

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Van Scyoc has earned residents' support

To the editor: After reading the Waukesha Freeman's letter to the editor from Tom Kelenic, one only needs to consider the source. This is the same Tom Kelenic, co-owner of the 5 Diamonds Baseball park (a private, for-profit development), who recently filed to be annexed to the city of Waukesha; the same person with over 40 violations of their conditional license, while continuing to maximize their investment by overscheduling games and then pulling on the heart strings of the community with "it's for the good of the kids," claiming the town officials don't have any management background. Really?

Angie Van Scyoc, town chairwoman, continues to demonstrate management skills with her efforts to keep the residents in the Town of Waukesha from becoming part of the village of Brookfield. For those who haven't been following this story, the Town of Brookfield is trying to acquire 288 acres of our town, without the residents' approval, so that they can change status from a town to a village. Angie has led the fight to prevent not only losing these residents, but also protecting our investment of Greenfield Avenue and Springdale Road, while pursuing future redevelopment plans, adding millions to our tax base.

We're also proud of her leadership as we navigate through the decision not to participate in the city of Waukesha's request for water through Lake Michigan. Paraded as a Trojan Horse, this would have been devastating for the town had we proceeded with the Great Lakes water service area, opening us up to development after development in our town, only to lose our tax base through repeated annexation requests. This fight is still very active, defining the borders for water service and pursuing legal remedy of the Lathers shallow well project, but we're very confident in her ability to respect our intent to solidify boundaries between our town and adjacent communities.

While the board has met in both closed and open sessions many times, the transition from the old three-person board of Tallinger, Smart, and German left our current five-person board of Van Scyoc, Banske, Laska, Fischer, and German in a mess. Let's not get bogged down in the number of meetings, did having 110 meetings serve us well with the old board compared to 193 (using Kelenic's numbers) for our current board for the same time frame? Memory being what it is, it's easy to forget the reason we put Angie at the helm in the first place, to preserve and protect our town.

While there may be times of dissent and tensions will run high, one thing is certain: We have the utmost respect and continued support for Angie Van Scyoc as town chairwoman.

Brian Gracyalny

Town of Waukesha