

TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OSSINING
BIRDSALL-FAGAN POLICE/COURT FACILITY
86-88 SPRING STREET – OSSINING, NEW YORK

MAY 26, 2009
7:30 PM

SUPERVISOR
Catherine Borgia
COUNCILMEMBERS

Geoffrey Harter Michael L. Tawil
David Krieger Northern Wilcher

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ossining was held on May 26, 2009 in the Police/Court Facility, 86-88 Spring Street in Ossining. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Catherine Borgia. Members of the Board present were: Geoffrey Harter, Northern Wilcher, David Krieger and Michael Tawil. Also present were: Town Attorney Wayne Spector, Budget Officer Connie Cerny and Town Clerk Mary Ann Roberts.

II. PUBLIC HEARING – In the matter of the Petition for the Extension of the Valley View Sewer District–Jacqueline Bush

The public hearing was opened at 7:31 p.m. by Supervisor Borgia. There was no one present who wished to be heard.

At 7:32 p.m., Councilmember Harter moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Krieger that the public hearing be closed.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

III. PUBLIC HEARING – In the matter of the Petition for the Extension of the Valley View Sewer District–Joanne Schneider

The public hearing was opened at 7:32 p.m. by Supervisor Borgia. There was no one present who wished to be heard.

At 7:33 p.m., Councilmember Harter moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Tawil that the public hearing be closed.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

IV. PUBLIC HEARING - In the matter of the Petition for the Extension of the Valley View Sewer District–James Picciano

The public hearing was opened at 7:33 p.m. by Supervisor Borgia. There was no one present who wished to be heard.

At 7:34 p.m., Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Harter that the public hearing be closed.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

V. PUBLIC HEARING - In the matter of the Petition for the Extension of the Valley View Sewer District–Raymond Coletti

The public hearing was opened at 7:34 p.m. by Supervisor Borgia.

At 7:35 p.m., Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Harter that the public hearing be closed.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

VI. PUBLIC HEARING - In the matter of the Petition for the Extension of the Valley View Sewer District—Herbert Olmstead Sr.

The public hearing was opened at 7:35 p.m. by Supervisor Borgia. There was no one present who wished to be heard.

At 7:36 p.m., Councilmember Tawil moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Krieger that the public hearing be closed.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shared Services Ad Hoc Committee

The Ad Hoc Shared Services Committee is being established to study the cost efficient ways of sharing services between the Town of Ossining, Village of Ossining and Village of Briarcliff Manor. Each municipality is designating two (2) members to serve on this committee. The Town of Ossining has selected the following members from the Unincorporated Area: Subrata Chakravarty and Kimberlie A. Jacobs.

Councilmember Krieger announced that the Ossining Public Library will hold its Annual Spring Book Sale with an Early Bird Special on June 5, 2009 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the lower parking lot. The sale will continue on June 6, 2009 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. and on June 7, 2009 from 12 noon – 7 p.m. in the Theater. Also on June 7, 2009 the Celebration of the 400th Anniversary of Henry Hudson will take place beginning at 9 a.m. with the Parade of Tall Ships coming up the Hudson followed by a Taste of Ossining with many of the restaurants participating. There will be music throughout the day and also activities for the children.

Councilmember Tawil reminded everyone that Ossining is the “Volunteer Spirited Town.” The Town is seeking citizens to serve on the Board of Ethics. This Board was formed in the 70’s, however, it has not been staffed. Town Attorney Wayne Spector will be the employee representative as well as the counsel to this Board. The Town is looking for volunteers with legal or regulatory experience. If you are interested, please send a letter of interest as well as a resume to Jane Kanning, Town of Ossining, 16 Croton Avenue, Ossining, New York 10562.

Supervisor Borgia announced that the Code is on line for those interested in doing research of local laws. The Town is also looking for High School or College students to serve as interns in the Supervisor’s office. On Memorial Day the Town Board participated in two parades; one in the Village of Ossining and the other in the Village of Briarcliff Manor. There were moving ceremonies at the end of each parade commemorating those who died defending our Country. Also discussed were two items on this evening’s agenda; Shared Services Ad Hoc Committee as well as Resolution J (ICLEI Membership & Cities for Climate Protection).

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – There was no one present who wished to comment.

IX. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

A. Approval of Minutes – May 12, 2009

Councilmember Tawil moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Krieger that the following be approved:

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby approves the Minutes of the May 12, 2009 Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

B. Approval of Voucher Detail Report

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby approves the Voucher Detail report dated May 26, 2009 in the amount of \$291,932.88.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

C. Call for a Public Hearing in the Matter of Local Law No. 1, 2009, Taxation of Converted Condominiums

Councilmember Krieger moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher that the following resolution be approved:

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby calls for a Public Hearing in the matter of Local Law No. 1, 2009, Taxation of Converted Condominiums, a local law amending Chapter 180 of the Town Code of the Town of Ossining entitled "Taxation" to enact a new Article IX entitled "Taxation of Converted Condominiums", to take place at the Birdsall/Fagan Police Court, 86-88 Spring Street, Ossining, New York at 7:30 p.m. on June 9, 2009.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

D. Appointment-Citizen Finance Advisory Committee

Councilmember Krieger moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher that the following resolution be approved:

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby appoints Carlos Desmaras, Somerstown Road, Ossining, to the Citizen Finance Advisory Committee for a five year term expiring December 31, 2014.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

E. Appointment-Citizen Finance Advisory Committee

Councilmember Harter moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Tawil that the following resolution be approved:

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby appoints Ingrid M. Richards, Morningside Drive, Ossining, to the Citizen Finance Advisory Committee for a one year term expiring May 26, 2010 .

