

August 8, 2012

Many citizens have asked me to explain what and how Jacob's Cove happened and how we got to here.....For the public record...please note the dates and timing of events.

September 2010 -

According to Dale Allred (principal in Jacob's Cove development) stated that he met with Mayor Connie Tatton and was given unilateral approval for a greenhouse project on the Remund Dairy Farm.

October 8, 2010 -

An announcement was made in the Salt Lake Tribune for the groundbreaking of this project while certain City Councilmen and Midway citizens had no awareness or knowledge of this Development.

November 10, 2010 -

In the Midway City Council Meeting, Mayor Tatton says to the Council that the project "did not need to be approved by the City Council because it was agricultural" even though the property is zoned R-1-15 Residential??? This was the first time the certain members of the City Council and had heard of this Project. There was no notification to surrounding property owners and of a public hearing on Development of Jacob's Cove Proposal. In this November meeting, Dale Allred (Developer) said he would be "growing crops in the ground instead of hydroponics."

December 8, 2010 -

Midway City Council Meeting, Roy Remund came and stated that Dale Allred was no longer involved with the Project. Mr. Allred later stated "that he withdrew because he felt it was not economically viable." Mr. Remund stated that the project would remain unchanged in the same location and layout and he had financial backing. Again, it was stated in the minutes "that no planning approval was required?" We were told it was basically a water agreement. A motion was made and all Council Members voted in favor. The final agreement was signed on Jan. 5, 2011 without the City Council seeing it. Nothing happened for 18 months.

May 9, 2012 -

For the first time, Jagati Farms came before the City Council Meeting and presented their hydroponic and aquaponics ideas (no formal proposal was made at that time) on the Remund farm. Mr. Scott Neilson (CEO of Jagati Farms) said that it would be a 15-20 million dollar project at completion with approximately 9 1/2 to 10 acres of greenhouse buildings, another 34,000 sq. ft. of warehouse and approximately 100 employees. They were asked by the Council to come back with a formal proposal to the city.

June 13, 2012 -

During this Midway City Council meeting, Mr. Scott Neilson (still with no formal proposal presented) demanded formal approval by the City Council. It was not discussed or approved per City Attorney Kraig Powell because of lack of project information and a formal proposal. After this meeting, Councilmen Ashton and Hofheins requested that a project of this magnitude and size should have a public hearing and surrounding property owners should be notified.

July 11th, 2012 -

At City Council meeting more than 150 citizens attended because they had been made aware of the Jagati Farm project by neighbors. Mr. Neilson presented for the first and only time a formal proposal to the city dated June 26, 2012 looking for approval of this project at this meeting. He said that about 15,000 lbs. of live fish in tanker trucks would be moved monthly. Many citizens spoke, voicing their concerns at the magnitude and the speed with which this project was progressing. They questioned zoning, non-conforming use, wetlands, water runoff, noise, traffic, lighting, and 24/7 operation. And especially "fish" in the **Heart** of Midway. Councilman Ashton made a legal motion to continue the request that land use studies and analysis should be performed by independent entities and was seconded by Councilman Hofheins. City Engineer Wes Johnson expressed his concerns about water runoff and that other water issues should be addressed.

July 14, 2012 -

Mayor Tatton wrote in an email to a bordering property owner; one, "that the Remunds received approval two years ago to do hydroponic greenhouses" (not true, per that agreement was 'in ground crops'), and "two, they could begin tomorrow if they wanted to." Not true, per the original agreement, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical and limited building permits would be required.

July 25, 2012 -

Jagati Farms gave Midway City an ultimatum that they wanted an "action item for decision by the City Council for August 8, 2012 and that no studies would be performed or their application would be withdrawn." The City responded that the demands would not be met and "from this time forward consider your application to be no longer pending for consideration."

All the information contained in this statement is of personal knowledge and of public record.

We do not challenge property rights of anyone. But Developers and Midway City should do everything in the 'light of day' with an informed public in conformance with City and State Codes.

Thank You, Steve Ashton

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'SA', followed by the date '8/8/12' written in the same ink.