

Kurt Schlicht Comments from 9/7/2010 Regular Town Board meeting tape:

K. Seward introduced State Senate Candidate, District 27, Kurt Schlicht.

Mr. Schlicht introduced himself and reported that he currently serves as a Village of Cross Plains Trustee and Dane County Board representative. He noted that the culling of the 2.5 billion structural deficit, to us means that the checkbook is empty. He stated that we have to stop spending money and that's why he's in this race. He felt that was the primary issue, to get jobs back and bring some certainty back to the State of Wisconsin.

He is a small business owner (owns a tavern on Main Street) in Cross Plains. He explained that he has experience making payroll, hiring people and making a budget and that he wanted to take it to the next level and see if he could clean up the State and bring some sanity back to Madison.

He is running against John Erpenbach. Mr. Schlicht stated that Senator Erpenbach hasn't had an opponent in 12 years. Nancy Mistle ran against him in 1998. He's a friend and a customer but they disagree. He went on to say that there's a Primary on September 14<sup>th</sup>. There are two other gentlemen running for the seat who have no political experience. One is 25 years old and the other is a carpenter from Verona, a tea party guy. Mr. Schlicht stated that we'd be seeing more of him after the Primary as he would be running around more at that time.

C. Narveson asked where Mr. Schlicht suggested taking the money from to fill the budget hole. Mr. Schlicht stated that there were a lot of places. He didn't think we had a money problem, or a revenue problem but a spending problem. He stated that Government employees have got to start paying their share. They have to start paying a percentage towards their healthcare and retirement. He thought it was phenomenal how many benefits they get after they're retired. They'll put \$150,000 into the system and take several million out. Just this year, government jobs overtook manufacturing jobs in the State of Wisconsin.

Manufacturing jobs are leaving Wisconsin, Subzero went to Arizona. Mr. Schlicht noted that he lived in Michigan for three years as a kid. He remembers his dad saying that the best part of Michigan was leaving to come to Madison. Today Michigan's jobs and manufacturing are increasing at a faster rate than ours. Two years ago Wisconsin was 46<sup>th</sup> out of 50 for job friendliness on the Forbes list. We are now at 48 because business owners and corporations are very uncertain about Wisconsin. He felt that we needed to get some people from the business world up in Madison to replace the career politicians who don't have real world experience.

C. Narveson stated that his business is tied to transportation and he's looking at the private sector jobs that accounted for 85-90% of all their jobs. The only jobs out there right now are public jobs. He noted that he was worried about the State pulling money out of the transportation budget because it would take away their businesses.

Mr. Schlicht said that they've already done that. That Hwy 14 in Cross Plains is supposed to be torn up and redone in 2014 and at this point the State is trying to push it back to 2020.

K. Seward asked what Mr. Schlicht's position would be in regards to our Governor's last budget shuffling where he scarfed up some funds from the transportation fund. Mr. Schlicht stated that if money is earmarked for a certain budget item it has to stay in that account. To take it out is theft. He noted that if we did that in private business we'd be put in jail. They stole that money from transportation, they robbed from the educational funds, and they took 200,000,000 from the doctor's malpractice fund. He stated that there are actual email documents where politicians stated that they can get in two election cycles in before this goes to court. They made it about a cycle and a half. He felt that it is negligence and they should be put in jail or impeached. He called it unsettling what's going on, that the politicians are so comfortable with being politicians. He's a firm believer that we have to re-elect the founding fathers onus. Become successful in private business/private life, serve a term or two and get out. If elected he would serve a term or two and walk away and let someone else take over. He felt the career politicians didn't have to live with the rules they make.

Mr. Schlicht thanked the board for their time.