

**Ad Hoc Committee**  
**Request to Acquire Property- 4-14 Old Sugar Hollow Road**  
**March 10, 2014**

25

Chairman Jack Knapp called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Jack Knapp, Joe Cavo and Paul Rotello  
Fred Visconti arrived at 5:38 PM.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Laszlo Pinter, Corporation Counsel and Director of Public Works Antonio Iadarola, Airport Administrator, Paul Estefan.. Members of the public included Petitioner Fred Miller, Ex-Officio members Colleen Stanley, Warren Levy and members of the public.

Mr. Knapp said the call of the meeting is to discuss the request to acquire the property at 4-14 Old Sugar Hollow Road. This is a follow up meeting to the June 1, 2013 meeting. Mr. Pinter said this request came from a letter from Attorney Yorio dated February 26, 2013 which he requests that the City acquire the property from Mr. Miller at 4-14 Old Sugar Hollow Road. The committee met and reviewed the background and request to acquire the property. In that ad hoc report, Mr. Yorio indicated the appraised value of the property was \$321,000. The committee recommended that the airport administrator find out the prudence of buying this property and report back to the committee. It was reviewed by the planners and the FAA. Mr. Estefan said Gail Latrelle who is the airport planner for the FAA had seen the property. She said there is no guarantee any reimbursement from the FAA and if there is, they don't know when. Mr. Estefan said the City of Bridgeport for the next 2 years has taken 40 million dollars of the FAA money for the entire region which includes 6 New England states who have no money for airport improvements other than your entitlement. We only have \$150,000 left for entitlement. Mr. Rotello asked if an offer was made for \$30,000 (10% of the purchase price, \$32,100) with a balance contingent upon reimbursement by the FAA if and when there is no reimbursement we keep the land at \$32,100 and the petitioner went ahead with the agreement, would there be enough money left for the 10% purchase up front. Mr. Estefan said there is no money from the FAA. Any money that would be used for this purchase would come from discretionary funds. Mr. Iadarola said there was a negative referral in 1999 and also in 1999 Gail Latrelle stated that she did not see this as a practical investment for the City. Common Council in October 12, 1999 – "motion for a negative recommendation for the offer to sell the land on Miry Brook Road Old Sugar Hollow Road to the City of Danbury". Mr. Miller explained his position. Mr. Knapp said to Mr. Miller it is the charge of the ad hoc committee to determine if this is something the City wants to do. Mr. Rotello said he would like the City to acquire the property but not at that price. Mr. Rotello said he would recommend the purchase of the property only if it was reimbursed by the FAA. Mr. Miller asked for a document that allows him to proceed with a reasonable course. Mr. Cavo said the City Council or the committee don't have the ability to help Mr. Miller other than to craft a motion to say that they have received the communications from Mr. Miller and will take no action.

**A motion was made by Mr. Cavo, seconded by Mr. Rotello that the Ad Hoc committee received the communication and advise that City Council take no action on this matter. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Rotello asked that also included in the motion it should state that the Council direct the airport administrator to get a final decision as to whether they would underwrite the purchase of the property and if the FAA agrees, the property be purchased. Mr. Cavo said Ms. Latrelle already advised against it.

Mr. Miller distributed additional information to the committee.

**A motion was made by Mr. Cavo, seconded by Mr. Rotello to adjourn its meeting at 6:54 PM**

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Knapp, Committee Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Cavo

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Rotello