
JUST MY OPINION

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There seems to be a common thread within all Governments, be it Municipal, County, State or Federal. Two things are extremely obvious to me, first is, common sense does not prevail within government and secondly, elected representatives instantly forget they are elected by the people for the people. Yes there are exceptions but those are rare and far and few between. Those that are elected forget they are servants, it is not intended for them to become high and mighty self-serving individuals; they are merely servants to “we the people.” However, through years of complacency, we have allowed the ones we elect do whatever they want. We have not held our representatives feet to the fire and demanded that they represent us or in other words do the job the way we expect them to do. Instead, we just keep electing the same ole ones and receive the same ole results. That is one reason President Trump is such a breath of fresh air, he never was nor will ever be a “politician.”

However, you don’t have to look all the way to Washington to find governments lack of common sense and elected representatives forgetting who they “serve.” Once again I see the Hilliard Town Council and Hilliard ordinances being ridiculous or perhaps it is the way in which the Town officials are interpreting them. Either way it seems to me to be an inappropriate decision that affects a landowner in the town limits again. Some time ago, I addressed the Council concerning a longtime resident that had a major repair conducted on her in-ground swimming pool. When it was time to refill the pool, the “Town” was going to charge her a sewer fee for every gallon of water that went in to fill the pool. Now it does not take a rocket scientist to know that filling a pool has zero effect on the sewer system. How could they collect money on a service that was not needed or utilized? Legalized robbery is what comes to my mind. Luckily they did give her a break on the sewer bill.

Now a Hilliard landowner wants to

divide his 20 acre plot of land into two acre plots. Three of the plots are for his children to build their homes on (part of their inheritance); he plans to sell three to friends to build upon and keep the remaining acreage. He approached the town council concerning water and sewer for the lots. The town does not have the infrastructure (water and sewer lines) adjoining his land. Now to me the most obvious thing to do is grant this individual an exemption and allow him to utilize septic tanks and wells to accommodate his desire to build on his land. No, the “Town” says he has to provide the sewer and water main to connect to the town’s system.

The Town Ordinance Chapter 46 Article IV Section 46-116 and 46-117: states in part: Where an approved public water supply is reasonably accessible or procurable each lot within the subdivision shall be provided with a connection to the water supply. (b) States, Where no approved public water supply is available, the installation of a private water supply system will be required...Same as with the sewer: Where an adequate sanitary sewer is reasonably accessible...

The distance to the town’s system from the resident’s land is 1650 feet for water and 1350 feet for sewer connection. In the minds of the Hilliard Town Council this is a reasonable distance. It only took a short research for me to realize the enormous expense this would place on the landowner; I am talking thousands upon thousands of dollars for him to install the infrastructure for the town. My thoughts are if the town cannot provide the needed infrastructure then give the landowner an exemption. Easy remedy! Where did common sense go? Serve the people. We say we live in a free country, however, government controls our every move. It’s a sad day when a small town government can place such a burden on a landowner, which is why I have very little use for government.

As always...that’s just my opinion!