complain about it. I would suggest that is exactly what should be done. These \$400,000.00 checks don't just grow on trees, although the City acts like they do. Just think of what could have been done with all of the money that has been wasted and stolen in this city. Billions and billions of dollars have passed through the greasy little hands of various administrators. Look what we have to show for it! But first, take off the rose-colored glasses that Clay suggests we look through. He keeps saying Gary's the best city in the country. What do you think? It is obviously the best city in the country in which sleazy, crooked politicians can fleece the taxpayers and citizens. Maybe that's what he means!

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. See yours in just 2 easy steps!

Russo, Stephanie

From: andrea basarich [abasarich@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 10:05 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: GUEA and Charlie Brown

--- On Mon, 2/2/09, Beach46403@aol.com <Beach46403@aol.com> wrote:

From: Beach46403@aol.com <Beach46403@aol.com>

Subject: GUEA and Charlie Brown

To: [nglenn@netnitco.net](mailto:n Glenn@netnitco.net)

Date: Monday, February 2, 2009, 9:51 AM

GUEA's "mission"--still barely alive and squirming

What a crybaby! He should be ashamed of himself! What better way could there be to leverage the embarrassingly small amount of money leftover from the GUEA debacle, than to invest it in education of children from this bedraggled neighborhood? I can't think of any way to get a bigger bang for these few bucks which they didn't get a chance to steal. But it seems Charlie Brown can. He evidently, has found a better way to spend \$675,000.00. Where was he when they were burning through the first 20 million?

We've all heard you complaining about how Steve Carter disrespected you on his way out of office. We've all heard you stomping your feet. What exactly is your "better idea" for this cash? Please do tell! So far, I haven't heard anyone from the neighborhood making a fuss. It only seems to be you that is upset.

What you are witnessing here is a Gary politician throwing a temper tantrum. The reason for this tantrum is that this money is going to be spent properly. This must really rub him the wrong way. Just think of how much it is going to hurt Clay and the rest of the gang if the State comes in and makes them spend our tax dollars on only the things which they are specifically designated for. Ouch! You want to see kicking and screaming, just sit back. There is going to be more crying and bitching and foot stomping than you can imagine.

This meager legacy which survived the marauding GUEA organization just might do a little good after all--that is if Representative Brown just leaves well enough alone. I am sure that IUN's handling of this endowment will be beyond reproach. Maybe that's the problem!

It is simply shameful that he wants to wrest this sorely needed money which is specifically earmarked for the educational needs of children who might not otherwise be able to attend college. And for what? To gamble it away on some "project"? To throw it down some rathole? To squander it with lopsided administrative costs? He seems he is content to start racking up legal costs to undo Carter's magnanimous decision. There's a certain irony to this; If Carter's office hadn't pulled the plug when they did, there'd be absolutely not a penny left by now. It would have all been chewed up on non-producing administrative costs like the bulk of the rest of the money GUEA made off with. It's too bad Carter didn't do this a lot sooner! When the new GUEA board took over the organization (under the leadership of Rep. Brown) after Jojuana Meeks got tossed out on her can, they still had a couple of million left. But slowly, and ever so surely, this balance was eroded until it was nearly all gone. Only this \$675,000.00 survived. It is special. It should be used for something very special.

Sorry Charlie! This time the people win, in spite of your best efforts to the contrary.

Hey Mr. Representative; How about representing! Why don't you hold a community meeting in Emerson? Invite everyone in Emerson--especially parents with kids in junior high and high school. Let's see if they want the money to be used for something "better". Let's see if the majority of Emerson residents share in your disgust over Carter's decision. All of the GUEA money was supposed to go towards improving the lives of Emerson residents. Very, very little of it did. Can't you just let them have this "consolation prize" in peace!

Russo, Stephanie

From: andrea basarich [abasarich@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 7:58 AM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

--- On Tue, 2/3/09, nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net> wrote:

From: nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net>
Subject: Fw: I'm really pissed at the GSD.
To: Undisclosed-Recipient@yahoo.com
Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2009, 7:02 PM

----- Original Message -----

From: Nancy Engel
To: nglenn
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 9:25 AM
Subject: Re: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

Same situation with us. I never received a bill - just a shut off notice and I personally know a few other people that this happened to as well. Paying the \$50 shutoff fee is BS -- another way for them to try to make some money off of us. If anyone finds out who the person we can talk to is, please let me know as well. All I ever get when I call there is attitude.

