

Township Board Meeting Video Mishap

A glitch occurred in the filming of Monday's Township Board Meeting, June 13th. As the meeting began, the videographer realized that sound was not being captured at the proper level and had to shut the camera off and restart it at the 2:37 minute mark of the recording. This was in the middle of the 1st public speaker, Gail Snyder. We apologize for this issue and have obtained a letter from the videographer explaining what he did to fix the sound. This letter is shown below.

Capturing the proceedings of Township meetings is a important element of our commitment to transparency. This Administration implemented the video recording process at our very 1st Board Meeting in May of 2021. We take this very seriously.

There was no tampering with this recording on purpose.

Attached is the full transcript of Mrs. Snyder's public comment.

Steve Balich

Township Supervisor

TRANSCRIPT OF GAIL SYNDER'S PUBLIC COMMENT AT THE JUNE 13TH HOMER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

June 13, 2022

Comments to Homer Township Board regarding Open Space

Good Evening Supervisor Balich and Trustees,

I am a resident of Homer Township living in Homer Glen and live near the Open Space land known as the Trantina Farm. In July of 2019 Steve Balich spoke at the township meeting raising objection to the then concept plan of the Trantina farm.

Quoting what Steve Balich said:

"In regard to the Community/Event Center Mr. Balich added he is concerned about the possibility of the people being taxed for this center. While he acknowledges that may not happen now during the current Board's term (which was 2019) he fears it may happen later. He is concerned that an Event Center of this nature competes with other local for-profit businesses as well. Mr. Balich contends that this is a for-profit Event Center based on previous conversation. He stated that he didn't know that we were going to a Socialist or Communist Township. He fears since the State Statute says the Township "may" tax the people for a facility of this type that it could happen in the future."

In November of 2020 an advisory referendum was approved by voters for a pole barn to be built on the Trantina farm. Discussions at the time included additional parking for 150-300 cars.

So here we are in the "future" and I would like to know what has changed since then that Supervisor Balich is now in support of a more intense development of Open Space into a commercial level event center with parking for 1,500 cars which is five times more parking than what was being discussed in 2019 when he objected to it?

Also, I am curious if everyone who disagrees with him gets called a "Socialist or Communist" as he stated back then and has recently stated about others. This is a most unprofessional way for an elected official to represent all of his constituency. Residents of Homer Township can let the facts of this speak for themselves. Please just stick to the issues without all the petty name calling.

Homer Township Office
14350 W. 151st Street
Homer Glen, IL 60491

June 15th, 2022

Clerk Vicki Bozen,

During the 1st few minutes of the June 13th Homer Township Board Meeting, while Gail Snyder was delivering her Public Comment, I noticed that the sound was diminishing. The sound level was at such a low volume, I could not hear the speaker in my headset. I had doubts that the camera was picking up any sound, so that is when I checked the shotgun microphone. A shotgun microphone is a high-sensitivity device and it is used to pick up sound anywhere in a room. I discovered that the shotgun microphone was plugged into the wrong jack on the camera. I changed jacks, but in order for the camera to recognize the external shotgun microphone, I had to restart the camera. This caused the camera to lose 5 to 10 seconds of footage.

I understand that the video recording is an official record of the proceedings, and going forward, if any technical glitch occurs, I will announce it immediately and let the Board decide how to proceed.

Thank You.

Grant Spooner

Videographer

Signature

Date

6-15-2022