Woodridge First Party

INTEGRITY

HONESTY PROGRESS

NEWS

EXTRA !!

April 6, 1969

A REPLY TO UNITY'S 5TH ISSUE

THE W-M SUIT

Winston Muss Corporation has filed suit against the village of Woodridge and two of its officials in an attempt to obtain building permits for a part of unit 4.

Unit 4 of Winston Hills was actually annexed to Woodridge in 1963, previous to the announcement of the state's plans for FA61.

The path of this highway creates problems which the state refuses to resolve. It would cut off access to a section of unit four. After the proposed highway is built, this area would have no roads leading to it from any direction. Consequently, Mayor Roberts has instructed that no building permits be issued for this unaccessable area. The present court action should resolve the question of who-- Winston Muss, the village, or the state, should pay for construction of a necessary $200,000 highway crossing.

LAST WEEK COURT ORDERED MAYOR ROBERTS TO ISSUE PERMITS. DID YOU WASTE MORE THAN $500.00 IN COURT COSTS? WHERE IS OUR EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP?

Although there is no legal reason for stopping issuance of building permits, Mayor Roberts, and your Unity Board, felt a moral obligation to future residents of this area to do so.

MORALLY RIGHT,

LEGALLY WRONG.

WHY DID YOU APPROVE THE PLAT LAST YEAR?

VOTE UNITY

THE CONCERNED PARTY

THE GAME OF POLITICS

Though we may feel our oppositions programs lack depth, research and thoughtful effort, we must compliment them on their campaign strategy, if winning the election is all they are interested in.

In our opinion, First Party is proving themselves masters of insinuation, half-truths and character assassination. They are very much aware that almost half of the citizens voting in this election were not here four years ago. They are also aware that these citizens do not realize how effective and progressive the Unity Party officials of the last four years have been.

Apparently they hope to play the game to the hilt, for rumor has it that they are saving their tastiest morsels for their last paper so there can be no reply or refutation of their final accusations.

Please remember, fellow citizens, playing politics is not the same as running a village. On April 15th you will be asked to elect officials to run a village, so don't be mislead. Know who you are voting for and what they stand for. If you take the time and effort to check the records, we are sure you will vote Unity!

UNITY'S LEADER - THE MASTER POLITICIAN ACCUSING OTHERS OF PLAYING POLITICS

YOU ARE SPREADING A RUMOR IN THIS ARTICLE. WHO ARE THE RUMOR MONGERS?

WHY ARE YOU SO FRIGHTENED? WHAT DO YOU HAVE HIDDEN?

WHAT WILL A CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION REVEAL?

PERSPECTIVES

YOU BE THE JUDGE

by Mayor Roberts

When one pledges himself to public office, and is elected or appointed, it requires understanding, dedication and personal sacrifice to fulfill these obligations. I would like the public to examine my record in office, years, and the record of Mr. Martin, my opponent. After the last election he was appointed to the all important Plan Commission. After a few short months, the Board and I had to remove him, as he consistently failed to attend meetings. This was in violation of the enabling ordinance.

Ask any organization which participated in our July 4th celebration of four years ago about the difficulties they had with distribution of funds. Mr. Martin was in charge of finances. It was six months before a final accounting was made and this accounting had to be made by the mayor and Mr. Woody because Mr. Martin just couldn't seem to get it done. These monies were peanuts compared to the monies involved in the management of the village.

It is easy to criticize, especially when you don't have to answer any questions yourselves. So I ask you, Charlie, how or when would you have done things differently, and what specifically would be your plans for the future? Our goals and programs are an open book. They are patterned in the professionally developed Village Master Plan. Would you scrap this plan just because YOU didn't take the time to participate in it's planning? Answers, not vague questions are what the people are entitled to receive.

WRONG AS USUAL !

First party, please get your information straight before you print it!

In a recent article published in your (news) sheet, you stated that Mrs Johnson, Unity Party's candidate for village clerk, is "just a clerk."

For your information, Mrs. Johnson was appointed to the legally established position of Deputy Clerk on the 13th of April 1966. Her official commission, like all official commissions, states that she shall hold the position of Deputy Clerk to its expiration date, April 13, 1967, or thereafter, or until a successor shall have been duly appointed and qualified. At no time since April 13, 1967 has the clerk appointed a successor, nor has a successor ever been qualified by the Board of Trustees. Therefore, gentlemen, you are wrong, as usual Mrs. Johnson is indeed the Deputy Village Clerk of the Village of Woodridge, both in law and in fact!

