

**Village of Fort Edward
Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
Monday, January 6, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Traver called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Trustee Williams, Trustee Carpenter, Trustee Cutler, Trustee Boucher
Absent:

Present: Dave Earsing, Luke Mosseau, Therese Gillis, Frank Burkhardt, Kyle Cozzens, Jeff Caprood, Shannon Gillis, Ben Bramlage, Amanda Durkee, Chris Racicot, Jessica Donnelly, Melanie and Mike Dickinson, Steve Davie, Dan Ward, Dave Armando, Jim Thatcher.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES
MOTION BY: TRUSTEE WILLIAMS
SECONDED BY: TRUSTEE CARPENTER

APPROVAL OF REPORTS - CLERK, COURT, CODE, STREET, WATER, SHERIFF
MOTION BY: TRUSTEE CUTLER
SECONDED BY: TRUSTEE WILLIAMS

AUDIT OF BILLS – ABSTRACT # 8

GENERAL ABSTRACT - \$130,241.41
PAY BEFORE \$10,643.16

WATER ABSTRACT - \$36,306.86
PAY BEFORE \$3,865.63

MOTIONED BY: TRUSTEE CARPENTER
SECONDED BY: TRUSTEE BOUCHER

Project Objectives:

- To establish a clear framework for the upcoming project phase, focusing on enhancing user engagement and improving operational efficiency through strategic planning and collaboration among stakeholders.
- Establish a moratorium on solid waste projects to assess environmental impacts and enhance community safety.
- Engage with external legal counsel to ensure comprehensive understanding and compliance with regulations.
- To address community concerns regarding environmental safety and regulatory compliance related to waste processing in the village, ensuring transparency and accountability in operations.

31 Project Timeline:

- Project commencement: January 15, 2025.
- Target completion date: March 18, 2025.
- Key milestones: Public hearing for proposed local act of moratorium on PFAS treatment, ongoing discussions regarding grant requirements and project financing.
- Project commencement: Immediate.
- Target completion: TBD based on public hearings and legal consultations.
- Interim deadlines: Schedule public hearings and meetings with external counsel within the next month.
- Project commencement: Immediate.
- Target completion: Ongoing assessments with regular updates at monthly meetings.

Project Requirements:

- Comprehensive understanding of grant requirements and expectations for developers.
- Secure necessary approvals and permits for construction and infrastructure improvements.
- Develop plans for water line extensions and sewer district setups.
- Ensure compliance with legal and safety standards for new projects.

- Develop a clear moratorium that addresses current and future solid waste projects.
- Ensure legal compliance and community safety through thorough environmental assessments.
- Engage with external legal experts to provide insights and recommendations.
- Comprehensive review of waste processing permits and compliance with environmental regulations.
- Documentation of materials processed, and emissions reported to DEC.
- Community engagement to ensure transparency and address public concerns.

🔗 Challenges and Proposed Solutions:

- Challenge: Delays in project approvals and grant funding. Proposed Solution: Engage with state officials and stakeholders to clarify requirements and expedite processes.
- Challenge: Securing properties and ensuring compliance with safety standards. Proposed Solution: Immediate action to secure buildings with deadbolts and locks while developing long-term plans.
- Challenge: Potential legal complications regarding the implementation of the moratorium. Proposed Solution: Consult with external legal counsel to navigate legal frameworks and ensure compliance.
- Challenge: Community concerns about environmental safety and health risks. Proposed Solution: Conduct public hearings to gather community input and address concerns transparently.
- Challenge: Lack of transparency regarding waste processing and emissions. Proposed Solution: Engage with DEC for documentation and establish a clear communication channel for community concerns.
- Challenge: Community distrust in regulatory processes. Proposed Solution: Increase public meetings and provide regular updates on investigations and findings.

📌 Decisions Made:

- Agreed to hold a public hearing for the proposed local act of moratorium on PFAS treatment.
- Decided to move forward with securing the annex building and addressing immediate safety concerns.
- Established a plan to meet with attorneys and board members to clarify grant expectations and project requirements.
- Committed to exploring additional grant opportunities for engineering and planning needs.
- Agreed to hold public hearings to discuss the moratorium and gather community feedback.
- Decided to engage with external legal counsel to provide additional expertise on solid waste legislation.
- Confirmed that the moratorium will not retroactively affect projects already in progress unless legally applicable.
- The village board will investigate the waste processing operations and consult with DEC regarding compliance.
- A commitment to improve communication with the community regarding environmental safety issues.
- Future meetings will include discussions on the findings and actions taken to address community concerns.