From: nglenn <nglenn@netnitco.net>
To: Undisclosed-Recipient@yahoo.com
Sent: Sunday, February 1, 2009 6:52:22 PM
Subject: Fw: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

They suck. I hope there's a way to hold them accountable for their bogusness. Don't waste your time with Ursula Suggs; talk to her supervisor. Let's make a stink about this. Aren't we the customers?

YES! ng

P.S.--You know Clay is the \$68K c.e.o. of this mess.

----- Original Message -----

From: Patty Kostro
To: nglenn
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 6:43 PM
Subject: Re: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

A similiar situation happened to us. We never got a bill, but a shut off notice. I made the payment at the office in December, but when I got my January bill, it was HUGE (\$175.00). They told me they still had to charge me the \$50 shut off fee even though I was not shut off. None of the amounts they telling me over the phone were making sense to me. I am still trying to research previous payments and bills. This happened last Friday when I payed another bill before shut off. What is going on?

----- Original Message -----

From: nglenn
To: Undisclosed-Recipient;
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 5:52 PM

Subject: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

I never got or lost my Nov. bill.

When I got my Jan. bill, it was really high and I called. I sent a check for both Nov. and Jan. right away.

A week ago last Sat., I got a shut-off notice.

I called and said I sent a check for both amounts.

They sent my check back, and I had to pay by cash, money order or cred.card at the GSD office on Broadway, across from NIPSCO before 4:45 p.m., M-F.

They don't take checks when there's a shut-off notice.

When I complained about this process* to Customer Relations Rep. (NOT) Ursula Suggs, she said among other things that I could have come and paid my bill instead of wasting all this time complaining. She also said that utilities give an extra 10 days, before other creditors, I guess, before cutting off service. Don't we own this utility?

I don't appreciate over-paying for shitty service and abuse. How about you?

*No one told me about the shut-off date when I called initially about the big Jan. bill.

I sent the check for the entire amount before I ever received a shut-off notice.

If my Nov. bill was unpaid, why is the first notice I'm getting about that, a giant Jan. bill and a shut-off bill a week later?

They can't take payment from a card over the phone.

I have never missed a payment in 20 years.

This process sucks ass. Change it!

Unfortunately I didn't get a chance to say the last line to the Sea Hag Ursula-----grrrrrrrrrrrrrr.

Russo, Stephanie

From: andrea basarich [abasarich@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 1:45 PM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: More no-brainer budget cutting opportunities

--- On Wed, 2/4/09, Beach46403@aol.com <Beach46403@aol.com> wrote:

From: Beach46403@aol.com <Beach46403@aol.com>

Subject: More no-brainer budget cutting opportunities

To: nglenn@netnitco.net

Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2009, 10:37 AM

- 1) Get rid of all take-home cars except for GPD officers living within City limits.
- 2) Review all personal-service contracts and cancel or rescind as appropriate. For example; the Darryl Baker/839 Broadway personal service contract for maintenance services. Not only does HE get this gravy contract, but any maintenance work that is performed at this City-building, is done by non-City workers. So as we study the employment roster of the City, and notice numerous janitors and maintenance personnel, we find that we have many more that do not appear on this list. There could easily be hundreds more individuals that are in essence working for the City, but working under PS contracts, that would bring the already bloated payroll even higher.
- 3) Eliminate the Recycling Department like Clay already said had been done. Not 2 weeks after Clay announced that the Recycling Department was eliminated and these duties were to be shifted to the County, all as part of his little Allied Waste trash pickup scheme, the City took delivery on two brand-spankin' new recycling trucks. No biggie, though, they only cost about \$125,000.00 a pop. They haven't moved an inch since we got them. But all of the other Gary recycling trucks are still bopping around town. Maybe they're just out running for lunch.

And same with the garbage trucks. Allied's contract is supposed to be in full effect now, yet the City's garbage trucks can still be seen all over town. What are they doing? And who's driving them? I thought all of those workers' jobs were eliminated with the implementation of the Allied contract. Are we still paying city workers to pickup the trash while we are now also paying Allied? Or are we paying city workers to not pickup the trash while we are still paying Allied? Or are these guys driving these trucks all around the city volunteers? If so, who is paying for the fuel and maintenance of these trucks that were supposed to be parked last December? It is obvious that having Allied pickup our trash is going to cost us more money (check your next GSD bill). But I can't see how having Allied pickup our trash is going to save us any money, especially not the millions in savings Clay boasted about. Unless he gets rid of all of the former sanitation employees, the trucks, and the support system, all the figures he cited as justification for the Allied contract are totally meaningless. Meaningless...that is a word that we can wear out when describing this administration's performance.

