

Summary of Comments Made During the October 8, 2015 Public Hearings Concerning the Proposed Lago Resort and Casino Project

A. Hearing #1: Planned Unit Development District Application and Development Plan

1. Robert Hayssen: Former chair of the Seneca County Board of Supervisors. Supports the hearing and the plan for Lago. Some comments say our officials have colluded with Wilmot. I consider it a partnership that a lot of thought went into. Most people in the County support the project. We will hold Wilmot to the promises they made. I am representing taxpayers, trying to get more jobs and hopefully lower the taxes. I also went before the Gaming Commission and supported Tioga Downs. They need a license like we do.
2. Don Earle: Current chair of the Seneca County Board of Supervisors and Supervisor for the Town of Seneca Falls. A project of this size has to go through a lot of steps and the Town Board has done that and did it well. Thanks to the Board for going through the process carefully.
3. Mark Benjamin: Chair of the Board of Directors for the Seneca County Chamber of Commerce. On behalf of the hundreds of member businesses, repeats full support for the Lago project and the Spring 2014 support resolution and the 2014 Seneca County Board of Supervisors support resolution. Thanks Board and Lago for supporting business friendly environment.
4. Lucille Povero: Taxpayers will get stuck with this. Concerned about Montezuma Wildlife Refuge. There used to be more geese. The habitat has been destroyed. Refuge is on its last legs. Casino will destroy remainder of habitat. Too many casinos.
5. Glen Silver: President of Concerned Citizens of Seneca County. Comments apply to both hearings. Comprehensive plan addresses land use and goals to preserve the rural character of the town. The casino is large and not consistent with Comprehensive Plan. Poll shows most people are against the project. Opposes IDA tax subsidies. The only one guaranteed to pay less is Lago. Casinos encourage addiction and create greed.
6. Catherine Strong: Lives in Waterloo. Was resident of the Town for 56 years. Sad that casino would be built where farming used to occur. Casinos can be devastating to other businesses. Casinos cause crime. Say no to project.
7. Betty Smith: Speaks about disrespect to the Amish, Dan Schwartz, at the last meeting. Supervisor McGreevy mentioned the length of driveway and how they plow the driveway. The Schwartz's use that driveway and plow it. The driveway is necessary to access milk house. Children use driveway to wait for bus. Schwartz's host large gatherings of Amish from other regions. Told that the

church wouldn't insist that they leave, it is up to Dan Schwartz. His statement that they would have to leave is due to safety and they would be forced to leave because of it. Shouldn't have his words scrutinized by a public body.

8. Allison Stokes: Will speak to the unanimous decision that a gambling casino would have no significant adverse environmental impacts. The Town board did a lot of work to correct the technicality from the court decision. Tom Wilmot sent a mailing to residents with a tear-off to send in to show support. Ads were also placed. Wilmot says that the casino will have positive impacts. Misinformation that only a few oppose the casino. Requested in Finger Lakes Times to encourage people to send tear off to her if they don't support Lago. She received a tremendous response, read examples of comments she received: don't support the casino; truck stops are necessary and casinos are not; buildings are ugly. That there is unanimous support by all boards indicates that something is happening behind closed doors. Does not pass the smell test. Should encourage socially and environmentally sound ways to benefit community.
9. Linda Ochs: Lives in Waterloo. Moved here from New Jersey which is full of casinos. This project does not have anything sustainable to offer. Look at all the casinos that are closing. Doubts people will explore the wineries or the region. People go and stay at casinos. Want jobs that will stay and take care of families. Casino will change the culture forever. This project does not respect zoning laws. Attracted to area to live in woods and use solar energy. One sheriff is not enough. Casino will externalize costs. Nothing in project proposal addresses increase in garbage to deal with. Nothing has been mentioned about recycling and composting. In long run, there will be very few benefits. Need to look at the future. How many County employees will really be hired for the project Employees will come from elsewhere. Should be doing other things to create sustainable jobs. There are too many casinos. Tyre is late in the game. Respect Amish and others who moved here out of choice because it is a nice place to live.
10. Michael Davis: Lives 3.5 miles from the Site. Heard the comments about Montezuma and the birds are in my cornfield. Casino would give locals ability to have jobs in town, the ability to sleep in their own beds and be with their kids, instead of having to travel to other cities or out of state for work and miss time with family. Rural community can have a casino and it is possible to co-exist and remain rural. Look at Turning Stone. The Board has done their due diligence in this process.
11. Desiree Dawley: SEQRA review has been flawed. None of their concerns were considered by the Board. Shocked and dismayed the Board would go ahead despite concerns raised. After five meetings it would make sense to allow the public to speak about impacts of the project. Town officials don't care about residents. Town is allowing the state-mandated review process to be twisted. Say no to Lago.

