

# Village of Evans Mills

Village Board of Trustees – Held at the Municipal Building

June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – 6:00PM

## Regular Meeting - Board Minutes

**Attendance:** Robert Boucher – Mayor, Taylor Scheer – Clerk Treasurer, Melissa Dobbins – Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, David Edwards – Superintendent, Greg Smith – Trustee, JoAnna Malone – Trustee, Ned O'Brien – Trustee, Rob Campany, - Engineer, Michael Doxtater – Code Enforcement Officer.

### Approval of Minutes from May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

A motion was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee O'Brien to approve the Village Board of Trustees minutes of May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, board meeting.

Aye: 4 Nay: 0

***Motion Passed.***

### Report from Rob Campany, Fourth Coast/St. Lawrence Engineering

The Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) application is due Friday, 6/14/2024. Mr. Campany has stated that there needs to be a public hearing for the Housing and Urban Development Grant (HUD) which will be scheduled for July's meeting. The Village Board is considering capital improvements for the Village Wastewater Collection and Treatment System and is considering authorization of the design, construction, and funding of the Project through local funds and grants through the New York State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Also, the New York State Climate Smart Communities Pledge would help by reducing energy usage. We would have to assist in benchmarking the energy usage to keep track of it throughout the year.

A Resolution Adopting the New York State Climate Smart Communities Pledge  
At a meeting of the Village of Evans Mills at 8706 Noble Street, Evans Mills NY, on 11 June, 2024, there were:

Present:

Robert Boucher, Mayor  
Gregory Smith, Trustee  
Edward O'Brien, Trustee  
JoAnna Malone, Trustee

Aye: 4 Nay: 0

***Motion Passed.***

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Evans Mills (hereinafter “local government”) believes that climate change poses a real and increasing threat to our local and global environments and is primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, the effects of climate change will endanger our infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms, orchards, and ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe the scale of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come,

**IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that Village of Evans Mills in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:

- 1) Build a climate-smart community.
- 2) Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.
- 3) Decrease energy use.
- 4) Shift to clean, renewable energy.
- 5) Use climate-smart materials management.
- 6) Implement climate-smart land use.
- 7) Enhance community resilience to climate change.
- 8) Support a green innovation economy.
- 9) Inform and inspire the public.
- 10) Engage in an evolving process of climate action.

A motion to adopt the foregoing order was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by O'Brien and upon a roll call vote of the Board was duly adopted as follows:

Robert Boucher, Mayor - Yes  
Gregory Smith, Trustee - Yes  
Edward O'Brien, Trustee - Yes  
JoAnna Malone, Trustee - Yes

Aye: 4 Nay: 0

***Motion Passed.***

#### **RESOLUTION #4**

A Resolution Authorizing CBDG Application Public Hearing for the Village of Evans Mills Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Improvements

At a meeting of the Village of Evans Mills at 8706 Noble Street, Evans Mills NY, on 11 June, 2024, there were:

Present:

Robert Boucher, Mayor  
Gregory Smith, Trustee  
Edward O'Brien, Trustee  
JoAnna Malone, Trustee

WHEREAS, The Village Board of Trustees ("the Board") is considering capital improvements for the Village Wastewater Collection and Treatment System and is considering authorization of the design, construction, and funding of the Project through local funds and grants through the New York State Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") administered by the New York State Office of Community Renewal ("OCR")

WHEREAS, the Board must meet the citizen participation requirements at 24 CFR 570.486 and NYS Homes and Community Renewal's Citizen Participation Plan as amended, which require applicants to follow a citizen participation plan; and

WHEREAS, applicants must issue a public hearing notice and hold one public hearing (one in each jurisdiction of a joint application) allowing for citizen feedback on the community and economic development needs of the applicant community and any proposed project

WHEREAS, the Board desires to issue a public hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, pursuant to Title 24 CFR 570.486 and the Homes and Community Renewal's Citizen Participation Plan of the State of New York, a public hearing on the intent to apply for NYS CDBG funds shall be held on the 9th day of July, 2024 at 6:05 PM o'clock Eastern Daylight Savings Time, at the Village Offices in Evans Mills, New York, and that notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be in accordance with Title 24 CFR 570.486, and be published once on or before the 1st day of July, 2024, in the Watertown Daily Times, the official paper of the Village of Evans Mills.

A motion to adopt the foregoing order was made by Trustee O'Brien and seconded by Trustee Malone and upon a roll call vote of the Board was duly adopted as follows:

Robert Boucher, Mayor - Yes  
Gregory Smith, Trustee - Yes  
Edward O'Brien, Trustee - Yes  
JoAnna Malone, Trustee - Yes

Aye: 4 Nay: 0

***Motion Passed.***

### **Report from Taylor Scheer, Clerk-Treasurer**

The Sewer Debt Exclusion has been accepted by The Office of the State Comptroller. The acceptance letter has been published in the Watertown Daily Times, and the affidavit has been sent to OSC, awaiting certification. The Water Line Inventory is due by October 2024, we urge residents to complete the survey. Village Property Taxes have started and are due by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Penalties will be processed after that date, with a different percentage each month after that. All unpaid Village property taxes will be sent to the county November 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Scheer applied for the \$28,000 Records Management Grant. The Village will be notified at the end of June if we've been accepted to receive this grant. This grant will assist the Village in organizing all records that need to be kept and discard the ones we don't have to keep, based on their retention period.

A motion was made by Trustee O'Brien and seconded by Trustee Smith to purchase 2 portable toilets to put down at the Jack Williams for people to use during the summer season.

Aye: 4 Nay: 0

***Motion Passed.***

**Audited Vouchers:**

**GENERAL FUND:** Abstract 01, vouchers **\$12,791.31**

**WATER FUND:** Abstract 01, vouchers **\$2,672.68**

**SEWER FUND:** Abstract 01, vouchers **\$6,921.69**

**LIBRARY FUND:** Abstract 01, vouchers **\$1,058.64**

A motion was approved by Trustee Smith seconded by Trustee Malone to approve the audited vouchers for Abstract 01, the General, Water, Sewer, and Library Fund.

Aye: 4 Nay: 0

***Motion Passed.***

A motion was made by Trustee O'Brien and seconded by Trustee Malone to wave the disconnect and reconnect fee of water for the Cemetery Association

Aye: 4 Nay: 0

***Motion Passed.***

**Summer Recreation**

The Village has hired a director, 3 assistants and a bus driver for the Summer Recreation Program. The signups will be July 6<sup>th</sup>, with the program starting July 8<sup>th</sup> and will end August 9<sup>th</sup>. The hours have changed since last Summer. It will now be 9:00AM-2:00PM, Monday through Friday.

**Report from Michael Doxtater, Code Enforcement**

Mr. Doxtater mentioned that the steps on the left side of the Last Call needed to be fixed and maintained. Until then, the Village DPW will block off the steps to avoid any injuries to residents or to the public.

### **Report from David Edwards, Superintendent**

The diver from for the Wastewater Facility that was approved during last month's board meeting will be visiting Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. It'll be then determined the actual condition inside of the Wastewater Treatment Facility. George Sanford, of the Village DPW, will be attending the Rural Water Wastewater Apprentice Program, starting in July. The Village Wide Clean Up was a big success, with a total of 34 resident households who've signed up.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Malone to adjourn the meeting at 6:47PM.

Aye: 4 Nay: 0

***Motion Passed.***

Submitted by:

*Melissa Dobbins*

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

*Taylor Scheer*

Clerk-Treasurer