

From: Richard Paulson [mailto:rpaulson524@aol.com]

Sent: Sunday, August 09, 2015 7:00 PM

To: Council

Subject: Spirit Mt.

Councilors,

It continues to bother me to read more financial needs for Spirit Mt. I understand you do not have any other options for their request. Year after year large subsidies are provided to Spirit Mt. including \$250,000 grant this past Dec. & now another \$300,000. When I hear councilors talking about the large savings due to new water source going forward it is only because another tax is paying for the bonds. It seems we always have tourist tax funds to give whenever a need.

The audit for 2014 indicates an increase in tourism taxes from 2013 of \$1.18 million plus an increase for 2015 which will exceed \$9 million. Does the council have a budget each year for these funds? How will the line of credit of \$1.2 million be paid & are they able to pay anything on the interest? My question would be at what point will a portion of these funds would go towards the streets of our city?

I believe the time is here to sell Spirit Mt & stop the continue drain on taxpayers of Duluth. The golf courses seem to be showing they can do a better job vs the city. Hopefully the final numbers for them will support the change.

I can understand why 40 years ago 10 ski hills attempted to stop the building of Spirit Mt.

Sincerely,

Richard Paulson
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