

AD HOC REPORT  
PURCHASE OF ROCKWOOD LANE

Chairman Charles Trombetta called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on July 8, 2008 and stated the purpose of the meeting. In attendance were committee members Shay Nagarsheth and Duane Perkins, ex-officio members Gregg Seabury and Mary Teicholz, Les Pinter, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Colleen LaHood, City Assessor, Attorney Peter Hunt, Paul DeFabritis and members of the public.

Mr. Hunt stated that Mr. DeFabritis would like to purchase the City owned property on Rockwood Lane that adjoins his property and has no intention of building a house or other development of the property, but he would want a fence.

Mr. Trombetta said that reaction from council members and the public was against the sale. Open space is one of the most important issues and people don't want the City to sell its property to any individual.

Mr. Pinter said the Committee of the Whole wanted a draft of Conservation Restriction on the property to prevent development.

Mr. Hunt said that Mr. DeFabritis would agree to include a restriction on the property against building a dwelling. He felt that a restriction could be put in place that would run with the land that would be satisfactory and protect against development.

Mr. Perkins asked Mr. DeFabritis how much acreage he owns. DeFabritis said 9.8 acres

Mr. Hunt asked if he was worried about merging the properties. Mr. Perkins said yes.

Mr. Pinter said that if merged, the larger piece could be developed. Mr. Hunt said they wouldn't get a building permit. Mr. Pinter disagreed.

Mr. Perkins said people were concerned about the appraised value of the property being so much less than market value, and if the two properties were joined could they then be built on?

Mr. Nagarsheth said that he also received some emails and calls against selling the property. He said that if it stays as open space in its natural state then we wouldn't have to do anything, we already have a buffer. Open space is so important to the City. Discussion followed.

Mr. DeFabritis said that if he could be guaranteed that the property would remain open space and that was put in the deed, then he would be satisfied and would not need to purchase the property to protect it.

Mr. Trombetta asked if they could amend the deed to guarantee open space. Mr. Pinter said there's a committee of the council currently considering that to protect open space owned by the City, so a permanent conservation restriction is a possibility.

**Mr. Nagarsheth moved to recommend the council take no action. Seconded by Mr. Perkins. The motion passed unanimously**

**Mr. Nagarsheth moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Perkins. The motion carried unanimously at 7:09p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Charles Trombetta, Chairman

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Duane Perkins

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Shay Nagarsheth