



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

**AUGUST 12, 2014
7:30 P.M.**

**SUPERVISOR
Susanne Donnelly**

**COUNCILMEMBERS
Geoffrey Harter Eric P. Blaha
Kim L. Jeffrey Northern Wilcher**

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

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ossining was held on August 12, 2014 in the Police/Court Facility, 86-88 Spring Street in Ossining. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Susanne Donnelly. Members of the Board present were: Councilmembers Geoffrey Harter, Kim L. Jeffrey Northern Wilcher and Eric P. Blaha. Also present were Town Attorney Wayne Spector and Town Clerk Mary Ann Roberts. Budget Officer Madeline Zachacz was absent.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Donnelly read the following statement:

The responsibility of an elected officials especially those with policy making authority, is to make decisions after the facts are collected, and long term risks are considered. It is not because of politics, loyalty, and emotion or to satisfy a few constituents. The responsibility of an elected official is to do what is best for the majority of the community who are the stakeholders. While it is essential to get feedback on situations it is up to the elected officials to determine the final course of action. While there are times when the elected body does not seem to understand the needs of the residents and commercial property owners I believe the Town of Ossining is very lucky. I can only speak since 2012 but this Town Board has had only one goal in mind to do the best job they could for the people they represent. It is like a business you have goals and objectives and the end you must accomplish what is the correct result for the community. Every member of this Board and administration understands what a great responsibility they have to the people. Knowing the history and having detailed knowledge of the different situations in front of any Board are important parts in governing as it is in running any business. It is essential that everyone understand that this Board does not do it for the glory, for the prestige, but rather to do the best they can for the entire community.

As everyone who becomes an elected official understands part of the job is take criticism and to listen to people who opinions differ. We and I hope I speak for the entire Board in this instance accepts the fact that we need to be able to take this criticism. We show through our actions that we are above the erroneous perceptions that sometimes cloud a situation. Social media including e-papers have changed the “game”. Often people will throw out completely false information, take a situation and manipulated it to appear as true, or skew the facts so their results make more sense and see if they can convince people that it is the truth. What is not acceptable is when someone crosses the line and completely fabricates information in order to slander any elected official.

With all of that said this Board has not made any decision on the Police Services for the unincorporated part of the Town of Ossining. It is never as simple as it looks - financially or functionally. It is about making sure that no matter the decision made there are no financial surprises at the end of the year, that everyone understands the services that will be provided, if the Village(for instance) is chosen - how will the officers understand the differences in the laws of the Town vs the laws of the Village, how we will handle other issues such as arrests (an unfortunate part of policing) and how we will handle revenues that come from the Town such as parking V&T and the like.

We have gotten your emails, calls, letters and even some meetings. We need to make sure that the T's entire are crossed and the i's are dotted concerning your comments and our questions before we make the next step.

Attendance Matters-The Ossining Schools and the Town of Ossining, along with the Village of Ossining and many Safety Net organizations, remind all parents and guardians the importance of OUR students going to school every day.

Supervisor Donnelly congratulated the Village of Ossining Police Department for apprehending the people who have been breaking into houses in the Indian Village area.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

IV. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

A. Approval of Minutes

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby approves the July 22, 2014, Minutes of the Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

B. Approval of Minutes-Special Meeting

Councilmember Blaha 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 August 5, 2014, Minutes of the Special Meeting as presented.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

C. Approval of Voucher Detail Report

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby approves the Voucher Detail Report dated August 12, 2014 in the amount of \$502,795.11.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

D. Personnel- Permanent Appointment, Parks Department

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby ends the probation period for Jason Clark, Park Groundskeeper, and converts his status to Permanent effective August 11th, 2014.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

E. Personnel- Permanent Appointment, Town Court

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby ends the probation period for Marnel Ashpole, Assistant Court Clerk, and converts her status to Permanent effective August 11th, 2014.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

F. Environmental Advisory Committee- Appointment

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

Resolved, that the Town Board hereby appoints Mary Noll, Ossining, to fill the remainder of an unexpired term on the Town's Environmental Advisory Committee, set to expire on December 31st, 2017.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

