I am writing you to express my concerns over the recent request from Lake Hills HOA to surveil and monitor public, Lake Hills Park entry exit points with License Plate Reading Cameras. After watching the Town Council Meeting on April 14, 2021 I became concerned for a number of reasons.

- 1. Why is there a need for license plate reading cameras by a private entity?
- 2. Why do they want to use LPR cameras to invade personal privacy?
- 3. Why do they want to record your and my license plates and photos of us, but not their own?
- 4. Why do they want to infringe on everyone's right to privacy?
- 5. Why has the town NOT enacted an ordinance prohibiting private persons or entities from collecting private resident's plate numbers or information via LPR cameras?
- 6. Why hasn't the town enacted an ordinance governing private use of LPR cameras to record on public town roads?
- 7. LPR camera use should require town government permission, be regulated and charged a permit fee annually.

Look if they want to put up security cameras on their own property that's fine, lots of us already have them. However, if they want to collect license plate data and monitor the activities of town residents, family and friends going to Lake Hills PUBLIC Park that must absolutely NOT be allowed, it's an invasion of personal privacy. In the April 14th meeting the representative from Lake Hills HOA stated that HOA members would have the option to exclude their plates from being read. I'm not sure exactly how that would work. If a camera detects a plate number and decides not to store it there would still be a record of said decision along with the plate number. It would simply be in a different file in the database. The real problem is why would any group think its ok to invade my privacy and yours but not their own group members? Several calls to Flock Safety the company the HOA is buying equipment from produced no results as they never answer their phones and have not returned any of the 4 messages I left. That alone should be enough to alert any sane person but there's more. A thorough study of their information on their website, info on the internet and a few phone calls to other communities that took on their systems convinced me this was a horrible idea that brought litigation to towns.

First, a private group cannot be allowed to record and store data of license plates of everyone going to a public park. It's an invasion of privacy and it's illegal. If it were to only record people exclusively entering their property that would be fine but that's not the case here. Only the police or a municipal entity has the authority to decide to do that after the local authority's have given permission.

Secondly, the HOA representative delivering the presentation to the council on April 14th explained how HOA members desiring "privacy" would be able to opt out of having their plate read. Then went on to detail how he lied to HOA members to get them to show up at a meeting about these plate reading cameras by telling them, "we are meeting to raise HOA dues". Once there he told them, "no, we are not raising HOA dues we are just getting your support for plate reading cameras through". He lied in order to get his own neighbor HOA members to come to his agenda driven meeting. If he will lie to his friends and neighbors he will most certainly lie to us as to who has access to any data collected by any cameras they install. This HOA can direct their data collection which would include photos of passing cars/trucks, their license plate numbers and visual photos of who is in the car or truck to anywhere they choose. This

data base is then searchable by them by entering license plate number, vehicle type or color, characteristics or people. What entities could also have access to the data base like Flock, ALPR or Vigilant Solutions all of which can link this data to a local or national database? They can allow these agencies or private parties to also track the movements and patterns of residents. Other communities that tried this ended up in hot water over selling data of its private residents.

Imagine it comes out in a year or two that Mike Aurelio or another HOA member used the system to track his wife's movements, when his neighbor leaves or gets home and who is cheating with whom? Frankly plate reading tracking cameras are a legal nightmare in private hands.

You cannot possibly allow LPR cameras to be used to data mine town residents movements and store them in a data base. Further you cannot possibly allow a private entity to monitor resident's usage of a town public park Lake Hills. There must be an immediate prohibition of such camera use by non-government persons in our town until this town council has the time to create an ordinance establishing use and permit fees.

I suggest annual permit fees of \$20,000 per camera. We can use the income from Lake Hills proposed 6 cameras to assist our parks, enhance operations at the Clerk's Office and provide a discretionary fund for the street department. I'm confidant such as fee would quash their LPR camera idea altogether.

As the only way to get to Lake Hills Public Park is by driving through Lake Hills subdivision, I further urge you to deny the ability of ANY group in town to install plate readers that in effect record the use of a town park by its residents a violation of their right to privacy, civil rights and civil liberties.

I believe if allowed this will in fact bring litigation to the town.

