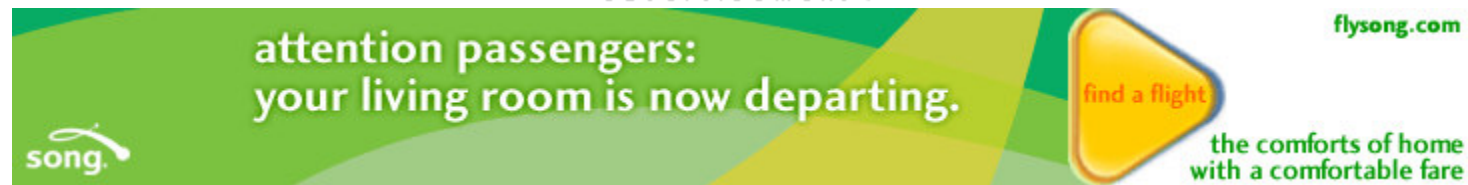


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Selectmen denies ethics violation

By **John Hilliard / Daily News Staff**

Thursday, October 20, 2005

WAYLAND -- A local resident has filed a complaint with the state Ethics Commission alleging Selectman William Whitney could have broken ethics laws by brokering a deal between the town and Town Center developers while his employer completed a \$2.7 million land deal with one of those developers in New Hampshire.

"I am concerned that there is an appearance that (the) town's interests could have been improperly compromised," wrote Old Sudbury Road resident Gerard McGonagle in his Oct. 17 complaint.

McGonagle asked the Ethics Commission to investigate whether Whitney broke laws for negotiating a deal with project developers while his employer, Druker Co., a Boston real estate firm, successfully completed a \$2.7 million New Hampshire land deal with an affiliate of Town Center developer KGI Properties in May.

The development agreement between Wayland and Twenty Wayland LLC, which includes KGI Properties, was approved by selectmen on Oct. 14.

Whitney negotiated the deal on behalf of the selectmen from about August to early October, though the project was first officially pitched by developers in April.

"Mr. Whitney's negotiations with KGI in Wayland at the very same time that Druker entities were doing a deal with KGI entities in New Hampshire create a question as to whether Mr. Whitney has favored KGI in his role as lead negotiator

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for the Board of Selectmen," wrote McGonagle.

McGonagle would not comment when questioned by a reporter.

But Whitney said he publicly made the New Hampshire land deal known in May, plus was told by Wayland Town Counsel Mark Lanza there was "not even an appearance" of a conflict of interest. Whitney works as a vice president for the Druker Co.

"To the best of my knowledge, I've abided by those (state ethics) laws," said Whitney.

According to records from both New Hampshire and Massachusetts, Druker Co. affiliate TDC Holdings completed a nearly \$2.7 million deal with KGI Gorham LLC for the Mountain Valley Plaza site on May 10 in Gorham, N.H. [\[continue\]](#)

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