

## Davis Calls for Ethical Review of Village Board Dealings

Menomonee Falls Village President Candidate Jefferson E. Davis Calls for Ethical Review of Board Member Dealings

Menomonee Falls - Village Trustee Candidate Jefferson E. Davis today called for an "ethical review" of current and past dealings with Village Board Members involving many businessmen, real estate transactions, taxpayer's money, personal gain, non-profit organization preferred treatment, Board votes, cash, political favors and has asked his opponent to join him in asking for the review.

Davis is running for the Village Trustee Seat 4 in Menomonee Falls against a 20-year incumbent who is awaiting trial in Waukesha for obstructing an officer. The Village Trustee Election is Tuesday, April 6th.

In asking for the review Davis said,

"It has been known for quite some time that questionable and perhaps illegal transactions were going on because of actions by Village Board Members at the expense of good business people and taxpayers in Menomonee Falls.

It is unfortunate that this apparent type of behavior by public officials has been tolerated for so long often times costing the taxpayers and business people for what appears to be the benefit of just a few people while my opponent has been on the Village Board since 2005.

Business people should not have to concern themselves with having to "play the game" in order to get their projects approved by the Village Board in exchange for real estate, cash or political favors.

Business proposals in reality, should almost be nameless and faceless in order to be approved by the Village Board while being based on their merit and if it is the right thing to do for Menomonee Falls, not for the benefit of a few.

When things like this become known, the Village President, as a leader, has the obligation of their sworn oath of office to legally do something about these types of things and not just look the other way or even be part of them.

Business people have become fearful of not getting their proposals approved by the Village Board if they don't "play the game". That is wrong, probably illegal, and it will immediately stop on April 6th if I am fortunate enough to be elected Village Trustee."

In making the announcement, Davis cited just a few of the following examples of what has been brought to his attention by various business people and individuals since 2003:

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Redmond Construction purchased a private residence in 2002 at the request of former Village President Joe Greco in order to get their proposal for Cousin Subs approved by the Planning Commission, which included current Village President Rick Rechlicz at the time, and Village Board. The "deal" was later nixed by Greco because another neighbor complained and a trustee candidate appeared to object because of his restaurant being located there. Redmond was left with a private residence they did not want and later sold the home after Greco made sure Cousin's would not build their store at Silver Spring and Pilgrim Roads. The CEO for Cousin's sent Greco a very "unpleasant" letter in 2003 sharing their frustration about their experience with him and the Village.

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Marcus Theaters had to sell their empty theater on Main Street to Falls Fest for \$250,000, which was \$700,000 under the assessed value, in 2003 in order to get 4 new movie screens approved by the Village Board at their new location on the Village's Northwest Side. Falls Fest is partially made up of Trustees Jeff Steliga, Jim Jeskewitz and former Village President Bob Steliga. Former Village President Joe Greco was also affiliated with the organization. Marcus turned down an accepted offer to purchase of \$565,000 with check in hand from the shopping mall owner next to the theater at or about the same time they were asking for their expansion in 2002. Falls Fest is nearly without cash because of this transaction.

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The Metcalfe Estate had their property next to Village Hall illegally delineated by the Village in the late '90's to prevent them from building on it because Mr. Metcalfe was not in "good favor" with the Village for 15 years. The Village wanted the property for free. Mr. Metcalfe had to hire his attorney to meet with SEWRPC to get the illegal act reversed in 2004 in order to build on his property. The project is still not completed.



414-750-6785