Sincerely,

Bill Purcell

Town of Saint John Resident



Tobacco Island Commentary

Christian J. Jorgensen <jorgensen@dresslerpeters.com> To: Beth Hernandez <bethhernandez.clerk@gmail.com>

Wed, Apr 28, 2021 at 3:00 PM

To the Town Council and ladies and gentlemen in attendance:

I apologize for being unable to attend in person, however, I have to present tonight at a Bar Association meeting. I am a resident of St. John, a former Town Councilman and your Lake County Councilman.

I ask the Town to approve Tobacco Island's Special Exception request for a shop in the US Route 41 Overlay district. As I understand it, the use is permitted in the underlying Industrial zoning district, the use will occupy an existing vacant portion of the building at 10135 Earl Drive, and it will increase the commercial tax base in St. John, which is greatly needed.

This use will help to alleviate some of our residential tax burden, and will help to encourage further commercial growth in the US 41 commercial corridor. Again, something that is greatly needed in our community.

While this is a Special Exception in the US Route 41 Overlay district, based upon an existing location in Schererville, this proposed use will not be detrimental to the surrounding area, it would not impact neighboring property values, and this use would not impede the orderly growth in the area. In fact, the use would encourage further growth. Again, which is greatly needed, as well as support for local businesses.

As a Town we should continue to encourage appropriate commercial development and uses in our commercial and industrial zoning districts - which are already severely limited by our location. We do not have the benefits that Crown Point or others do for industrial growth, which limits our tax revenue potential.

I ask that you not adopt a pedantic adherence to an antiquated system that no longer fulfills the needs of our Town. A purely residential community cannot support the police, fire and other services required to protect us and make St. John one of the most desirable communities in South County.

Thank you for your consideration and time.

Sincerely,

Christian J. Jorgensen, Lake County Council, 7th District.

Hello, My Name is Bill Manousopoulos, I live at 10011 Parish Avenue, and I'd like to have the following statement read into the record of this meeting:

My comments are made in reference to Public Hearing Item B: Ordinance No. 1730, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1645 and Ordinance No. 1385, establishing rates and charges for the use of and services rendered by the Waterworks System.

"While the finances of the Town of St. John have been negatively impacted by the pandemic, let's keep in mind that the pandemic and the downturn in the economy has most severely impacted seniors, and those on fixed incomes. Now is not the right time to try to raise money or balance the budget on the backs of those most vulnerable. Yes, 14 years have passed since the last water rate increase; however, it doesn't make sense to whack seniors with a huge 30% percent increase in one fell swoop because nothing's been done in 14 years. Something has to be done, but let's keep the senior rate frozen.

The Water Works Committee that I serve on is investigating ways to address budget issues without raising rates 30 percent on our senior citizens who have paid more than their fair share over the years."

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Exhibit No. 2021-04-28-TC5



Beth Hernandez <bethhernandez.clerk@gmail.com>

Water bill increases

Debra Magurany <deblmag@att.net>

Sun, Apr 18, 2021 at 3:09 PM

To: "bhernandez@stjohnin.com" <bhernandez@stjohnin.com>

I am a senior who has lived in St John for 14 years. What I have heard about the increases proposed is very troubling. My bill is already high and I still had to buy a water softner and salt to keep it going. I also have to buy bottled water because I cannot drink the water. If we could get lake Michigan water the increase would be offset by the other expenses I would no longer incur. Please do everything possible to avoid this increase. With all the additional building in the area we should not have to incur the cost of the sewers and water lines that have to be put in to accomodate the new construction. Thank you for your attention to



Water and sewer rates

Mike Ziemkowski <mjtz1958@gmail.com> To: bhernandez@stjohnin.com

Sat, Apr 10, 2021 at 8:26 AM

Beth,

My name is Mike Ziemkowski, I live on 103rd court. The small piece of paper has no information on the ordinances under consideration for change. Are the changes necessary for keeping the quality of water up to good, better or best? Sewer rates, do we have our own sewer plant? Or does the sewer water get treated by Schererville? If I understand correctly, the Town cannot ever get water from Lake Michigan, correct? Therefore the Town can only rely on wells that bring up good water for Residents. Maybe one course of action could be, place a moratorium on issuing any building permits for businesses and homes until good quality water wells, towers and the like can be built and put on line to serve the needs for current homes and businesses and allow for major growth moving on into the future. A partnership with home developers, business developers, the Town and the State and yes, Federal level get involved into working together to bring quality drinking water, sewer systems into the Town for the near and far off future.