G. Tax Receiver- Property Redemption, 8 Macy Road

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

Whereas, property located at 8 Macy Road, Ossining, has delinquent taxes resulting in commencement of In Rem foreclosure proceedings and a judgment of foreclosure; and

Whereas, the Town Board passed a resolution on May 20th, 2014, permitting the temporary removal of this property from the scheduled foreclosure auction pending a sale of the property; and

Whereas, the aforementioned condition has been met and the property owners have completed the sale of their property; and

Now, therefore be it Resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby allows for the property owners to redeem said property by paying all outstanding taxes, interest, penalties and fees, plus an additional ten (10%) percent penalty on the lien amount which, upon the recommendation of the Receiver of Taxes, the Town Board finds to be fair and appropriate based on the specific and unique circumstances of this case; and

Be it Further Resolved that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Receiver of Taxes to collect the lien amount plus the 10% penalty without delay.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

H. Contract- Jesse Collyer Youth Sports League, Ryder Park Batting Cages

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby authorizes the Supervisor to enter into an agreement with Jesse Collyer Youth Sports (JCYS) to allow the construction of their proposed batting cages at Ryder Park, consistent with

the terms and conditions in their proposal submitted to the Town, pending approval by the Town Attorney.

Councilmember Jeffrey to amend and it was seconded by Councilmember Blaha that the resolution be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

I. Personnel- Park Department- End of Appointment

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby ends the seasonal appointment of Dominick Cristello, Parks Department, effective August 11th, 2014.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

J. Finance- Capital Project #2005-2132 Engel Park Shoreline

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes a budget adjustment to Capital Project #2005-2132, entitled “Engel Park Shoreline”, to re-establish the budget reflecting the final project amount totaling \$485,256.77, transfer surplus of \$8,915.65 to the General Fund, and close the capital project.

037.0037.3889.0132 - Engel Park Shoreline (Revenue) \$ 238,298.77

037.0037.4889.0132 - Engel Park Shoreline (Revenue) \$ 246,958.00

037.7110.2132 – Engel Park Shoreline (Expense) \$ 476,341.12

037.9901.0900.2132 – Engel Park Shoreline (Expense) \$8,915.65

Motion Carried: Unanimously

V. CORRESPONDENCE TO BE RECEIVED AND FILED

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby accepts the following:

- Zoning Board of Appeals decision in the matter of the application of Rebecca & Charles Lotierzo dated June 2, 2014

Motion Carried: Unanimously

VI. MONTHLY REPORTS

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby accepts the following monthly reports for the month of July 2014 from:

- Town Clerk’s Office
- Town Supervisor’s Office
- G.E. Helicopter Report
- Town Highway Department

- Tax Receiver's Office
- Town Building Department

Motion Carried: Unanimously

VII. VISITOR RECOGNITION

Mr. Alan Marzelli VanCortandt Ave. Town Outside resident announce that he will be selling his fall benefit concerts series tickets. These concerts are free afternoon concerts at the Ossining Public Library. This fall they will have Joan Osborne performing. The link to purchase tickets is wordsandmusic.groundpapertickets.com Mr. Marzelli also spoke about the RFP for police services and focused on the numbers. This will be a positive effect on taxes if the Town decides to contract with the Village Police Department and our taxes would be reduced by 10% for residents that live in the Town Outside. He feels both departments would do a great job but this is about taking advantage to save money.

Supervisor Donnelly stated that the reflection may not necessarily come out as 10% reduction because as the contract goes up every year since there is a cap we have to worry about.

Matthew Lenaghan thanked the Board for all the time and energy that they put in for approving the Contract for the Jesse Collyer Youth Sports League, Ryder Park Batting Cages.

Lou Rinaldi Croton Dam Rd. feels that the police service we have in the Town is not the same as the Village. Mr. Rinaldi explained he had to wait 45 minutes for Westchester County police when his son was ill.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT-EXECUTIVE SESSION-LEGAL ADVICE

At 7:55 p.m. Councilmember Jeffrey moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Harter that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Approved:

Mary Ann Roberts, Town Clerk