

## Dziekán / McLiverty Mismatch Voters Regarding Financial Mismanagement

In a recent campaign mailer Mayor Dziekan, looks to mislead voters playing fast and loose with the truth. He claims the recent financial mismanagement was discovered in 2019, which is simply not true. The truth is both Treasurer Keith McLiverty and Finance Director Sal Coppola, serving, both of whom are serving in the Dziekan administration, and running on the Republican ticket, were made aware of the problem in 2017.

### Dziekán officials were made aware of mistake in 2017 not 2019 as claimed

In an audio recording of the October 21, 2019 Tax Board meeting McLiverty says “*regarding the mistake*” and then tells the board how Dr Conway, notified “*everyone*”, which included Keith McLiverty and Sal Coppola of a problem related to ac-

counting for state educational grant money. McLiverty says “*when Dr. Conway brought it to everyone’s attention, that was at the conclusion of the 16-17 budget and we were in the start, first quarter, of the 17-18 budget.*”

Former Finance Director, Henry Domurad, corroborates McLiverty’s time line saying a meeting took place in the summer of 2017, where “the mistake” was discussed and both McLiverty and Coppola were present at the meeting.

### The Dziekan administration did nothing for 2 years.

Both McLiverty and Coppola have served the past two years as members of the Dziekan administration. “The mistake” as McLiverty called it, was never made public, nor corrected prior to May of 2019, an election year. In fact, when it was brought up, it was done as part of a disclo-

sure of over more than \$2 million in mistakes made by the Dziekan administration during the 2018-2019 financial year,

### The Dziekan administration made mistakes totaling over \$2 million dollars in 2018-2019

On the audio recording, McLiverty then goes on to describe a \$1.2 million dollar mistake made by the Dziekan administration. He says “then what happened in 18-19, it was double booked” referring to \$1.2 million in state grant money that was accounted for twice, under the Dziekan administration with Treasurer McLiverty and Finance Director Coppola overseeing the city’s finances.

On top of the \$1.2 million in state grant income that had been “double booked” the Dziekan administration was responsible for another million dollar mistake relat-

ed to the city’s self-insured healthcare policy. The policy, supposedly has stop gap insurance in place to cap the cost of individual claims as well as the total amount of claims the city has to pay, after which the insurance kicks in. With stop gap insurance in place, the city needed to only set up reserves to pay for the predetermined amount of self insurance they chose to self insure to keep the policy in the black.

### The Dziekan administration’s mistakes resulted in a 2.5 mill tax increase and nearly bankrupted the city

The effects of the mistakes made by the Dziekan administration were a 2.5 mil tax increase, the depletion of the city’s rainy day/fund balance to a deficit of \$3.5 million as reported in the Valley Independent on September 24,

2019 and numerous revenue generating tactics that are being used to pay for the financial mismanagement instead of being used to cut taxes or improve services. Treasurer McLiverty underscored the seriousness of the financial mismanagement which occurred when he told the Board of Aldermen that if they did not approve the reissuing of city bonds to help pay for the financial mismanagement that “*the city would go bankrupt and the State would take over.*”

### How will the voters respond?

One most ask, how will the voters respond to the Dziekan administration’s actions: attempting to mislead them, failing to take responsibility for the financial mismanagement they have caused, attempting to blame others and avoid responsibility. I’ll guess we’ll know on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Thank You!

### *Coppola expresses gratitude for warm reception and support of residents*

Since the beginning of this campaign, it has been my goal to reach out to as many residents of Derby as possible, in order to share my dreams, vision and plans to put our community on the path to revitalization and to hear from my neighbors. I listened patiently and heard your desires for our city, as well as your concerns and frustrations. It has been a wonderful experience, and as my campaign comes to a close I would be remiss if I did not thank the residents for your warm and friendly reception, your willingness to share and talk about what matters to you.

