

AGENDA
TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OSSINING
IN PERSON AT
TOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
1st FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
16 CROTON AVE – OSSINING, NEW YORK
AND VIA ZOOM

JULY 13, 2021
REGULAR MEETING
7:30 P.M.

SUPERVISOR
Dana A. Levenberg

COUNCILMEMBERS
Elizabeth R. Feldman Gregory G. Meyer
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 July 13, 2021 in the Town Municipal Building, 16 Croton Ave in Ossining, and via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Supervisor Dana A. Levenberg. Members of the Board present were: Councilmembers Jackie G. Shaw, Elizabeth R. Feldman, Gregory G. Meyer, and Northern Wilcher, Jr. Also present were Town Counsel Christie Tomm-Addona, Budget Officer Victoria Cafarelli, and Deputy Town Clerk Martha C. Quituisaca.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Levenberg announced the following:

We have had quite the soggy start to summer! We had to reschedule our first two summer concert series performances due to weather - the Thornwoods, who were originally supposed to perform on July 2, have been rescheduled for Sunday, July 25 and the Sleepy Hollow String Band, who were scheduled to perform last Friday, July 9, have been rescheduled for Sunday, August 8. Both rain date performances will start at 5pm. Right now, the weather gods are looking more favorable for Friday, so we can officially kick off our summer concert series with Ossining local KJ Denhart on Friday, July 16. The concert will starting at 7pm, but make sure to get there a little earlier for Food Trucks and our new craft beverage corral service starting at 5pm. Thank you to our amazing Summer Concerts and Food Truck Fridays planning team of the Greater Ossining Chamber of Commerce, Sing Sing Kill Brewery, Mike and Miriam Risko, and Superintendent of Rec & Parks Bill Garrison – we have gotten off to a bit of a bumpy start, but hoping for better weather for the rest of the summer. We hope to see you there.

The Villages of Ossining and Briarcliff Manor also have great summer entertainment series scheduled. Ossining's Family Summer Entertainment Series shows are every Tuesday at 7pm rotating between a few Village of Ossining parks. If you're joining us live, you are missing the Westchester Dance Artists at Market Square tonight, but the good news is with our Town Board meeting cancelled for next Tuesday, July 20 none of us are going to miss Macaroni the Clown, also at Market Square starting at 7pm. On Wednesdays, also at 7pm, the Summer Acoustic Series is taking place at Market Square in Ossining. Tomorrow, July 14 will be Better Late Than Never, and next Wednesday, July 21 will be Sundad. The Briarcliff Chamber of Commerce is also bringing on the summer fun with their Summer Concert Series at Law Park

Field on Sundays at 7pm. This Sunday, July 18 is Off the Record and next Sunday, July 25 is Skyfactor—they were so much fun as part of our remote series last year, I can't wait to see them in person. So much music, so little time!

The Community Equity Task Force has reopened their survey to encourage residents to share their thoughts about inequity in Ossining. The survey was shared in my Supervisor's Update on Friday and on the Equity Facebook Page. This survey is used by the Task Force to pinpoint areas for further attention. There are spaces for residents to provide free-form answers and shorter options. Please take the survey and share it. Residents who completed the 2020 survey are encouraged to update the Task Force by completing it again in 2021.

Due to the rainy weather we have been experiencing for several days now, the Cedar Lane Dog Park and pavilion will be closed again this week to allow for crews to repave the access roads to these sites. We are excited to see this road get some attention (planned originally to happen during the pandemic but postponed for that reason) and we hope our furry friends will try the dog run at Ryder Park while this project gets completed. The paving is weather-dependent, so we will announce a tentative re-opening date when it becomes available.

The Ossining Elks Club is hosting the "Big Dog Challenge" on Saturday, July 17 at 2pm. Word on Twitter is there may be a showdown between Ossining Police Chief Kevin Sylvester and Ossining Schools Superintendent Dr. Ray Sanchez for this epic hotdog eating contest. If you want in, it costs \$25 to enter and call ahead to reserve your spot at 914-941-1486. Not sure they have veggie dogs?

Sing Sing Prison Museum's Justice Talks webinar series brings amazing conversations to Ossining, and the next installment promises to be the same, next Thursday, July 22 at 6pm. The webinar topic will be on the 1971 Attica Prison Uprising, which brought issues of injustice inside US prisons into the national spotlight. In this program, SSPM will examine racial justice activism, civil rights, and the significance of the 50th Anniversary of the uprising. Register at www.singsingprisonmuseum.org.

Shattemuc Yacht Club is hosting their annual women's kayak day on Sunday, July 25 at 9am to support the SPCA of Westchester. Bring your kayak, canoe, or paddle board for a \$25 all inclusive (drinks and food) day of fun, fun, fun! RSVP to Dé DeSousa at (914) 755-6292 and or by email at dockmastersyc@hotmail.com. Can't wait to see you all!

As a reminder, if you are a student entering college in the fall, now is the time to get vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to the start of the fall semester. With the waiting time between doses for Moderna and Pfizer, plus 14 days to reach full immunity, July is just about the deadline for getting the COVID-19 vaccine checked off your pre-college to do list. The good news is the Ossining Volunteer Ambulance Corps makes it extremely easy to get vaccinated. Tomorrow, Wednesday, July 14, Thursday, July 15, and Friday, July 16, vaccines will be available at OVAC Headquarters at 8 Clinton Avenue from 12noon to 6pm. Walk-ins are accepted for all of these dates, but you can make an appointment in advance by visiting the OVAC Facebook page. If you have questions about the vaccine, OVAC EMTs are happy to answer your questions if you e-mail COVIDtest@ossiningvac.org.

