

November 23, 2020

Roy Castillo  
Margarita Azul  
91 Parrish  
Wilkes Barre PA, 18702

Dear Council members,

I am writing to express how eager I am to hear your decision on my proposal to purchase the Juvenile Detention Center. I greatly appreciated the opportunity to participate in your Council meeting on November 9th and am grateful for your honest feedback. I've never participated in any council meeting before, let alone one on Zoom, and I just wanted to reach out and reiterate how much it would mean if I was given the opportunity to purchase and renovate this property.

Right now this building is branded as "part of the jail property" which for all legal formalities may be true, however, I want a more positive, practical, and progressive future for this property.

I wanted to take some time to address some concerns that were brought forth throughout the council meeting such as the security concerns because the prison is in such close proximity. I absolutely agree with those in the meeting that this concern is valid and I assure you it will not be taken lightly by me. I will be taking safety measures such as setting up security cameras that will be regularly monitored as well as installing security lights that will serve as a deterrent. As one council member brought up, I believe that having the building occupied in general will deter more trespassers to stay away. I am not unfamiliar with keeping commercial and residential properties safe and over the last few years have built several homes in the Wilkes Barre area as well as owning and operating Margarita Azul located on the corner of Parrish and Brown St. I have always had a strong commitment to keeping our community safe and I have strong relationships not only with my neighbors along the streets surrounding my restaurant and patio, but also with the WBPD.

I also wanted to address the concern that I may struggle to find tenants to lease the commercial and residential space I plan to create in this building. As I said in the meeting, I have complete confidence in my ability to create enticing and innovative spaces and have experience in doing so. Once I put my mind to a project, I can assure you I am 100% committed to its realization.

In conclusion, I am committed to operating several more successful business endeavors, employing and providing a comfortable wage to the people in this community, and making our area more enjoyable and beautiful in the process. I hope that I will be granted the opportunity to begin a prosperous and beneficial relationship with Luzerne County, beginning with the purchase of this property. I ask that you all lend me your trust and confidence in my ability to restore this property. I will undoubtedly make all of you, as well as the city of Wilkes-Barre as a whole, proud by raising the bar on what can be done with properties in this area, no matter their past.

Thank you for your time,

Roy Castillo