



**TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF OSSINING  
BIRDSALL-FAGAN POLICE/COURT FACILITY  
86-88 SPRING STREET – OSSINING, NEW YORK  
MARCH 26, 2019  
REGULAR MEETING  
7:30 P.M.**

**SUPERVISOR  
Dana A. Levenberg**

**COUNCILMEMBERS  
Karen M. D’Attore Elizabeth R. Feldman  
Jackie G. Shaw Northern Wilcher, Jr.**

**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 12, 2018 in the Police/Court Facility, 86-88 Spring Street in Ossining. The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Supervisor Dana A. Levenberg. Members of the Board present were: Councilmembers Karen M. D’Attore, Elizabeth R. Feldman, Northern Wilcher Jr. and Jackie G. Shaw. Also present were Town Counsel Christie Tomm-Addona, Budget Officer Madeline Zachacz, and Confidential Secretary Victoria Cafarelli.

**II. PUBLIC HEARINGS IN THE MATTER OF *Visitors shall be accorded one (1) four (4) minute opportunity to speak on each public hearing.***

At 7:31 pm, Councilmember Feldman moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher that all (3) three Public Hearings be re-opened.

- Local Law #2 of 2019 – Abolishing the office of Elective Town Superintendent of Highways and creating the office of Appointive Town Superintendent of Highways subject to a mandatory referendum.

At 7:37 p.m. Councilmember Feldman moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher that the Public Hearing be adjourned until April 23, 2019.

- Local Law #3 of 2019 – Abolishing the office of Elective Town Receiver of Taxes and creating the office of Appointive Town Receiver of Taxes subject to a mandatory referendum.

At 7:37 p.m. Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Feldman that the Public Hearing be adjourned until April 23, 2019.

- Local Law #4 of 2019 – Abolishing the office of Elective Town Clerk and creating the office of Appointive Town Clerk subject to a mandatory referendum

Supervisor Levenberg stated that we had heard some feedback from some residents from earlier public hearings stating that June was not the best time to hold a referendum and it was suggested that we consider the November 2019 date during the general election.

Town Counsel Christie Tomm-Addonna recommends that we revise the three local laws that are currently drafted to reflect the November election and should be republished in an effort to make sure we are following proper procedure.

These local laws need to be adopted no later than 60 days before the actual election. This will also give the board more time to keep the public hearings open to keep the dialogue going. Town Counsel recommended that the hearings be adjourn until Tuesday, April 23, 2019.

At 7:37 p.m. Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Feldman that the Public Hearing be adjourned until April 23, 2019.

### III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Levenberg announced the following:

It's finally starting to feel just a little bit like spring out there! You know what that means. It's time for baseball and softball season -- sign up soon for Ossining JCYS Spring Youth Baseball and Softball. Opening day and the parade are April 6th, which will be here before you know it. You can register at [www.ossiningjcysll.com](http://www.ossiningjcysll.com).

Also, don't forget, the spring and summer recreation offerings are available through the Village of Ossining website which you can find at [villageofossining.org/recreation](http://villageofossining.org/recreation). The recreation department has also implemented online registration for all of our pavilions, parks and picnic areas for any of your events, so make sure to check us out for all your party needs!

I hope everyone is planning to see this year's Ossining High School Spring Musical, which is *Chicago*! Performances are three nights in a row, starting Thursday, March 28th, through Saturday, March 30th at 7:00PM. Hope to see you there.

Or, if this week had you feeling a little more alt-rock than show tunes, check out "You Oughta Know," an evening of acoustic renditions of Alanis Morissette's classics played by the Mike Risko Band and Friends—they are huge 10,000 Maniacs fans and Miriam really does a great cover. Call 762-8757 or email [mail@mikeriskomusic.com](mailto:mail@mikeriskomusic.com) to reserve your seat for Saturday night at 8PM at Mike Risko Music and re-live the golden days of MTV with friends and neighbors.

The Village of Ossining Water Department which services the Town Is getting ready to start their semi-annual hydrant flushing program on April 1<sup>st</sup>: Per the water department, "Flushing of hydrants will be performed between 9:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. in order to minimize disruptions to our residents. We will initially flush hydrants in the Low Service District, which is the area west of Route 9. Once work in the Low Service District has been completed, we will begin working on the east side of Route 9 in the Lakeville and Torbank Service Districts. The entire hydrant-flushing program will take approximately five weeks to complete. As the flushing of hydrants takes place closer to your home, you may notice some discoloration in your water first thing in the morning. Do not be alarmed. Just run your water for a short period of time and it should clear up. If the discoloration persists, please notify the Water Department at 941-6111. The Water Department regrets any temporary inconvenience you may experience; however, this operation is necessary for us to ensure the continued cleanliness of the water distribution system. We will do everything possible to minimize any problems."

On Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30PM, visit the Shattemuc Yacht Club for the Ferry Sloops event, "Sing Sing: A History." Ossining Village Historian Dana White will be walking us through the surprising ways that our famous prison has shaped the Village, and give an update on the Sing Sing Prison Museum project. Come at 6:30 with a dish to share and enjoy a potluck supper. This event is free, all are welcome. Last night, I attended Dana White's talk on the History of Croton Avenue and as usual, it was fascinating. As I drove on Croton Avenue today, I found I looked at the buildings differently, knowing just a little more about the history of the ones that stood there previously, and some that still remain from the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Yes. Mother's Day is still more than a month away, but you can start preparing now with cooking classes at Good Choice Kitchen on Main Street. These classes will take place each Wednesday in April from 6:30PM to 8:30PM- pick a topic that speaks to you or sign up for all four sessions, and get ready to show off your newly acquired vegan cooking skills on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Did you know that Cedar Lane Park used to be known as the Rock Hill Estate? The property was once owned by the Kress family, who created over 260 Five and Dime stores across the country beginning in the late 1890s. The Kress family members also became prominent art collectors, and their collection, along with John Paul Getty's, was a large part of the art donated to create the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. Learn more about the Kress family and the family members' impact on local and national history on Sunday, April 7th at 2PM at the Vescio Community Center, Briarcliff Public Library. Hear "The Story of the Kress Family" led by Steve Worthy. Also, stay tuned, because Steve will be coming to present to the Town Board next week, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, at our work session. He has a wonderful offer as well as a great suggestion he would like us to consider, having to do with art, music and Cedar Lane Park, some of his very favorite topics, and ours.**

**Finally, congratulations are in order for so many of Ossining's students. Congratulations to our NYS AA Championship Girls Basketball Team for a fantastic season! Also, congratulations to our award-winning Science Research program students, including 58 awardees at WESEF, 15 selected for the International Genius Olympiad, and an excellent showing by OHS Senior Emma Montgomery, Regeneron STS Finalist, at the national finalist competition in Washington, DC. If you are interested in helping out these incredible students, the Science Research program is looking for mentors, reach out to Science Research teachers extraordinaire, Angelo Piccirillo and Valerie Holmes at [APiccirillo@ossiningufsd.org](mailto:APiccirillo@ossiningufsd.org) or [VHolmes@ossiningufsd.org](mailto:VHolmes@ossiningufsd.org). And if academics and athletics weren't enough, how bout the arts? The Ossining School District has been named a Best Community for Music Education by the NAMM Foundation for the 9<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. As a community, we are so proud of all that our students have achieved -- and these are just some of the accomplishments only in the past few weeks!**

**Councilmember Feldman announced the following:**

- **The Green Ossining Tag Sale will take place on Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019. For more information regarding this tag sale please visit [www.greenossining.org](http://www.greenossining.org). Registration for this event will close on April 19, 2019.**

#### **IV. LIAISON REPORTS**

**Councilmember Jackie Shaw stated that she participated in Roosevelt reading week, the kids participated and they had a lot of fun.**

#### **V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**Supervisor Levenberg stated that we are joined by Kathy Asaro, the Site Director of our Senior Nutrition Program to give us an update on all that has been going on in our Senior Center.**

**Kathy Asaro, Senior Nutrition Site Director provide the Board with an update on her Department. The Senior program still offers the exercise programs: Tai Chi on Mondays, Line Dancing and Art on Thursday. Once a month we have someone to speak to the seniors about Medicare. The Senior Center has an electric car. Ossining High School hosted a Valentine's Day breakfast for our seniors that was a big success. In February, Ms. Asaro arranged for a speaker to come in and explain the seniors on how to use the bus line and to sign them up for the metro card. In March**

we were busy with records retention, magic show and music with Brian. In April we will be hosting a Lotus Lantern workshop for \$5 per person.

The Town Board appreciates everything the Senior Center does for our community.

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

#### **VII.BOARD RESOLUTIONS**

##### **A. Approval of Minutes-Regular Meeting-March 12, 2019**

Councilmember Shaw 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 approves the March 12, 2019 minutes of the Regular Meeting as presented.

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

##### **B. Approval of Minutes-Special Meeting-March 19, 2019**

Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Feldman that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby approves the March 19, 2019 minutes of the Special Meeting as presented.

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

##### **C. Approval of Voucher Detail Report**

Councilmember Shaw 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 approves the Voucher Detail Report dated March 26, 2019 in the amount of \$359,047.48.

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

##### **D. Calling for a Public Hearing in the matter of the 2019 Cabaret License Renewal for The Briarcliff Manor**

Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Shaw that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby calls for a Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 9th at 7:30 p.m. at the Birdsall- Fagan Police/Court Facility located at 86-88 Spring Street, Ossining, NY 10562, in the matter of the 2019 Cabaret License for The Briarcliff Manor Restaurant & Catering Corp., 25 Studio Hill Road, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510.

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

**E. Calling for a Public Hearing in the matter of the 2019 Cabaret License for Club Fit Briarcliff d/b/a/ Briarcliff Operations LLC.**

Councilmember Shaw moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Feldman that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby calls for a Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 9th at 7:35 p.m. at the Birdsall- Fagan Police/Court Facility located at 86-88 Spring Street, Ossining, NY 10562, in the matter of the 2019 Cabaret License for Briarcliff Operations LLC (Club Fit Briarcliff), 584 North State Road, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

**F. Personnel- Resignation for Purposes of Retirement**

Councilmember Shaw 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 accepts, with regret, the resignation of Matteo Velardo, Highway Foreman, from the Town Highway Department, effective March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019, for purposes of retirement.

