

MARCH 6, 2007

MY NAME IS RANDY MARTIN, I LIVE ON STEVENSON ROAD. I BELIEVE ALL THE INTERESTED PARTIES INVOLVED WITH THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE INDUSTRIAL PARK HAVE GOTTEN OFF ON THE WRONG FOOT. EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN ROLE IN THIS VERY IMPORTANT MATTER.

FIRST WE HAVE THE OIL REGION ALLIANCE WHOSE MAIN PURPOSE IS TO SELL PROPERTY IN THE INDUSTRIAL PARK. THEY ARE NOT TO BE CONCERNED WITH THE ZONING LAWS NOR ARE THEY TO IGNORE THESE LAWS TO POINT THEY MIS-LEAD COMPANIES LIKE HAWBAKER INTO BELIEVING ALL ISSUES ARE RESOLVED AND THE RESIDENTS ARE WAITING TO RECEIVE THEM WITH OPEN ARMS.

IN 1999, AT THE BIRTH OF THE INDUSTRIAL PARK, THE RESIDENTS OF BARKEYVILLE WERE TOLD THAT **ALL** BUSINESSES LOCATING IN THE INDUSTRIAL PARK WOULD BE "COMMUNITY FRIENDLY BUSINESSES." I HAVE NOT TALKED TO ONE PERSON WHO FEELS AN ASPHALT PLANT IS COMMUNITY FRIENDLY. ESPECIALLY AN ASPHALT PLANT THAT MAY PRODUCE 560,000 TONS OF MATERIAL AND USE COAL AS ITS POWER SUPPLY.

IT HAS BEEN OVER SEVEN YEARS SINCE THE INDUSTRIAL PARK WAS VOTED IN AND IT HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT STAGNANT WITH ONLY ONE BUSINESS UP AND OPERATING IN THAT SEVEN YEAR PERIOD. THE O.R.A, VENANGO COUNTY, AS WELL AS THE STATE HAVE INVESTED HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN THIS PROJECT. WITH INCREASED PRESSURE TO STIMULATE GROWTH IN THIS AREA, NEW PEOPLE WERE BROUGHT IN TO THE OIL REGION ALLIANCE IN HOPES OF MOVING THIS PROJECT TO A HIGHER LEVEL. I HOPE THESE FRESH EYES DID NOT OVERLOOK LOCAL ORDINANCES IN YOUR QUEST TO SELL LAND.

THIS BRINGS UP THE ROLE OF THE ZONING OFFICER.....THE ZONING OFFICER IS AN EMPLOYEE OF BARKEYVILLE BORO. AND HE WAS HIRED TO REPRESENT BARKEYVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL, WHO IN TURN REPRESENTS THE RESIDENTS OF BARKEYVILLE. THE ZONING OFFICER IS TO BE OUR FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE IN INTERPRETING THE ZONING ORDINANCE THAT WAS ESTABLISHED IN MAY OF 1999. THIS ORDINANCE IS THE CORNERSTONE OF WHAT IS ACTUALLY ALLOWED TO LOCATE IN THE INDUSTRIAL PARK. THE ORDINANCE IS VERY DETAILED AND IN THE EVENT THERE IS A QUESTION AS TO WHAT IS OR IS NOT ALLOWED THERE ARE SAFEGUARDS IN PLACE. SOME OF THESE INCLUDE BRINGING IT TO BORO COUNCIL FOR REVIEW OR HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING OR MAYBE EVEN AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE. **AT NO POINT DID GARY DOVEY MENTION THIS PERMIT TO BOROUGH COUNCIL. INSTEAD HE TAKES IT UPON HIMSELF TO APPROVE THIS PROJECT WITH A PERMIT DATED.....12-31-2006.....NOT ONLY WAS THIS NEW YEAR'S EVE IT WAS ALSO A SUNDAY. TWO DAYS LATER, JANUARY 2, 2007, AT THE BARKEYVILLE BORO COUNCIL MEETING HE NEVER MENTIONS TO COUNCIL OR DO THE MINUTES OF THAT MEETING SHOW THAT A PERMIT WAS ISSUED TO HAWBAKER'S.** I FIND THIS AWFULLY HARD TO BELIEVE THAT A PROJECT OF THIS MAGNITUDE WAS NEVER MENTIONED AT THE JAN. 2ND BORO. MEETING.

