

# EPOCH TIMES

October 14 2015

*Holly Kellum*

<http://www.theepochtimes.com/n3/1878306-changes-afoot-for-downtown-port-jervis/>

PORT JERVIS—Port Jervis Mayor Kelly Decker said he didn't want to call it a renaissance for the downtown, but he was excited that two big buildings on Front Street had buyers who were serious about renovating them.

24-32 Front Street

The city is in talks with two men, David Krantz and Sean Donnelly, who are interested in developing 46-48 Front Street into a microbrewery on one side and a bar and restaurant on the other.

While the building will need some serious renovation, it doesn't have the time pressure that 24-32 does. Their deadline is Nov. 1 of 2016, and Decker said they hope to have the building in a condition to be able to open within a year.

The building was built in 1927, according to tax records, and has 3 stories.

The back wall will have to be replaced because, while the city repaired it four years ago to keep it from falling down, the wall was only supposed to last one year.

The city is forgiving over \$118,000 in taxes and construction costs to repair the wall, but like the other building, they see it as an investment into the future of the downtown.

Decker said he has been impressed with the "meticulousness" of Donnelly and Krantz and is confident they will follow through once the property is sold to them. The city currently owns the building.

Decker called plans for the two buildings and others in the works a "revitalization" of the downtown and said they are having a snowball effect by "bringing other people into the area interested in other buildings."