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From: Martin Levenstein
To: townboard <townboard@shelterislandtown.us>
Sent: Mon, Sep 8, 2014 11:33 am
Subject: Environmental review for 6 Charlies Lane

Dear Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Reich, Mr. Shepherd, Ms. Lewis and Mr. Brown,

I attended last Tuesday's Town Board work session because I am very concerned about the construction being planned at 6 Charlies Lane. My family has been visiting Shelter Island since the 1980s and we purchased our home on Cartwright Road in 1997. We have been permanent island residents since 2005.

One has to be living on another planet to not be aware of and concerned about the environmental pressures currently being brought to bear on Shelter Island. Of greatest concern is monitoring and protecting our single source aquifer and our surrounding waters. All of us who live here have a right to clean, healthy drinking water and the enjoyment of the water that surrounds Shelter Island. Unfortunately, many island wells already have salt water incursion and contaminated water supplies, and it is documented that nitrogen run off from sewage and fertilizers has contributed to serious damage of our bays. The town, in fact, has initiated a study of in place septic systems as a first step in determining the health of our home sewage disposal.

I am not an engineer, but as a lay person who knows the aquifer under Charlies Lane is very shallow, and West Neck Harbor and Menantic Creek are mere footsteps away, I can not believe that installing a 10,000 gallon cistern and digging 11 cesspools and 2 septic tanks plus covering the landscape with a swimming pool and other structures will not threaten and ultimately do great harm to our water resources.

Please take the step of initiating an environmental review of the possible impact to our environment that could occur by allowing Mr. Tolkin to proceed with the construction of his enormous house. I am only asking for due diligence, dotting all the i's and crossing all the t's. It is the least we can expect from a town board which is charged with protecting the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all islanders, not just those with the most money. I respect that Mr. Tolkin is an individual with the right to do what he likes with property that he owns. But the individuals who make up the citizenry of Shelter Island also have the collective right to not be harmed by his exercising his individual rights.

You probably are aware that Mr. Tolkin is co-Chairman and CEO of World Travel Holdings, renters of luxury vacation properties. Here is a link to one of their offerings in Florida, [http://www.villasofdistinction.com/villas/florida/trio only \\$5740 a night!](http://www.villasofdistinction.com/villas/florida/trio%20only%20$5740%20a%20night/) This home and the luxury villa proposed for 6 Charlies Lane share many similarities. What is to prevent 6 Charlies Lane from becoming such a commercial property in the future? Will that be permitted? Will renters who might enjoy the property even think about the environmental impact of their actions?

Decisions have to be made with a long term view of Shelter Island's viability and environmental health. Who knows how long Mr. Tolkin will remain on his property and what the next owners will do?

I urge you to study all the possibilities and consider the ramifications for all Shelter Islanders regarding this property and other properties in the future. I URGE YOU TO PLEASE INITIATE AN ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email and giving it your consideration.

Sincerely,

Martin Levenstein
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