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Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 9:07 AM

To: Assembly <assembly@petersburgak.gov>

Subject: Land

10-20-2025

Good Morning,

I am submitting this letter this morning as I am unable to make it to the Assembly meeting this evening. Congratulations to Mark Jensen on his (retirement) from local politics, thank you very much for all of the time you have invested in our community, we are a better place to live thanks to you and the Assembly's hard work. I am writing to comment on the land sales that are being discussed at tonight's meeting. I am totally fine with selling the land for the Skylark project and the land to Dave Ohmer. The discount to the Skylark project is fine since it is a large-scale purchase and selling the two lots to Dave Ohmer at full appraised value also seems fair. My concerns have to do with the road that will need to be built for the Skylark project. I have heard some people say that the road for the subdivision should not have to be built to Borough specifications because it will make the development of the subdivision too costly to move ahead. I know there is another subdivision being put in and a possible third one in the works and I am wondering if those developers are having to build the roads to Borough Specifications? If not, then the Borough should re-write the specifications for roads for the entire Borough taking into account where these roads are being built. The road that is in the current Airport Subdivision behind the Hammer and Wikan grocery store has had zero maintenance done to it since the day it was completed. This road was built to the current Borough specifications and was paved 16 years ago. Maintenance for the road in the Skylark Subdivision will be the responsibility of the Borough once the project is completed. If you drive on any of the streets in or around town you will see what the Skylark road will look like once the traffic starts. I know it will be expensive to build the road to Borough specifications but isn't that why the Borough is discounting the land? There will never be a time when it will be less expensive to build a proper road than right now. Everything is going up! The Borough already does not have the manpower and equipment it needs to keep our roads on a regular grading schedule. I personally have a friend who lost his spare tire from under his van when it got hung up in a deep pothole. These roads will need this regular maintenance for ever, not just a year or two, more money will be spent on maintenance than would have been spent building the road to Borough Specifications. When people buy major items such as vehicles, appliances, boats, 4 wheelers, snow machines etc. or even smaller items such as rain gear, do they normally buy the cheapest possible thing they can find or do they put a little extra money into them so they don't have to turn right around and pay for costly repairs or total replacements just because they didn't want to spend the money to do it right? I understand that at times we have to purchase only what we can afford, I do not think we can afford to NOT build our roads to Borough Specifications. There was a reason that former City Councilors passed these specifications, and this is it.

Thank you for your time.

Gary Aulbach