

**MINUTES**  
**TOWN BOARD**  
**TOWN OF OSSINING**  
**IN PERSON AT THE**  
**BIRDSALL-FAGAN POLICE/COURT FACILITY**  
**86-88 SPRING STREET – OSSINING, NEW YORK**  
**AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING**

**May 14, 2024**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**7:30 P.M.**

**SUPERVISOR**  
**Elizabeth R. Feldman**

**COUNCILMEMBERS**  
**Gregory G. Meyer                      Angelo A. Manicchio**  
**Jennifer Fields-Tawil                Matthew J. Weiss**

**I. CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-ROLL CALL**

The Regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ossining was held on March 14, 2024 at the Birdsall-Fagan Police/Court Facility 86-88 Spring Street – Ossining, New York, 10562 and via video conference. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Supervisor Elizabeth R. Feldman. Members of the Board present were: Councilmembers Gregory G. Meyer, Jennifer Fields-Tawil, Matthew J. Weiss and Angelo A. Manicchio. Also present were Town Counsel Christie Tomm-Addona, Budget Officer Martha C. Quituisaca and Deputy Clerk Jeaneth V. Guinansaca.

**II. SUPERVISOR AND TOWN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Your opportunity to vote on the budgets for both Ossining School District and the Ossining Public Library will be Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. Election for the Ossining Public Library Board of Trustees will be the same day. You can vote at Ossining High School Gym between the hours of 7:00am and 9:00pm.**
- **I want to recognize that May is Jewish American Heritage Month. May is also Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month. And finally, May is Mental Health Awareness Month.**
- **Please join us as we celebrate our heroes in a Military Banner Event on Saturday at 10:00am at the Ossining Public Library.**
- **Westchester County Executive George Latimer and the County Consumer Protection Department wants you to be aware of “renegade renovators.” They have a list of those companies you should avoid and tips for hiring home improvement contactors at the County Consumer Protection Department website.**
- **Calling all musicians and venues. June 21<sup>st</sup> will be Make Music Day, presented by Mike Risko Music. If you are interested in performing or hosting, get in touch with them at 914.762.8757.**
- **The Town of Ossining is seeking volunteers. We need new members of the Environmental Advisory Committee. If interested, please submit a resume and letter of interest to [mquituisaca@townofossining.com](mailto:mquituisaca@townofossining.com). Deadline is 4:30pm on Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.**
- **Teatown is hosting an outing to Central Park for “Spring Birding” tomorrow morning. Check their website for details.**
- **Open Mic Night at Sing Sing Kill Brewery is Thursday evening at 7:00pm.**
- **Ossining Public Library will host “Agi Keleti – The Jewish Olympian’s Story of Survival and Triumph” on Thursday evening at 7:00pm.**

- Westchester Collaborative Theatre presents “Living Music”, six original plays inspired by six iconic songs. The shows are this Friday-Sunday May 17-19. Check out their website for more information.
- Friday night at 7:00pm, Ossining Boat and Canoe Club will host their Speaker Series, this one will be “Transmission Lines in the Hudson River: What you need to know about the Champlain Hudson Power Express & Clean Path Projects”.
- Bethany Arts Community has an Open House on Saturday from 11am-3pm.
- Also on Saturday, Hudson Valley Books for Humanity will host a new local band called “Stay Sunday” at 8:00pm.
- Bethany Arts Community will host “The Herbs we Love In Spring” with Clare Pierson on Saturday.
- The New York State Department of State Office for New Americans has released a free English language learning tool called Cell-Ed that helps new Americans learn English at their own pace and on their own time. Simply Google “New York State Cell-Ed.”
- As always, our Ossining Public Library will be hosting a bevy of events including movies, craft events, meditation, tutoring and homework help, yoga, book clubs and more. Please see their website at [ossininglibrary.org](http://ossininglibrary.org).
- There are many fun and interesting events being held locally, and you can look at my weekly Supervisor’s Update on the Supervisor’s webpage to see them.

### III. LIAISON REPORTS

### IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

*Visitors shall be accorded one (1) four (4) minute opportunity to address the Board on any of the resolutions on the agenda.*

### V. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

#### A. Approval of Minutes – April 24, 2024

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby approves the April 24, 2024 minutes of the Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion: Carried

#### B. Approval of Minutes – May 7, 2024 – Special Meeting

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby approves the May 7, 2024 minutes of the Special Meeting as presented.

