

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Telephone: (716) 286-4310

September 30, 2022

The City Council
Niagara Falls, New York

Re: Sale of City-owned Real Property (RJ Davis and Company Development)

Council Members:

In a separate item submitted for your approval, it was requested that the City Council approve the Restore NY Communities Initiative Municipal Grant application for the proposed project submitted by RJ Davis and Company Development, a Niagara Falls-based, MWBE business with a history of successful ventures. The project, Power City Landmark, is focused on the revitalization and rehabilitation of residential housing in the City by restoring twelve (12) blighted and condemned properties within the Southend Gateway Revitalization District. The proposed plan is intended to revitalize urban areas, disadvantaged communities and stabilize neighborhoods.

In furtherance of the grant application and in the overall best interests of the City, it is hereby requested that the City Council approve the conveyance of the following City-owned properties to RJ Davis and Company Development: 418 Memorial Parkway, 516 Ferry Avenue, 538 8th Street, 548 7th Street, 568 6th Street, 522 6th Street, 553 5th Street, 552 5th Street, 473 5th Street and 624 4th Street (the additional two (2) properties listed in the grant application are already owned by the company). These properties were acquired by the City through In Rem proceedings over a number of years and have been held by the City for economic development for quite some time. Not only will rehabilitation of these properties enhance the appearance and stability of neighborhoods, but it will also lessen the City's financial burden related to upkeep of the premises throughout the municipality.

The purchase price for each of the ten (10) properties is \$5,000.00, for a grand total of \$50,000.00. Based upon the location and conditions of the properties in question, this price is both fair and adequate. The proposed transfer of the City-owned lots in question is clearly in the best interests of the City and in conformity with the requirements of the City Charter related to the disposition of City-owned property. Additionally, the transfer of the properties will be subject to a certain development timeline.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City all documents relating to the transfer of the properties in question, provided that the same are in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Restaino
Mayor

Bax _____ Myles _____ Tompkins _____ Zajac _____ Spanbauer _____