

**Clerk**

---

**From:** Robert G. Abboud [president@barringtonhills-il.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 13, 2010 2:03 PM  
**To:** 'STEPHENHARRISON@COMCAST.NET'  
**Cc:** jk@knightcorporation.com; Dolores; 'Goldblatt, Joel'; 'James Kelly'; 'Michael Murphy'; 'Robert Kosin'; Selman, Karen; 'Wambach Douglas'; Beth Mallen; Elaine Ramesh; Fritz Gohl; Joe Messer; Steve Knoop; Walter Smithe  
**Subject:** RE: ATTACHMENT INCLUSION - Lighting

Mr. Harrison:

Thank you for taking the time to write this and the time to write the article in the Herald.

I will be sure to pass your comments on to the Board and the ZBA. It's important that as a Village we work together and listen to each other's perspective. I thought I might take a moment to clarify some misconceptions you spoke about in your writings. My purpose is not to try to change your mind, but just make sure you have all the facts. The attached news letter article, previously published, discusses my position on the subject.

Regarding the procedures and operations of the ZBA for which you comment that you were unable to present your views: The ZBA has held multiple meetings covering many hours of comment by residents. Prior to that, the Plan Commission took many hours of public comment and worked in open meetings for some 2 years on this issue. I think you would agree, that at some point, the ZBA needs the breathing room to get on with the deliberation and perform the function for which they are tasked.

With regard to your comments about the relative constitutionality of lighting ordinances, I believe you will find that most municipalities have them, and they are not in constitutional question as you suggest in your Herald letter. The reason we are looking a nuisances such as lighting is because of the Village's constitutional requirement to treat everyone equally. We seem to have a minority of residents who do not seem to exercise the ability to respect their neighbors. These problems then wind up on my desk with a request to address the issue. This lighting issue is no different. The more residents respect their neighbors and work problems out individually, the less our Village government needs to be involved and the lower our costs. The "*I can do whatever I want*" strategy is not conducive to maintaining small government.

Like you, I have lived in BH since 1968. And I have been a student of the development and management of the Village in land-use and community development. The Village of Barrington Hills is **NOT** a "**laissez faire COMMUNITY**" as you state in your letter; it never has been. To the contrary, the Village is a highly engineered and managed environment since its inception. However, we go to great lengths to perform this task with the minimum possible impact on us all. If you take a quick look at the Village code on the BH WEB site you can see the scale of the systems that protect our unique environment. You also itemized some of these issues yourself.

The \$5,000 was expended at the request of HALO, which I and the Board approved for their benefit of the HALO residents who wanted an impact study. The "expensive folly" is at the request of HALO, not the Village Board. In fact, HALO wanted the Board to expand the study. I did not allow this request to proceed further.

I am somewhat surprised by your perspective on community government in your letter and your article. If I am not mistaken, you served as an **appointed** member of the Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District, just as the members of the ZBA are appointed. Your board participated in a number of fire code and building code updates during your tenure. So I am wholly surprised at your public attack on the ZBA.

5/13/2010

Finally, regarding the last part of your letter, I doubt that Mr. Jefferson commented on the lighting ordinance. I believe you have taken Mr. Jefferson's comment substantially out of context. The quote you refer to is from his 1802 letter to Thomas Cooper.

*To Thomas Cooper, Esq.*

*Washington, November 29, 1802.*

*Dear Sir,—Your favor of October 25th was received in due time, and I thank you for the long extract you took the trouble of making from Mr. Stone's letter. Certainly the information it communicates as to Alexander kindles a great deal of interest in his existence, and strong spasms of the heart in his favor. Though his means of doing good are great, yet the materials on which he is to work are refractory. Whether he engages in private correspondences abroad, as the King of Prussia did much, and his grandfather sometimes, I know not; but certainly such a correspondence would be very interesting to those who are sincerely anxious to see mankind raised from their present abject condition. It delights me to find that there are persons who still think that all is not lost in France: that their retrogradation from a limited to an unlimited despotism, is but to give themselves a new impulse. But I see not how or when. The press, the only tocsin of a nation, is completely silenced there, and all means of a general effort taken away. However, I am willing to hope, and as long as anybody will hope with me; and I am entirely persuaded that the agitations of the public mind advance its powers, and that at every vibration between the points of liberty and despotism, something will be gained for the former. As men become better informed, their rulers must respect them the more. I think you will be sensible that our citizens are fast returning, from the panic into which they were artfully thrown, to the dictates of their own reason; and I believe the delusions they have seen themselves hurried into will be useful as a lesson under similar attempts on them in future. The good effects of our late fiscal arrangements will certainly tend to unite them in opinion, and in confidence as to the views of their public functionaries, legislative and executive. The path we have to pursue is so quiet that we have nothing scarcely to propose to our Legislature. A noiseless course, meddling with the affairs of others, unattractive of notice, is a mark that society is going on in happiness. If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretence of taking care of them, they must become happy. Their finances are now under such a course of application as nothing could derange but war or federalism. The gripe of the latter has shown itself as deadly as the jaws of the former. Our adversaries say we are indebted to their providence for the means of paying the public debt. We never charged them with the want of foresight in providing money, but with the misapplication of it after they had provided it. We say they raised not only enough, but too much; and that after giving back the surplus we do more with a part than they did with the whole.*