THE SEWER & WATER REFERENDUM AGAIN !

It seems as though our opposition still doesn't understand the ordinance passed to acquire the sewer and water company, for they are still making a big issue of the matter at their coffees. We can't say they are being untruthful about it but they certainly are trying to bend the truth.

They are right that if the village could buy the sewer and water company now for $2 1/2 million the village board could legally make the purchase without a referendum. But for some reason they fail to tell their listeners that:

1. It is very unlikely that the sewer and water company could be purchased for that sum,

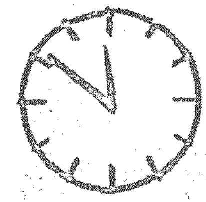
2. If a higher price is agreed upon, a new ordinance will be required,

3. No board would attempt to commit a village to such a program without a clear, uncontestable vote of its citizens,

4. No bonding company would consider a bond issue of this magnitude without the assurance that the citizens are for it,

5. The ordinance passed was merely a legal requirement that had to be met to start the condemnation proceedings.

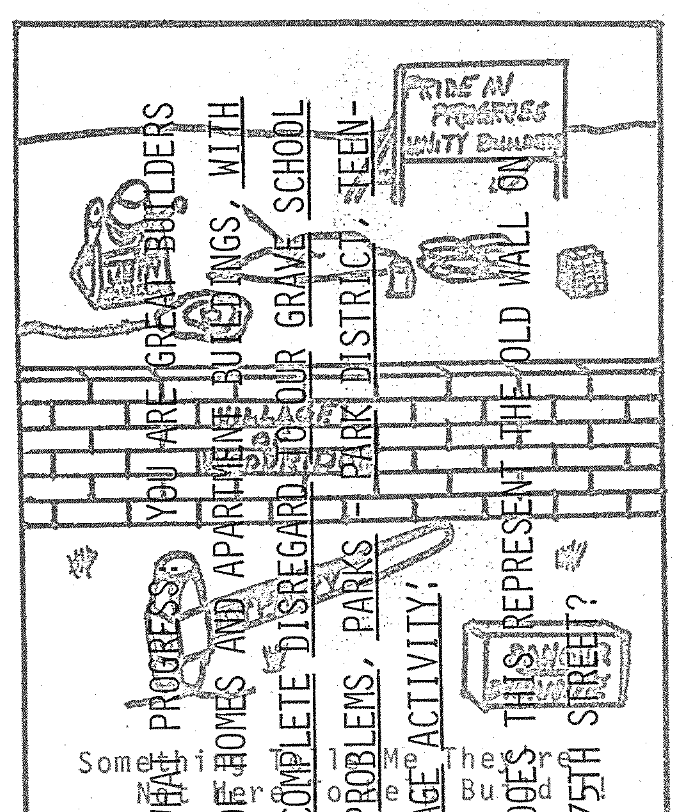
We believe First Party's sewer and water referendum was just another "warm up" for April, just as their last minute opposition slate for the park district admittedly was. Why don't they stop "playing politics" with this village and use their effort to develop some good worthwhile programs?



WE'RE WAITING !

On March 10, 1969, Unity Party sent a registered letter to its opposition party requesting a joint public meeting to discuss the issues of the current campaign. (A copy of this letter was inserted in the 3rd issue of Unity Party campaign literature.) The return receipt requested from the post office has still not been received. Why won't you accept the letter, First Party? We hope you don't plan to use the lame excuse that you didn't receive our request.

Unity Party candidates are still willing to meet the opposition party at a public meeting and discuss the issues. Apparently it suits their type of campaigning better to "say behind a man's back what they won't say to his face".



Something Tells Me They're Not Here To Rebuild

READ ORDINANCE NO. 68-22 FOR THE PURCHASE, ETC. READ THE LAST PARAGRAPH.
THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN AS THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO DO IN ANY TRUE DEMOCRACY
ARE YOU, OR ANYONE ELSE AGAINST THIS PRINCIPLE?
WAKE UP UNITY THIS IS NOT AN ISSUE! WHO IS PLAYING POLITICS NOW?

YOUR TIME IS COMING
APRIL 13, 1969
WOODRIDGE SCHOOL GYM
8:00 P.M.
DUAL PRESENTATIONS OF SLATES AND PLATFORMS. ALL QUESTIONS OF NON-PERSONAL NATURE. GET YOUR QUESTIONS PLANTED.