Through those exchanges I found out that we share many of the same concerns. Residents are disappointed by the high rate of taxation we live under because of the lack of substantive economic development. You were shocked by the current administration’s failure to manage our city’s finances properly and the resulting 2-mil tax increase that cost us hundreds more in taxes annually. You talked about how our children have suffered and housing prices have been and continue to be depressed because of the failure to provide a high-quality education for Derby’s children.

It was encouraging to find many people who desire so much more for our city, and who also believe with proper leadership we can revitalize our community.

Your level of support for my ideas to tackle Derby’s problems has reinforced that my decision to seek Derby’s highest elected office was the right one. I am fully prepared to offer a fresh new approach instead of the same old status quo. I’ve come to realize, residents are indeed ready for a change after two years of broken promises, poor management and lack of vision. You desire so much more.

With your support I will look to take the steps I have outlined in my campaign to set Derby on the path to revitalization and look forward to the opportunity to serve you in humility and humbleness as your mayor.

With sincere gratitude,



Brian Coppola



# Coppolo Pledges to Work Towards Tax Relief for Seniors



Brian cares deeply about Derby's seniors citizens, many of whom have spent a lifetime volunteering in the community and contributing to its successes, but who now because of the high level of taxes in Derby, the highest in the region, struggle to stay in their homes.

At the budget hearing in June, where the Dziekan administration unveiled its 2.5 mil tax hike, as a result of their multi-million dollar financial mismanagement fiasco that occurred, senior after senior spoke about the severe and significant difficulties such an increase would have. Unlike the Mayor, Brian was not only moved by their plight but will work to do something about it.

## Brian Believes Our Seniors Deserve Our Very Best of Efforts

### Derby's Team for

#### Aldermen / Alderwomen

##### 1<sup>st</sup> Ward

##### 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward

##### 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward



**Brian Coppolo**



**Sarah Widomski**



**Camille Grande Kurtyka**



**Irma Coleman**



**Walt Mayhew**



**Barbara DeGennaro**



**Joe DiMartino**



**Dan Blizman**



**"Owney" Malerba, Jr**



**Tom Donofrio**



**Ron Sill**



**Samantha Burgan**

The Democratic Team

Mayor  
Treasurer  
Constable

# Financial Mismanagement - Time for Accountability

I am appalled by what I have read about the gross financial mismanagement taking place in Derby and the lack of transparency concerning what occurred. Having previously served three terms on the Tax Board, I simply cannot understand how such enormous financial mismanagement could go on without being corrected by those elected and / or paid to manage our finances—the Finance Director, Treasurer and Chairman of the Tax Board, all of whom were either nominated for reelection or continued to stay employed by the Republicans.

When I read Treasurer McLiverty’s comments, as this mess was disclosed, telling the residents of Derby not to assess blame, it became apparent the Dziekan administration would do whatever they could to avoid accountability and Treasurer McLiverty had become the poster boy / talking head in defense of the administration.

The facts are, **McLiverty knew of the problem accounting for educational funding provided by the state back in November 2017.** Superintendent Conroy, emailed McLiverty to inform him of it, as McLiverty admitted when speaking before the Tax Board at their monthly meeting on October 21, 2019. The problem impacted not only the 2017-2018 budget but the 2018-2019 budget as well. Then in 2018-2019 they “double booked” a portion of the income from the state, as McLiverty describes it, counting it twice, creating a third problem. Yet, none of these problems, were corrected until the 2019-2020 budget was set in June of this year.