Motion Carried: Unanimously

F. Appointment-Zoning Board of Appeals

Councilmember Tawil moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Krieger that the following resolution be approved:

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby appoints Ingrid M. Richards, Morningside Drive, Ossining, to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a five year term expiring December 31, 2014.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

G. Taxes-Foreclosure 2009 Title Search

Councilmember Krieger moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher that the following resolution be approved:

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby authorizes Maureen Redmond of Judicial Title Insurance Agency, Inc. to perform the title and lien searches required in connection with the 2009 In Rem foreclosure proceedings at a fee of \$250 per parcel.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

H. Taxes-In Rem Foreclosure-Re-appointment

Councilmember Krieger moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Harter that the following resolution be approved:

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby appoints Mark S. Tulis, Esq. of Oxman, Tulis, Kirkpatrick, Whyatt & Geiger LLP, 120 Bloomingdale Road, White Plains, New York as Special Counsel to conduct In Rem foreclosure proceedings upon its tax liens appearing in the 2008 list of delinquent taxes as to which payment has not been made. Compensation to Mr. Tulis shall be in accordance with his letter to the Town of Ossining dated May 14, 2009.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

I. New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation-Green Innovation Grant Program

Councilmember Krieger moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Tawil that the following resolution be approved:

Whereas, the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation established the Green Innovation Grant Program(GIGP) to help NYS communities preserve and create jobs, promote economic recovery and invest in environmental protection and green innovation that will provide short and long-term economic benefits. Funding for the program was authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and is being implemented through the NYS Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds; and

Whereas, payments in an amount up to 90% of eligible project costs may be provided to eligible recipients with GIGP projects that comply with all requirements and the recipient must contribute at least 10% matching funds under this program, which may include direct cash funding or documented in-kind services; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby authorizes the Supervisor to submit an application to New York State Environmental Facilities Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP) for the Stormytown Road and Stonegate Road pump station elimination projects.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

J. ICLEI Membership & Cities for Climate Protection

Councilmember Tawil moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS, scientific consensus has developed that carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere have a profound effect on the Earth's climate; and

WHEREAS, the 2007 Fourth Assessment Report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) states that it is very likely that most of the observed increases in globally averaged temperatures since the mid-20th century are due to human-induced greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, in 2006 the U.S. National Climatic Data Center confirmed clear evidence of human influences on climate due to changes in greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorsed the 2005 U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement initiated by Seattle Mayor Nickels and signed by more than 900 mayors in the United States as of March 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Environmental Accords adopted by local government delegates during UN World Environment Day 2005 call for reduced emissions through energy efficiency, land use and transportation planning, waste reduction, and wiser energy management; and

WHEREAS, in 2003 the American Geophysical Union adopted a Statement noting that human activities are increasingly altering the Earth's climate and that natural influences cannot explain the rapid increase in near-surface temperatures observed during the second half of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, at the request of the Administration, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) reviewed and declared global warming a real problem likely due to human activities; and

WHEREAS, the 2000 U.S. Global Change Research Program's (USGCRP) First National Assessment indicated that global warming has begun; and

WHEREAS, 162 countries including the United States pledged under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, energy consumption, specifically the burning of fossil fuels, accounts for more than 80% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, local government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for the local government, its businesses, and its residents; and

WHEREAS, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a membership association of local governments committed to advancing climate protection and sustainable development;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Ossining, New York will join ICLEI as a Full Member and pledges to take a leadership role in promoting public awareness about the causes and impacts of climate change.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Ossining will undertake ICLEI's five milestones to reduce both greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions throughout the community, and specifically:

- Conduct a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and forecast to determine the source and quantity of greenhouse gas emissions in the jurisdiction;
- Establish a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target;
- Develop an action plan with both existing and future actions which when implemented will meet the local greenhouse gas reduction target;
- Implement the action plan; and
- Monitor and report progress; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Town of Ossining requests assistance from ICLEI as it progresses through these milestones.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

X. VISITOR RECOGNITION

Peter Tripodi, Quail Hollow Road, thanked the Board for setting up the Ethics Board. Also discussed was the Green Grants and he suggested that the Town look into solar panels as well as wind turbines in front of the prison. Also discussed was the Town Assessor working for the Town of Nyack. Supervisor Borgia responded that the Town Assessor is a Private Contractor for Upper Nyack and works one weekend a year. This is not on Town time and the telephone number was placed on the Rockland Website in error, which has been corrected. It is very common for Assessors to work together to verify that the numbers are accurate. Wind Farms are very beautiful; however, the Hudson Valley does not offer a sufficient amount of wind to make it cost effective. The Ossining Boat and Canoe Club will be partnering with the Town on solar panel issues. The payback is a long time. It may be cost effective with others.

Bobby Williams, Spring Street, commented on the Memorial Day salute to veterans. Also discussed was the lack of benefits for veterans. They should be treated as a hero.

Councilmember Northern Wilcher acknowledged students in the audience and asked if anyone would like to speak.

Alex Rich, Macy Road, a student from Ossining High School commended the Board for the Green Grants and also liked the idea of a wind turbine. They do have different shaped blades.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:10 p.m., Councilmember Krieger moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Approved:

Mary Ann Roberts, Town Clerk