

1At a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Morrisville, held the 5th day of March, 2020, at the Town of Eaton Municipal Offices, 35 Cedar Street, Morrisville, there were:

Present:	Mark Shepard	Mayor
	Thomas Lane	Trustee
	Michael Higgins	Trustee
	Kathleen Roher	Trustee
	Judy Scholefield	Trustee
	Amy Will	Clerk-Treasurer
	Nadine Bell	Attorney

Others: Connie Shepard and Tracy Scholefield, residents; Paul Field, Chief of University Police; Robert Rodriguez, Associate Facilities Program Coordinator at SUNY Morrisville; Bernie St. Onge, Kyle Riedl, Jen Boise, and Rick Stoddard, on behalf of Smithfield-Eaton Ambulance Corp. (SEVAC); DJ Raux, Administrator at Crouse Community Center; Cliff Moses, Town of Eaton Supervisor.

Mayor Shepard opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the February 6, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Trustee Roher made a motion to adopt the minutes as written, seconded by Trustee Lane, all ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Robert Rodriguez was present on behalf of SUNY Morrisville to discuss the upcoming South Circle Road project. He reminded the board of his attendance at a meeting last fall where this was discussed in detail. Mr. Rodriguez indicated they will drain the pond within the next two weeks. They can't begin work on South Circle Road until after graduation, with completion by August 17. He noted this is a short window and the plan is to work long days. Trustee Lane addressed the concerns of the Superintendent of Public Works. He questioned whether truck traffic could be routed through campus rather than on South Street. Mr. Rodriguez said that storage and staging will be on South Street, in the Town of Eaton, beyond the Commons. With this, routing truck traffic through the campus isn't an option. Trustee Lane said the concern is damage to South Street. Mr. Rodriguez appreciated that concern and said he is willing to conduct a survey of the road with Mr. Commins prior to the project commencing and again after. He noted that when there was damage to the street as a result of a previous project, the college took care of the repair. Mr. Rodriguez said this is the last of the big projects, in terms of infrastructure. There is a new building to be erected on campus, but that is on site. He will arrange to meet with Superintendent Commins and asked the board to call with any questions or concerns.

Smithfield-Eaton Ambulance Corp. (SEVAC) Discussion: Mr. Riedl said SEVAC needs a paramedic on staff, 24 hours a day. The proposal is to divide the cost among the municipalities served by the ambulance, at the same tax rate for everyone. Mr. Stoddard said this really needs to be all or nothing. He noted that the volunteers are just not there anymore. Trustee Higgins said the issue the board has is that the village is taking on an amount of money and we are not SEVAC's biggest customer. Mr. Riedl agreed that SUNY Morrisville and Crouse Community Center produce the most calls. Mr. Stoddard said we need to consider our EMS coverage as essential as our fire coverage. Supervisor Moses stated that regarding the established ambulance district in the Town of Eaton, the Town will determine the tax rate, not SEVAC. Trustee Higgins said the college and Crouse Community Center have done a great deal for this community and we are not pointing fingers, but they should contribute to this cost. Mr. Riedl suggested that a better way to look at the cost is the tax rate and how it impacts individual assessments; a house assessed for \$100,000 would see an increase of approximately \$80.00. Mr. Stoddard remarked that we pay our snowplow drivers but we don't want to pay the people that come to our homes to save our lives. Mr. Stoddard said they are making a promise that if the municipalities make the payroll there is enough money to keep the place going, but no one can do that with the call volume SEVAC has without assistance from the community. Mr. Riedl said we are not going to get another ambulance to come in here. Trustee Higgins said the board is not trying to put this cost on the shoulders of the residents. Mr. St. Onge remarked that \$80.00 is not a lot of money. Trustee Higgins responded that it may not be a lot of money to the people in this room, but it is a

lot to others. Mr. Stoddard said the only fair way to do this is by using assessed valuation; SEVAC needs \$180,000 for payroll, they don't care how it comes about. The municipalities should get together and decide how to come up with that.