Motion: Carried

#### C. Approval of Voucher Detail Report

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby approves the Voucher Detail Report dated May 14, 2024 in the amount of \$1,653,522.10.

Motion: Carried

**D. Adoption of the Working Definition of Antisemitism**

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

**WHEREAS, antisemitism, including harassment on the basis of actual or perceived Jewish origin ancestry ethnicity, affiliation, or faith, remains a persistent, pervasive, and disturbing problem in American society; and**

**WHEREAS, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation data, Jewish Americans are consistently the most likely of all religious groups to be victimized by incidents of hate in the U.S., and such incidents are increasing at an alarming rate; and**

**WHEREAS, municipal officials and institutions have a responsibility to protect citizens from acts of hate and bigotry, including antisemitism, and must adopt the tools to do so; and**

**WHEREAS, valid monitoring, informed analysis and investigation, and effective policymaking all benefit from accurate and uniform definitions; and**

**WHEREAS, in May 2016, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (“IHRA), by consensus vote of its member states, adopted the Working Definition of Antisemitism, including eleven (11) contemporary examples, which has become the internationally recognized, authoritative definition for the use by governments and international organizations; and**

**WHEREAS, the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism has proven to be an essential tool used to determine contemporary manifestations of antisemitism; and**

**WHEREAS, the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism is used by agencies of the United States Government and has been adopted or endorsed by more than 1178 entities across the world including by 41 countries, over 485 municipalities and regional governments, over 346 educational institutions, and 306 other organizations; and**

**WHEREAS, in the United States, the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism is utilized by various government and law enforcement agencies in monitoring, training, and education, including by the US. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education; and has been adopted by 31 U.S. States and more than 69 U.S. counties and cities; and**

**WHEREAS, the Town of Ossining, values religious diversity and interfaith tolerance, and the Jewish community is an inseparable part of our social fabric, culture, and heritage;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining, hereby adopts the non-binding IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism, including the eleven (11) contemporary examples stated therein, as an important tool to address it and directs all departments and agencies to ensure that the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism is available as an educational resource for town departments and agencies responsible for addressing antisemitism and other forms of discrimination.**

Motion: Carried

**E. Resolution – Authorization of Use of Ryder Park Pavilion**

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

WHEREAS, Punishers LEMC Westchester (the “Applicant”) is an organization of active and retired law enforcement officers and like-minded individuals who endeavor to provide service to others and support for law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, as part of these initiatives, the Applicant holds an annual motorcycle ride called Ride for the Fallen, which features a multi-municipality police escort; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant has requested to use the Ryder Park Pavilion to hold an event at the end of the Ride for the Fallen on Saturday, June 29, 2024 which event will include amplified music and serving of alcohol from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. only; and

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby authorizes the Applicant’s exclusive use of the Ryder Park Pavilion on Saturday, June 29, 2024 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. subject to the following conditions and limitations:

1. The Applicant shall be solely responsible for any and all permits and fees, including those of the Town, associated with the event.
2. Alcohol shall only be served and amplified music shall only be played from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
3. The Applicant shall use best reasonable efforts to ensure motorcycles are not idled or their engines revved at any point when within the Town of Ossining.
4. The Applicant shall use best reasonable efforts to ensure motorcycles are only parked in areas legal and designated for parking and, specifically, not on any grassed areas or in any street or right of way.
5. The Applicant shall coordinate with the Town’s Recreation Superintendent to ensure compliance with Chapter 166 (Special Events, Parades and Public Gatherings) of the Town Code.
6. If the Applicant intends to install a tent or any other temporary structure, the Applicant shall coordinate with the Building Inspector and obtain any necessary permits and approvals.
7. The Applicant shall provide proof of insurance and proof of naming the Town of Ossining as an additional insured in a manner and with such insurance limits satisfactory to the Town’s counsel and insurance agent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Supervisor or any other applicable officer, employee or agent is hereby authorized to execute any documentation reasonably necessary to facilitate the objectives of this Resolution.

