



**TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF OSSINING  
SPECIAL MEETING  
OSSINING MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
16 CROTON AVENUE -1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR BOARD ROOM  
OSSINING, NEW YORK  
DECEMBER 4, 2018  
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 Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ossining was held on December 4, 2018 at the Ossining Municipal Building, 16 Croton Avenue-1<sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room, Ossining, NY 10562 in Ossining. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Dana A. Levenberg. Supervisor Levenberg asked for all to remain standing in a moment of silence in memory of President George Bush. Members of the Board present were: Councilmembers Councilmember Northern Wilcher, Jr. and Karen D'Attore. Councilmembers Norther Wilcher, Jr. and Jackie G. Shaw were absent. Also present was Town Counsel Christie Tomm Addona.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Levenberg announced the following:

This past week we lost a true leader and statesman as we said goodbye to President George H.W. Bush, who passed away at the age of 94. Tomorrow has been designated a national day of mourning, but I ask that today during our Town Board meeting, we observe a moment of silence to honor President Bush who served this country admirably in the military, as a humanitarian, as well as an elected official for many years, and of course in the top spot as our President. We are most grateful for his service to all of us, and mourn his loss.

Please join me in a moment of silence for President George H.W. Bush...

Yesterday I had the privilege to attend a program dedicated to discussing state legislation that was introduced by State Senator Shelley Mayer, who represents Yonkers and other parts of our county, to allow drivers licenses to once again be issued to anyone of driving age in New York State. The Town passed a resolution in support of driver's licenses for all, recognizing the benefits to safe roads, in addition to benefits to our economy this legislation would have. I was proud to join Ossining Mayor Victoria Gearity and Police Chief Kevin Sylvester as well as Neighbors Link, who have taken a leadership role in supporting this bill and hope we can all continue to advocate for its passage.

Last week I also attended a forum sponsored by the Federated Conservationists of Westchester to discuss proposed legislation at the County level to reduce the use of plastic bags county wide. Many municipalities have adopted legislation to ban single use bags by putting fees on them. Green Ossining has been working with the Village and the Town and we are hoping if the County does not adopt something, we can evaluate this initiative for the Town of Ossining in early 2019. It will certainly be more effective if we can all work together on this.

I also had the pleasure of meeting last week with Riverkeeper and students with the Environmental Club at Ossining High School to discuss our focus on improving

access to the waterfront in Ossining and considering opening up the beach at some point, as they have been testing the water for some years now and believe it is safe for swimming. We will continue our discussions as we evaluated other options for grants to help us with a master park plan at Engel Park. Unfortunately, we also learned last week that we did not receive funds we applied for from the Hudson Valley Greenway. We are hoping we can find a way to team up with Riverkeeper to reapply in February with better success.

The Christmas Tree Lighting was a lovely event in Downtown Ossining last Friday, with help from the folks at the Village Parks and Recreation, so thank you to them for their hard work to make for a great time for our families. We also had our staff party with the Village and Town last week. Unfortunately we did not do as good a job as we should have communicating the hours when our offices would be closed for the few hours a year we get together as one to appreciate everyone's hard work on behalf of our constituents. We will work on doing a better job of that next year and/or staggering our celebration so that offices can remain open.

The Ossining Documentary & Discussion Series will host their final screening of the year on Thursday, December 6th. "How To Survive a Plague" chronicles the history of activism around the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and how raising awareness of the disease and its societal consequences caught the attention of the scientific community and turned a death sentence into a chance at life. The screening begins at 6:30PM and will be followed by an expert panel-- all are welcome to this free event at the Ossining Public Library's Budarz Theater.

As the weather gets increasingly colder and the holiday season is upon us, consider those in need throughout our community. The Ossining Police Department has partnered with the Ossining schools to host a coat drive for families in need this winter. Through this Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, drop your new or gently used coats off at the Police Station at 86-88 Spring Street, or at 16 Croton Avenue on the first floor, and pay it forward this holiday season. There will also be boxes placed around the community where you can drop off formal or semi-formal attire for young men - this drive, organized by My Brother's Keeper, will help young men of color in Ossining to be able to dress for success.

Also, the Ossining Boat & Canoe Club is once again collecting new unwrapped toys for children in our community who might not otherwise receive gifts. Working with our social service organizations, they will distribute these in time to make sure all children have the opportunity to receive an age appropriate gift this season. Look for the shiny red box on the first floor of Village/Town Hall at 16 Croton Avenue.

On Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, don't miss the KJ Denhert Trio performing a special holiday show at Westchester Collaborative Theater. Ossining resident KJ and her band always put on a memorable show, and we are so excited to have her perform right here in town this weekend. Doors open at 7PM for a 7:30PM show, and tickets will sell out. Get yours now by heading to [www.wctheater.org](http://www.wctheater.org)

Already feeling the holiday squeeze? The Mariandale Center on North Highland Avenue has just the thing to help you through. On Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, come for candlelight meditation at 6:45PM. Dress comfortably and prepare yourself for some time to reflect and recharge. Need a little more? Mariandale will also be hosting a day-long writing retreat on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> between 9:30AM and 5:30PM. Come for a peaceful day of introspection and a break from the hassles of the real world among your fellow writers. Visit [www.mariandalecenter.org](http://www.mariandalecenter.org) for more information on both events.

Next week, join Ossining Matters for a Family Holiday Shopping Stroll through downtown. Get your shopping done while helping out a great local cause—if you buy an OM Holiday Helper Pass, you will get 10% off of your purchases at Penny & Ting, Hot Societe, Vaza, Adega Wines, and Melita's between December 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The kickoff will take place on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> between 6:00 P.M. and 8:00

P.M., and during that time, you can also get 10% off at Good Choice Kitchen and First Village Coffee. Purchase your pass at [www.ossiningmatters.org](http://www.ossiningmatters.org).

Finally, save the date for Breakfast with Santa at the Ossining Community Center on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>—get a small gift from Santa and drop off your Christmas list to the big man in person. Visit Ossining Recreation page at [www.villageofossining.org](http://www.villageofossining.org) and sign up for either the 10:00 A.M. or 11:00 A.M. seating and hurry—only 100 tickets for each seating are sold.

### III. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

#### A. Personnel- Highway Department- Seasonal Appointment

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby appoints Percival Gilcrest, Ossining, to the seasonal position of Laborer in the Town Highway Department effective December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 at a rate of \$12.00 per hour.

Supervisor Levenberg stated that we are pleased to be able to appoint Percy Gilcrest to this position. Percy has served us in this seasonal position before, and we are happy he was available to do so again to help us out with the leaves.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

#### B. Contract- Gullotta House Polar Plunge 2019

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Gullotta House, Inc., Briarcliff Manor, NY, pertaining to the “Escape from Sing Sing Polar Plunge” scheduled to take place at 12 Noon at Louis Engel Park on Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, and outlining the operational expectations, insurance requirements and obligations on the part of Gullotta House, as well as rules and regulations for participants, as required by the Town of Ossining.

Supervisor Levenberg stated that we are looking forward to the second annual Escape from Sing Sing Polar Plunge which Gullotta House is organizing to take place Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon at the beach at Louis Engel Park. Mr. Gullotta asked if we could approve the use now so he could have plenty of time to plan and fundraise for an even better event.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

#### C. Resolution authorizing Supervisor to sign Letter of Intent with Village of Ossining for Police Services

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

WHEREAS, in 2014 the Town of Ossining and the Village of Ossining duly entered into an agreement whereby the Village of Ossining would provide the Unincorporated Town with police services from January 1, 2015 until December 31, 2018 (“2015 Agreement”), and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Agreement contemplated that the parties could renew the agreement at the end of the initial term, and

**WHEREAS, both the Village and the Town desire to have the Village continue to provide the Unincorporated Town with police services in order to consolidate resource and efforts and to provide high quality police services to the residents of both the Unincorporated Town and the Village, and**

**WHEREAS, the Village provided the Town with a Letter of Intent dated October 23, 2018 setting forth the primary terms for the renewed agreement for the calendar years 2019-2022, which the Village supplemented by letter dated November 30, 2018 providing an updated cost schedule, and**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby authorizes the Supervisor to sign the Letter of Intent subject to the terms set forth in the October 23, 2018 letter and November 30, 2018 letter, and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor and the Town Counsel to work with the Village to prepare a renewed agreement with the Village for police services for the Board's review and consideration.**

**Supervisor Levenberg stated that we are hopeful to be able to work again with the Village of Ossining to continue to provide Police services to the Unincorporated Town, as well as services to our Courthouse.**

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

#### **IV.ADJOURNMENT –WORK SESSION**

**At 8:00 P.M., Councilmember D'Attore moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Wilcher that the meeting be adjourned in to Work Session.**

**Motion Carried: Unanimously**

**Approved:**

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**Interim Town Clerk Victoria Cafarelli**