

## Columbia County Board of Supervisors

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James J. Guzzi Deputy Chairman

Robert M. Lagonia Deputy Chairman

June 7, 2024

Mr Clark Wieman Ms. Donna Streitz 11 Warren Street Action Group

Dear Mr. Wieman and Ms. Streitz;

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors I'd like to thank you for your interest in this project; the time and effort that has been placed into the preparation of your recent report, and your participation in this process during the public meetings that you've attended as well as the correspondences that have been submitted to the County.

Prior to purchase of 11 Warren Street, the County conducted its due diligence regarding the County's intent to renovate the building for County Office's. This included confirmation by the City of Hudson Code Enforcement Officer that the parcel is located within the Central Commercial (C-C) zoning district and that professional, governmental or business offices are identified as allowable uses within this Zoning District.

Furthermore, the County reviewed applicable sections of the City of Hudson Zoning Code pertaining to site plan approval and received concurrence from the City of Hudson Code Enforcement Office that the intent of the County to occupy the existing building footprint, as well as the County's proposed use of the building as Governmental offices would not trigger any threshold as listed within City Code that would require the County to obtain Site Development Plan Approval prior to occupancy.

Based on the above, at the monthly Board of Supervisors meeting held August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution, with a unanimous vote of the Supervisors present, in favor of determining that, (1) the purchase of the 11 Warren Street parcel is desirable for utilization as office space for county departments, and (2) to proceed with the purchase of said parcel.

The renovation of 11 Warren Street and relocation of several county departments will include a fully multi-operational facility for the Board of Elections that will increase walkable accessibility by residents including but not limited to the Hudson Housing Authority, Hudson Terrace, Schuyler Court, and Providence Hall; for voter registration, absentee ballots and early voting. It should be noted that approximately 10% of the entire building will be used for work areas associated with programming voting printers, voting machines, and check-in tablets.

Currently the site contains 30 off-street parking stalls for use by the staff and visitors. As discussed during the recent space utilization committee meeting, the normal business hours of the county offices is 8:00am-4:00pm, Monday through Friday which leaves the parking available in the evenings and weekends. In addition, the availability of this off-street parking area at nights and on weekends allows for the parking lot to be used by the public and/or community organizations for special events. As an example, the County has

been contacted by a representative of the Hudson Catskill Coalition regarding use of the parking lot for a Juneteenth block party celebration.

Thank you again for expressing your comments and concerns, and the County will continue to consider and evaluate comments that are received from the public as the County continues its progress and moves forward with the renovations at 11 Warren Street.

Sincerely

Matt B. Murell Chairman

Cc: Mr. Kamal Johnson, Mayor Hudson Common Council Board of Supervisors