

City Manager Stowe,

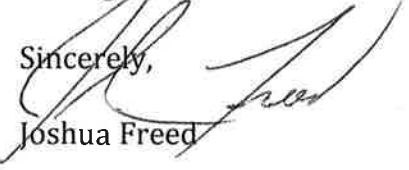
On November 27, 2013 David Richards sent a letter to you indicating that the Back Nine portion of the Properties would be put up for sale. Council discussed this matter and no action was taken by any of the seven council members. No council members proposed any motion to extend an offer during the 45-day deadline. The City's interest in this matter expired. The city did not have the estimated five million dollars to purchase the Back Nine. I supported a Parks and Public Spaces Bond measure last Fall that would have provided millions of dollars for the acquisition of open space and development of parks. Unfortunately, the voters rejected this bond measure and this money is not available to the City.

On May 30, 2014, over five months following the City's right of first offer expiration, a group in which I have an interest entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the Back Nine. Several parties were negotiating with the Richards family for purchase from January until May 2014, we were the prevailing party. This group, of which I have a minority interest, does not own the Back Nine but has acquired the right to purchase it. Prior to last night's meeting the City had not taken a position on the Back Nine properties. At last night's meeting this changed and (although this is a private transaction and not one I am obligated by law to discuss or disclose) it has become clear to me that the new position of the City Council compels me to disclose my minority interest and recuse myself from any further discussions related to the Back Nine or any potential purchase of the Front Nine of the Wayne Golf Course to avoid any suggestion or appearance of a conflict. For transparency reasons it is important to me to share my involvement in the Back Nine Purchase.

I have lived in the valley for 41 years and the quality of the new neighborhood will respect the environment by protecting around 60-65% of the 36 acres in permanent open space, improve the buffers with native vegetation and create a much desired western connection to Blythe Park through a new pedestrian and bike trail system.

Although, after consultation with our City Attorney, I do not believe I am legally required to take these steps I believe it is the right thing to do. I thank you and my colleagues on the Council for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

  
Joshua Freed