

Tinti, Elisa

From: Joseph Difalco <difalcobrandy@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 2021 9:59 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Cc: Morell, Jeffrey; Koop, Douglas; Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Worthington, Rita; Tallerman, Donald; Davis, Tony; O'Reilly, Patrick; Schabot, Steven; Hirsch, Michele
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Public Comment for Council Meeting May 4

Greetings...

Please find my comments I wish to have part of the proceedings for tonight's Common Council meeting, Tuesday, May 4.

Thank you for your courtesies.

Ellen DiFalco

MAY 2021 Council Meeting—Council President, Aldermen, Members of the Press and Public.....

To refresh your memory, I have been speaking to this Broadway and Grand Street Reconfiguration Project since April 2019. I brought to light the expenditure of \$475,000 out of the unassigned fund balance for the purchase of the former Planet Wings building (\$450,000) and \$25,000 for demolition and clean up at the site. There was also a \$17,000 loss of property taxes because this property is now off the tax rolls.

This was not an open and transparent purchase but one of deception, because the mayor had signed an “offer to purchase” this property on December 21, 2018.

Now, two years later, this project is costing over \$1.1 million with the State’s \$750,000 grant to redesign the intersection, \$75,000 of that was earmarked for engineering costs. \$675,000 of the grant is left and the city was required to borrow \$425,000 for the project costs in November of 2020. Remember the

bonding resolution in November 2020 failed to muster the votes necessary.

Tonight's Resolution No. 80 and 81 require a bond for \$325,000 which is the actual costs derived from the RFP proposals. There was a previous discussion relative to the green space costs too. Will you be asked to fund that proposal as well? When will it end? Is it conceivable for this project to be sent back for further evaluation, especially when there are redesigning features that were not brought forward for discussion?

Madame President is correct. You are being watched and people don't forget.

**Thank you.
Ellen DiFalco
66 Glen Street
Kingston NY**

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