

Skykomish Senate



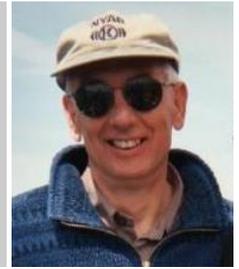
Politically Incorrect

News

Views

Economic Opinion

Political Commentary



Dieter Benz

Working to Promote American Values in Skykomish

mayor or council

who runs Skykomish?

an unnatural occurrence

These are familiar scenes to those driving down 5th street or walking to the post office.



Some have assumed these snow piles were made by the Town's plough deliberately positioning snow to impede business and prevent property owners and occupants from exercising their rights under the Constitution of the United States.

They would be wrong, for according to mayor Mackner, this is 'a natural occurrence of accumulated snow'

Yes, a picture truly is worth 10,000 words, for even the blind can see just how it accumulated here.

your mischievous mayor

When mayor Mackner took office the Town began ploughing in the Hotel. Requests to stop went unanswered.

Last year Council member Henry Sladek was invited to see for himself what the mayor was up to. He agreed that what



he saw was wrong.

The Town had a vendor remove the snow and did not plough us in for the remainder of the season.

As you can see, mayor Mackner is once again up to her usual mischief.

a reluctant mr. sladek

Hotel Property Manager, Cate Riley of Investors Property Services, called the Town requesting the snow be removed and they stop ploughing in the Hotel.

The Town responded via Rachel that "this is a natural accumulation of snow and you will have to take care of it yourself."

Ms. Riley called Council member Sladek, once again enlisting his assistance in getting mayor Mackner back on track.

"I asked Henry: Who authorized the snow to be deposited in such a way as to prevent owners and occupants from making full use of the property and why was it being allowed to continue? I reminded Mr. Sladek that he was involved

in the very same issue just last year.

I also asked why it was that I had to call him, as he'd been to the post office many times and seen the situation himself. He did not have an answer but said he would contact the Town.



Henry called later confirming mayor Mackner's position that it was 'accumulated' snow and we would have to take care of it ourselves.' "I reminded Henry it's Council's job to make sure we don't have these problems. **He disagreed, saying that Council only sets policy, it's the mayor who runs the town.**"





what's the big deal?

It seems like Benz is once again whining about nothing. A lot of people have had driveways blocked when ploughs drove by during all this snow.

That's right, but that's not what's being discussed here. We're talking about a deliberate government action to abridge the Constitutional rights of citizens who speak out against mayoral ineptitude and abuse.

still don't get it?

Sky government has destroyed its economy and tax base by allowing lazy, incompetent officials to drive away the very businesses and individuals Sky needs, while at the same time handing control of the town's future to large corporate and government interests.

Business will not invest where government places one roadblock after another in front of them.

Business will not invest where a town's mayor has them shut in by the snow plough.

Business will not invest where a Design Review Board Chairman has a different set of rules for each applicant.

As long as we demonstrate zero respect for the rule of law and the property rights of others, business will stay away.

Educated families are also reluctant to move to Sky because of ongoing issues at the school.

Yes, we too were horrified upon receiving the 6 page 'Box Top Newsletter' from our School Super.



If this is what education in Sky has come to, it's no wonder we're in such a fix.

Again, I feel sorry for the trees that died and the carbon footprint from this printed travesty.

Families must be assured their child's entire future is not placed at risk by moving to Sky.

who runs skykomish?

Legislation (Bills) must pass U.S. Congressional committees on their way to becoming federal law.

Of all committees, there's none more important than House Appropriations.

Virtually everything government dreams requires money to actually do. If legislation doesn't make it through House Appropriations it won't need to go any further. There's no point in talking about rebuilding infrastructure if money won't be appropriated to do it.

He who controls the purse, rules. It's a simple tenet that hasn't changed since Roman times.

town council controls sky's purse

This wasn't an accident, but a calculated decision by those who designed the Town Charter.

Mr. Sladek is certainly correct that Council sets policy. This occurs principally through the budget and passage of legislation in the form of municipal resolutions and ordinances.

Mr. Sladek believes his policy setting role ends once he gets up from the Council table. If policy runs amuck because an incompetent, mischievous mayor decides to disobey Council's policies, so be it. It has nothing to do with Henry.

let's end the royal BS

Sky Council believes its role is limited to coming together once a month (totally unprepared, not even having read packets) and listening to presentations by those who want access to the town's purse and signature.



Council thinks it need muster only enough strength to signal yeah or nay by moving a finger or giving a nod, just as Roman emperors once did at the Coliseum.

Fact is, Council was not elected to be crowned, wear robes, sit on a throne or hide under the table.

council's role

As a deliberative body, Council listens to constituents, studies issues, weighs options, sets policy and maintains the Town's finances in good order.

It is responsible to see that its policies are properly implemented by the mayor.

Council has been doing none of the above. It has the tools, but lacks the will.

Instead, it has ceded control to two bamboozled old geezers and a fox.

what policies?

