

John Misiaszek Comments on Woodlake and County Taxes

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David Sinclair/Managing Editor

Within the article entitled “County Debates Use of Extra School Bond Money”

In other matters Tuesday:

* During the public comment period at the start of the meeting, Woodlake resident John Misiaszek, countered comments made by another resident at the March 19 meeting that state Reps. Jamie Boles and Allen McNeill and Sen. Tom McInnis “erred” by introducing legislation to create a tax district to finance repairs to the breached dam of its lake. Property owners of the gated community would repay debt for the repairs.

“Any borrowing anticipated under the state bills presented expect all cost of borrowing, principal and interest as well as any other costs, will be repaid exclusively by the residents of Woodlake community and not encumber, in any way, any residents of Moore County living outside of the Woodlake gates,” Misiaszek said.

Misiaszek said recent changes, including a potential new owner out at Woodlake, could be a positive sign. Longtime Woodlake property owner and Fayetteville businessman Keith Allison stepped forward last month and said he was taking over ownership of several key properties at Woodlake.

“With that transfer of ownership,” Misiaszek said, “new opportunities should exist.”

Misiaszek also countered claims that changes would solely benefit Woodlake residents.

“Due to the absence of the lake at Woodlake, property values have fallen dramatically,” he said. “With that, annual tax reviews, which once flowed into the county from Woodlake — no pun intended — have been greatly reduced, depriving the county of badly needed potential revenues which could be used to help fund the cost overruns evidencing from the new schools now being constructed and repairs to existing schools.”

Misiaszek said all residents need to “understand” that Moore County has a number of “fiscal requirements” to meet its needs.

“If that money doesn’t come from the residents of Woodlake, it will come from them,” he concluded.