

# OBSERVER

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BREAKING NEWS

Area agencies, FBI tied to Pennsylvania search

April 16, 2016

## Back at square one for Edgewood warehouse

Development breeds development, but its loss might also mean a loss of development. At least this was the case for proposed Edgewood warehouse development company Atwater Capital.

In October, there was still hope that the deal might pull through despite the odds.

At a meeting of the Roberts Road Development Corporation, it was explained the deal went south after ConAgra's decision to leave the area and shut down its plants in Dunkirk and Fredonia.

"It was the case that Atwater (Capital) was unable to move forward with the project that had been proposed and I think that was unfortunately in part due to the ConAgra closing because they were dependent on the potential of leasing some space to ConAgra," County Attorney Steve Abdella explained.

County Executive Vince Horrigan added, "In fact, I think they were very close to closing in on that deal two weeks or a week before the announcement was made."

The board, consisting of Dunkirk Mayor Willie Rosas, Legislature Chair Frank "Jay" Gould and Horrigan, reviewed the annual report for 2015.

This report showed \$11,060 in total assets and total liabilities.

"The main activity that had been going on is back in 2014, the corporation had entered into an agreement with Atwater Capital, which essentially gave them the option to purchase that Roberts Road property. They made a deposit of that \$11,000 for that option, period. Recently, we were notified by Atwater Capital that they were not going to move forward, so actually in 2016 that \$11,000 deposit was refunded to them," Abdella added.

Horrigan summed up the two-page report.

“Have we acquired any real property for development? No in 2014 and no in 2015. And have we transferred any property to the developer? We had activity, but in reality we did not transfer any property in either 2014 or 2015,” he said.

The sole audience member, Mike Civiletto, Citizens Advisory Council chair and former president of the Dunkirk Historical Society, said the CAC has tossed around some ideas for the historic industrial building.

He said the public deserves to know the structural state of the former Brooks/ALCO building, built in 1910. He added industry comes and goes, but sports will always be played, which is why the CAC would like to see the building turned into an indoor sports complex.

Horrigan thanked him for his input.

The board entered executive session to discuss the proposed sale of real property where publicity would substantially affect the value.

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