

Dear Select Board Chair Roberts:

Unfortunately I am not available to be at the Select board meeting on December 7, 2021. After reviewing the agenda I see that there is going to be a discussion about the Liberty/Ledge property. During the period of public comment section of your discussion I would like this statement to be read into the record and to be included in the record for the Liberty/Ledge issue.

***In 2019 the Town voted to purchase Liberty/ Ledge under an abbreviated schedule imposed by the seller, this schedule was inadequate to do a complete due diligence investigation that is normally done when purchasing a property of this type.***

***The proposed Town warrant article for the purchase was reviewed by a number of town committees that had oversight responsibility for a purchases of this type, and all voted against the purchase of the property principally because the information available was inadequate for them to support the purchase.***

***After the town voted to purchase Liberty/Ledge, the Select Board voted to enter into a three year management agreement for a day camp. Before the Town enters into any further long-term arrangement for Liberty/Ledge, an independent full due diligence review of the many options for the use of the property should be initiated.***

***This review should answer all the questions for which there was inadequate information in 2019. The Select Board and Town management has a fiduciary duty to understand the long-term options for this property. I urge the Select Board to hire an independent consultant to review multiple options for the property that will provide the highest benefit to the Town's population.***

***This study should include studying the environmental issues, the land use issues, the capital investment cost issues, the operating costs issues, real estate tax issues, the ADA issues, the issues surrounding scheduling and availability for the Town's population to use the property, the potential for revenue for the Town, as well as any other issues that should be included to evaluate the highest and best use for the property.***

***I urge the Select Board to enter into a one year extension to the management agreement to provide adequate time to do a complete study to determine the best long-term use of Liberty/Ledge for the benefit of the Town's population.***

***Thank you,***

***Thomas Travers***

***32 Old Framingham Road***

***Sudbury, MA***