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 President & CEO

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to be shown in detail how we are going to pay for this. I do not want to find out a few years after the facility is built that we miscalculated the cost and will be forced to raise taxes in one form or another. However, I will never consider supporting [the jail] when it is being forced down the throats of the people in a community that does not want it.

Mr. Hendrix also states that I should know about the 1/4 percent sales tax. Of course I know. I am reminded every time I go to purchase something at the grocery store or pay for gas. If our leadership wants to do the right thing, they should call for a public forum/informational meeting so people can have their questions and concerns answered directly from those making the decisions. That is true leadership, working with and for the people we represent.

Also in reading Mr. Russell's latest attempt to justify his position, I again say to you, Mr. Russell, it has been over two months now that I have requested through our county administrator to set up a meeting with you and the Finance Committee and not only to fully explain to me but the citizens of Herkimer County on how we are going to pay for this jail. Instead of doing that you choose to call me a liar. You refer to a \$31 million expense in my report, which, as you say, there is none, but as you well know, it has been repeatedly stated by our county administrator the price tag to construct this jail will be between \$30-\$35 million, which translates to between \$1.8-\$2.2 million a year for 20 years in interest and principle (depending on whose numbers you believe)

or a final construction cost of between \$36-\$44 million after 20 years, and this does not include any cost overruns, which usually happen in projects of this size.

The bigger problem that emerges here is again the lack of communication from certain members who assume everyone knows what they know. This again, I blame the county leadership, for which Mr. Russell is also a member. Mr. Russell, we both know the truth and the public will as well. If you ever decide to hold a meeting, I will be more than happy to attend and we can hopefully clarify our financial situation in regards to the jail.

Also, please continue to send in your responses to the county-wide survey that we are conducting in regards to the jail. Although I have heard from many of you both for and against, I still need to hear from as many people as possible, so if you have not yet responded, please do so. Please take part in the survey by going online to our Web site at www.ccbhc.com. You will find a lot of relevant information there. Tell your family and friends to also participate. If you do not have computer access and wish to participate, please call me at (315) 866-3474 and you can take the survey over the phone. It is important that we hear from as many people as possible on this important issue. We will most likely end the survey by the end of April. As usual, I am always available to answer any questions or concerns that anyone has, to the best of my knowledge.

Joseph Chilleli,
 County Legislator
 Town/Village
 of Herkimer

Planners from page 1

ings," said Timm. "Seven more are scheduled for demolition, including 11 that were within 100 feet of the lake. The other seven buildings on the property were either built, or updated, by Lynn University and so are in reasonable condition. We will probably be able to completely renovate them to our very strict specifications. We may also be building on the property and thus could be selling either vacant lots or improved lots with finished dwellings

on them," he said.

There is no public access through the property so it will be a quiet place for a new subdivision. Timm says he believes construction on some parcels will begin soon.

"Several of our potential buyers will probably start some construction early this spring. We will continue with our building demolition, beach and ground replenishment and clean-up, roadway development, and underground utilities," Timm said.

Sewer from page 1

funds projects must be "shovel ready" by Dec. 31, this year.

There will be more information provided to the board by the engineering firm during its regular meeting on April 21, at 7 p.m..

Once the plans are finalized they will come before citizens for comment during public hearings.

—M. Lisa Monroe