Resolution 19 of 2024-2025

General Village Election

Motion By: Trustee **Cutler**
 Seconded By: Trustee **Williams**
 Date: January 6, 2025

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 15-104(3)(a) of the New York State Elections Law, the Village of Fort Edward will conduct a General Village Election on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, from 12:00 to 9:00pm, to elect the following

Position	Term	Years	Current Office Holder
Mayor	4 years	2025-2028	Matthew Traver
Trustee	4 years	2025-2028	Peter Williams
Trustee	4 years	2025-2028	Edward Carpenter

ALSO TAKE NOTICE, all voting will take place at the Fort Edward Village Office at 118 Broadway. Said election information will be published in the Post Star on January 14, 2025.

ALL AYES

Resolution 20 of 2024-2025

RESOLUTION INTRODUCING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW ENACTING A MORATORIUM ON THE TREATMENT, TREATMENT TESTING, DISPOSAL, STORAGE OR DEPOSIT OF MEDIA CONTAMINATED WITH PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) IN THE VILLAGE OF FORT EDWARD

Motion By: Trustee **Williams**
Seconded By: Trustee **Carpenter**
Date: January 6, 2025

WHEREAS, pursuant to the New York State Constitution, including but not limited to Article 1, section 19 thereof; the provisions of the New York Municipal Home Rule Law; the provisions of the Statute of Local Governments; the relevant provisions of the Village Law of the State of New York; the laws of the Village of Fort Edward and the general police power vested with the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of the Village of Fort Edward (the “Village”), the Board has the authority to adopt local laws to protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds and determines that, without proper regulation thereof, the treatment, treatment testing, disposal, storage or deposit of PFAS contaminated media or materials at property in the Village has the potential to negatively and adversely affect the citizens of the Village; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to protect the health and safety of the citizens of the Village, the Board hereby determines that a review of Village Code with regard to the regulation of the treatment, treatment testing, disposal, storage or deposit of PFAS contaminated media or materials at property in the Village is necessary and proper; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide the Board with sufficient time to review, study, analyze and if necessary revise, the Code of the Village with regard to the regulation of the treatment, treatment testing, disposal, storage or deposit of PFAS contaminated media or materials at property in the Village, it is in the best interests of the citizens of the Village to impose a moratorium on the approval of services involving the treatment, treatment testing, disposal, storage or deposit of PFAS contaminated media or materials at property in the Village; and

WHEREAS, a proposed Local Law imposing a moratorium on the treatment, treatment testing, disposal, storage or deposit of PFAS contaminated media or materials at property in the Village has been presented to the Board; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of a moratorium constitutes a Type II Action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act pursuant to 6 NYCRR section 617.5(c)(36), and as such, this action is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to hold a public hearing on the proposed adoption of a local law providing for a moratorium on the treatment, treatment testing, disposal, storage or deposit of PFAS contaminated media or materials at property in the Village, and to provide for the proper referrals of said local law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT:

RESOLVED, that he proposed local law enacting a moratorium on the treatment, treatment testing, disposal, storage or deposit of PFAS contaminated media or materials at property in the Village is local law is hereby accepted for introduction to the Board; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a public hearing shall be scheduled for the consideration of the proposed local law to be held by the Board on January __, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk is directed to post and publish a notice of said public hearing in *The Post Star* at least ten (10) days before the hearing; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk is directed to forward the proposed local law to the appropriate bodies as provided for in Village Law Section 7-706; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk is directed to forward this proposed local law to the Washington County Planning Board in accordance with Section 239-m of the General Municipal Law; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this action constitutes a Type II Action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act pursuant to 6 NYCRR section 617.5(c)(36) and requires no further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Adopted this 6th day of January 2025.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Dave Cutler
Trustee Peter Williams
Trustee Edward Carpenter
Trustee John Boucher
Mayor Matthew Traver

Janelle Rose, Village Clerk

A motion to enter executive session at 8:22 p.m. was made by Trustee **Cutler**, seconded by Trustee **Boucher**. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janelle Rose
Village Clerk-Treasurer