WHAT PROGRESS? YOU ARE GREAT BUILDERS OF HOMES AND APARTMENT BUILDINGS, WITH COMPLETE DISREGARD TO OUR GRAVE SCHOOL PROBLEMS, PARKS - PARK DISTRICT, TEEN-AGE ACTIVITY!
DOES THIS REPRESENT THE OLD WALL ON 75TH STREET?

WERE YOU HERE IN 1964 ?

We were, but we wouldn't admit it!

Were you in the village of Woodridge in 1964? We know that about half of you were not, so about half of the Woodridge electorate is not aware of the conditions in our village at that time.

In 1963 a group of people sponsored by a political party known as Citizens Action Party, or C.A.P., were voted into office. These people had no positive programs. They were an "anti" group. Mainly they seemed to be anti-Hiller and hoped to get "revenge" through their elected positions for leaking basements, cracked ceilings or some other household problem.

They were very vindictive. Their law suits and counter-suits, the fireworks at village board meetings-when they bothered to attend such things- and even their arrests made horrible headlines in the neighboring newspapers, which are always eager for sensational headlines. The responsible citizens of the village were ashamed to admit that they lived in Woodridge. It was always "south of Downers Grove" unless you absolutely had to explain to a visitor or delivery man that you lived in Woodridge.

Our village was truly a disgrace. We were all ashamed. And the village was on the brink of financial collapse because of irresponsible management and failure of this party to face the real issues.

In 1965 Unity Party candidates were elected by a landslide. Since then we have truly lived up to our motto of "pride in progress".

Neighboring communities are following our lead. Just this week Downers Grove approved a utility tax-the same tax Woodridge has had for a year, and which has greatly improved our financial position. A township assessor has recently recommended apartment building for easing taxes in the suburbs-a program advocated by Unity Party for several years. Lisle has proposed a master plan and buying their local sewer and water facility--both after Woodridge had taken positive steps with these same programs.

Once we were ashamed to live here. Once we were sneered at by our neighbors.

Now we are proud to live here. Now our neighbors recognize us as leaders in good progressive programs.

This was all accomplished by Unity Party board members. Unfortunately, we see many of the same old C.A.P. members now supporting our opposition. Unfortunately, we see a vindictive, "anti" campaign being fostered by our present opposition. Most assuredly this would be followed by the same "anti" program if these people are elected.

Now we are proud of our progressive government. Think before you vote, or we will all go back to hanging our heads in shame again!

VOTE UNITY

FOR PROVEN GOOD GOVERNMENT

WILLIAM L. WOODY .... Campaign Manager
26.. ..., Woodridge, Ill.
RICHARD D. ROMAN .... Editor
67.. ... Ct., Woodridge, Ill.
ANDY WOOD .... Assistant Editor

YES - ASK THOSE WHO WERE HERE IN 1963, WAS NOT MAYOR ROBERTS THEN MAYOR? WHERE WAS HIS EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP? DIDN'T MR. WOODY, OUR PLAN COMMISSION CHAIRMAN, HAVE THE THEN TRUSTEES ARRESTED? WHO WAS MAYOR? DIDN'T MR. WOODY FILE SUIT AGAINST THE VILLAGE GOVERNMENT? WHO AND WHERE WAS OUR EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP? WAS HE IN WITH MR. WOODY AT THE TIME? WHO FINANCED THE SUIT? DON'T TELL PART - TELL IT ALL!

LET THE NEW VOTER AND RESIDENT KNOW ALL THE TRUE FACTS!

A MAYOR IS THE LEADER OF THE VILLAGE. HE IS EXPECTED TO SERVE THE PEOPLE. HE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COMMUNICATING WITH THE PEOPLE. WE SUBMIT THAT THE VILLAGE DID NOT HAVE LEADERSHIP IN THOSE YEARS UNDER OUR INCUMBENT MAYOR! NOR DO WE HAVE NOW. HE, AS THE MAYOR FOR THE LAST 9 YEARS, (EXCEPT FOR THE FEW MONTHS THAT HE QUIT IN 1965) MUST BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE IMAGE.

PROVE YOUR STATEMENT OF GOOD GOVERNMENT' WHERE IS YOUR PROMISE IN YOUR FIRST NEWSPAPER TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES?

