

From: aimee fitzgerald [<mailto:jafitzgerald@optonline.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 12:54 AM
To: Tim Miller
Subject: WRITTEN COMMENT DUE MARCH 10TH, 2015 IN RE: 507-ACRE KIRYAS JOEL ANNEXATION PROPOSAL

I submit the following comments for the record on my opinion, understanding and belief:

My husband and I had loved the Hudson River Valley as children, camping and picnicing, and even spent our honeymoon at Bear Mountain! Even then, we felt it rivaled the Rhine and Loire in its beauty. In 1972, we sold our home in Queens, and moved to Central Valley, still semi-rural and "exurban". Aside from the natural beauty of the surrounding area, we enjoyed the privacy and lack of congestion, the proximity of all three schools for our children, the civil relationship of old-timers and assimilation of "city people" moving into the community — and the low property taxes! Having lived through and witnessed the changes and ever increasing costs and demands by Kiryas Joel and what they now propose is not sustainable by a "free people".

We in surrounding communities have become indentured to what is a THEOCRACY. Of course, the best politicians money and votes can buy have made this possible, but it should not be permitted to continue. Other religious groups, like the Amish, also choose to live apart, but they do so self-sufficiently, without draining the "host".....their neighbors. If a purported 93% of K.J. residents are now on some form of public assistance, what is an accurate projection if 507 more acres of high density housing are added? Last year my tax bill showed 78% going to social services. This year was not provided!

The number of children, plus or minus 7.5 per family is essentially driven by organized theocratic decree to "go forth and multiply", rather than individual "mistakes". But that cost is blatantly passed to non-villagers to bear.

There needs to be a serious investigation into tax and benefit fraud. Reportedly, there is a large number of limited liability businesses in K.J. How many of them are receiving social service benefits?

The destruction of the ridges in K.J. are evidence of how the leadership and its people do not care about how they decimate the natural beauty and resources of the area: replacing it with black-top and cement. There are laws existing in many if not most communities, i.e. Woodbury and Cornwall that ban anyone from building on the ridges.

What I find most disgusting is the ruthlessness and justification of KJ and its spokesmen: there was an ill conceived comment about those outside the village drinking beer --- and KJ not using the criminal system.....or the public schools.....or the local college, among the examples of how much they save us.....or even more insultingly, by their estimates, that "it's a wash"

to be continued....sent before 12 midnight

From: aimee fitzgerald [<mailto:jafitzgerald@optonline.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:27 AM

To: Tim Miller

Subject: CONTINUATION OF MY WRITTEN, EMAILED COMMENT IN RE 507 ACRE KIRYAS JOEL ANNEXATION PROPOSAL

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I challenge the alleged "savings" to county residents due to K.J. not having any residents in the county's criminal justice system. In fact, I recall a class action suit brought by residents of homes along Seven Springs Road back in the '90s, who accused Kiryas Joel principals of deliberately draining their wells.

Many of them opted to settle the case out of court, (with an imposed gag order) because they could not afford to restore their wells otherwise.....One of the plaintiffs, a friend, regretted that the whole story es- tablishing motive and responsibility did not come out. Such are the tactics that prevail.

Many relate the block-busting tactics employed in approaching homeowners, by residents

of K.J. There was, of course, the "flip sale" of Ace Farms.....which will likely be another acquisition move when they are ready. I rarely drive Route 105, but when I do, the "growth" of K.J. literally makes me sick.

It is a ghetto, it is ugly....its growth is unsustainable without sacrificing the natural environment and resources and forcing THEIR NEIGHBORS TO PAY FOR IT. And the arrogance is clearly illustrated by the prominent sign at the entrance of the terms of entry!

Factually, there is a long, itemized list of the number of zoning code and building violations racked up by K.J. I believe the politization of the courts help to contribute, i.e. in K.J. installing a 24" water pipe rather than the permitted 18" pipe. When the rule of law can be set aside BY THE COURTS, any belief in justice and our form of government is gone!

I consider the DEC's selection of K.J. to be lead agency on this annexation still another example of capitu- lation and abrogation of its responsibility. At least second best would have been to appoint the County,

questionable as that would have been.

There is no question in my mind that K.J.'s backing and supporting the annexation plans is to benefit from water hook-up fees to pay for the village's proposed pipeline to the New York City water system. Moreover, the question of the impact of effluent on the Ramapo's drinking water supply to New Jersey is seemingly of no serious consideration to Kiryas Joel's leadership. Doesn't the Torah teach the Golden Rule?

The unwillingness of K.J. to postpone the hearing in spite of the severe weather shows how this charade shall go on. The most important example I would like to submit is from an article that appeared in The New York Times. The story easily took up nearly a full page, and described another Ultra orthodox sect, The Haredim, in the Jewish state of Israel. It detailed the members of the sect being on public assistance, the men not working, having very large families and refusing to serve a required tour in the military. The government of the JEWISH STATE OF ISRAEL "pressures its Ultra- Orthodox to 'Share the Burden' predicted that if the Haredim continue not to participate and contribute they would destroy the economy of Israel in two decades.

WHAT DO YOU THINK K.J.'S CONTINUING EXPANSION WILL DO TO MONROE.....TO WOODBURY.....to surrounding communities.....TO ORANGE COUNTY? Many of us are aware of their many purchases that are being unobtrusively held and/or rented until they are ready to join the dots!

In closing, what is a real tragedy is that what began from the effects of Nazi Germany has resulted in a growing number of people UNITING IN ISOLATION AND THEIR UNCONSCIONABLE CALLOUS EXPLOITATION OF OTHERS WHO NEVER HARMED THEM TO PAY FOR IT!!!

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