



SURF CITY TAXPAYER ASSOCIATION

CONCERNED TAXPAYER ASSOCIATION OF
THE BOROUGH OF SURF CITY, NJ (SCTA)
201 North 18th Street, Surf City, NJ 08008

www.surfcitytaxpayer.com

December 6, 2019

Dear Mayor Hodgson,

We have recently received a number of questions from our SCTA members regarding the upcoming school referendum and potential purchase by Surf City of the EJ School. While we realize the referendum vote is just days away, we are hoping you might be able to respond to these questions so that we can pass along your response to our membership prior to next Tuesday.

Our role in this matter is consistent with our SCTA mission statement which states: 1) To “facilitate communication between taxpayers and town officials” and 2) to “work to ensure that our tax dollars are spent wisely”.

Once we receive your reply, we'll distribute it immediately via email to our members. If you feel there is a better way to address the questions, please feel free to contact either one of us (phone numbers listed below). We're very open to your preferences and recommendations.

Thank you very much for taking time to engage with us on these important issues. We sincerely appreciate your service to our community.

Susanne Gilbert

Bob Lieber

Susanne Gilbert and Bob Lieber
On Behalf of the Surf City Taxpayer Association Board
(Susanne: 609-276-1967 and Bob: 201-463-0699)

- *Why did you feel that now was the time to try and purchase the EJ school?*
- *How do you feel the taxpayers will benefit from this purchase?*
- *In the Town Hall on Nov 13 it was suggested that the renovation of the LBI school could be done without referendum dollars – particularly with the sale of the EJ, and without raising taxes. But the council has recommended a yes vote. Could you help us understand this better?*
- *You've said publicly that you would only allow the land on EJ to be used for recreational purposes – and this has been received positively by many. Is that something that could be put in the deed?*
- *Since the offer for the school was \$3 million in cash, how will that be paid for?*
- *Will the budget surplus be used for the purchase? Or will a bond eventually need to be floated?*
- *What would happen if we have another emergency that required use of the surplus funds?*
- *Are you open to holding a town hall meeting on the subject of the sale of the school?*