

January 6, 2020

City of Beacon
One Municipal Plaza
Beacon, NY 12508

Re: City Planner Position in 2020

Mayor Kyriacou and the Beacon City Council:

It has been a pleasure to work for Beacon over the past several years. This last year was very active from a planning perspective, including work on the following tasks:

- Historic inventory forms for Historic District and Landmark Overlay zone expansion;
- Draft amendments for Chapter 134 on Historic Preservation;
- Revised Use and Dimensional Tables and associated zoning text and map amendments;
- Zoning amendments to the Wireless Telecommunications Services Facilities section;
- Zoning amendments to the Lighting section;
- Zoning amendments to several sections regarding balconies and porches;
- Draft zoning amendments regarding building heights in the CMS district;
- Revised Chapter 149 Noise regulations;
- Draft zoning amendments to the Signs section;
- Analysis of existing and proposed Main Street widths;
- Climate Smart analysis of Comprehensive Plan and zoning laws; and
- Review of the draft Natural Resources Inventory and Main Street Road Safety Report.

In addition to my regular project reviews for the Planning Board and the Special Permit and Concept Plan recommendations to the Council, I also updated the city-wide short-term and longer-term build-out projections as part of the water capacity analysis for the moratorium process.

For planning work in 2020, I have already drafted a reconfiguration of the Use and Dimensional Tables, which along with associated zoning text and map changes should be reviewed and approved. The City Council has proposed revisions to the Historic Preservation chapter and a major expansion of the Historic District and Landmark Overlay zone in the Main Street vicinity. The Council has also discussed changes to the zoning sections on building heights and signs.

To fulfill a Comprehensive Plan recommendation and to assist in public grant opportunities, including the annual NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant, I also suggest that the Council adopt an urban design plan for the Beekman-Main Street corridor, targeting a series of public parks and squares to be coordinated with bus stops and visitor information kiosks.

As a professional planner with over 30 years of experience and unique specialty skills in historic preservation and urban design, I previously set an hourly fee of \$125 per hour, which will continue through 2020. I understand that any administrative costs and customary overhead expenses will be covered by the basic hourly rate and that travel time is not to be reimbursed. I work as an individual consultant, keeping my overhead costs low and ensuring that Beacon gets my personal attention. I have turned down other job offers to focus all my planning time on this position. My goal is to help Beacon build on its success stories and make the City a better place to live.

Thanks for your consideration and I look forward to working with the City Council and Planning Board in the new year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John Clarke Planning and Design