

From: Fran Thomas <dtft5171@gmavt.net>

Sent: Monday, September 14, 2026 3:51 PM

Subject: tonight's meeting

Josh and Richmond Selectboard members,

I am unable to attend the meeting tonight due to my current health issues. Here are a few comments for those in attendance to consider.

- All through the process of applying for the grant that was then to be loaned to build the housing project on Borden St, we were told that the money would be repaid and the Town could use it for another worthwhile project. That was one of the main reasons why I supported the application.

- Another reason was the promise that some of the units would have an extra room that would be used for a home occupation. The housing folks would work with Mercy Connections to find tenants that were trying to earn a living from their home. The extra room would give them the space to work from home. I know of only one tenant who met this requirement. A woman who taught piano lessons. It was not the Town's responsibility to check on this, but I feel it was never followed through on by Housing Vermont.

- The maintenance of the project could and should be better. The shrubbery is over grown and in the way of walkways. I contacted the project managers a few years ago when there was trash and lots of stuff strewn around the property. It looked terrible. The storm water pond was built and left without a secure fence for months. An attraction and danger to the youngsters who live there. The pond is very close to one of the current tenant's unit. Mosquitoes and snakes are a problem, I have been told. Several of the units that I have visited are very cluttered and in need of a drastic cleaning. One in particular has a cat smell that makes breathing unbearable. Is there not some kind of routine inspection to make sure the units are habitable?

All in all I feel that I was misled on the repayment of the loan, the promise of space for home occupations, and the overall management of the project.

Sincerely,

Fran Thomas