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* Sometimes you have to make very tough decisions; this is one of those times. I will be voting for the Access Road.

* I have made a decision that I feel is in the best interests of the town for several reasons.

They follow:

- (1) I made a comment at our last council meeting that by voting for the meals tax increase, "we are counting pennies watching thousand dollars bill go by the window". Well it is actually \$100,000 bills we are letting slip through our hands.

(2)

* We are in an economic downturn and must take care of taxpayers, citizens, children and also the fine staff of people we employ in town; be at the town hall, fire department, police department, DPW, Board of Health, School Department, etc.

* On June 27, 2006, the voters of Southbridge voted 2 to 1 to approve the Industrial Park Access Road.

They voted this even though at the time we were solely on the hook to pay for it. This is very interesting because the year before 61% voted no to a Prop 2½ override.

(3)

* Since that June 27, 2006, Casella has agreed to pay 7.2 million for the first ^{Phase} ~~Phase~~ of the Industrial Park Road, and we are through the contract we signed with Casella, ^{obligated} to build this road.

* The Road is free and it will benefit us. Every which way I look at it, it is free and if we do not build it we will eventually get sued.

Casella is not going to go gently into the night.

* I am not in favor of the landfill. But that is a separate issue from building the access Road.

(4)

I am not in favor of the contract we signed OR what we agreed to, for compensation.

But again; we have to live with it

The people on Pleasant Street have suffered enough. It is long overdue to get those trucks off of "Hell's Highway".

The Pleasant Street people have given up on the council and are fed up. This is all

I hear. It is interesting to note I never hear that ^{they} will be upset with the increase of garbage. If they can live with it so can't we.

(5)

* The access Road is only 20 yards from Charlton meaning most of the trucks will be coming down Rte 169 and not through Southbridge.

Therefore, the truck traffic will not affect that many homes. Only a few.

* The town council has approved the costs - for phase 1 of the Access Road - \$7,200,000. It needed a 2/3rds vote and passed 17 to 2.

It is interesting to note Councilor McDonald who seems now against it voted for the appropriation.

(6)
* He can't take that vote back.

* The access Road project is fully bonded by SRD for \$7.2 million. Should Casella be unable to fulfill their financial obligation, there are protection clauses to prevent Southbridge taxpayers from having to pay ^{back the} \$7.2 million.

* We are off the hook to paying for Phase 1 of the access Road and have a bid that includes everything ~~inside~~ including complete installation of underground electrical and full sewer/water as the SPD contract of May 2007 stipulates

(7)

* The construction of Phase 1 of the access Road will provide immediate ~~and~~ accessibility to over 40 acres of town owned industrial PARK land.

* IF we did not have this contract agreement with Casella we would be on the hook for the costs for Required pre and post closure of the Landfill. This cost could be as low as \$14 million and as high as \$30 million. The \$30 million is fully funded by SRD to cover these costs.

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* If we do not build the road and Casella was to get the courts to invalidate our contract we would lose a \$1 million royalty payment a year plus another \$750,000.00 which it would cost us to pick up our own trash which Casella now does for free.
We would lose \$1,750,000 a year if we do not build.

* We are now losing 1.3 million a year from Casella for not building the access road.

* We stand to make up to 2.5 million a year once the total contract kicks in.

(9)

* I ask you how are we going to protect the citizens of Southbridge, the taxpayers of Southbridge, and the employees of Southbridge if we don't vote for this access road? ~~the town's survival~~.

* Where are ^{we} going to get the money to run our town???

We could be forced into ~~state~~ Receivership.

* The state is talking about 9-c's cuts this month where they take ^{back} money they all ready appropriated to us

(10)

* We must ~~move~~ the town forward
and not ~~a~~ ^{into} financial hole
we will never get out of.

* I am voting "yes".

* It is the only financial
stability course that
we have in front of us to go.

Section 2 - 6 - 1 of the Town Charter authorizes that a special town council meeting may be held by any three members of the council.

We the undersigned call for a special town council meeting for Thursday, September 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers to "Vote to ratify the award of the contract for the Industrial Park Access Road Infrastructure Improvement Project - Phase 1 ("Contract") to Marois Brothers, Inc. in the amount of \$5,408,449.00, including the preliminary award of the Contract and final award of the Contract upon resolution of the pending Superseding Order of Conditions and any appeal thereof.