LET'S NOW TALK ABOUT THE ROLE OF THE RESIDENTS OF BARKEYVILLE. OUR ROLE IS TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY MATTERS, VOICE OPINIONS, AND TO CONSTRUCTIVELY WORK WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS ON MATTERS THAT ARE EVER CHANGING IN OUR GROWING COMMUNITY. WE ARE THE SECOND LINE OF DEFENSE FOR MATTERS THAT MAY HAVE SLIPPED THRU THE CRACKS OR HAVE BEEN OVERLOOKED BY A ZONING OFFICER. WE ARE NOT TO BE LOOKED DOWN UPON OR BE TREATED AS TROUBLE MAKERS FOR BEING CONCERNED ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY ESPECIALLY FROM PEOPLE WHO DO NOT EVEN LIVE IN OUR COMMUNITY. THE NUMBER ONE REASON THESE PEOPLE ARE HERE IS THE **ALMIGHTY DOLLAR**. THEY ARE NOT HERE TO VOLUNTEER FOR ANY OF COMMITTEES OR TO WORRY ABOUT THE CITIZENS OF BARKEYVILLE OR EVEN CARE ABOUT OUR ENVIRONMENT.

I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON A MORE PERSONAL NOTE. THERE ARE NEW FACES HERE TODAY FROM THE FACES I ADDRESSED 7 YEARS AGO WHEN I VOICED MY CONCERNS AGAINST THE INDUSTRIAL PARK. WARREN WHETZEL AND ALVIN PATTON ARE THE ONLY TWO REMAINING. AS HISTORY HAS PROVEN HERE IN BARKEYVILLE, COUNCIL MEMBERS COME AND GO. THESE MEMBERS ARE INVOLVED WITH VERY IMPORTANT LIFE CHANGING DECISIONS IN OUR COMMUNITY. FOR VERY DIFFERENT REASONS SOME MEMBERS MOVE ON AND THE PEOPLE WHO REPLACE THEM ARE LEFT TO DEAL WITH MATTERS THEY DID NOT CREATE. IT SEEMS WHEN THE HEAT GETS TURNED UP ON IMPORTANT ISSUES PEOPLE WALK AWAY BECAUSE IT'S EASIER AND LESS STRESSFUL AND LET'S FACE IT YOU ARE NOT HERE FOR THE MONEY. YOU ARE ACTUALLY DOING A COMMUNITY SERVICE BY SITTING ON THIS COUNCIL.

THIS HAPPENED LAST MONTH WHEN GARY DOVEY JUST WALKED AWAY AFTER A LITTLE PRESSURE WAS PUT ON HIM AND YESTERDAY A MEMBER OF THE ZONING HEARING BOARD STEPPED DOWN. SOME OF YOU HERE TONIGHT MAY BE INTIMIDATED BY THE IMPACT THIS ISSUE IS BRINGING TO YOUR DAY TO DAY LIFE. PLEASE DO NOT FEEL THAT YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS OF MANY YEARS ARE TURNING AGAINST YOU.

WE ARE SIMPLY VOICING OUR OPINION ON THIS MATTER. LET ME REMIND YOU THAT IF 50 PEOPLE ARE AGAINST AN ISSUE AND 3 PEOPLE ARE FOR THAT SAME ISSUE YOU MUST SIDE WITH THE MAJORITY.

WHO AM I TO BE HERE QUESTIONING COUNCIL? I AM A MAN WHO HAS MADE THIS COMMUNITY MY HOME FOR 40 YEARS, I'M THE KID WHO HELPED HIS DAD, DAVE MCDUGAL, (A PAST COUNCILMAN OF 13 YRS) REPAIR A BROKEN DOWN BOROUGH TRUCK SO HE COULD GET THE ROADS PLOWED. OR MAYBE GET A BROKEN DOWN GRADER RUNNING TO SMOOTH OUT POTHOLES COVERED ROADS. MOST OF THE TIME THAT YOU VOTED IN THIS VERY BUILDING I WAS THE KID AND THEN THE MAN WHO SET UP AND TORE DOWN THE VOTING BOOTHS BECAUSE MY MOTHER, PAT MCDUGAL HAS BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE ELECTION COMMITTEE FOR OVER 30 YEARS AND THE SAME PERSON WHO HAS VOLUNTEERED ON THE WATER AUTHORITY FOR 27 YRS. I HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO MANY CAPACITIES OVER THESE 40 YRS AND FEEL I HAVE EARNED THE RIGHT TO QUESTION ANYONE WHO MAY NOT BE COMPLYING WITH OUR ORDINANCES.