VOTE WOODRIDGE FIRST AND PUT WOODRIDGE FIRST.

APRIL 15, 1969

NICK HAVILAND, EDITOR

31 March 1969

Mr. Nick Haviland
Editor
Woodridge First Party
Newsletter
Woodridge, Illinois 60515

Dear Sir:

Mayor William Roberts and his Unity Party claim to have achieved "progress and financial stability" for the Village of Woodridge in the past four years. If population growth alone is progress, then they are right, the Village has "progressed" -- via repeated annexations -- and at the same time incurred the costly need for increased services in every department. The annexations and subsequent building have also brought hundreds of additional children into our already sorely taxed school district.

The financial stability of which they boast can be substantially "credited" to their levying of a 5% utility tax -- another burden for the Woodridge taxpayers. Unity is so proud of its 5% utility tax that they contend that Downers Grove followed their lead in recently levying a similar tax. Additional taxes that result in nothing concrete, tangible, or lasting are indeed a dubious achievement with no foreseeable end. If Downers Grove does levy this tax (they haven't yet), they will at least have new roads, curbs, and storm sewers to show for it. What has Woodridge?

If Roberts' Unity Party "rescued the Village from the brink of financial disaster in 1965", was has Roberts been doing since 1959 when he first assumed office? Financial disaster doesn't happen overnight. It is the result of lack of planning. Could it be that "financial disaster" didn't really exist in 1965, but as used by Unity is rather a political catchphrase designed to intimidate and impress? That such disaster could befall us is, of course, a possibility. Without dramatic and diligent effort to attract industry -- except in the Unity mode as a political expediency at election time -- Woodridge must continue to rely heavily on additional building permits for its "financial stability" -- a tenuous and vicious circle type of stability which keeps the Village solvent while it threatens to bankrupt the school district.

Roberts et al point with pride to a road re-building program which they started -- a program which would have been totally unnecessary had Mr. Roberts and his various administrations enforced the subdivision control ordinances since 1959 and insisted proper road specifications be met. Instead, he and his accepted responsibility for roads declared sub-standard by the then Public Works Superintendent and have to-date spent over $70,000 of motor fuel tax funds to completely resurface roads less than 7 years old! This money might have been better spent for street lighting in the pioneer units of the Village without the need for future special assessment. Instead, Unity boasts that no special assessment has been necessary to effect road repairs, when they should hang their heads because Roberts' negligence and disdain for the common citizen in Woodridge in deference to builder interest has made it necessary at all.

Roberts et al claim Public Works and Building Inspection departments, Village Clerk's office, and the Plan Commission where "almost non-existant four years ago." Considering the many people who have worked in those departments since 1959 -- most of them without remuneration (unlike the present administration) -- I find that very interesting indeed. That they have been re-organized to include people compatible with the Roberts viewpoint, however, cannot be denied.

The Chairman of the Plan Commission is a classic case in point. William Woody holds that office (as well as that of Unity Campaign Chairman) as a reward for nobly assisting Roberts in his "Administration by Agitation and Harassment" in 1963-65 when five trustees and a Village Clerk of an opposition party were in office. The fact that Mrs. Woody was employed by one of the developers in the Village at the time of her husband's appointment to a position requiring an objective and impartial relationship with the building community is interesting and noteworthy.

It was Woody who maliciously had the opposition board arrested on falacious criminal charges of holding a secret meeting (they were exonerated, as a [redacted] number of the public and the press were present), and it was he and Roberts who were 2/3 of a trio who further pressed civil charges which cost Woodridge taxpayers $2,600 to defend.

The Unity Party points with pride to the fact that there have been "no law suits, countersuits, threats or other such immature behavior" since they took office in '65. They handily neglect to explain that it was they, not the opposition party, who instigated those actions which resulted in sensational headlines and that it was the builder who also filed suits and made threats. And it was Unity supporters who packed Village meetings, booed, catcalled, and created chaos for the press to report. There were, in fact, no countersuits, as the sued board members refused to re-act in kind, though they could have sued for false arrest.

It was assuredly most immature behavior, but it was also well plotted and executed, and if it "brought the Village ridicule," then it is not the victims, but the perpetrators -- Unity Party -- who deserve the blame. I could go on indefinitely disproving lie after lie that Unity has printed under the guise of campaign literature, but suffice it to say: It's time for a change, Woodridge. In fact, it's now or never!

Yours very truly,

Ramona Kinser

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