12. Tina MacDonald: Proud to be Tyre resident. Thanks the Board and proud of support for Board. The future of Tyre is Lago. Need revenue and lower taxes that the casino will provide. Just want Lago to happen.
13. Kathy Davis: Lived in Tyre most of life. Liked living in country and raising children here. Daughter had house fire and stayed with them while house rebuilt. Inspired appreciation of quiet and peaceful country life. People enjoy fall foliage and lakes but that is being chipped away. Casino will change lives in Tyre and change community. Outlet mall changed community. It increased traffic in area. Had to build larger court to take care of additional traffic tickets. Does not want casino, movie theatre or more restaurants. Casino will negatively affect local charitable bingo operations. Casino will affect family run businesses. Employment will change but the jobs they create will not result in people staying at those jobs in the long term. Problem isn't lack of jobs, people don't have work ethic or lack transportation to jobs. More people would work if there was better bus service. Wilmot is a hypocrite because he would not want to live next to a casino. Worked after stop work order – disrespectful. Would not hire Wilmot. Disappointed in Board. The Italian villa style does not fit with community. Many people oppose casino.
14. James Dawley III: Comments apply to both public hearings. Bond, Schoeneck & King advised Town on these approvals. BSK continues to be involved in the ongoing litigation. It has a vested interest in the Town reissuing Lago approvals.
15. James Nearpass: Project increases potential commercialization of farmland. Place casino north of Thruway breaks natural barrier, changes pattern because casino is north of Thruway. People would find alternate routes to avoid casino traffic. Dangerous travel for buggies because of drumlins. Listed comprehensive plan goals. Casino doesn't achieve goals of the comprehensive plan. Casino would permanently change the character of the town.
16. David Volt: From Branchport in Yates County, the smallest county in the State. They rely on agriculture and tourism, which provide a limited amount of jobs. Last worked in Yates County 7 years ago. Must work in surrounding counties or travel out of state. Want to be able to work closer to home. Supports Lago.
17. Chris Hollfelder: From Rochester. Represents the sheet metal workers for six counties. Supports the project and has from the beginning. Project provides many high quality jobs, jobs that support the community and that provide benefits. We all want lower taxes. Genesis of northern gateway of Finger Lakes. After casino, we will do work for other businesses that are revitalized by it. Local business and restaurant owners will support this.
18. Robert Shipley: Seneca County Board of Supervisors. Thanks Town Board and Town Planning Board for their work for the 981 town residents and says well

done from the remaining 34, 000 Seneca County residents who will benefit from the vitality from Lago. Opposition funded by Oneida nation, for selfish reasons. Project will reverse long term job loss trend.

B. Hearing #2: Proposed Local Law No. 5 of 2015

1. Glen Silver: See Hearing #1 comments.
2. Melissa Sutterby: Thanks Board for hard work. There have been many long meetings. Many speakers tonight do not live here or have not attended the meetings, so how can you say that something hasn't been researched or studied? The town needs something to survive. Want to preserve the character of the town but without some growth, the town will die. Very religious and don't agree with gambling but it is everywhere. The casino will create jobs and encourage development. Traffic not a big deal because it is right off the Thruway. County is poor and needs additional economic activity. Those opposed initially just wanted it to move to Route 318 so it's not in their own backyard. They say they're here for the whole town, so why leave the meetings when casino business is done? Town road needs new culvert, town needs new \$130,000 loader, where will this money come from? Issue has divided town, opposition has been unkind. Mudslinging just because someone doesn't agree with you. We are all entitled to make our own choices.
3. Allison Stokes: Present zoning of the site is agricultural. Wilmot asked IDA to assist with property acquisition for \$1 million dollars in February. In March, sale was listed and showed sale was for \$600,000. IDA did not know property had already been purchased before asked for help from IDA. You can't trust Wilmot. Corruption is private gain at public expense. This process is corrupt.
4. Michael Davis: Repeats comments from previous hearing. Lower taxes, good jobs, progress is what we're all after.
5. Desiree Dawley: Wants to address comments that were made. Mr. Hayssen doesn't live in Tyre. He is the former County supervisor, he has no idea what our concerns are and he previously said the Thruway protects things from going north and this project is north of the Thruway, in an agricultural district, next to homes. Mike Davis lives 3 miles away from site and doesn't mind commercial development. When you get in the trades, people know they'll be travelling and it's not our job to provide jobs for people for the next two years. Comparison to Farmington wrong because it is a horse track, it is nowhere near the size of this project and the area isn't comparable to Tyre. Foxwoods in Connecticut is better comparison. Tina McDonald is employed by Wilmorite. Casino will create more expenses, higher taxes, and just temporary jobs. Say no to ruining this Town.
6. Kathy Davis: Wilmorite owns property and beautiful home with wide open space. He doesn't want people to live next to him. Wilmorite left Sibley building millions

of dollars in the hole. Wilmot harassed people about selling their properties. He was told to stop construction and did not. He has no respect for the community. We should not do business with him. Tyre has always managed. All we need is peace, quiet, safety, love and consideration. Disappointed about what is happening in the community. Board needs to look at the future.

7. Chris Hollfelder: Represents workers in trades. I must speak about issues for good families. These are good family and community supporting jobs. Worked closely with Wilmorite about benefits they have committed to paying (health care, HRA, pensions). Support making changes necessary to build the project. This is a build with long-term jobs and commitment to good paying jobs.
8. Susan Delpapa: Ms. Dawley complained about people not living in Tyre but she lived in Waterloo a month ago. Tina McDonald works at Geneva Hospital, not Wilmorite. Half of her family are construction workers and they need jobs to feed their families. Most town residents support project. People want good jobs close to home. Board has done a great job.
9. Paul Porter: 200 acre farm. Grows organic produce. Been here two years. From England/Canada. Rents organic land to Daniel Schwartz. Schwartz has two driveways and uses both. North driveway not as safe so uses south driveway which is closer to proposed entrance. Traffic creates safety issues for Schwartz property. From London and people will reroute when traffic gets backed up. His customers don't want casino. Skaneateles and Ithaca reinvented themselves with tourism. Tyre has Women's Rights Museum, should focus on that. Agricultural producers will leave if casino is built. Tyre will turn into Syracuse, casino will fail, and nobody will want it. Will be a scab and left with industrial wasteland.
10. Robert Hayssen: Still present and here for the duration.