

**From:** [Bondy, Sherry](#)  
**To:** [Auger, Robert](#); [Nepszy, Chris](#); [Brown, Shelley](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Old Schoolhouse Property in Colchester  
**Date:** Friday, January 8, 2021 6:26:01 PM

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I have spoke to John too.

Pls include his email on the Jan 18th council agenda

Sherry Bondy  
Essex Councillor  
519-566-3105  
Follow me on Facebook  
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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** John [REDACTED]  
**Date:** January 8, 2021 at 6:22:37 PM EST  
**To:** "Bondy, Sherry" <[sbondy@essex.ca](mailto:sbondy@essex.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Old Schoolhouse Property in Colchester

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certainly proceed with e-mail on the agenda

*John Rount,*

Residence [REDACTED]

On Friday, January 8, 2021, 6:03:46 p.m. EST, Bondy, Sherry <sbondy@essex.ca> wrote:

Thank you for your email regarding the Old School House in Colchester. Feedback from residents is vital to council making the correct decision for our community.

Can I ask the clerk to include your email as part of the public agenda January 18th? Also please make sure you watch the Dec 21st council meeting on YouTube - Essex Ontario. Follow the file Jan 18th on you tube as well.

Sherry Bondy

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**From:** John [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 8, 2021 3:47 PM  
**To:** CouncilMembers <CouncilMembers@essex.ca>  
**Cc:** Bondy, Sherry <sbondy@essex.ca>  
**Subject:** Old Schoolhouse Property in Colchester

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I have been informed of the possible sale of the property at 195 Bagot St known as the Old School House as "surplus land."

It is suggested that the property would be rezoned to Boutique Short Term Rentals. The prospective purchaser or the value have not been disclosed.

This property is surrounded by residences that have been established for years. There is no need to re-zone this property unless such is for additional permanent single home dwellings in accordance with existing by-laws for construction. Converting this site to short term rentals would significantly devalue existing residential properties in its immediate area and accordingly is unfair to those ratepayers.

I cannot support additional funding to preserve, convert or maintain this site for other community use since I am unable to justify such in light of the nearby Colchester Harbour Park and Marina. The existing building at the harbour is used infrequently now and any such community activities should be directed to these existing underutilized assets that rate payers are currently paying for in their taxes.

I have no problem accepting the keeping of a small portion for community gardens as it is currently for the benefit of local residents if such remains in demand.

In any event this property --if considered surplus-- should be rezoned for single dwelling residential use which would increase the tax base without adversely affecting the values of neighboring homes. This option would also eliminate the issues of possible noise, policing and municipal clean-up (among other things) that could be experienced if converted to short term rentals.

Despite any marketing presentations that could be presented, Colchester has been in decline for short term rentals for many years. New short term rentals could turn into eyesores quite quickly if rental activities do materialize. Certainly one would expect that the off-season use would be minimal. It would be difficult, time consuming and expensive to return this property to another appropriate use. This site is too close to permanent residences for the suggested use.

If additional short term rental needs are considered beneficial then discussions and opportunities and rezoning if required should be initiated and perhaps encouraged with the operators/owners of the existing trailer parks and campgrounds--- Caboto Park/ Ravine Cottages for example.

This property should be re-zoned to permanent single unit residential dwellings and offered for sale by public tender.

I will oppose any application for rezoning otherwise and any sale that is not offered publicly.

*John Rount, Resident at 735 Clitherow St. Harrow/Essex /Colchester, On*

Residence [REDACTED]

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