


<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mark Surdam</b> Code Enforcement Officer</p> <p>Phone- (518) 686-7072 Ext. 110 Fax- (518) 686-4902</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>E-Mail</b> <a href="mailto:hoosickfallsbuildinginspector@gmail.com">hoosickfallsbuildinginspector@gmail.com</a></p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DEPARTMENT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Municipal Building</b> <b>24 Main St</b> <b>Hoosick Falls, NY 12090</b></p>
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Friday, August 4, 2023

At the request of Mayor Allen and the Village Board I completed a Fire and Safety Inspection of 69 Church St. which is the Rensselaer County Regional Services Center, also referred to as the Murphy Building. I met with and walked through the building with Manager Lisa Overocker.

**Main Floor-** Note Mental Health was closed today so I did not go into Mental Health Offices.

- A number of missing ceiling tiles.
- Water-stained tiles- possible roof leaks.
- There are a number of battery-operated smoke detectors but no smoke or heat detection monitoring system which I would expect to see in this type of building.
- Audible fire alarm is a manually switched activation alarm, should be an auto alarm.
- Not all exit signs were illuminated and some were missing required emergency lighting.
- Some Egress Doors were not equipped with required emergency door hardware.
- At least one rear egress door exited onto a small wooden deck and wooden stairs that are covered in algae which is slippery when wet.
- The kitchen fire suppression system does not have a tag showing any recent required inspections.
- Bathroom in the mental health section of the building have a number of broken floor tiles that are a trip hazard.

**Basement-**

- **Severe Air Quality issue in the basement** from mold and or mildew. In my opinion the basement should not be used at all until a suitable air exchange system is installed.
- Standing water around the interior basement floor at the wall in a number of locations.

- Only one viable emergence exit, one door with emergency light is padlocked, no emergency door hardware.
- Insufficient emergency lighting.
- Exposed water/sewer lines and electrical wires throughout.
- Hole in the floor covered by the carpet in Motor Vehicle office. Safety hazard.
- No carbon monoxide detectors were observed during this walkthrough.

#### Exterior-

- Roof should be inspected by professionals.
- Loose and or missing roof tiles were observed along the edge of the roof system.
- Alley air conditioner condensation is running down and through the exterior wall and into the basement.

#### Overall-

- I did not observe any structural issues in the basement or on the outside of the building which would make me consider the structural foundation of the building is not safe.
- **There is most definitely an air quality issue** which I believe is caused by water penetration and accumulation in the basement which is allowed to remain as standing water. **This is a severe health issue that should be immediately addressed** in my opinion.
- There are many wall penetrations throughout the building where air conditioning units are located, these could be contributing to the water penetration issues in the basement.
- As mentioned the roof may be a contributing factor to the water issues. It really needs to be assessed and professionally corrected as needed.
- Once all water penetration issues are identified and addressed, and proper mold remediation is completed, I believe bringing in central AC and an Air Exchange Unit would help address the air quality issues but design professionals should be consulted.

To continue using this building as is there are many fire safety updates that need to be completed. This is a fairly old building but structurally the building looks good to me. There are a number of building issues and updates that need to be considered and I think design professionals and engineers should be consulted in order to determine the long-term cost projections and viability of this building.

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Mark E. Surdam  
Code Enforcement Officer & Building Safety Inspector