

*(Continued from page 4)*

and to the Purchasing Agent? It seemsd that this violates our non-profit tax exempt status.

LPG Third Mutual

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What rights do we shareholders in this community have to override Board decisions? I've heard that a proxy vote of 51% of those casing ballots would prevail.

ESM Third Mutual

## Letters

### A \$93 Million Budget?

**W**e have a population of 18,000 in Laguna Woods Village and a budget of \$93 million dollars a year. The City of Mission Viejo has a population of 96,483 and a budget of \$70.7 million dollars a year. Now, it doesn't take a certified public accountant to figure out that there is something very wrong here. Why does it cost more to run a Village than it does to run a City? Some may say there is no comparison due to our many amenities, but, Mission Viejo is a larger city and maintains many public parks, with their law enforcement, schools, etc. How can GRF Directors justify our budget? Not one Director wants to save money. In fact, they want to spend more money on remodeling the gates, bigger busses and new clubhouses. The Directors of all the Boards should meet with the City Council of Mission Viejo to find out how they run a City on \$70.7 million dollars. Perhaps they can cut the Village budget.

Gerald Westre

### What's an Informed Resident To Do?

**R**eplace underperforming Board Members with new blood. Anytime the Boards disregard IRS rules for non-profit corporations and proceed by neglecting their fiduciary duties, it is up to the residents to take charge. Fortunately, that opportunity exists in September by electing new Board Members who acknowledge their legal duties to the community, retaining the few Board Members who do and dismissing those who do not.

We all know the names of those who continually do PCM's bidding and refuse to even consider solutions proposed by forward thinking Board Members. As you may have guessed, those are the old guard whose perspectives have been the same for the many years they have served either on one of the three Boards, on the City Council, or perhaps both. These are the ones who don't tolerate discussion and cut-off residents who come to the open meetings with questions. Thank goodness for the persistence of concerned residents who demand respect, equitable treatment and attention to items ignored or tabled by Board Members.

Examples of some solutions are how best to support those working to retain our open space, to obtain a proper audit of our monies, placement of our funds in separate bank accounts (single accounts are insured by FDIC for \$100,000 only), demand two signatures on all checks issued and facilitate the transparency of documents and corporate records. You probably have your own list of wrongs to be righted.

Please submit ideas to the Voice. You will be

*(Continued on page 6)*