

While the Mayor, Council President and Council as well as agents of Massillon Material are predicting financial doom if Issue 2 passes, I believe the truth is something very different. For nearly two years, Bolivar Village officials have quietly orchestrated the sale of Village property, annexation of Lawrence Township property, amendment of the Village's zoning regulations and rezoning. The professed purpose of these actions is to enable the Village to get out of debt.

My question is, "What debt." The Burfield Property, the land at the center of the sand and gravel scandal was purchased nearly 8 years ago by the Village. The concerned 63 acres is prime real estate property. It is excellent agriculture land and highly suitable for residential commercial and light industry development. However, this land was left undeveloped. By early 2012, the loan used to purchase the Burfield property had been paid down to \$272,000. Bolivar Village was never in the red and always made their payments on time.

On February 6, 2012, Bolivar Village Mayor announced during Council meeting that the development of this property was a priority. Surprisingly, less than two months later Council President moved that the same property be declared unnecessary for any Village purpose and that its sale be authorized. This motion was seconded and without any discussion in public as to why its development was no longer a priority and why it should be sold, the first reading of the ordinance was given. On May 7, 2012 the third reading was given and the Village proceeded with the sale of this property. The rest is history. The sale of this property generated \$1,000,100. That is \$730,000 more than was owed by the Village. I believe the residents and taxpayers of Bolivar Village deserve an accounting of this windfall.