Mr. Clay; Savings can only be realized by eliminating or outsourcing a department if you ACTUALLY eliminate the department. This garbage contract is already costing everybody a lot more, but it isn't saving anybody anything.

Government has become our industry in Gary. If one were to add up all local government employees, City workers, School employees, Township employees, County employees, and all other local government employees, their number would probably exceed that of even US Steel's employees. With the dearth of private-enterprise businesses in the city, the City of Gary government has become an employment agency of sort--evidently fulfilling some unwritten obligation to provide employment for as many people as possible. The irony of this is; as government has become so bloated and inefficient, and so costly and ineffective, it has made the business environment so unpalatable and hostile, that no businesses care to locate here, and the ones that are here already find it nearly impossible to survive--many of them closing up shop or moving to less hostile locations. The City seems willing to involve themselves in a death match. If they win this match, they'll eventually die, but if they lose, they ultimately will survive. A Pyrrhic victory at best. They apparently don't recognize this. Why is this a surprise?

One more note re GSD; How can we expect to get a fair hearing before the City Council when so many members of the council have either a direct or indirect relationship with GSD?

Russo, Stephanie

From: nglenn [nglenn@netnitco.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 10:37 PM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

----- Original Message -----

From: Lee Botts
To: nglenn
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 9:57 AM
Subject: Re: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

Mayor Barnes contracted for private co. to manage the GSD but the utility is still owned with administration staff employed by the City of Gary. This happened in response to enforcement action brought by USEPA and IDEM because of ongoing failure to comply with federal Clean Water Act--which is still ongoing. Happened at the same time that the outstanding consent decree, dating from 1983, was amended to require a special administrator charged with providing oversight for cleanup of operation of GSD. Barnes, then King and now Clay have all held the special administrator position with no significant improvement in GSD operation. But position allowed first King and now Clay to use GSD as source of funding for other purposes. We should encourage the USEPA, IDEM, U.S. attorney and FBI to persist in their investigation, for the sake of residents, taxpayers. the Grand Calumet River and Lake Michigan. Lee Botts .

----- Original Message -----

From: nglenn
To: Undisclosed-Recipient:
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 5:43 PM
Subject: Fw: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

----- Original Message -----

From: Carolyn McCrady
To: nglenn
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 7:06 PM
Subject: Re: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

the gsd was privatized under scott king. a subsidiary of nipsco owns it. im not sure who has oversight in this situation.

----- Original Message -----

From: nglenn
To: Undisclosed-Recipient:
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 6:52 PM
Subject: Fw: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

They suck. I hope there's a way to hold them accountable for their bogusness. Don't waste your time with Ursula Suggs; talk to her supervisor. Let's make a stink about this. Aren't we the customers?

YES! ng

P.S.--You know Clay is the \$68K c.e.o. of this mess.

----- Original Message -----

From: Patty Kostro
To: nglenn
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 6:43 PM
Subject: Re: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

A similiar situation happened to us. We never got a bill, but a shut off notice. I made the payment at the office in December, but when I got my January bill, it was HUGE (\$175.00). They told me they still had to charge me the \$50 shut off fee even though I was not shut off. None of the amounts they telling me over the phone were making sense to me. I am still trying to research previous payments and bills. This happened last Friday when I payed another bill before shut off. What is going on?

----- Original Message -----

From: nglenn

To: Undisclosed-Recipient::

Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 5:52 PM

Subject: I'm really pissed at the GSD.

I never got or lost my Nov. bill.

When I got my Jan. bill, it was really high and I called. I sent a check for both Nov. and Jan. right away.

A week ago last Sat., I got a shut-off notice.

I called and said I sent a check for both amounts.

They sent my check back, and I had to pay by cash, money order or cred.card at the GSD office on Broadway, across from NIPSCO before 4:45 p.m., M-F.

They don't take checks when there's a shut-off notice.

