

**From:** [Lisa C. Kunz](#)  
**To:** [Krista Artis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Paying Taxes And Fees For Billion Dollar Corporations And LOCALIZED Oligarchs Like Calumet, MAFB And Benefis - The curse of being a native Great Falls, MT citizen!  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 1, 2025 1:34:09 PM

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**From:** Lisa C. Kunz  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 1, 2025 11:54 AM  
**To:** Cory Reeves <creeves@greatfallsmt.net>; Joe McKenney <jmckenney@greatfallsmt.net>; Rick Tryon <rtryon@greatfallsmt.net>; Shannon Wilson <swilson@greatfallsmt.net>; Susan Wolff <swolff@greatfallsmt.net>  
**Cc:** Greg Doyon <gdoyon@greatfallsmt.net>  
**Subject:** FW: Paying Taxes And Fees For Billion Dollar Corporations And LOCALIZED Oligarchs Like Calumet, MAFB And Benefis - The curse of being a native Great Falls, MT citizen!

For consideration of agenda item 19.

Lisa

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**From:** Lisa C. Kunz  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 1, 2025 11:54 AM  
**To:** 'James Schroeder' <[deviousgrizzly@gmail.com](mailto:deviousgrizzly@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Paying Taxes And Fees For Billion Dollar Corporations And LOCALIZED Oligarchs Like Calumet, MAFB And Benefis - The curse of being a native Great Falls, MT citizen!

Thank you for your comments, James. Your comments will be shared with the City Commission and appropriate staff for consideration during item 19 this evening's agenda.

Kindest regards,

*Lisa Kunz*

City Clerk/Records Manager  
Civic Center Room 204  
406.455.8451

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**From:** James Schroeder <[deviousgrizzly@gmail.com](mailto:deviousgrizzly@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 1, 2025 11:39 AM  
**To:** commission <[commission@greatfallsmt.net](mailto:commission@greatfallsmt.net)>  
**Subject:** Paying Taxes And Fees For Billion Dollar Corporations And LOCALIZED Oligarchs Like Calumet, MAFB And Benefis - The curse of being a native Great Falls, MT citizen!

I was born in Great Falls and I have lived here for most of my life. I grew up in a middle class family and I was educated in Montana. But I always struggle to pay all of my bills because I am not a wealthy person. So I don't understand why out-of-state billionaire Gov. Greg Gianforte (R) forces citizens like me to pay taxes for business equipment at the Calumet Great Falls refinery? Calumet is a billion dollar out-of-state corporation? Calumet doesn't struggle like I do for money but as a peasant living in Great Falls I am forced to pay Calumet's share of taxes on their business equipment? Okay? I don't understand why the billion dollar entity known as Benefis Medical Systems refuses to pay their fair share of property taxes either but it's all in their BS "non-profit" label but we all know they're a billion dollar company that makes a lot of PROFITS for themselves. Okay? Can we all be considered to be non-profit entities? And then we have to pay for all of the Great Falls City Commission's pet projects like a worthless \$20 million swimming pool facility nightmare that never should have been built in the first place. And now it appears that Great Falls citizens will also be forced to subsidize all of the Malmstrom AFB personnel at our local swimming pool as well so they can use the facility for free. Why? More oligarchy? Can we push for a motion to close the swimming pool facility and save the G.F. taxpayers some revenue? It just loses money. It never makes a profit. It's too costly and forcing citizens like me to pay for it is a joke. I will never use the facility like most Great Falls taxpayers. Or maybe we can have MAFB pay Great Falls about \$10 million so they can make it their own MAFB swimming pool property? Will the Great Falls city commission ever end their reckless spending spree or will it ever force the Montana legislature to make wealthy corporations like Calumet, Benefis or MAFB to pay their fair share of taxes? I doubt it. All of the city commission's ideas come at price. Its citizens. And when you're spending OPM (other people's money) I just don't feel like you care at all. The Montana legislature gave themselves a big raise this 2025 session with OPM. For what? Making our lives a living nightmare while poor struggling Montanans have to subsidize a greedy self-centered government and its favorite oligarch billion dollar corporations. The 2025 Republican majority legislature has completely failed to bring a resolution or bill to lower Montanans' property taxes this session. They made big promises. But it was just more big lies. Great Falls and Montana have become a broken city and state. A state and city that views its wealthiest out-of-state citizens and corporations as its biggest victims while struggling native Montanans who were never given any opportunities are forced to pay for it all and don't pretend it's not happening. The Great Falls city commission and the Montana legislature can do better but they always tend to do worse. Malmstrom AFB personnel can pay their fair share to use the G.F. swimming pool facility just like everybody else. Or will you also make them oligarchs as well? Nothing surprises me anymore. The wealthiest corporations, and the U.S. government have been made out to be the biggest victims who live in the United States? WHAT A LIE! PAY YOUR OWN TAX BILLS AND DON'T FORCE LOW INCOME MONTANANS TO PAY THE TAX BILLS FOR WEALTHY CORPORATIONS OR THE U.S. AIR FORCE! END THE TAXPAYER FUNDED GOVERNMENT SPENDING SPREE! Thank you for your time if anyone in the Great Falls City commission reads this at all? I believe it will likely be ignored and swept under a rug like a typical native Great Falls, Montana citizen. Prove me wrong!

J.W. Schroeder  
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