



**SPECIAL MEETING  
TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF OSSINING  
86-88 SPRING STREET  
BIRDSALL-FAGAN POLICE COURT FACILITY  
OSSINING, NEW YORK  
NOVEMBER 8, 2017  
7:30 P.M.**

**SUPERVISOR  
Dana Levenberg**

**COUNCILMEMBERS  
Karen M. D'Attore Elizabeth R. Feldman  
Kim L. Jeffrey Northern Wilcher, Jr.**

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

The Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ossining was held on November 8, 2017 at the Birdsall-Fagan Police Court Facility, 86-88 Spring Street, Ossining, NY. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Dana Levenberg. Members of the Board present were: Councilmembers Kim Jeffrey, Northern Wilcher, Karen D'Attore and Elizabeth R. Feldman. Also present was Town Counsel Steven Silverberg and Budget Officer Madeline Zachacz.

Supervisor Levenberg stated that she would like to begin with a moment of silence for the 26 lives that were taken earlier this week at a church in Sutherland Springs, Texas. There are no words for an act so evil, and our prayers are with the family members of the victims of this unspeakable tragedy.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Levenberg read the following statement:

First off, I want to congratulate my Board colleagues, Deputy Supervisor Kim Jeffrey and Town Councilman Northern Wilcher on their re-election last evening, where they both were elected to service another 4-year term for our residents. I look forward to working with both of you again in 2018 and beyond. I also want to congratulate all of our local winners, including Town Justice Nancy Quinn Koba, Village Trustee Quantel Bazemore and Trustee Elect Omar Herrera, Superintendent of Highways Michael G. O'Connor, County Legislator Catherine Borgia, and our County Executive Elect George Latimer. Thank you all for your selfless service to our community, and I look forward to achieving even more great things together. Also, thanks to outgoing Village of Ossining Trustee Manuel Quezada for his six years of dedicated service to the Board of Trustees—you have done a fine job representing our residents. Finally, I would like to thank everyone that helped work during this year's election, especially our Town Clerk Mary Ann Roberts, poll workers, and the many volunteers that helped throughout the election season to share information about the candidates running for elected office, resulting in great voter turnout in Ossining. Everyone's hard work helps to further our democratic system so that we can continue to live in peace and democracy in the United States.

This Friday evening, as part of their live concert series, First Village Coffee will welcome OseiEssed, a film composer and singer-songwriter, for a performance beginning at 7PM. Stop by for some coffee (maybe decaf), a scone, and some smooth tunes to kick off your weekend.

On Saturday night, November 11<sup>th</sup>, the Elks Lodge will host Les Hommes de Cave as part of their Second Saturday Jazz series beginning at 7:30PM. \$10 will buy you entry (all proceeds go to the band)—you can settle in with some pub food provided by the

lodge and grab a beverage from the cash bar. Special thanks to Village of Ossining Trustee John Codman for bringing this Jazz Series to Ossining.

Earlier that day, Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup>, various organizations in Town will be celebrating Veteran's Day, including the Ossining Historical society, who will be holding an Open House between 1PM and 3PM. All are welcome to visit 196 Croton Avenue and explore historical artifacts from our nation's military history.

As a reminder, the Town and Village offices will be closed on Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veteran's Day. I sincerely hope you will take time to thank all who have served our nation so bravely in conflicts past and current.

On Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, the Ossining Documentary and Discussion Series will host a screening of "The Mask You Live In", a film that addresses gender stereotypes among our young boys and teens, and how those stereotypes relate to our culture's concept of masculinity as it intersects with race, class, and opportunity. The screening begins in the Ossining Public Library's Budarz Theater at 6:30PM and will be followed by a panel discussion. All are welcome.

