



• [TomHamilton](#) on [MikeK: Trustees' Move 'Outrageous'](#) on [October 16 at 9:41 p.m.](#)

The interesting part of Mike's claim is that the 30 day window was set by the city leadership, not the district...a fact which Mike was informed of at the meeting tonight. In fact, city leadership has been involved in this conversation for many months but the council was not informed.

I attended the council meeting tonight together with Trustee Seddon and Superintendent Bauman. In addressing the council, we made it clear that the district and the Board truly desire to keep Person Field as a green space / park for the local community but that the District should not be the steward of that park space any longer. I am happy to report that the council agreed and have directed city leadership to work with the district to find a way to transfer ownership of the parcel to the City where it rightfully should be.

Mike's statement that an exchange of property is the statutory requirement for a public entity to acquire property from another public entity is correct. The solution here is simple and I remain hopeful that this can come to fruition quickly.

The problem is that the district needs a new office. Our desire is to purchase an existing property suitable for our needs and we have been actively searching for such a property for some time. The City is and should be in the park business. An exchange is the best way to make this happen. A solution that I believe solves all of these issues would be for the city to acquire interest in a property equal to the appraised value of Person Field that suits the needs of the district. This should be pursued jointly and once a property is identified the purchase would be negotiated. The portion owned by the city would be traded to the district in exchange for Person Field which would then become fully a part of the city park system...as it should be! The problem for both of our organizations is solved.

Just my two cents...I do appreciate the mayor and the council affording us the opportunity to address them on this issue. I will be asking the Board for a 60 day extension on the execution of the bid process on Thursday in order to allow time for the city to follow through on direction from their council tonight.

All in all, I think this will end up in a win / win solution.