Gary Lichtenstein <gdlqed@yahoo.com>
To:farout@frontiernet.net
Mon, May 1 at 9:34 AM
Greetings Marcia,

Hope you are doing well and had a good Passover. I found out on Friday that I got a contract to go to Egypt--today! I won't get back before the 10 day comment period on the Aviation Ordinance and I'm out the door, heading to PHX for a flight tonight. I want to register a comment about the aviation ordinance, but couldn't figure out where to do that. Perhaps you can forward this, if there is a site. Otherwise, you'll have my thoughts and I'll feel better having shared them.

I want to say that I think this aviation proposal is extremely ill-advised. Regardless of the merit of the proposal, the process damages the town. To my knowledge, nobody has spoken with Amer about these issues. If they had, they would know that he is willing to consider alternatives. There is a cease and desist order in place, so nothing is going to happen right away and there is no immediate cause to rush this. Going straight to the extreme actions, including bringing in lawyers and passing this ordinance, solves nothing and will create downstream issues that will keep manifesting, just like the water wars did and still do. I see no reason to take this path, which is heated and hasty. Sensible people could work together as neighbors and devise alternatives that would build this community rather than tear it apart. For example, this would be a perfect opportunity to develop our airport facilitates for fire mitigation and tourism. Yes, we could do this with the proposed aviation ordinance in place (unless it extends to the airport--I haven't seen the language). But taking further action would be much more effective and healthy for the town with Amer's support than without it. I suggest tabling the proposal and opening a dialogue to consider thoughtful, collaborative ways of moving ahead--perhaps by charging a sub-committee that includes Amer and those with diverse perspectives to meet and propose alternatives to P&Z and/or the Council within a specified period of time (e.g., 3 months).

Thanks,

g.