



**NEWS RELEASE
CITY OF JONESVILLE**

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JONESVILLE COUNCIL APPROVES PURCHASE AGREEMENT

A former factory in Downtown Jonesville is one step closer to a major transformation. At their meeting on Wednesday night, the Jonesville City Council approved a Purchase and Development Agreement with DH Roberts Construction for the redevelopment of the former Klein Tool property.

The project will be constructed in two phases. The portion of the factory closest to Chicago Street will be redeveloped as a 22,000 square foot commercial building with on-site parking. The building will keep its industrial character, but will be enhanced with glass and door openings to add storefronts on the street. The remainder of the factory will be demolished to make way for a modern residential building with two- and three-bedroom market rate apartments. The project will take advantage of the frontage on the St. Joseph River and is tentatively being called Riverview Flats.

The Agreement transfers ownership of the property to DH Roberts Construction in exchange for the investment to redevelop the property. The total investment is currently estimated at between \$4 and \$7 million.

“The City has been looking for the right partner for this property for several years,” said Mayor Gerry Arno. “We are very happy to find the best proposal from people that we can trust, right here in our own back yard.”

DH Roberts Construction has been located in Jonesville for more than 30 years. The company was purchased by Victor Face in 2005 and has an established reputation of quality work in and around Jonesville.

“We at DH Roberts are very appreciative of the city's unanimous agreement to turn this property into something that will attract more people to this downtown area. This project will turn a blighted building into a modern, attractive, useful facility and housing,” Face said. “We are looking forward to working with them into the future to make this project a reality.”

The Jonesville Downtown Development Authority (DDA) has worked closely with the City Council on the redevelopment of the factory. The DDA recommended that the City Council

approve the Agreement at their meeting on May 9th. “The agreement with DH Roberts Construction is very exciting,” said DDA Chair Don Toffolo. “We are very grateful for their partnership and investment in Downtown Jonesville.”

Construction of the commercial building is expected to take approximately 24 to 30 months. The residential building is anticipated to be complete within 4 to 7 years, depending on market conditions.

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