

From: John Wrede [<mailto:wredejm125@knology.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2013 9:32 AM
To: Laroco Robert; Fisher Vicki
Cc: Petersen Bonny; Wright Jerry
Subject: Fw: Rippin' Rapids water park
Importance: High

I forward with return receipt and high priority designation after forgetting to do that with the first e-mail. Thanks

John Wrede

----- Original Message -----

From: [John Wrede](#)
To: [Laroco Robert](#)
Cc: [Bonnie Peterson](#) ; [Jerry Wright](#) ; [Mayor Sam Kooiker](#) ; [Fisher Vicki](#)
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2013 9:22 AM
Subject: Re: Rippin' Rapids water park

Robert:

Thank you for the status notification of the Rippin Rapids Water Park.

I did receive a phone call from David Papen and we did engage in brief discussion on the proposal. If anything, my concerns are elevated after talking with Mr. Papen and I remain diametrically opposed to this development. Since our last communication, I've visited with several people with regard to this project and can find no one within that circle of people that is the least bit enthusiastic about this recreational water development, it's need, or the conflicts with resources, public facilities and culture that evolve with it. I remain particularly offended by the promoters stated goal for this project of "giving the Wisconsin Dells a run for its money" and have added concerns after listening to Mr. Papens remarks and inferences about the community's need and responsibility to protect a sizeable private investment that is largely dependant upon, tourism, public water resources and Black Hills aesthetics. What I heard from Mr. Papen does not convince me that the business plan for this development has the best interests of Rapid City and Black Hills resources at heart and there is certainly no showing, to this point, that there is any interest from this tourism business to support natural resource conservation in the Black Hills Region... what I object to, as much as anything else, is private enterprise's willingness to exploit our dwindling water, open space, and the remainder of our natural heritage without the least bit of committment to protecting and enhancing the integrity and purity of the same. It's all take and no give.....(the tax base does not improve the potential for conservation of water or it's cleanliness. It just adds to the expense of infrastructure that uses more water.) Mr. Papen mentioned to me that he and his business were also opposed to the Powertech uranium mining proposal and that his enterprise was actively lobbying against that proposal. If the City is opposed to the wreckless and irresponsible use of water by the mining industry like Powertech, there ought to be equal concern and opposition to in house projects that also fail the test of "using water for the "highest public purpose". All the commentary thus far gives the appearance that City opposition to the Powertech water issue is politically supported by Rippin Rapids for nefarious purposes. I find that possibility more than a bit hypocritical and objectionable.

While the matter is likely mute now, I would like to point out that I did meet the original deadline for appeal as is evidenced by the date and time of my original e-mail. The mere fact that you respond now to that e-mail

is clear confirmation that you received it. In prior conversation with you, you stated that in order for any public comment to be considered on appeal, documentation would need to be submitted by close of business on June 27, 2013. Submission of that documentation at 2:30 PM on the date specified is clearly within the guidelines you provided to me. Not only did I send the letter to you, but I sent the same information, return receipt, in follow up at 5:00 PM on that same day to Brett Limbaugh, Mayor Kooiker, Councilman Wright and Council Chairman Bonnie Peterson. The City did indeed receive my appeal within the time frame you specified. Given that, I'm a bit upset with the accusation that I didn't fulfill some sort of legal guideline that now allows a process to move forward with prejudice. The onus needs to be placed where it belongs.

Once again, I thank you for the notification and information. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated. Please be advised that it is my intention to provide further comment on this project.. I will submit a formal letter, via return receipt e-mail prior to September 5, 2013 and wish for it to become part of the official record.

Thank you again for your courtesy.

John Wrede
Rapid City

----- Original Message -----

From: [Laroco Robert](#)

To: wredejm125@knology.net

Cc: [Fisher Vicki](#)

Sent: Monday, August 26, 2013 3:09 PM

Subject: Rippin' Rapids water park

John

You may recall the discussion you had with City staff regarding the review and approval of the Initial Planned Development for the Rippin' Rapid water park and hotel complex to be located south east of the intersection of North La Crosse Street and East Mall Drive. In particular, you expressed reservations about the proposed project, specifically concerns about the water usage of the project (please see below). Unfortunately, we did not receive your request to appeal this item within the permitted timeframe. This email is to inform you that the Final Planned Development has been submitted for review (File #13PD034) and has been placed on the September 5, 2013 Planning Commission meeting agenda.

After our last discussion, it is my understanding that you spoke with David Papen, the developer for this project. I am curious to know if your concerns have been addressed, and what your position on the proposed development is now. If you still have concerns about the project and you would like to submit them to me for public comments, please let me know via a reply to this email. If you have no opinion or if you are in support of the project, please let me know that as well.

Thank you for your input. I look forward to your response.

Robert Laroco

Planner II, Community Planning & Development Services
City of Rapid City
605.394-4120
robert.laroco@rcgov.org

----- Original Message -----

From: [John Wrede](#)

To: [Robert Loroco](#)

Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2013 2:29 PM

Subject: Appeal of Planning Commission Approval of Rippin Rapids

Robert:

Thank you for taking the time to visit with me about the Rippin Rapids water park. I attach, herewith, a letter addressed to the City Council which I intend to be an appeal to reconsider the Planning Commissions decision to approve the initial plan for this water park. I trust that the letter will find it's way to the appropriate people within the proper time frame to be considered. I believe I've articulated my concerns fairly well but in the even there are questions or clarification required, I will be available at the address and phone numbers provided in the closing.

Once again, thank you for your courteous and sincere response to my interests and questions.

*John Wrede
2802 Westgate Drive
Rapid City, SD*

From: Becky Leas [<mailto:rrleas@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2013 9:50 AM
To: John Wrede
Cc: Laroco Robert; Petersen Bonny; Wright Jerry; Kooiker Sam; Fisher Vicki
Subject: Re: Rippin' Rapids water park

Well said John! Today's national report on the national news media both TV and newspaper states the Ogalalla aquifer is in grave danger and will be 70% gone by 2060. Entertainment oriented use of valuable water resources especially critical in a semi- arid region are short sighted and terribly imprudent. To even think our small area could compete with the Wisconsin Dells is laughable and also sad. I have been to the Dells and it gets much precipitation and is the major "escape " place for both Chicago and Milwaukee . To compare Rapid City to the Dells is unthinkable and to anyone from the eastern United States this comparison would make us look like uneducated bumpkins. By 2020 the World Health Organization is predicting worldwide water chaos. We should be conserving water not wasting it.
Becky

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 27, 2013, at 11:22 AM, "John Wrede" <wredejm125@knology.net> wrote:

Robert :

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Planner II, Community Planning & Development Services

City of Rapid City

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