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October 11, 2023

Petersburg Assembly

Good afternoon Assembly Members,

We have filed a land disposal application to purchase Borough owned property which was approved on Tuesdays Planning and Zoning meeting. Our intention is to put roads and utilities in phases and sell parcels on the open market. We have the knowledge and resources to help a continually talked about and yet to be addressed housing crisis in our community. However, the success of our project in creating affordable lots is entirely dependent on the cost of the lots the Borough will sell us to make this happen. While we are not a federally recognized tribe or non-profit organization, we have always tried hard to give back and help enhance our community. We are confident if we can move this project forward as we envision it, we will retain young people, give working families a realistic opportunity to own their own home and maybe even entice people from other communities lacking housing to move here and help fill our workforce.

16.12.060 - Borough initiation of disposal of real property.

A. The borough assembly may initiate the disposal of real property not needed for a public use, on terms and conditions established by the assembly. The assembly may refer a proposed disposal *to* the planning commission for review and recommendation. All disposals of borough real property shall be by public sale *to* the highest responsible bidder, conducted either by sealed competitive bid or *outcry* auction, **unless the assembly determines that an exemption from public sale is in the best interests of the borough; if the disposal is so exempted, the assembly shall establish the alternative method of disposal, and the terms and conditions of disposal. If the assembly determines *to* proceed by direct negotiations, the assembly may authorize the borough manager *to* commence such negotiations for disposal of borough property; the final terms of a negotiated disposal are subject *to* approval by the assembly unless the minimum essential terms and the authority of the borough manager *to* execute the disposal are set forth in the resolution or ordinance authorizing negotiations.** If the disposal is *to* proceed by direct negotiations, notice shall be provided *to* the owners of real property located immediately adjacent *to* the property, by certified mail *to* the last known address of record, prior *to* any final assembly approval of the disposal.

I hope as we move forward you will allow us to work directly with the Borough Manager to purchase these properties instead of competitive bid or outcry auction.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,
Sigmund K and Ambre R Burrell
Skylark Park LLC