From the beginning McLiverty looked to re-direct the attention of Derby voters away from the financial mismanagement that had occurred and quiet their outcry. In a New Haven Register article, published on June 21, 2019, he said, “*taxpayers aren’t paying for the mistake, they’re paying for not having a tax increase over the last few years,*” a blatant untruth. In subsequent discussions, he tried to use the Consumer Price Index (CPI) increases in these years as an excuse for the tax increase. The fact of the matter is **the 2.5 mill increase that happened this year is a direct result of financial mismanagement that has occurred.**

McLiverty’s attempts at redirection continued through his self-promotion (ad nauseam) of his beloved 8-point recovery plan. The simple truth is that, **without the gross financial mismanagement that has occurred, there is no need for an 8-point recovery plan.** For McLiverty, and the Dziekan administration, to expect praise for developing such a plan is like the cowhand who’s proud of closing the gate to the corral after the all cows have escaped, even though it will cost the ranch owner a small fortune to replace them. Even with the 8-point plan, it will take years to generate enough money to get us out of the \$3.5 million deficit caused by the financial mismanagement that has occurred. Without the financial mismanagement, **the money from the 8-point plan could have been used to cutting taxes or improving necessary services, instead of getting the city out of debt.**

The truth is **the financial mismanagement has already had a devastating effect on the residents of Derby,** who will struggle for years to recover. The full effects are still unknown. It was not only avoidable but fixable with minimal impact had actions been taken immediately. The time for accountability is at hand. You have suffered enough as a result of the mismanagement of this administration.

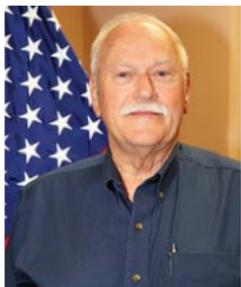
It’s time for a change. **On Tuesday, November 5,** I ask that you **vote for Brian Coppolo and the entire Democratic Team.**



Walt Mayhew - Candidate for Treasurer

## or Revitalization

### Tax Board



James Butler



Walt Mayhew



Bhamini Patel



Christopher Larocque



Rose Pertoso

For a ride to the polls...  
Call  
860-515-8258

### Board of Education



Melissa Cannata



George Kurtyka



Kenneth R. Marcucio, Sr.



Daniel Foley, Jr



Christine Robinson



Jennifer Desroches



Election Day Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>  
**Vote for a change in direction**  
That begins Derby’s revitalization!



# If Dziekan Didn't Keep His Promises From 2017 ...

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**Dziekan**  
*The Right Direction*  
**for Derby!**

**It's time to put the interest of Derby taxpayers above politics as usual!**

- **Lower Taxes.** Derby residents have had enough of tax and fee increases—*especially after last year's 10.2% tax rate increase.* Rich will focus on responsible spending and lower taxes.
- **Full-Time Mayor.** Our city deserves more than a part-time effort. Rich promises to serve as a full-time mayor at no extra cost or expense to taxpayers.
- **Bring Back Business.** Rich will take an aggressive approach to economic development, using a proven pro-business approach to fill vacant commercial and industrial properties.
- **Maximize Opportunities.** Derby is losing millions per year by passing up grant opportunities! Rich will recruit a full-time grant writer to ensure your tax dollars are put to work where it counts.
- **Modernize City Hall.** Rich will seek charter revision to upgrade Derby's laws and regulations to reflect modern business practices.

*It's time to point Derby in the right direction of lower taxes and business friendly policies.*  
- Rich

## Dziekan door knocker from 2017 campaign.

- **FACTS:** He raised taxes by 2.5 mills due to his administration's financial mismanagement, making Derby the city with the highest taxes in the region !!
- **FACTS:** Works as a constable in Bethany. Often his reserved parking spot at City Hall is empty.
- **FACTS:** Hires a part-time person with no experience in economic development and the south side of Main St. is still undeveloped !!
- **FACTS:** At no time was a grant writer hired part-time or full-time.
- **FACTS:** A Charter Revision Commission, was never formed.

→ **FACTS:** Derby has NOT been MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

What **DZIEKAN** has **DELIVERED** is the **HIGHEST TAXES IN THE REGION**, the **POOREST PERFORMING SCHOOLS** and a **LACK OF SUBSTANTIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** that will result in even higher taxes.

## Why Should You Vote For Him in 2019?