Try to spread the financial cost across residents and businesses alike. Secure State and Federal Grants for wells, water towers and maybe even the Town's own water treatment plant. Don't just look at the end of the block for a solution, look down the block, look around the corner, down to the other end of Town.

I feel that me paying my fair share of the cost is only justified, but also an opportunity to be a part owner of my Town. We chose Saint John for a few reasons, the quality of the home we had built, the infrastructure of the Town and the people of this Town. As the Town grew and continues to grow, many changes have taken place, growing pains in good and not so good directions, residents have spoken to remove some of the not so good direction people and I hope that the current staff and officials remember that and are really working to keep those changes going in the right direction.

Feel free to respond to my questions and I hope and pray that the residents of the Town continue to come out on top! Peace, Mike Ziemkowski!

Re: APRIL 2021 Water service

Marlys | perlaan < daveipe@hotmail.com>

To: Beth Hernandez <bethhernandez.clerk@gmail.com>

Sat, Apr 10, 2021 at 11:47 AM

My name is Dave Iperlaan and I have been a resident of St. John for over 20 years. I currently live in Schillton Hills. My comment is concerning our water. In my opinion we should switch to Lake Michigan water. The quality is so much better. We would not need water softeners etc. I would be willing to spend more for water if we did it. I know there already exists a connection which is sometimes opened for supplying our needs. Please consider this strongly, I think there are many people in our community that would support this.

Sincerely Dave Iperlaan

Sent from my iPad



Public Comment - Water and Sewage Ordinances

1 message

Erik De Vries <erikdevries1@hotmail.com>

Wed, Apr 28, 2021 at 9:08 AM

<bethhernandez.clerk@gmail.com>

Dear members of the Town Council and Clerk-Treasurer,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit public comment on proposed ordinances increasing rates and charges on water and sewage to property owners. Having recently moved back to Saint John, I am pleased to see the continued growth and economic prosperity the Town has experienced. However, I am concerned that the proposed increases represent an unjust enrichment of certain property developers to the detriment of property owners and other developers.

Over the past two decades, the Town has seen many new developments, which has understandably placed a strain on the infrastructure of our community. It is necessary for continued investment in the required infrastructure needed to support future development and enjoyment of this Town by its residents. However, there has been significant disparity in how the Town has deemed it appropriate to pay for that necessary infrastructure. In some cases, the Town has required private developers, at great expense, to make the necessary improvements. As other developments are made, those developers can recoup some of their investment as the infrastructure is used by further development. In other cases, as we see now, the Town has listened to shills who praise the Town but push their development costs to the residents of the town. To be clear, our infrastructure is strained because certain large tracts of land have been developed without requiring the property developer to provide the necessary infrastructure to support their expansion projects.

Property developers, whether they use dollars, pounds, euros or schillings, must pay for the cost of their development. The Town Council must not compel residents to subsidize the profits of large developers.

Kind regards,

Erik J. De Vries, CPA, MBA

11903 Louis Drive Saint John, IN 46373



Water Sewer rate increase.

Guglielmo Wendy <wendy.guglielmo@yahoo.com> To: "bhernandez@stjohnin.com" <bhernandez@stjohnin.com> Tue, Apr 20, 2021 at 7:58 PM

Good Evening Ms. Hernandez,

I would like to express my concern regarding the water & sewer rate increase. I do not agree with any increase. First of all, we pay enough for water and sewer. On top of that, I have to have a Water Softener, and purchase salt for the softener, which adds to the expense of St John Water. In addition to that, we still cannot DRINK the St. John Water. Therefore, I have to purchase water for drinking and cooking.

There have been Hundreds of Homes built in St. John over the past few years. Why in the world would you have to increase our rates when there are so many more homes paying. I don't think it is fair that we who are dedicated and loyal Residents should have to pay for all of the new water and sewer lines for these new homes. They have already added inconveniences with traffic and wildlife.

Please do not allow our water and sewer rates to increase.

Respectfully,

Wendy Guglielmo