

Martha R. Lang, Ph.D.
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August 12, 2013

President Shannon and
Burlington City Councilors
City Hall
149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401

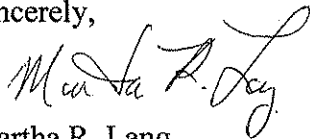
Dear President Shannon and City Councilors:

I am interested in having you review the enclosed documents on the Burlington School Board's purchase of 59 Murray Street which is located in a residential zone (RM). It seems the school board planned to convert these residential apartments into offices. Did they get approval from planning and zoning? Is approval even possible without major zoning changes in the Old North End? Are these apartments rented? To whom?

Does the school board plan to continue to attempt to move office workers into residential areas? For example St. Joseph's School? What will encroachment of the school board office workers do to the cost of housing? To the character of the area?

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Martha R. Lang.

cc:

Lerner, Ken, Department of Planning and Zoning
McNeil, Colin, Attorney for the Burlington School District
Ward, William, Code Enforcement

View on Map Permit History Property Tax Calculator

Property Summary

Parcel ID	044-1-390-000	Address	59 MURRAY ST	Owner(s)	CITY OF BURLINGTON SCHOOL DEPT
SPAN Number	114-035-14860	Land Use	Exempt		
Mailing Address	150 COLCHESTER AVE, BURLINGTON, VT 05401				

Current Assessed Values

Total Value	\$197,200.00	Building Value	\$101,600.00	Land Value	\$95,600.00	Yard Items	\$0.00
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Current Property Taxes

Total Property Taxes	\$0.00	HS-131	No	Pct Business	0	Pct Rental	0
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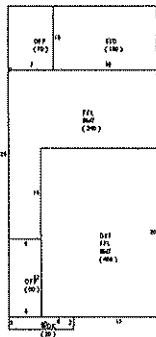
Most Recent Sales Information

Grantor	Sale Date	Sale Price	Book & Page
Lafayette, Monica C.	8/2/2012	210,000.00	1183-84

Property Details

Grade	FAIR PLUS	Heat Type	HOT WATER	Heat Fuel	GAS
Acres	0.09	Gross Area	2,406.00	Finished Area	1,282.00
Building Type	OLD STYLE	Year Built	1899	Units	2
Rooms	7	Bedrooms	3	Baths (Full/Half)	2 / 1
Zoning	RM	Foundation	BS	Depreciation	30.00 %

Sketched Areas



Card #	Area	Description	Gross Area	Finished Area
1	BMT	BASEMENT	814	0
1	FFL	1ST FLOOR	814	814
1	OFF	OPEN PORCH	130	0
1	SFL	2ND FLOOR	468	468
1	STG	STORAGE	160	0
1	WDK	WOOD DECK	20	0

Map & Image

Image(s)



Location Map



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2013/ABST

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Board of Finance
June 25, 2012

7. Authorization for Purchase of 59 Murray Street – Schools

Councilors Bushor and Decelles made a motion to approve the purchase and recommend City Council approval.

Councilor Bushor inquired if the School budget includes land acquisition money, and if not, where money for this will purchase come from. Colin McNeil, McNeil, Leddy, Sheahan, stated they do not have a specific line dedicated to land purchases. This will come from their School Improvement budget. To the School Board, it seems like an opportunity they should not pass up. They may have to delay another project in order to make this purchase, but they believe this is worth doing. Councilor Bushor stated she wanted to make sure that there is a line in the budget.

City Council President Shannon inquired what they will use this for. Mr. McNeil stated they are considering using it for office space and having more classrooms in the school building. They do not have an approved plan as of yet.

Councilor Bushor stated it is a .9 acre lot. Mr. McNeil stated they are considering using the yard to expand the gardening area for students.

The motion passed unanimously.

8. Authorization to Extend UVM Letter of Agreement - Mayor

City Council President Shannon and Councilor Decelles made a motion to approve the letter of agreement.

Mayor Weinberger stated this would authorize extending the 2007 letter of agreement which governs the payment UVM makes each year for services. This would extend the agreement, and in the course of the next year when the new UVM President begins work, there will be discussions about the items mentioned in the resolution the Council passed in February.

Councilor Bushor stated her issue with this resolution is that it mixes up different agreements that the City has with the University. She stated the 2007 letter of agreement is a voluntary fee for service paid to the City. This resolution should speak to that. The Memorandum of Understanding, which deals with housing and other issues, is separate and is not expiring at this time. If both are going to be included in the resolution, they need to be distinct. She stated she is concerned that people reading this resolution will not be able to understand the distinction. There have been some good points made about Councilors wanting the resolution to reference the previous resolution that was passed with a list of discussion topics. She recommended adding language that would clarify the separation between these two agreements and suggested where this should be inserted. Doing it in this way would be cleaner but accomplish the same goal. City Attorney Schatz stated if the change will simply clarify what the 2007 letter of agreement is, it will not be problematic. The Memorandum of Understanding is not referenced at all, and that was an agreement from 2009. That will not expire until 2015. The Council's February resolution requested that other substantive issues be discussed when negotiating the letter of agreement. The