Lethargic Council members have entrusted their policy making function to fellow traveler, Lorna Goebel.

Lorna cranks out ordinances by copying and pasting stuff from Seattle and KC websites into a mishmash of nonsense that in no way applies to Sky.

Council then promptly passes this tripe without ever having read it. Incredible! There are plenty of perfectly ridiculous ordinances that we don't need, but precious few that we do.

This must be what Mr. Sladek means by 'providing policy'.

Such gross negligence is an affront to the privilege of self government.

back to reality

Just as the U.S. Congress and State Legislatures were given plenty of powers to enforce their policies, so too was Town Council.

Control of the purse is a big stick, but it's only one of the tools Council possesses to bring a star struck mayor back to earth.

Those who came before us gave much, but they cannot reach out from the grave to give Council the one last thing it needs to perform its duties and fulfill its responsibilities: Courage.

Council members must individually discover this within themselves.

Hiding in a bunker or claiming you weren't even at the scene of the accident is not acceptable.



You've been discovered... The spotlight is yours. It's time to rise and shine or be seen for what you are. It's up to You!

ass backwards

While some were enjoying sandwiches, cookies, spaghetti dinners and award ceremonies, others were asking a simple question: How do you solve a severe ground contamination problem that starts at former Great Northern Railway fueling facilities by building a dyke at the river?



The most obvious answer also turned out to be the correct one: WSDOE never intended to order a real cleanup of the Town.

Instead, it performed an elaborate, lengthy and expensive tap dance, keeping locals off balance, plying them with little sandwiches, cookies, fruit drinks, awards and plaques.

All the while, it continued to hatch its ass backward plan to protect fish while tossing human concerns into the toilet.

Council handed henhouse keys to the fox without even as much as a whimper.

Townsppeople were further left to fend for themselves when Council dismissed our environmental legal counsel, even though the cost was fully recoverable. Why?

Most people know enough not to sign documents they haven't read or believe a carnie promoter's version of the facts. The devil truly is in the details.

Did Council members ever read documents placed in front of them by BNSF or WSDOE before authorizing the Town's signature, or did they just rely upon the fox, Mr. Stanovsky, to explain it all and guide them into the abyss?

Our regular Town attorney couldn't be much help as this, the biggest environmental effort in Washington State, required an experienced, distinguished

environmental specialist.

The full magnitude of this disaster will begin unfolding in the spring as snow melts and construction equipment goes to work.

Our community will now be unnecessarily disrupted for years to come without any tangible benefit. Let's face it... We could have gotten historic grants at any time for new street lights, signs, paths and even public washrooms.

Had all this resulted in the promised environmental cleanup, most would be happy. Instead, thanks to Town Council, we are getting nothing more than window dressing, razz ma taz and a waste water treatment facility that most homeowners already know they won't be able to afford.

Removing BNSF pollution, which some mistakenly thought was the whole point of this 15 year long fire drill, will for the most part remain a distant dream.

The earth beneath many homes and structures will remain polluted for hundreds of years to come... a real consequence of electing officials who think public service is just another party.

we're not unique

Small towns across America are struggling as better educated, more sophisticated residents leave for opportunities in urbane areas.

Left behind are those less able to govern themselves. The downward slide gains momentum as low income, the retired, those on public assistance, those hiding from lady justice and those employed by government begin to make up the majority of voters.

Today, those with something to say are jeered, ridiculed and sometimes physically assaulted at public meetings.

the Internet changed everything

Mayor and entourage have projected Sky Hotel owners as a bunch of angry malcontents who cannot be included in polite society.

There is another side to this story and the Internet has made its telling easy.

intrinsic value

Area realtors knew we were looking and called to pitch the Cascadia, which was for sale. As I explained our 'intrinsic value' requirement, the Cascadia fell off the list.

There are three significant historic structures in Sky: the Maloney General Store, the Post and the Skykomish Hotel.

We recognised the Skykomish Hotel as a rare remaining example of our dynamic Northwest history and as a good long term investment.

It possessed 'intrinsic value' and would always be worth the bucks whether the economy was up, down or sideways.

Sky was already asleep when we purchased the property so valuations were low. The Hotel is the more valuable of the three because it possesses significantly greater income producing potential, an important factor when valuing commercial properties. It also has greater architectural significance, presence and appeal.

Today, after years of emailing the sad, soulful story of the Skykomish Hotel (how attempts to renovate have been thwarted for over 7 years by an oppressive communist controlled government) to inhabitants of planet earth, the Hotel is no longer a sleeper, even if Sky remains so.

We receive support for our struggle from freedom lovers around the globe. A welcome byproduct of this notoriety has been an increase in the Hotel's value, as several wealthy investors have made substantial offers to purchase.

be careful what you wish

While many wish we would just shut up and go away, we've proven to be durable fixtures, possessing the courage, strength, stability, energy, vision and drive to stand up and be counted among those who support a strong, environmentally sustainable Sky economy that benefits all.

Sky is worth saving. Let's get to work!
theSenate@SkykomishHotel.com

See you later alligator