That same night on November 16<sup>th</sup>, Ossining Innovates! will feature Harry Campbell, the owner of Biofeedback Resources International, and Jovita & Mark Jefferson, founders of Xquisite Coffee Plantation, who will share information on how they became entrepreneurs and answer your questions. If you've ever considered starting your own business, check it out! The Greater Ossining Chamber of Commerce will host at 2 Church Street, the event begins at 6:30PM.

Westchester Collaborative Theater will begin a three-week run of 4 short plays called "Fractured Family Tales" on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 23 Water Street. I happen to know on some very good authority that the plays are exceptional—be sure to get your tickets now at [wctheater.org](http://wctheater.org).

There are a few great opportunities coming up to get in the holiday spirit and get your shopping done, all while supporting local artists and businesses. The Lantern Gift Shop at St. Paul's-on-the-Hill will hold their annual Holiday Celebration on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> between 10AM and 4PM-- come by to shop, order your fresh pine wreaths, and enjoy the Soup and Sandwich Luncheon between 11:30AM and 2PM. Or, check out the Ossining Public Library's Etsy Market on November 25<sup>th</sup> (Small Business Saturday)-- a portion of proceeds will go to benefit Friends of the OPL. (You can also check out the Ossining's Chamber's website for more information on Small Business Saturday events in Town, including the event at Melita's, also on 11/25. Although a bit farther out, be sure to mark your calendar for the Campwoods Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is one of my favorite annual Ossining events-- it features some incredible one-stop-shopping for everyone on your gift list, including a wide range of artisanal crafts, candles, soaps, pottery, and jewelry from local vendors.

Finally, as a reminder, the Town Board will be holding our next Town Hall Meeting at the Ossining Public Library on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, where we will be joined by Gerald Benjamin from SUNY New Paltz and John Wolham from the NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services to discuss Mr. Benjamin's study on the City of Kingston and their implementation of the Homestead Option. The meeting will begin at 7PM so that the Board can pay our bills and address any other pressing business before the Homestead discussion begins. We expect a crowd at this meeting, so if you plan to attend, consider arriving early as parking at the OPL can be a bit tight. If you can't make it, not to worry, as the meeting will be filmed and available on the Town's Youtube channel within 48 hours. Also, please be mindful that our meetings at the Library have a strict cut off time of 9:15 P.M. at the very, very latest. If we run out of time for all who have questions, we will be sure to bring cards for you to fill out and we will get your questions answered as soon as we're able.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **IV. BOARD RESOLUTIONS**

##### **A. Personnel: Highway Department Seasonal Appointment**

**Councilmember Feldman moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher that the following be approved:**

**Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby appoints Preston Dennard, Ossining, to the seasonal position of Laborer in the Town Highway Department at an hourly rate of \$12, effective November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

##### **B. Personnel: Highway Department Seasonal Appointment**

**Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Feldman that the following be approved:**

**Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby appoints Franklin Encalada, Ossining, to the seasonal position of Laborer in the Town Highway Department at an hourly rate of \$12, effective November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

##### **C. Appointment of Ossining Representative to WestCOP Board of Directors**

**Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Feldman that the following be approved:**

**Resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby re-appoints Joan E. Whittaker to the position of the Town of Ossining representative to the Board of Directors of the Westchester Community Opportunities Program, (WESTCOP) for the 2017-2018 year.**

**Supervisor Levenberg stated I had the pleasure of meeting with Joan when I first started as Supervisor, and I know she is doing a great representing us on the WestCOP board.**

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

##### **D. Grant Disbursement Agreement- Cedar Lane Park Electricity DASNY**

**Councilmember Feldman moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher that the following be approved:**

**Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the Town Supervisor to enter into a grant disbursement agreement with the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York in the amount of \$50,000 for electrical upgrades throughout Cedar Lane Park, Project ID 7081, subject to approval by Town Counsel as to form.**

**Supervisor Levenberg stated We have received all the paperwork from the State, and I will be happy to receive the grant money for this project that the Town began back in 2015—having electricity restored to our Pavilion has gotten us to the point where it can once again be utilized for Town events and rented by our residents.**

