

# Village of Evans Mills

Village Board of Trustees – Held at the Municipal Building

March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – 6:00pm

Regular Meeting – Public Hearing on Tax Cap Override

## Attendance

Robert Boucher – Mayor, Taylor Scheer – Clerk Treasurer, Melissa Dobbins – Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Virginia Wendt – Trustee, Greg Smith – Trustee, Edward O'Brien – Trustee, JoAnna Malone – Trustee, Michael Doxtater – Code Enforcement Officer  
Residential attendance: Johnna Call

## Public Hearing for Local Law #1 of 2024

*A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established by Section 3-C of the New York General Municipal Law*

A motion was made to open the Public Hearing for Local Law #1 2024 by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Wendt.

*Aye: 5 Nay: 0*

**Motion Passed.**

*No public comments were made.*

A motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Wendt and seconded by Trustee O'Brien.

*Aye: 5 Nay: 0*

**Motion Passed.**

A motion to open the regular board was made by Trustee Obrien seconded by Trustee Wendt.

*Aye: 5 Nay: 0*

**Motion Passed.**

## RESOLUTION ONE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF EVANS MILLS

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Evans Mills, New York (the "Village Board" and the "Village" respectively), duly convened in regular session on March 12, 2024, at the Village of Evans Mills Municipal Building located at 8706 Noble Street, Evans Mills, New York 13637 does hereby resolve as follows:

**WHEREAS**, at a regular meeting of the Village Board on March 7, 2024, Trustee Smith introduced for consideration a proposed local law entitled "A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established by Section 3-C of the New York General Municipal Law" (the "Proposed Local Law"); and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Proposed Local Law is to allow the Village to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2024, that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by New York General Municipal Law § 3-C; and

**WHEREAS**, following publication of notice in accordance with all legal requirements, a public hearing concerning the Proposed Local Law was held on March 12, 2024, in satisfaction of the requirements of the New York Village Law, New York Municipal Home Rule Law, and the New York Public Officers Law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Board desires to comply with the requirements of SEQRA and its implementing regulations set forth at 6 NYCRR Part 617 (the “Regulations”) with respect to the Proposed Local Law and, by resolution dated March 7, 2024, classified the Proposed Local Law as a Type II Action under SEQRA involving the “adoption of regulations, policies, procedures and local legislative decisions” as set forth in Section § 617(c)(33) of the Regulations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Village Board hereby adopts the Proposed Local Law, and that henceforth it will be designated as Local Law No. 2 of 2024 (the “Local Law”); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Village Clerk/Treasurer is hereby directed to file the Local Law with the Secretary of State pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law Section 27 and to make any publications as may be required; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

A motion to adopt the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Wendt and duly put to vote, which resulted as follows:

Robert Boucher	Voting	Aye
Virginia Wendt	Voting	Aye
Gregory Smith	Voting	Aye
JoAnna Malone	Voting	Aye
Edward O’Brien	Voting	Aye

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

A motion was made to approve Local Law #1, 2024 to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established by Section 3-C of the New York General Municipal Law by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Wendt.

*Aye: 5 Nay: 0*  
**Motion Passed.**

### **Approval of Minutes from February 13<sup>th</sup>, February 28<sup>th</sup>, and March 7<sup>th</sup> Board Meetings**

A motion was made by Trustee O’Brien and seconded by Trustee Wendt to approve the Village Board of Trustees meeting minutes of February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

*Aye: 5 Nay: 0*  
**Motion Passed.**

A motion was made by Trustee O’Brien and seconded by Trustee Wendt to approve the Village Board of Trustees meeting minutes of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Aye: 5 Nay: 0  
**Motion Passed.**

A motion was made by Trustee O'Brien and seconded by Trustee Wendt to approve the Village Board of Trustees meeting minutes of March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Aye: 5 Nay: 0  
**Motion Passed.**

### **Report from Dave Edwards, Superintendent**

A motion was made to approve Mayor Boucher in signing the Online Auction Contract with Auctions International by Trustee Smith and Seconded by Trustee Wendt.

Aye: 5 Nay: 0  
**Motion Passed.**

A motion was made by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee O'Brien to allow Mr. Edwards to attend the New York Rural Water Conference on Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

Aye: 5 Nay: 0  
**Motion Passed.**

### **Report from Mayor Boucher**

Mayor Boucher presented a residential letter to be sent out to all residents notifying of the sewer rate increase from \$85.00 to \$164.00(Per EDU) effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

"The Village is still in the process of a significant 10-to-12-million-dollar Wastewater Treatment & Disinfection Project. We want to prepare our residents as we continue to advance through each phase of this project and how it will affect your utility bills in the future. To afford this project, we need to obtain **\$8,086,941.18** in funding, and the Village is actively applying.