ANOTHER PERSON HERE TONIGHT IS BILL COURSON, A 60 YEAR RESIDENT. HE IS MAN WHO SPENT HOURS AND HOURS HELPING TO CREATE A ZONING ORDINANCE, ANOTHER NO PAYING POSITION IN THIS COMMUNITY. THIS ORDINANCE WAS TO BE USED BY FUTURE ZONING OFFICERS IN DETERMINING WHAT BUSINESSES COULD LOCATE HERE. JUST OPEN THE BOOK AND START READING. IT ONLY TOOK ME 20 MINUTES TO REALIZE THERE MIGHT BE AN ISSUE WITH AN ASPHALT PLANT LOCATING HERE. WHY THEN DID A SUPPOSABLY INTELLIGENT MAN LIKE GARY DOVEY NOT RETURN TO COUNCIL AND BRING THIS UP FOR REVIEW? AT NO TIME IN THE LAST FOURTEEN MONTHS OF COUNCIL MINUTES DID THIS GET REPORTED.

SOME PEOPLE IN THIS TOWN HAVE ASK WHY WE WAITED SO LONG TO COME FORWARD WITH CONCERNS OF AN ASPHALT PLANT BEING CONSTRUCTED IN THE INDUSTRIAL PARK. MY ANSWER IS THIS, LET'S LOOK AT A TIME LINE OF EVENTS. 12-31-06 THE ISSUING OF A PERMIT TO HAWBAKER, 1-2-07 BORO MEETING WITH NO MENTION OF THE HAWBAKER DEAL. 1-4-07 NEWSHERALD MAKES HAWBAKER ASPHALT PLANT PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE. FEB. 6TH CONCERNED CITIZENS ARE AT THE MEETING TO GET ANSWERS TO HOW AN ASPHALT PLANT OF THIS SIZE WOULD BE ALLOWED TO LOCATE IN THIS INDUSTRIAL PARK.

THERE ARE ISSUES THAT NEED ADDRESSED ON THIS MATTER WHICH LEADS ME TO THE **IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE BARKEYVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL**. YOUR NUMBER ONE PRIORTIY IS TO REPRESENT AND PROTECT THE PEOPLE OF BARKEYVILLE BOROUGH. I ASK THAT YOU DO NOT TO TURN YOUR BACKS ON US WHEN PEOPLE LIKE BILL COURSON, JOE JENKINS, AND MARK DEWALT, NOT TO MENTION THE 95 PLUS PEOPLE WHO SIGNED A PETITION VOICING THEIR CONCERNS ABOUT AN ASPHALT PLANT OF THIS MAGNITUDE BEING BUILT IN OUR BACKYARD. PLEASE DO NOT BASE YOUR DECISIONS ON INFORMATION YOU HAVE RECEIVED FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE RECEIVING A PAYCHECK FOR TRYING TO MAKE THIS PROJECT HAPPEN.

I HAVE WAITED PATIENTLY FOR ONE MONTH TO SEE IF ANY OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS WOULD COME FORWARD AND SAY HEY, SOMETHING IS WRONG HEREWE NEED TO DO SOMETHING FOR THE PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN, I BELIEVE WITH ALL THE INFORMATION THAT HAS BEEN BROUGHT FORWARD ON THIS ISSUE WE NEED TO STEP BACK AND REVIEW ALL THE FACTS.

IN CLOSING I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT BORO COUNCIL IS THE GOVERNING BODY IN THIS TOWN AND YOU HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE DECISIONS ON MATTERS THAT ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO THE FUTURE OF THIS TOWN.

I AM HERE TONIGHT TO ASK THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL ON BEHALF OF THE CONCERNED CITIZEN OF BARKEYVILLE TO STEP BACK AND REVIEW ALL THE FACTS IN THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE BEFORE THE MATTER GOES ANY FARTHER.

THANK YOU