Supervisor Levenberg read the following statement:

This is a bittersweet day for us, as we prepare to say “See You Later” to our Highway Foreman Matteo Velardo. Matteo has worked for the Town since 1994, and has served as a mentor for most of the men who have worked alongside him, not just in Highway but also in Parks and Cemetery. Among Matteo’s many skills are his credentials as a master mason—the walls, catch basins and other infrastructure around town that Matteo has built will be here for generations, and we are fortunate that he has trained other members of our staff to follow in his footsteps, But aside from the specific value he brings to our team in terms of projects, he also brings a lot of heart. Matteo always has the answers, but he doesn’t brag or boast—he is one of the gentlest, humblest, friendlies men you will ever meet, and where someone else may get frustrated, Matteo just smiles and says, OK. He is a family man. A prolific gardener and forager of mushrooms and other edible goodies. He makes his own wine, dries oregano, prepares hot pepper, spices up cheese, and shares it all with family and friends. And that’s just in his spare time. He has been the “dad” of the crew for some time now, and we will miss him terribly. Also, a big shout out to his wife Rita for all of her patience while Matteo worked well into the night and many, many early mornings for all these years. We hope you get to sleep in, and not have to worry about another snow storm again, ever! Matteo—this is your last chance: would you like to rescind your retirement for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time?

Motion Carried: Unanimously

**G. Personnel- Resignation for Purposes of Retirement**

Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember D’Attore that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby accepts, with regret, the resignation of Michael G. O’Connor, from the elected position of Superintendent of Highways, effective April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, for purposes of retirement.

Supervisor Levenberg stated that we are also coming up on another retirement in our Highway Department, that of our elected Town Highway Superintendent Michael G. O’Connor. After a long stint as a Town Board member STARTING IN 1990(!), Michael G. made the leap into the world of Highways back in 2006, and the rest is history. Michael is beloved throughout the Unincorporated town for his service as Highway Superintendent, but also throughout Ossining as a Democratic district leader, a proud veteran, boy scout leader, and volunteer. We know he isn’t

going far, but we will miss him nonetheless, and congratulate him on his pending retirement which we know he is looking forward to sharing with his wife Mary, his daughters and his grandchildren. We will have some more to say about Michael on April 9<sup>th</sup>, so please join us.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

#### **H. Personnel- Appointment**

Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Feldman that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby appoints Peter Connolly, Ossining, to the position of Superintendent of Highways for the term expiring December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019, with an appointment date of April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Supervisor Levenberg stated that she is pleased to appoint Michael G.'s deputy, Pete Connolly, to take the position of Superintendent of Highways effective April 12<sup>th</sup>. Pete joined the Town team several years back as our Superintendent of Cemeteries, and by all accounts, he has transformed the place into someplace where people feel welcome, calm and comforted visiting their loved ones who have passed on. For at least the remainder of 2019, Pete will wear both hats and manage both departments, and we have all the faith in the world that he will do his best to fill Michael's shoes.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

#### **I. Permission to Hold Special Event at Ryder Park Pavilion- Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Shaw that the following resolution be approved.

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Ossining has a permit in place for the rental of facilities in Town Parks; and

Whereas, for most events, the Superintendent of Recreation has the discretion to approve or reject an application, but larger events may be sent to the Town Board for formal approval; and

Whereas, an application was filed in March 2019 for use of the Ryder Park Pavilion for Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 by Mayerlin Strippoli for a graduation party to take place between 10AM and 9PM, and this application was referred to the Town Board;

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Recreation to accept this application, and ensuring that the proper insurance and applications are in place with the Department of Recreation; and

Be it further Resolved, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign a Landlord Authorization form for the applicant should they require permission by the New York State Authority to sell alcohol at the event.

Supervisor Levenberg stated that a request for renting a pavilion in a town park requires approval by the Town Board as a special event and is referred to us by our Superintendent of Recreation. Now, after reviewing the details of this event and giving it our approval, we will forward it back to the Superintendent of Recreation to accept the application and ensure everything is in order for this rental to move forward.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

## **VIII.CORRESPONDENCE TO BE RECEIVED AND FILED**

**Councilmember Wilcher moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Shaw that the following resolution be approved.**

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

- **Planning Board Meeting minutes dated March 6, 2019**
- **Planning Board Meeting resolution dated March 20, 2019**

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

## **IX.MONTHLY REPORTS**

## **X.VISITOR RECOGNITION**

## **XI.ADJOURNMENT –EXECUTIVE SESSION-ADVISE OF COUNSEL**

**At 8:05 p.m., Councilmember Feldman moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session**

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

**At 9:15 p.m., Councilmember Feldman moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher to leave Executive Session.**

**At 9:16 p.m., Councilmember D’Attore moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher to adjourn Executive Session.**

**Approved:**

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Town Clerk Mary Ann Roberts**