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Posting:	Willimantic Bridge Frogs..... The real Story...	Posting 1
Poster:	The Pragmatist	
Date:	23 May 2005 7:16 AM	
<p>Does anyone know the total cost of the frogs and spools which sit on the new Willimantic bridge? I 've heard that the funding came from private individuals and businesses. Yet when pressed for the sources of this financing, politicians fall strangely silent.... The freedom of information law must cover the source of these funds. Isn't anyone interested to learn the truth?? Were Town tax funds, or state monies used to fund these science fiction aberrations??In a town that cannot find funds to maintain a viable police and fire dept.(personnel hired), it seems quite strange that funds can always be found to satisfy the tastes of the minority, with the bizarre and useless.</p>		
Posting:	Re: Willimantic Bridge Frogs..... The real Story...	Posting 2
Poster:	Ted Perch	
Date:	23 May 2005 8:43 AM	
<p>The frogs were paid for by private donations; Thread City Crossing was the ad hoc citizens group that raised the funds. They sold Christmas tree ornaments, T shirts, mugs, etc. The project, luckily enough, had little or nothing to do with politics. There was a community wide brainstorm over how we could decorate the bridge, since it is smack in the middle of Main St. The thread spools (Willimantic) and the Frogs (Windhams) speak to the history of the entire town. Underneath the hot air and static, we do have a wicked sense of humor.</p>		
Posting:	Re: Willimantic Bridge Frogs..... The real Story...	Posting 3
Poster:	The Pragmatist	
Date:	23 May 2005 12:57 AM	
<p>Ted, You answered my query with generalities. Lets get to the nub of it, What was the bottom line cost for the spools, and the frogs.. Surely you must have these figures at your fingertips.. Give us the total so we can judge for ourselves if the funds were all privately raised. I seem to smell a rat some where in the wood pile.....</p>		
Posting:	Re: Willimantic Bridge Frogs..... The real Story...	Posting 4
Poster:	iRONic™	
Date:	23 May 2005 1:10 PM	
<p>Take a shower...</p>		
Posting:	Re: Willimantic Bridge Frogs..... The real Story...	Posting 5
Poster:	Ted Perch	
Date:	23 May 2005 2:12 PM	
<p>Call Bev York at the Textile Museum she'll know. The spools were part of the bridge design, that is, DOT created them without costing extra. Sculptures were allowed BUT DOT said the community would have to raise all of the funds for the Frogs, not the Town, but the PEOPLE. Sorry to disappoint you, but there's no rat, no conspiracy. Just good clean fun way above board.</p>		
Posting:	Re: Willimantic Bridge Frogs..... The real Story...	Posting 6
Poster:	The Pragmatist	
Date:	23 May 2005 3:36 PM	
<p>Ted, So what you're telling me is that private funds were used to create these sci-fi monstrosities, and that Bev York is the only living soul who knows exactly what they cost??I'd sooner believe that they were deposited on the spools by an alien form of intelligence, circling overhead in ufos</p>		
Posting:	Re: Willimantic Bridge Frogs..... The real Story...	Posting 7
Poster:	Ted Perch	
Date:	24 May 2005 1:58 PM	
<p>Whatever</p>		
Posting:	Re: Willimantic Bridge Frogs..... The real Story...	Posting 8
Poster:	Peter Panda	
Date:	24 May 2005 3:48 PM	
<p>They just rant and rant. I'm sure if a kid was paid to shovel their driveways they'd be out there pointing out the snow flakes left on the driveway. It's old geezers like the folks from the other board that need to get a life. Move on gals/fellas, get a hobby besides being Mr/Mz crabby.</p>		
Posting:	Re: Willimantic Bridge Frogs..... The real Story...	Posting 9
Poster:	JayJay	

Date: 24 May 2005 9:05 PM

The frogs and the thread are part of the Windham/Willimantic history. I still have my Windham High class ring, in my "treasure box". The micro-version of the "alien placed subjects" on it still looks good and reminds me of some great times with many great friends. I'm sure there are a lot more important things that the pragmatists could be ranting about but if this turns them on.... !!! And yes, I suppose I'm in the "old geezer" category, but this life is pretty good, and I look forward to seeing more geezers and geezeretts at our 60th anniversary reunion later this year. I seriously doubt if the cost of, to my mind some appropriate art work, will monopolize our conversations.