

From: [Thom Ely](#)
To: [Julie Cozzi](#); [Mike Case](#); [Heather Lende](#); [Margaret Friedenauer](#); [Tom Morphet](#); [Ron Jackson](#); [Tresham Gregg](#); [Jan Hill](#); [William Seward](#)
Cc: [Lynn Canal Conservation](#); [Chilkat Valley News](#); [KHNS News](#); [Eric Holle](#); tdhallett@gmail.com
Subject: 12/13/16 Borough Assembly Meeting - Closing Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2016 7:13:11 AM

Dear Assembly, Mayor and Manager,

I'm unable to attend the end of the meeting to make these comments. It seemed like a good time to take a break as there was general confusion regarding the last few items on the agenda.

Choosing to postpone any map amendments until all of the wildlife data from F&G and the make up of the committee is resolved was a good idea, thank you. That decision and vote did not negate the two appeals as implied by some Assembly members. Their cases and arguments still needed to be heard.

The appropriate action for Mr Hallet's appeal would have been to affirm it, as the points he brought up are the reason you voted to postpone any decision until those points are resolved. The arguments he presented have been stated for many years and were brought up after the last map revision.

The permit holders and there representatives should not be voting or sitting on a committee where they have a financial stake in the decisions made. They can lobby and weigh in as the public does on issues presented.

Part of the reason that the heliskiing issue keeps coming before the Assembly, besides the incessant demands from some of the permit holders, is that the Borough has not followed through on code revisions, enforcement and compliance regarding this industry.

The industry has been allowed to overly influence, lobby and break regulations governing them. Part of the problem is the revolving door of managers and assembly members. The heliskiing industry is not the only user of our public lands during the winter and spring.

Mr Hallet's and Mr Holle's appeals are meant to show that the decision making process is flawed and needs to be corrected, not left to the whims of the next manager or assembly.

It would be great to put this issue to rest for awhile. It has consumed far too much public time and money. In order to do so the industry will need to learn compromise and respect for all land users, including wildlife. The government will need to write clear code and regulations and stand by them.

Thanks for your time and effort governing our community!

Sincere Regards,
Thom Ely