



**LIVINGSTON COUNTY
OFFICE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

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Ian M. Coyle, ICMA-CM
County Administrator

May 8, 2019

Mt. Morris Town Board
103 Main Street
Mt. Morris, New York 14510

RE: Livingston County Sheriff's Office Training Complex

Dear Members:

This letter is in follow up to a meeting held on Friday April 26, 2019, in Geneseo with Sheriff Dougherty, myself and various other members of County Administration, and Mt. Morris Officials Chuck DiPasquale, Chuck Cottone and Phil Race. The County requested the meeting to formally and respectfully respond to Mr. Cottone's letters dated January 2, 2019, and March 7, 2019, both of which inquired as to the County's plans with respect to the recently acquired property on Route 408.

The purpose of the meeting on Friday was to have Sheriff Dougherty explain concept plans for the site and also explain the County's position as it relates to zoning. There was good commentary and feedback received at the meeting. We are thankful for the opportunity to meet and to continue the discussion on the County's plans for the site.

This letter seeks to accomplish the following:

- 1) Set in motion plans for a public informational meeting to be held in Mount Morris in early June;
- 2) Explain further the County's official position on zoning inclusive of a formal letter to the Town addressing the "balancing of public interests" analysis regarding the County being exempt from the Town's zoning and land use regulations;
- 3) Provide for all parties in receipt of this package an idea of the concept plan for the site; and
- 4) Provide an information sheet on the proposed plan and answer some Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

In order, I thus offer the following:

- 1) The County's plan is to hold a public informational meeting, inviting all three Boards and interested members of the community. This will be held in early June at the Building 1 Conference Center in Mount Morris. The County will coordinate publication of the meeting notice in the papers, on the County's website, on various social media accounts. We will also

send letters directly to those individuals within 500' of the property's boundaries. While such a public meeting is not technically a requirement, nor mandated per se given the County's position on being exempt from the Town's zoning regulations, we realize the questions such a project might produce and want to maintain an open and transparent line of communication between county and community. In order to foster good relations between the County and the Town's various Boards, as well as the community, we are more than happy to hold an informational meeting to share our plans and answer any questions either board members or residents may have. Although such a meeting is not a mandate, we believe this information sharing opportunity is important.

- 2) The County's official position statement on the subject of zoning is enclosed as Attachment A. Said statement clearly spells out the reasoning behind our position and goes through point-by-point the various factors we weighed in order to arrive at this decision on zoning. This position statement was verbally relayed to those in attendance at the meeting on Friday.
- 3) The concept plan approved by the Board of Supervisors accompanies this letter as Attachment B. Please note this is not an official site plan but a concept plan and includes phased-in elements of the project that will happen in a Phase 2, 3, etc. The plan will be reviewed in detail at the meeting in June.
- 4) In asserting an exemption, the County is not formally applying for any sort of review by the Town's Code Enforcement Officer, Planning Board or Zoning Board of Appeals, but nevertheless the Town representatives present at our recent meeting did wish for members of both Boards to receive the information/documentation normally submitted as part of the zoning review process as they are most familiar with that procedure. The attached information sheet (Attachment C) and FAQ document should fully satisfy this request.

In summary, as relayed to the Town officials last month, while the County is declaring an exemption from the Town's zoning regulations, such a position does not lessen our desire to maintain open and transparent relations. Quite the contrary, in fact. Our main goal in this process is to hear comments and concerns from the Mount Morris community as we embark on this very worthwhile public safety project. We understand there will be questions and we readily await the opportunity to have a discussion with the public and accept feedback and comments at this public informational meeting.

Sincerely,



Ian M. Coyle
County Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Mt. Morris Planning Board
Mt. Morris Zoning Board of Appeals