

## Village of Lewiston assessing proposed plaza change

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He noted the building will retain its mixed-use designation. A commercial unit “will be on the North Eighth Street side of the building. There’s an existing storefront, as well, to be on this side here. There’s an existing entrance there now for a commercial unit. That space will be about 3,100 square feet.”

“They’ll have a whole east elevation of the building over here facing the street, and a little bit on the south side of the building.”

That said, “We’ve talked to numerous prospective tenants on it. The biggest feedback we’ve gotten from all these people is the lack of visibility from Center Street seems to be their hindrance towards here,” Wassel said. “It’s about a 15-foot drop on Center Street back to our parking lot there. Again, (even) with signage and that, they don’t think there’s enough visibility for them to be very successful on the back. And since there’s been such a slow ramp-

up for leasing the front few buildings, a lot of people have been looking to go other places. And then, also with the different market conditions for commercial retail space since COVID has happened, not many people are looking at having large footprints like we originally proposed for this building.”

Ellicott Development purchased 756, 784-790 Center St., and the 4.1-acre parcel of empty land at Center, North Eighth and Onondaga streets, in late 2012. The company’s plaza project went through several rounds of revisions at municipal meetings before it was approved. Ground broke at the site in June 2018.

One tenant, Tim Hortons, now operates in building No. 1, next to Vincenzo’s Pizza House. The eatery has a café, bake shop and drive-thru window.

A second tenant, Quest Diagnostics, leases space inside Building No. 2, closest to North Eighth Street.

Wassel said building No. 3’s 13 apartment units are typically at or above 75% occupied.

### Planning Board Changes

Doreen Albee is the new Planning Commission chair, following Norman Machelor’s recent resignation. Rick Haight will serve as deputy in Albee’s absence.

Architect David Giusiana has moved from the Historic Preservation Board to the Planning Commission.



## FRONTIER HOUSE LIT UP

Ellicott Development Director of Development Thomas M. Fox also serves as spokesperson for Ellicott Development’s second notable Lewiston property, the 199-year-old Frontier House on Center Street.

Fittingly, with holiday lights now adorning the village streets and homes, residents have expressed their satisfaction in seeing the Frontier House all lit up. That is to say, light is visible

from the windows, as construction crews renovate the interior in the early morning hours.

See related story on Page 1, and see even more photos online at [www.wnypapers.com](http://www.wnypapers.com).

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