Mr. Raux said Crouse Community Center has 120 residents who are all insured. They are a big part of SEVAC's revenue. If SEVAC goes under his residents will have to wait 10 or 15 minutes for another ambulance. As a resident in the Town of Eaton, he is concerned and is ok with paying because he doesn't know when he may personally need this service. If Crouse Community Center doesn't exist, he doesn't know if SEVAC exists. He continued that the State is not going to act until there is a crisis. He is watching his nursing home get killed every year with cutbacks and they are operating at a loss right now. At this point it is always the taxpayer that gets screwed. Trustee Higgins agreed with that point, and noted that the board has worked hard to maintain the village tax rate, but we are receiving requests for funding from the school district and SEVAC which will substantially increase that rate. Mr. Stoddard said SEVAC has saved the community millions of dollars. He said time is of the essence. Trustee Higgins reiterated that we think SEVAC is important but we need to find a way to help pay for that service. Mayor Shepard asked Chief Field if the college has any thoughts on this. Chief Field noted that he did some research of other SUNY schools to determine if they paid for ambulance service and none do. Supervisor Moses said they can pay through the student activity fee. He continued that in his discussions with the college it was indicated that if SEVAC made a request to the student government for a certain dollar amount and if the student government approved the request, it would then go on for consideration by the SUNY Board of Trustees. If passed it is included in the student activity fee. Chief Field didn't think the students would approve it, but he will look at how SUNY Cortland handles this and whether there is a way to make this work

Mr. Riedl asked if the village board would entertain joining the Town of Eaton ambulance district if SEVAC and Eaton Fire Department merged their ambulance services, which would expand the tax district and increase the overall taxable value, reducing the cost to individual property owners. Mr. Riedl continued that a few years ago when they estimated the cost for the district, which included the area currently served by the Eaton Fire Department, it was approximately .20 cents per thousand. Mr. Stoddard noted that Eaton Fire Department wouldn't agree to this merger if SEVAC isn't guaranteed to stay in business as Eaton will lose their certificate of need. Trustee Higgins said the discussion tonight has been much more informative and productive than any in the past. Mr. Riedl suggested the village board consider the amount to contribute by contract, but also entertain joining the Town of Eaton tax district. Mr. Riedl will discuss this with members of the Eaton Fire Department. Mr. Stoddard reiterated that there would need to be a strong commitment from the village in order for the Eaton Fire Department to give up their certificate of need. Supervisor Moses noted that the problem remains that the towns of Fenner and Nelson legally cannot allocate money in their general fund budget because only a small percent of taxpayers are in the SEVAC ambulance district and the rest are in the CAVAC or Georgetown districts. Those taxpayers would pay for a service they don't receive if this is included in the town's general fund budget.

Mr. Raux advised the village board that Crouse Community Center is planning a two phase project. The first phase is to build a facility to combine daycare programs. The second phase involves Christopher Community, a nonprofit out of Syracuse that would build a transitional living facility for seniors. Most of the project is located within the Town of Eaton, but they would bring water and sewer service from the college through their property located within the village. Mr. Raux indicated Crouse Community Center would create a new proprietary entity and sell acreage to Christopher Community, and this property would go back on the tax rolls. Residents in this facility would be those whose condition is too good for Crouse Community Center, but don't want to renovate their own home to allow them to stay there. Twenty of the sixty apartments would be for this use. The remaining forty units would be for middle income people. Mayor Shepard inquired when construction would begin for these projects. Mr. Raux indicated that is totally dependent upon when the state pays out the grants. Ideally they would start phase one this spring and phase two in the fall. He noted that they would like to tie in to the college's water system when college is doing work on South Circle Drive.

Code Enforcement Officer: CEO Sutton submitted a written report for review.

Trustee Roher made a motion authorizing CEO Sutton's attendance at the New York State Building Officials Conference in Syracuse from April 7 to April 9, 2020, seconded by Trustee Lane, all ayes. Motion carried.

Department of Public Works: Trustee Lane advised the board of a water leak at the fire hydrant located on the north side of East Maple Avenue, near the intersection of Union Street. There are two options to resolve this. To replace the hydrant the cost is approximately \$8,000-\$12,000, or to remove hydrant, cut and cap the line is approximately \$3,500-\$4,000. After discussion Trustee Higgins made a motion to remove the hydrant and cut and cap the line, seconded by Trustee Lane, all ayes. Motion carried.

The board and Attorney Bell were provided with an internship/shadow proposal from Madison-Oneida BOCES. BOCES contacted Superintendent Commins about being a host site for a student in their heavy equipment operation program. After discussion, the board directed Clerk Will to contact BOCES to determine if the internship can be extended to four weeks, two days per week. This would allow our DPW to schedule the student intern on a day when both employees are working. Attorney Bell also suggested that we request the Village be listed as a named insured for insurance purposes.

Trustee Roher made a motion authorizing the attendance of David Commins and David Pushlar at the annual CNY Water Works Conference on March 19, 2020, seconded by Trustee Scholefield, all ayes. Motion carried.

Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals: Trustee Higgins made a motion to appoint Rachael Armstrong to the Planning Board for a term expiring June 31, 2023, seconded by Trustee Scholefield, all ayes. Motion carried.

