

Zigmond Brach (Ziggy)

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Re: Comments with regard to the proposed annexation,

To all elected town and village board members

You! Elected officials have an important decision to make. To the naked eye it seems as if this decision has something to do with annexation and environmental studies. But, the bold truth is that it does not have anything to with that. The decision which is now on your shoulders is much deeper and much more significant than annexing territory.

I bought a house which is built on 2 acres in the town of Woodbury near the village of KJ , thirty five years ago. Upon returning home one evening with my pregnant wife we were greeted with swastikas sprayed all over our sofas and our prayer books were destroyed.

I am sure that you are thinking, well, things changed in thirty-five years. Well let me tell you something, anti-Semitism wasn't invented in this town and it is not about to be abolished in this town. Anti-Semitism began hundreds of years ago it has continued ever since with the same vigor. The only things that changed, are the excuses and justifications for hating, the false reasons for this age old hatred has changed and evolved from generation to generation and place to place.

The same thing that happened to my house thirty-five years ago happened to a friend of mine just a short time ago when he built himself a new house in town of Monroe by Cliff Court and Seven Springs Rd. He showed up one morning and the new windows were shattered and swastikas were sprayed inside the house. The anti-Semites sent a clear message; we don't really care about a village or no village, we simply don't want you to live next to us because you are a Jew.

This is nothing new , during the Spanish inquisition there was a reason to hate the Jews, during the Russian pogroms there was a reason to hate the Jews, during the holocaust there was a reason to kill 6 million Jews and now in town of Monroe there is a reason to hate the Jews. The reasons may seem different, but all of these reasons have one thing in common. We are hated for who we are and not for what we do!

And to all you opposers including Mr. Assemblyman Skofus , if you care so much about the environmental and traffic impact, where was your outcry when town after town here approved plans for a mega casino right here? And what about the mega expansion of Woodbury Commons Where was your argument then Mr Skofus when you were on the Woodbury board ? The answer is that all of this doesn't matter to you, all that matters to you is that Jews wants to live here. Despite the fact that you changed the zoning in Woodbury from 1 acre of land per house , then to 2 acre, and then to 3 acres when you live in a condominium and all your board members live in houses which are on less than an acre of land.

So its very evident that you are targeting the jew even if he would be living on large parcels of land contrary to what you claim.

To prove my point I had filed for a subdivision of 110 town houses in the Town of Monroe and purchased a water company in Woodbury to supply the necessary water for that project. Of course there was no secret that this was intended for the Jewish community since it was within the borders of the Village of KJ. The leaders of Woodbury intentionally created a new local law just to stop us from

drinking water. I was forced to file a lawsuit in New York Supreme Court which ruled that such a law is unconstitutional. Would you call this hate?

Mr. Supervisor and gentleman of the board, if I felt that you were part of this hatred, I wouldn't even comment. I know you are all being harassed and intimated by threats and fear.

There were brave leaders in the past that made brave decisions against anti-Semitism regardless of their personal political interests. President Truman will always be remembered as a world leader that had such bravery after the holocaust. I am appealing to you to be as brave as he was and approve an annexation even of much larger than 507 acres to provide the necessary needs for the local residents. Failure of passing annexation would force the local village to allow hi risers of 5 stories and up which would still have the same impact as well as the opposition falsely claims . The only one that would be able to stop that is the DOH or the DEC.

Please ask yourself, does this have anything to do with the expansion of A village or does it have to do with the expansion of a village that will provide homes for Jews? Be brave vote with your heart, and may God bless you.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Zigmond Brach