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FROM: Rich Pavadore  
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Subject: Review of latest Agreement for Special Town Meeting.

This letter is written by myself alone and does not represent the views of the Finance Committee

- I have no objection to the Tribe and the casino coming to Middleboro and hope we can work out an optimum deal that helps and supports both entities. I am concerned that the current contract as written and publicly advertised by the Board of Selectmen is giving our citizens a false and over estimated opinion of the amount of money we will receive and thus increase in expected town services. Because of the massive infrastructure changes, 24 hour, 7 day per week traffic and overall philosophical change to the entire area, if they are asking for my support, I would expect the citizens of Middleboro should not have to degrade their current level of services or conveniences if at all possible. Many of the changes and money associated within this contract will be directly required to maintain our town government in its present form to support the new casino's operation.
- The Board of Selectmen have done a good job thus far in putting together this agreement but I have concerns that it is preliminary and probably incomplete with regards to the background performed, level of detail in estimates, effects of surrounding towns, local resident traffic impacts, and a host of other issues that would be involved in a project of this size. I do not see how anyone could put together a \$300M project in two months and be that confident as to its completeness and accuracy. This is a part time, non-paid board and attempting to put this agreement together in this time frame is an almost impossible task. If some of the calculations and estimates are off by as little as 10%, it results in \$ 1M errors which we do not have.
- A possible change to our community of this magnitude should be discussed, reviewed and addressed by as many boards, experts and citizens as possible to ensure our town moves forward in the direction it best sees fit. In my opinion, there was not sufficient time to perform this type of background work. The citizens are being asked to choose between a contract put together behind closed doors, by 5 members of a part time board with no real accountability should something go wrong, against nothing as Selectman Bond has said. The town is being given roughly 5 days to absorb and sign on to this agreement which gives us virtually no time to do any research on our own. If we agree with this agreement, will we then be held accountable at future Town Meetings for voting it in? I hope not.
- Can we not add something like, "preliminary" to this contract so that other officials, department heads and citizens can ratify some of the numbers and conclusions and ensure the citizens of Middleboro are not short changed because of the hastened schedule being put forth by the Wampanoag's. We could then have a rational vote next April as the State mandates for this type of situation. After all there is still a requirement for federal and State approval. I fail to see the immediate rush for this type of vote in a historic arena begging for confusion and possibly nullification by the Secretary of State.
- Two weeks ago, a contract called for \$ 7M per year in lieu of taxes to the Town of Middleboro and was touted by Adam Bond as being "a good start". Now by adding temporary police and fire (which we will eventually have to pay for) and some estimated room taxes, it is being touted as the best deal ever. The CPI increase added to this figure is roughly \$220K per year. There is not a major change from the original contract and this one for a town with a current annual budget of \$60M. (Roughly a 3-4% increase over the original contract)