Bridget Mount	Swanton, VT	Free Speech/Anti safety zone
Kelly Devine	Burl. Business Assoc.	Favor Bike Path Repair
Marni Salerno	Fed Up Vermont	Favor PPNNE safety zone
Sandra Baird	Ward 1	Favor PPNNE safety zone
Nathaly Agosto Filion	Ward 3	Favor Climate Action Plan
Emily Eck	Ward 2	Favor PPNNE safety zone

There being no one further coming forward and no objection from the remaining Council, City Council President Shannon closed the public forum at 8:03p.m.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Councilors Adrian and Bushor the consent agenda was unanimously adopted, as amended, thus taking the following actions as indicated:

3.01. COMMUNICATION: Lori Olberg, Licensing, Voting & Records Coordinator, re: Accountability List

*waive the reading, accept the communication and place it on file

3.02. RESOLUTION: Authorization to Execute Easements and Other Documents Related to Lands at Burlington International Airport (Councilor Paul)

*waive the reading and adopt the resolution

3.03. RESOLUTION: Authorization to Enter into License Agreement to Erect and Maintain Awnings Extending Over a Portion of the City's Right-of-way with Stacks Sandwiches (Councilors Dober, Tracy, Blais: License Committee)

*waive the reading and adopt the resolution

3.05. RESOLUTION: Compensation for Police Department Sergeants, Lieutenants and Deputy Chiefs – Unified Pay Scale Phase II Implementation (Board of Finance)

*waive the reading and adopt the resolution

3.06. RESOLUTION: Approval of Burlington School District's Purchase of 59 Murray Street (Board of Finance)

*waive the reading and adopt the resolution

3.07. RESOLUTION: Adoption of FY 2013 Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Fees Policy and Authorization of Department of Parks & Recreation to Implement Said Policy (Board of Finance)

*waive the reading and adopt the resolution

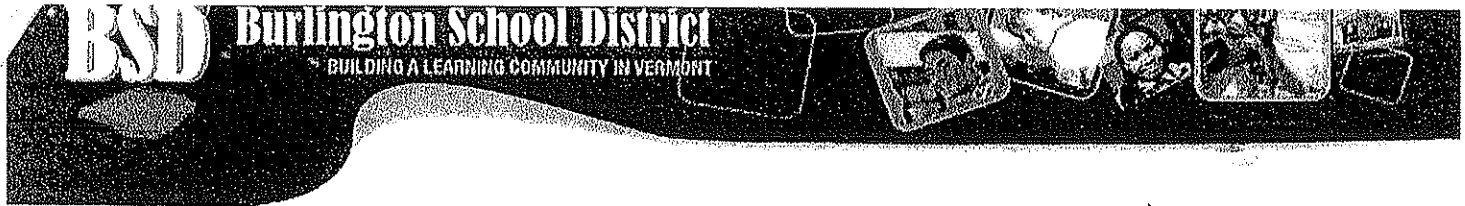
3.08. COMMUNICATION: Mari Steinbach, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, re: Fees & Charges Policy

*waive the reading, accept the communication and place it on file

3.09. RESOLUTION: Authorization to Execute State Highway Transportation Enhancement Grant (Board of Finance)

*waive the reading and adopt the resolution

3.10. RESOLUTION: License Agreement with Chittenden County Transportation Authority To Place Three Bus Shelters and Bike Racks on a Portion of the Public



August 7, 2012

Approved by consensus

5. First Look at Year End Financials

Business Manager Karen Groseclose presented the Preliminary Year end Financial Statements. There is a net deficit of \$1.5 m. (see memo dated August 3, 2012 for detail explanation, available on BoardDocs). Discussion about the history of the financials, with former software not detailed and business manager leaving a year ago, having a 1 year business manager and yet another new business manager this year. Munis software will allow for greater detail and reports in budgeting, with the business manager being the one to build the budget. The current estimates are unaudited and we are looking more deeply into these estimated overages. Discussed ways to communicate this information.

Discussed preliminary concern about FY'14 budget needing fiscal targets set early. This will likely lead to cuts and needs to be communicated and planned for early. For FY'14, look at 0%, 2% and 4% as target budgets to prepare.

6. Current YTD Financials

Business Manager Karen Groseclose presented preliminary sample report from the new MUNIS software system.

7. Financial Strategic Plan - tabled to September.

8. Munis Update

Business Manager Karen Groseclose reported that we have gone live on July 1, we have run 9 payrolls, but not the teacher payroll yet.

9. Housing Financing Memo

Operations Director Terry Bailey reported out on the purchase of the house at 59 Murray Street, closing was August 6; ITC considered renting out the 2 apartments for FY13 pending the funding to renovate the property for District use. Funding was developed by the deferment of preventive maintenance from FY13 to FY14.

10. EES Flood Update and Financial Impact

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