

What's Wrong With Property Taxation This Year?

Property Taxes. These two words will strike fear into homeowners, cause candidates to spin with incredible promises and prompt government leaders to rationalize with excuses. In the last seven years, Davis County taxpayers have lived through these predictable political spectacles of raising our property taxes. Unfortunately, residents will continue to suffer this script of raising property taxes for years to come. Our one-party government in Davis County is the consequence of this tragedy where a non-dissent and non-debate Commission continues to exist.

In the past, Republicans have blasted the Democrats of whining and referring to Davis County voters as "stupid and ignorant". But Democrats are taxpayers too and we are troubled that the Republican Party treats voters as idiots. When the all-Republican Commission raises taxes and only a few residents object, then the Party will do nothing. When property taxes take a big jump, then the local GOP will make a statement. Evidently, the GOP only cares when it is convenient.

In the past 20 years, elected Republicans have raised our taxes and have expanded our government. Hard to believe this could happen since every GOP candidate runs on the promise of cutting taxes and shrinking government. The way Republicans have portrayed the Democratic Party as "tax and spend liberals" is the most disturbing expression ever. And yet that label has no merit what so ever. In fact, any Republican who still uses that label is agreeing with the facade of a GOP government representing the people. In 1992, the last Democratic Commissioner, voted against a tax increase. Yet, in the last several years, every Republican Commissioner has voted for a tax increase.

A few years ago, I attended a Legislative Town Hall Meeting where a citizen made a comment about that if we thought taxes were high now; wait until we have Democrats elected. I promptly addressed him and asked him to apologize. Since there are no elected Democrats in the county, there is no evidence that Democrats will raise our taxes.

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