Campus/Community Committee: Trustee Roher said the annual Easter egg hunt will be held in April. She will need to purchase candy by the end of this month.

Public Hearing Regarding EDU Grievances: Mayor Shepard opened the public hearing at 8:42 p.m. The board reviewed a grievance submitted by Melissa Appleby of 28 Eaton Street. Ms. Appleby requested that her assessment be changed from 2 to 1. Ms. Appleby asserts that the property was formerly used as a two-family residence but she is occupying it as a one family. After discussion, Trustee Lane made a motion to deny Melissa Appleby's grievance until such time as the code enforcement officer issues a certificate of occupancy for a one family dwelling, seconded by Mayor Shepard, all ayes. Motion carried. With no public comment, Mayor Shepard closed the public hearing at 8:46 p.m.

Attorney: Attorney Bell reviewed the proposed local law to regulate the placement of garbage, trash, refuse and recyclable containers at the curb.

**RESOLUTION NO. 20-07
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF MORRISVILLE
LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2020**

**(“A Local Law to Amend Chapter 135 of the Code of the Village of Morrisville to Regulate
the Placement of Garbage, Trash, Refuse and Recyclable Containers at the Curb”)**

Trustee Lane introduced proposed Local Law No. 2-2020, titled “A Local Law to Amend Chapter 135 of the Code of the Village of Morrisville to Regulate the Placement of Garbage, Trash, Refuse and Recyclable Containers at the Curb”, and made the following motion, which was seconded by Trustee Roher:

WHEREAS, proposed Local Law 2-2020 has been introduced and will be considered for enactment pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law; and

WHEREAS, it has been brought to the attention of the Village Board that the regulation of the placement of garbage, trash, refuse and recyclable materials and containers at the curb is necessary to protect the public safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, Volume 6 N.Y.C.R.R., Section 617 of the Regulations relating to Article 8 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, requires that as early as possible after submission of a completed application, an involved agency shall make a determination whether a given action is subject to the aforementioned law; and

WHEREAS, no other agency has the legal authority or jurisdiction to approve or directly undertake the enactment of a local law in the Village of Morrisville, such that there are no other involved agencies within the meaning of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) with respect to the proposed enactment of said proposed Local Law, with the result that the Village Board shall act as lead agency in this matter; and

WHEREAS, the adoption to said Local Law is an Unlisted Action for purposes of environmental review under SEQR; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has determined that a Short Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) shall be required in connection with this matter; and

WHEREAS, said EAF has been prepared and has been reviewed by the Village Board; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has considered the adoption of said Local Law, has considered the criteria contained in 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 617.7 and has compared the impacts which may be reasonably expected to result from the adoption of said Local Law against said criteria.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is

RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that the enactment of proposed Local Law No. 2-2020 is an Unlisted Action, there are no other involved agencies and this Board shall act as lead agency in this matter for purposes of SEQR review; and it is further

RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, the Village Board has determined this action, which is limited to regulating the placement of garbage, trash, refuse and recyclable materials and containers at the curb, shall have no significant adverse impact on the environment; that, accordingly, an environmental impact statement (EIS) shall not be required; and that this resolution shall constitute a negative declaration under SEQR; and it is further

RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that the Village Board of Trustees shall conduct a public hearing as to the enactment of proposed Local Law 2-2020 at the Town of Eaton Offices, 35 Cedar Street, Morrisville, New York on April 2, 2020 at 7:15 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at which time all persons interested in the subject shall be heard.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Mike Higgins	Trustee	Voted	Yes
Judy Scholefield	Trustee	Voted	Yes
Kathleen Roher	Trustee	Voted	Yes
Thomas Lane	Trustee	Voted	Yes
Mark L. Shepard	Mayor	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Trustee: Trustee Scholefield indicated she should be able to attend meetings at this point.

Mayor: Mayor Shepard indicated he is not intending to run for office in the upcoming election. He noted that the Board of Elections contacted Clerk Will earlier this week and said they had not been contacted by any candidates yet. He encouraged Trustees Lane and Roher to contact them if they are considering running for office again.

Clerk-Treasurer Report: The board was provided financial reports detailing income and expenditures to date by fund.

Each member of the board reviewed all vouchers presented. Trustee Roher made a motion to pay audited vouchers as indicated below, seconded by Trustee Higgins, all ayes. Motion carried.

General Fund – Vouchers 259-275 Waste Water Operation & Maintenance Fund – Vouchers 59-63
Water Fund – Vouchers 64-70

With no further business before the board, Trustee Higgins made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m., seconded by Mayor Shepard, all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Will
Clerk-Treasurer