

News Alert

Rensselaer County Legislature Office of the Minority 270-2892

Contact: Kevin Harrington at 270-2892 or 326-1846 after 5:00 PM

August 8, 2008

Untruths From the Mouths of GOP Allies

For the third time in less than two weeks, the Republican spinmaster has used partisan operatives to make unfounded charges against Democratic County Legislators. First he used Troy Republican Chairman Tom Casey; then a Conservative Committee member and Town Board appointee, Judy Wos. Most recently, he enlisted Chris Stazio, a registered Conservative who works for state Republicans, to sign a letter accusing Minority Democrats of an “ethical controversy” regarding the lease of the Raddock Building.

The Republicans exhibit an alarming willingness to use the media to deceive the public and spread lies about their colleagues rather than present credible information about real issues confronting Rensselaer County residents. The Democratic legislators have done their “due diligence” and thoroughly reviewed the provisions of a \$3 million lease renewal contract for the Raddock Building. County employees, clients, and union representatives have called the Minority office with real concerns about conditions at the building and asked for the legislators’ advocacy and support.

The following are some simple facts about the Democrats’ position in county government at the present time:

- The Democrats hold 6 seats on the County Legislature. The Republicans hold 13. The GOP controls the passage of legislation.
- The Republicans control the agenda because they control the legislative committees.
- They also control the County Executive’s Office which must ratify resolutions after they pass through the legislature.

Simply put, the Republicans control every aspect of County Government.

So if you still want to argue that the Democrats could possibly steer a “sweetheart” deal to a political ally you should apply for a position as Legislative Liaison. You must be awfully good at twisting the truth and you could be very well paid for doing just that.

Meanwhile, the Democratic Minority will continue to do the job they were elected to do—exercise oversight on county spending, advocate for their constituents, and, unfortunately, put up with the mud.