A significant requirement to receive funding is to charge 1.5% of the median household income of the Village. Therefore, the Village Board voted on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to increase the sewer rates to **\$164.00** a quarter per unit (\$656 per year). New charges will take effect on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, although you will see it on your September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, billing cycle.

We realize that this project may cause some inconveniences, and we would like to apologize in advance for any disruption it may cause to our residents. This project will significantly improve our infrastructure and help the Village stay independent.

We will continue to distribute updated information as the project advances. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact any board member, or attend a Village Board meeting. Meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 pm in the Village Office, 8706 Noble Street, Evans Mills, NY 13637."

## Report from Taylor Scheer, Clerk-Treasurer

### Audited Vouchers:

**GENERAL FUND:** Abstract 10, vouchers **\$8,069.42**

**WATER FUND:** Abstract 10 vouchers **\$10,168.72**

**SEWER FUND:** Abstract 10, vouchers **\$2,949.25**

**LIBRARY FUND:** Abstract 10 totaling **\$2,532.02**

A motion was made by Trustee Wendt and seconded by Trustee Smith to approve the audited vouchers for Abstract 10, the General, Water, Sewer, and Library Fund.

*Aye: 5 Nay: 0*  
***Motion Passed.***

Ms. Scheer submitted the New York State Archives Grant for Records Management on 3/11/2024. If awarded, we will be notified in June 2024 and work will commence in July. She will be submitting the funding request for Congresswoman Elise Stefanik's F25 on Wednesday, 3/13. To avoid loss of trash stickers, it was decided that the village can no longer allow stickers to be purchased online and mailed to properties due to the on-going issues with the United States postal system. Ms. Scheer also motioned The Village was chosen to upgrade to a new online water/sewer payment system through Municipipay for residents. They are able to create accounts, save payment information, view past billing information and set up automatic payments.

### Budgetary Work

A motion was made by Trustee Wendt and seconded by Trustee Smith to hold the FY 2024-2025 Tentative Budget Public Hearing on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6PM.

*Aye: 5 Nay: 0*  
***Motion Passed.***

A motion was made by Trustee Wendt and seconded by Trustee O'Brien to hold the FY 2024-2025 Final Budget Public Hearing on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6pm

*Aye: 5 Nay: 0*  
***Motion Passed.***

## 2022-2023 Annual Financial Report (AFR)

**RESOLUTION TWO OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF EVANS MILLS  
THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Village Law § 4-408 (e), the Village Treasurer must file an annual financial statement of the village's revenues, expenditures, and outstanding indebtedness **WHEREAS** in lieu of a separate annual financial statement, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Village Treasurer to submit a copy of the Annual Financial Report filed with the New York State Office of the State Comptroller pursuant to General Municipal Law §30; and **WHEREAS** the Village Treasurer filed the Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023, with the New York State Office of the State Comptroller on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, and

**BE IT RESOLVED** as follows; the Village of Evans Mills Board of Trustees acknowledges the receipt and review of the Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** as follows; the Village of Evans Mills Board of Trustees acknowledges notice was published in the Journal and Republican stating the Annual Financial Report has been filed with the New York State Office of the State Comptroller and is available for inspection in the Village Clerk's Office.

A motion was made by Trustee Wendt and Seconded by Trustee Malone for verification of the receipt of the 2022-2023 Annual Financial Report.

*Aye: 5 Nay: 0*  
**Motion Passed.**

### **John Hoover Inn – Cow Chip Bingo**

A motion was made by Trustee Wendt and seconded by Trustee O'Brien to close off 8497 South Main Street to Pearl Street for a fundraiser on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 10:00am to 6:00pm.

*Aye: 5 Nay: 0*  
**Motion Passed.**

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Trustee Smith and Seconded by Trustee O'Brien to adjourn the Village Board of Trustees meeting at 6:54PM.

*Aye: 5 Nay: 0*  
**Motion Passed.**

The Village Board adjourned the meeting at 6:54pm although all members stayed to discuss giving equal raises to all employees. In the past the Village has given equal raises to all employees although this year it was presented that Ms. Scheer would be receiving a 1.2% raise whereas all other employees would be receiving 2.5% to 3% raise. Most board members were not aware of the unequal salary increases. Due to the length of the meeting, it was put forward to hold another budget work session on April 3, 2024, at 6pm in the Village Office.

Submitted by 3/19/2024

**Melissa Dobbins** - Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Taylor Scheer - Clerk-Treasurer

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