**Motion Carried: 4-0-1**

**Ayes: Feldman, Wilcher, D'Attore & Levenberg**  
**Abstain: Jeffrey**

**E. Contract- NYS DEC Urban Forestry Grant**

**Councilmember Feldman moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Jeffrey that the following be approved:**

**Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the Town Supervisor to enter into an agreement with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for a grant to the Town in the amount of \$14,000 for a tree inventory in Town of Ossining commercial zones, subject to approval by Town Counsel as to form.**

**Supervisor Donnelly stated that I am proud to say that we were awarded this exciting grant to do an inventory of the trees in our business districts. Local tree expert Donna Sharrett has agreed to assist us in doing this work, and we can't wait to get started.**

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

**F. Finance- Capital Project #2015-5197- LED Street/Park Lighting**

**Councilmember Jeffrey moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Feldman that the following be approved:**

**Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes a 2017 budget adjustment to Capital Project #2015-5197, entitled "LED Street Lighting" increasing the project budget of \$200,000 to \$232,000. The increase to the project funded by the Lighting Fund of \$9,000 is for additional fixtures not contained in the original proposal, and LED street lighting for Gualtiere Lane. Additionally, the General Fund will be transferring the amount of \$23,000 to the capital project for poles, wiring, and LED fixtures for Cedar Lane and Ryder Park. In order to recognize the larger scope of the project the project name shall be modified from "LED Street Lighting" to "LED Street/Park Lighting". Funding for the additional \$32,000 project increase is as follows:**

Increase: 3705182.200.5197	\$ 32,000 LED Street/Park Lighting (Expense)
Increase: 370050.503163.5197	\$ 9,000 LED Street/Park Lighting (Revenue)
Increase: 370050.503100.5197	\$23,000 LED Street/Park Lighting (Revenue)
Increase: 1009901.905	\$23,000 Transfer to Capital Fund (Expense)
Decrease:1001990.400	\$ 23,000 Contingency (Expense)
Increase: 6309901.905	\$9,000 Transfer to Capital Fund (Expense)
Decrease:6305182.403	\$9,000 Electricity (Expenses)

**Supervisor Levenberg stated that you may remember that we began the work of changing all of our streetlights to LED fixtures back in 2016 and the savings has been significant. We met with the Village of Ossining and with our vendor, Lumen Lighting, last week, and got an update on next steps, which will include a change order to change the decorative fixtures on Wyche Way, Roosa Lane, Pheasant Ridge, Quail Hollow Road, North State Road, and Gualtiere Lane, as well as changing the existing fixtures in Gerlach, Cedar Lane and Ryder Parks, and adding new poles up the Dog Park hill at Cedar Lane Park. A quick back-of-the-envelope calculation shows that this project will have paid for itself within 6 years, and we are excited to wrap it up once and for all.**

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

**G. Contract- Internal Risk Assessment, Tobin & Company**

**Councilmember D'Attore moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Jeffrey that the following be approved:**

**Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the Town Supervisor to enter into an agreement with Tobin & Company, 2500 Westchester Avenue, Purchase NY to perform an internal risk assessment of the Town of Ossining for a fee not to exceed \$8000, subject to approval by Town Counsel as to form.**

**Supervisor Levenberg stated that we are looking forward to getting started on this consultation later this month, which will examine the Town's cash handling practices and see if, or where, there is room for improvement.**

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

**V. ADJOURNMENT –WORK SESSION**

**At 7:59 P.M., Councilmember Jeffrey moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Feldman that they enter into Work Session**

**At 9:23 P.M., Councilmember Jeffrey moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher that they enter into Executive Session**

**At 10:06 P.M., Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Feldman that they leave Executive Session**

**At 10:07 P.M., Councilmember D'Attore moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Jeffrey that they adjourn Executive Session**

**Approved:**

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**Mary Ann Roberts Town Clerk**

