

August 31, 2018

Lawrence Township Agrees To Essential Terms With Sheft Associates, Inc.
For The Acquisition Of Property Along Colonial Lake

The Township of Lawrence and Sheft Associates, Inc. have reached an agreement for the Township's acquisition of 5.9+ acres of property located at 2420 Brunswick Pike, Lawrence Township, which is situated on the south side of Brunswick Pike, just southwest of Colonial Lake Drive. The property to be purchased will be subdivided to allow for the continued operations of the business known as Colonial Bowling & Entertainment. The agreement also includes the Township's "right of first refusal" to acquire the remaining lot should Sheft Associates, Inc. decide to sell in the future.

This acquisition by the Township will stop the proposed development of a 3-story, 52,902 sq. ft., 123 room, extended-stay lodging facility that is currently being reviewed by the Lawrence Township Planning Board. It will also ensure that the land is preserved from future development, and will serve to further enhance Colonial Lake Park.

The funding for this acquisition is from the Lawrence Township Open Space Fund, and grant monies from the Mercer County Open Space Assistance Program, the New Jersey DEP Green Acres Program, the Lawrence Township Conservation Foundation, Inc. and the citizen's group known as "Save Colonial Lake." In addition, this agreement could not have been reached without the invaluable participation and contribution from the D&R Greenway Land Trust.

"My brothers and I are pleased that this tract of land will be preserved, and we look forward to finalizing this transaction in the near future" said Stanley A. Sheft, MD, FACS, on behalf of the property owner. Mayor Christopher Bobbitt said, "The purchase of this property and its addition to Colonial Lake Park represents the best of what Lawrence Township can accomplish by working with our citizens and various private and public organizations to preserve and enhance Colonial Lake for generations to come. We are grateful to the Shefts for understanding the importance of the property to our community and coming to an agreement with the Township."