

Dear Aron and the Evans Farm Neighborhood Association,

Thank you again for writing regarding the potential sale of Brookside. As mentioned in my previous note, we are glad to be providing you with additional information and happy to answer any questions that you have. We're glad to say that the process took a significant step forward with the approval of a "Letter of Intent to Purchase" (LOI) by the Board of Education at last night's meeting. What this means from a practical perspective is that the sale is approved and moving towards being closed. The Purchaser, "The Talmudic Institute of Upstate New York" is now able to also be publicly released along with additional details about the sale. I have attached the Letter for your reference.

Below please find responses to the questions from the Evan's Farms neighbors – as above we are able to be more forthcoming now that the buyer is revealed. Please follow up if you have additional questions or would like additional information.

1. Rents and Cost: Although the rents do supplement the cost of the operating the building, the bigger issues are the long term capital liability as well as the fact that the Council Rock expansion has caused Brookside to not be part of any of our future plans. We do not receive aid on work done to the building and the long-term costs of required repairs and upgrades far exceeds the resources gained based on the purchase price identified in the LOI. Additionally, any taxpayer dollars spent on this building takes away from other school initiatives that are actively in progress. It simply is not financially responsible to keep the property given the liability vs potential revenue scenario being presented.
2. Appraisal: The appraisal is a matter not disclosed due to the nature of negotiations for the sale of a property. However, it is important to note that the law does not allow the district to sell a property for less than the appraised value.
3. Name of the buyer. This has now been identified.
4. Address: The Town and the Purchaser would have to collaborate on this question. It is not within our purview. The Evans Farms neighbors are well within their rights to bring this to the attention of the Brighton Town Board
5. Idlewood: This is not part of our sale negotiations but believe it should be considered by the town and the Purchaser.
6. Zoning: The proposed use if this property is within what it is currently zoned for.
7. A PILOT agreement is not part of this sale. The Town would be responsible for anything related to Zoning and notifications. We have not been made aware of any potential changes.
8. We are not sure of how many eligible voters there are in the district as they would be information gathered and maintained by the Board of Elections in the case of municipal elections. School elections do not require registration and we do not maintain a database of who would meet the voting requirements.

Thank you again for asking these thoughtful questions and seeking to understand the details of this potential change. As the process continues, we are planning on sending additional information to the community. We'd be happy to answer additional questions or set up a community meeting zoom to discuss what we know and what will be happening next. All public discussions at the school board meetings are a matter of record and are posted to the school website for all to review.

Have a great night.

Kevin

Kevin McGowan, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools