



The Chairman's Corner

by

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DMV/TREASURER'S OFFICE BUILDING RENOVATIONS

2/14/23

As work wraps up on the DMV/County Clerk's Office/Real Property Tax Services building at 560 Warren Street, Hudson, those involved with and affected by the renovation and upgrade project are expressing their approval of how things are turning out.

"We're very happy with the outcome of the work that's been done on this very historic building," said. County Clerk Holly Tanner. The building, originally the home of the Hudson City Savings Institution, was opened for business in 1909.

"I was very happy with the design work. There were concerns it might be too modern but it really does fit the scheme of the building. It looks great and it's very energy efficient. The windows are very large in the main portion of the building, but the drafts are gone," she said.

"We appreciated the public's patience when we had to close the entire office for a couple days," added County Clerk Tanner.

"We looked at the project to do two things," said county Department of Public Works Commissioner Ray Jurkowski. "One was to replace old systems that were exceeding their useful life. Some of the boilers and air handler units have been in service for 25, if not 30 years, so they've outlived their useful life. The county has been making investments just to keep them operational, and we recognized it was time for replacement. While they needed to be replaced anyway, we were also looking at energy improvements."

As part of that, condensing boilers, which tend to run more efficiently, were utilized, while some of the air handler units were replaced. The replacement units use a variable speed pump to obtain their hot water – the pump gauges the indoor as well as the outdoor temperature, then adjusts the amount hot water being pushed through the units accordingly rather than sending it at a constant rate, thereby increasing the unit's efficiency, Commissioner Jurkowski explained.

In addition, LED lighting replaced aging fluorescent lighting, which will contribute to increasing the energy efficiency at 560 Warren Street. "The LED technologies are by far the most efficient," said Commissioner Jurkowski.

"I'm looking forward to seeing the decrease in operating costs as a result of the energy efficiency measures we've taken here," said Stuyvesant Town Supervisor and Public Works Committee Chairman Ron Knott. "Instead of putting Band-Aids on things, we're taking steps with these projects to lower costs long-term."

Further, the existing roofs were 20-plus years old, well past their warranty life, and have been replaced along with all windows and doors. Double-paned windows have taken the place of the old single-pane, inefficient windows.

Similar to what was implemented with the DSS building and sheriff's office upgrades and improvements, the County Facilities department has the ability to remotely monitor building systems. Any type of alarm is transmitted directly to the department, giving it the opportunity to react more quickly to a developing situation and possibly make adjustments without traveling to the site.

We had hoped to have all work completed in the late fall of 2022, but supply chain issues eventually added roughly three-four months to the project.