When I complained about this process* to Customer Relations Rep. (NOT) Ursula Suggs, she said among other things that I could have come and paid my bill instead of wasting all this time complaining. She also said that utilities give an extra 10 days, before other creditors, I guess, before cutting off service. Don't we own this utility?

I don't appreciate over-paying for shitty service and abuse. How about you?

*No one told me about the shut-off date when I called initially about the big Jan. bill.

I sent the check for the entire amount before I ever received a shut-off notice.

If my Nov. bill was unpaid, why is the first notice I'm getting about that, a giant Jan. bill and a shut-off bill a week later?

They can't take payment from a card over the phone.

I have never missed a payment in 20 years.

This process sucks ass. Change it!

Unfortunately I didn't get a chance to say the last line to the Sea Hag Ursula-----grrrrrrrrrrrrr.

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG - <http://www.avg.com>

Version: 8.0.176 / Virus Database: 270.10.16/1928 - Release Date: 1/31/2009 8:03 PM

Russo, Stephanie

From: nglenn [nglenn@netnitco.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 10:35 PM
To: Russo, Stephanie
Subject: Fw: More no-brainer budget cutting opportunities

----- Original Message -----

From: Beach46403@aol.com
To: nglenn@netnitco.net
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2009 9:37 AM
Subject: More no-brainer budget cutting opportunities

- 1) Get rid of all take-home cars except for GPD officers living within City limits.
- 2) Review all personal-service contracts and cancel or rescind as appropriate. For example; the Darryl Baker/839 Broadway personal service contract for maintenance services. Not only does HE get this gravy contract, but any maintenance work that is performed at this City-building, is done by non-City workers. So as we study the employment roster of the City, and notice numerous janitors and maintenance personnel, we find that we have many more that do not appear on this list. There could easily be hundreds more individuals that are in essence working for the City, but working under PS contracts, that would bring the already bloated payroll even higher.
- 3) Eliminate the Recycling Department like Clay already said had been done. Not 2 weeks after Clay announced that the Recycling Department was eliminated and these duties were to be shifted to the County, all as part of his little Allied Waste trash pickup scheme, the City took delivery on two brand-spankin' new recycling trucks. No biggie, though, they only cost about \$125,000.00 a pop. They haven't moved an inch since we got them. But all of the other Gary recycling trucks are still bopping around town. Maybe they're just out running for lunch.

And same with the garbage trucks. Allied's contract is supposed to be in full effect now, yet the City's garbage trucks can still be seen all over town. What are they doing? And who's driving them? I thought all of those workers' jobs were eliminated with the implementation of the Allied contract. Are we still paying city workers to pickup the trash while we are now also paying Allied? Or are we paying city workers to not pickup the trash while we are still paying Allied? Or are these guys driving these trucks all around the city volunteers? If so, who is paying for the fuel and maintenance of these trucks that were supposed to be parked last December? It is obvious that having Allied pickup our trash is going to cost us more money (check your next GSD bill). But I can't see how having Allied pickup our trash is going to save us any money, especially not the millions in savings Clay boasted about. Unless he gets rid of all of the former sanitation employees, the trucks, and the support system, all the figures he cited as justification for the Allied contract are totally meaningless. Meaningless...that is a word that we can wear out when describing this administration's performance.

Mr. Clay; Savings can only be realized by eliminating or outsourcing a department if you ACTUALLY eliminate the department. This garbage contract is already costing everybody a lot more, but it isn't saving anybody anything.

Government has become our industry in Gary. If one were to add up all local government employees, City workers, School employees, Township employees, County employees, and all other local government employees, their number would probably exceed that of even US Steel's employees. With the dearth of private-enterprise businesses in the city, the City of Gary government has become an employment agency of sort--evidently fulfilling some unwritten obligation to provide employment for as many people as possible. The irony of this is; as government has become so bloated and inefficient, and so costly and ineffective, it has made the business environment so unpalatable and hostile, that no businesses care to locate here, and the ones that are here already find it nearly impossible to survive--many of them closing up shop or moving to less hostile locations. The City seems willing to involve themselves in a death match. If they win this match, they'll eventually die, but if they lose, they ultimately will survive. A Pyrrhic victory at best. They apparently don't recognize this. Why is this a surprise?

One more note re GSD; How can we expect to get a fair hearing before the City Council when so many members of the council have either a direct or indirect relationship with GSD?