

□ doesn't work that way – 2/2/07 – Marion Kells □

Last week's FEEDBACK□ contained a letter from Tim Hunter of Gardiner. In it he lambasted Pam O'Dell for questioning the cost overruns for, and borrowing to complete the Gardiner town offices. And he posed the question, "Is this woman ever in favor of anything?"

□□□□□ Pam O'Dell is my friend. Together we have explored the world of ideas, and I know she IS in favor of many things. Many of them most Gardiner property owners would have no trouble agreeing with. She is in favor of the right of security in one's property, as guaranteed by the constitution, and the expectation that that right will not summarily be taken away by the whim of those who "know better" how we should supervise our property and conduct our lives. She also□ favors lower taxes, and believes lower taxes can come about if government spends less. That may sound impossible, but it is a goal that every hard-pressed taxpayer yearns for. And Pam is in favor of open government where information impacting the public is readily shared or made available to the public.

□□□□□ Are these not basic ideas to be in favor of?

□□□□□ Mr. Hunter, Annie O'Neill and Supervisor Zatz, in his "holiday" parable, all display a "why can't we all just get along" mentality. They ask that everyone agree with them, and Gardiner will be all sweetness and light. And if anyone dares to dissent, they must keep their mouths shut.

□□□□□ It just doesn't work that way.