

Nov. 24, 2004

## Legal Opinion Does Not Exist

It seems that the mayor and council did not seek legal opinion before signing the Molson Swamp deal. For months now we have heard from city hall that indeed there was a legal opinion on the Molson deal. We decided to see if what the mayor and others were telling us was actually true and applied through the Freedom of Information legislation. Seems that according to the Office of the City Manager no record of this opinion exists. Now there are a couple of funny issues. First Laura Lee manager of council services is supposed to be in charge of all Freedom of Information requests. Yet we have the City manager intervening to report back to us. The other problem is that the mayor has stated publicly that indeed there was a legal opinion and implied that council followed this opinion. So who is telling the truth, and why is the city manager involved with this matter? Will we ever be able to get a truthfull answer from these people???? Why would council enter into a land deal that has huge financial implications without getting a legal opinion???