

Nichole Baldinger

From: communications@cityofgreen.org
Sent: Tuesday, October 2, 2018 1:11 PM
To: Molly Kapeluck; Molly Kapeluck; Nichole Baldinger
Subject: From the General Contact Us Form

Direct my comments to: City Council

First Name: Tim

Last Name: Bates

What can we do for you?: Good day, Green City Council.

I appreciate much of what the council has done. I like living in Green. It is an excellent community in which to raise a family.

I hate taxes as I'm sure most of you do, too. I hate that I could be imprisoned for failing to fund any number of offensively idiotic programs our federal government inefficiently runs.

When I heard the rumors that our city may use taxpayer money to purchase a golf course and that the golf course was Raintree, I was somewhat on the fence. I like Raintree due to its close proximity and that I can go to the driving range on my lunch break but I also dislike the condition of the driving range. So in my selfishness I was happy that might all change and the driving range might become nice again.

Then the freedom lover in me came out and slapped me upside the head. I started thinking about how I'd go to prison for not paying my Green income tax and how I'd go to prison for not paying Green's obscenely high property taxes. If we are technical about it, I could go to prison for refusing to help my city purchase a golf course. Doesn't that sound absolutely insane to you?

I don't want the course to be sold to a developer, but I really don't want the city to own even more land (it's already the largest landowner, right?) and I really don't want it to use a % of my income to do so. Government-owned golf courses are not the product of free people. There is a system of government that would support government-owned and potentially government-run golf courses but I wish not to utter its name for fear of distracting you from my focus.

Practical Considerations:

- What if the course loses money? Will the city sell it? Or will it subsidize it with more taxpayer money?
- If the course is a huge success and it hurts the profitability of Mayfair or Chenoweth, what then? Will the city also buy those courses?
- If you owned Mayfair or Chenoweth, how would you feel about having to compete with a golf course that is owned by the city and can, potentially, use the power of the law to its benefit?
- Why not encourage private citizens who are the most concerned about the course being developed to use THEIR OWN MONEY to buy the course and do with it as they please? Why force Joe to finance a cause that is important to Bill? Coercion is not the friend of freedom.
- What evidence is there that makes us so certain that government is wiser with the use of property than the free market?

Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts and I sincerely hope and pray you vote in a way that is consistent with the role of government in a free society.

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