*Your letter of November 18th is also received. The places of midshipman are so much sought that (being limited) there is never a vacancy. Your son shall be set down for the 2d place, which shall be vacant; the 1st being anticipated. We are not long generally without vacancies happening. As soon as he can be appointed you shall know it. I pray you to accept assurances of my great attachment and respect. — Thomas Jefferson*

I would be happy to discuss the lighting or other issues with you more at your convenience. Please feel free to speak at the next Village Board meeting. Thank you for your efforts on the events you highlight in your letter. But I ask you not to fuel the those who seek to create a divisive culture in our community by broadcasting cheap political rhetoric. All of us working together is what make this a great community.

Best Regards.

Bob A.

Robert G. Abboud  
 President, Village of Barrington Hills  
 President, RGA Labs, Inc.  
 Home: 847-381-8174  
 Office: 847-381-1932

5/13/2010

Cell: 847-921-1932  
President@BarringtonHills-il.gov  
<http://www.barringtonhills-il.gov/>  
[www.RGALabs.com](http://www.RGALabs.com)

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

From: STEPHENHARRISON@COMCAST.NET [mailto:STEPHENHARRISON@comcast.net]  
Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2010 09:36  
To: clerk@barringtonhills-il.gov  
Cc: president@barringtonhills-il.gov  
Subject: ATTACHMENT INCLUSION

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "STEPHENHARRISON@COMCAST.NET" <STEPHENHARRISON@comcast.net>  
To: clerk@barringtonhills-il.gov  
Cc: president@barringtonhills-il.gov  
Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2010 8:31:06 AM GMT -06:00 Central America  
Subject: LIGHTING

DEAR MADAM VILLAGE CLERK

PLEASE FORWARD TO EACH TRUSTEE AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ZBA A COPY OF THIS COMMUNICATION TOGETHER WITH MY LETTER TO THE DAILY HERALD ATTACHED HEREIN SO THAT MY POSITION ON THE THE LIGHTING ISSUE IS KNOWN IN THE VILLAGE RECORDS SINCE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ZBA HAS REFUSED TO ACCEPT ANY MORE PUBLIC COMMENT RE THIS ISSUE AT THE NEXT ZBA MEETING

MY POSITION WAS PUBLISHED IN THE HERALD ON MONDAY

IN MY 37 YEARS AS AN AREA RESIDENT I HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN ISSUES OF COMMON CONCERN INCLUDING THE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE INTRUSION, THE POPLAR CREEK WATER CONSUMPTION DRAIN, THE CLUSTER ZONING ORDINANCE , THE EJE COMMUTER/SEARS PROPOSAL, THE ROUTE 68 BYPASS, THE DUDA DISCONNECT, THE CANADIAN PACIFIC/EJE TAKE OVER PROBLEM.

THE LIGHTING ORDINANCE IS AN EGREGIOUS ASSAULT ON MY PERSONAL FREEDOMS AND THE VERY REASON I MOVED TO A laissez faire COMMUNITY WHERE EVEN DOGS RUN FREE

NO MORE ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MY LIGHTING AS A PUBLIC DISTURBANCE THAN TO MY RADIO IN THAT REGARD---OTHERWISE GET OUT OF MY LIFE

HERE IS WHAT THOMAS JEFFERSON SAID ABOUT THE LIGHTING ORDINANCE:

I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them.

Thomas Jefferson

My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government.  
Thomas Jefferson

5/13/2010

SINCERELY

STEPHEN M. HARRISON

90 HILLS AND DALES ROAD

BARRINGTON HILLS

847-381-4828