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From: WILLIAM OSBORN <wjosborn70@embarqmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 10:46 AM
To: clerk <clerk@miamicountyks.org>
Subject: Input r.e. proposed city - Golden, Kansas

****This email originated from outside of County of Miami****

June 24, 2021

Miami County Board of County Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the issue of the proposed incorporation of the city of Golden, Kansas. And, thank you for your inclusive and thoughtful approach in encouraging public input and debate on the matter at hand. You have a difficult decision ahead and I believe your insistence on a deliberate schedule and resultant open deliberations will provide the best possible venue for your decision-making process.

While petitioners from both sides of the proposal (for and against) present strong points for consideration, I have chosen to remain neutral since my property is not within the boundaries of the proposed city. However, regardless of the genesis of this proposal and the outcome of your decision, serious underlying issues remain.

Clearly, the Edgerton/Northpoint scheme is at fault. This entity has evolved into a juggernaut that is questionably legal and, to say the least, disregards ethical practices. I won't burden you with a re-telling of their tactics – this has been made clear to you by previous comments and testimony. But, the impact on our way of life and the environment is clear. At the public hearing, the Miami County Conservation District indicated that impervious ground cover is now at threshold. Our watershed is at stake. My 3rd generation family farm borders the property of the Hillsdale Lake. Anecdotally, I can attest that the two feeder streams that intersect my property have undergone increased streambank erosion thus far and will only worsen as additional warehouses and resultant infrastructure are built. I have purposely used practices to help protect the lake including rotational grazing and riparian fencing. At what point will my efforts and my neighbors' efforts pale in comparison to the impact of the commercial development creating a spiraling degradation of the watershed?

Any system that is held hostage by Edgerton/Northpoint tactics is broken. The proposed establishment of a city attests to desperate measures that your constituencies are forced to pursue and has unfortunately placed area landowners at odds. State statute places you in the position of authority on the matter of approval or denial of the proposed city. The large majority of landowners in northwest Miami County simply do not want the encroachment. Help us to help you arrive at a creative solution. I believe our combined voices can surely bring informed and effective change.

With best regards and respect,

William J. Osborn
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