Motion: Carried

F. Temporary Beer/Wine/Cider Permit for Facilities Rental – July 27, 2024

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby authorizes the Supervisor to sign the Landlord Authorization Form for the New York State Liquor Authority for a Temporary Beer/Wine/Cider license for Jane Israel who has filed an application for the rental of the Cedar Park Pavilion in the Town of Ossining on Saturday, July 27th, 2024; and

Be it further Resolved, that the applicant will provide proof of insurance and the letter of indemnity to the Town in a form acceptable to Counsel to the Town.

Motion: Carried

**G. Resolution Modifying Town Board Schedule**

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

WHEREAS, at its annual reorganizational meeting, the Town Board established by resolution its meeting schedule for the year, with its Town Legislative Meetings, Work Sessions, and Town Hall Meetings scheduled to occur throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, it has come to the Town Board's attention that there are certain conflicts with its meeting schedule that the Board wishes to address,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby modifies its meeting schedule as follows:

- The Town Hall scheduled for June 18, 2024 has been cancelled
- The Legislative Meeting scheduled for June 25, 2024 is being rescheduled to begin at 8:30 AM and will be held at the Municipal Building, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 16 Croton Ave, Ossining, NY 10562

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Clerk is hereby directed to notice said meetings as required by law.

Motion: Carried

**H. Finance- 2024 Capital Project #2024-5256 – 2024 Open Space Preservation Plan-Planning**

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the 2024 Capital Project #2024-5256, entitled “2024 Open Space Preservation Plan” for the Town Planning Department, with a project budget of \$25,000 funded from Hudson River Valley Greenway grant funds of \$10,000, and a transfer from TOV Fund Balance of \$15,000.

**Capital Projects Fund Appropriations:**

<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
370 8020.200.5256	2024 Open Space Preservation Plan	<u>\$ 25,000.00</u>

Total Capital Projects Fund Appropriations \$ 25,000.00

**Adjusted Capital Projects Fund Estimated Revenues:**

<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
370 0270.279800.5256	Hudson River Valley Greenway	\$ 10,000.00
370 0500.503120.5256	I/F Transfer TOV	<u>15,000.00</u>

Total Capital Projects Fund Estimated Revenues \$ 25,000.00

**Increase Town Unincorporated Fund Appropriations:**

<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
200 9901.905000	Transfer to Capital	<u>\$ 15,000.00</u>

Total Increase to Town Unincorporated Fund Appropriations \$ 15,000.00

**Decrease Town Unincorporated Fund Appropriations:**

<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
200 1990.400000	TOV Contingency	<u>\$ 15,000.00</u>

Total Decrease to Town Unincorporated Fund Appropriations \$ 15,000.00

Motion: Carried

**I. Approval of Contract—Village of Croton on Hudson EMS**

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement between the Mid-Hudson EMS District and the Village of Croton-on-Hudson for the provision of Emergency Medical Technicians to supplement Croton EMS, 24 hours per day at an hourly rate of \$43.79, effective June 1, 2024 through May 30, 2025.

Motion: Carried

**J. Approval of Contract – Village of Sleepy Hollow EMS**

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement between the Mid-Hudson EMS District and the Village of Sleepy Hollow for the provision of Emergency Medical Technicians to supplement Sleepy Hollow EMS, 12 hours per day at an hourly rate of \$43.79, effective June 1, 2024 through May 30, 2025.

Motion: Carried

**K. Contract – Runoff Sampling – Nelson Pope Voorhis**

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the Supervisor to sign a proposal with Nelson Pope Voorhis, Suffern, NY, for the collection of runoff sampling in Cedar Lane Park.

Motion: Carried

**VI. MONTHLY REPORTS**

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Weiss that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby accepts the following monthly reports for the month of April 2024:

- Dale Cemetery
- Highway Department

Motion: Carried

**VII. VISITOR RECOGNITION**

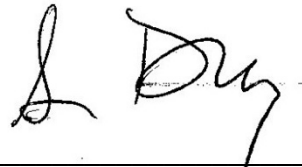
*Visitors shall be accorded one (1) four (4) minute opportunity to address the Board on issues not relating to the agenda, but of relevance to the common good of the Town.*

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT.**

**At 7:49 P.M., Councilmember Weiss motioned to adjourn the Regular Meeting and Councilmember Meyer seconded.**

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

**Approved:**



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**Susanne Donnelly, Town Clerk**