

NIC Trustee Mic Armon's statement – 11.30.12

Dan Gookin and his fellow anti tax group need to quit complaining about how bad their tax bill is and look at real numbers. I addressed this issue at my going away statement this past Wednesday evening at the NIC Board of Trustee meeting. There were a number of statements about how it was the NIC Board that had increased everyone's property taxes over the past 5 years by 116% or in another statement that "every family of four in Kootenai County saw their property taxes increase by \$600.00". Those statements are just plain false. I requested copies of my own personal property tax statements for the past 5 years. My taxes paid to NIC in 2008 was \$468.82 and my taxes paid to NIC in 2012 is \$467.22 for a whopping \$1.60 less in 5 years. I also looked at 8 other parcels throughout the county just to make sure that I did not have the only decline, and I found all 8 were also lower over the past five years. Also in that same 5 year period my taxes as well as those of the other 8 parcels increased by between 3.42%-4.12% in total. My total increase was 3.58% or 0.716% per year.

It is time for the citizens of Kootenai County to quit listening to the anti-tax, no growth, all taxes and government is bad group and to do their own research. I am very willing to pay 0.7% more per year for all of the great opportunities that this area has. If you listen to Dan and his crew, you would believe that the past governing boards of the taxing agencies in this area were out of control. The truth is, he is flat wrong.