For younger students, there are several other vaccines required for a child to enter school. The Westchester County Department of Health is offering Back-to-School immunizations every Friday at their 134 Court Street clinic in White Plains. Appointments are available from 10am to 1pm Fridays through August 27. Call (914) 995-5800 to find out if you qualify and make an appointment.

I know I just threw a lot of dates and events at you, and believe me there is so much more going on in our community beyond what I share in my announcements and updates. Make sure you don't miss any Ossining events by

signing up for Community Calendar updates from Burbio.com. Visit the Town of Ossining website, www.townofossining.com, visit the “Community Calendar” page to see more events going on and sign up for weekly e-mail updates. They pull from multiple calendars throughout the community and county so you can really get a good sense of what is going on.

III. LIAISON REPORTS

IV. WORK SESSION

- Proposed Commercial Property Tax Incentive, Village of Briarcliff – Mayor Steve Vescio and Trustee Peter Chatzky
- Proposed Ryder Park Trail Connection and Partnership with NY/NJ Trail Conference – Mitzi Elkes and David Margulis, Environmental Advisory Committee
- Discussion – Temporary Outdoor Dining Permits

V. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

VI. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

A. Approval of Minutes—Regular Meeting – June 21, 2021

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 approves the June 21, 2021 minutes of the Regular Meeting as presented.

**Motion: Carried
Abstain: Wilcher**

B. Approval of Minutes—Special Meeting – July 6, 2021

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 approves the July 6, 2021 minutes of the Special Meeting as presented.

Motion: Carried

C. Approval of Voucher Detail Report

Councilmember Feldman 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 approves the Voucher Detail Report dated July 13, 2021 in the amount of \$1,050,980.19

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: We have quite a large voucher run this week, due in large part to the fact that there was a 5th Tuesday in June, so we have not paid vouchers in three weeks. Additionally, this voucher run includes our July IMA payments to the Village, August health insurance, and first payment on the McCarthy Drive Rehabilitation project. These are all big ticket items that add up, but certainly bring necessary, planned and budgeted services to our residents and employees.

Motion: Carried

D. Personnel – Resignation

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 accepts, with regret, the resignation of Carina Scorcia from the position of Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor, effective July 8, 2021.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: Last week, Carina Scorcia from my office informed us that she would be resigning effective July 8. We thank Carina for her service to the Town, she was often the one behind our creative Facebook posts and graphics, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

Motion: Carried

E. Contract – Legion Fireworks Co.

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

WHEREAS, the Town Board previously authorized the Supervisor to sign a contract with Interstate Fireworks Inc. to provide a fireworks display to the Town on September 3, 2021 with a rain date of September 10, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor never signed the agreement with Interstate because Interstate would not agree to certain terms proposed by the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town subsequently entered into negotiations with Legion Fireworks Co. to provide the fireworks display on terms more favorable to the Town; and

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Legion Fireworks Co. to provide a fireworks display to the Town of Ossining on September 3, 2021 with a rain date of September 10, 2021 in the form provided by Counsel to the Town; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Supervisor is no longer authorized to enter into an agreement with Interstate Fireworks Inc. for said fireworks display.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: Unfortunately, we were unable to come to an agreement on a contract with our usual fireworks company, and will be working with a new company, Legion Fireworks for the September Fireworks show. Legion Fireworks is a bit more local to Ossining – they are based in Wappingers Falls – and they have put on excellent shows for some our neighbors like Dobbs Ferry so we are excited for a great show!

Motion: Carried

F. Ratification of Agreement – Employee #101017

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining ratifies the agreement between the Town and employee #101017 dated July 8, 2021.

Motion: Carried

G. Finance- Capital Project #2021-5231 – 2021 Community Center Kitchen-Town Nutrition

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 authorizes opening a 2021 Capital Project #2021-5231, entitled “2021 Community Center Kitchen” for the Town Nutrition Department, with a project budget of \$260,000 for design and renovation of the Community Center kitchen. The project will be funded from Federal CDBG grant funds and General Fund Balance.

Increase:	3706772.200.5231	\$260,000	- 2021 Community Center-Nutrition (Expense)
Increase:	3700600.573100.5231	\$130,000	- Transfer from General Fund (Revenue)
Increase:	3700400.498900.5231	\$130,000	- Federal Grant (Revenue)
Increase:	1009902.901000.90	\$130,000	- Transfer to Capital Fund (Expense)
Increase:	1000600.479500.00	\$130,000	- General Fund Balance (Revenue)

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: The Town received grant funds from CDBG last year for a renovation of the Senior Center kitchen. We just signed the contract with the architect on the project, and now need to put the financial mechanics in place with a capital project account so we can adequately account for the expenses.

Motion: Carried

H. Resolution of Support and Affirming Partnership – Local Government Efficiency Program Grant

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

Whereas, the Village of Ossining has informed the Town of Ossining that the Village intends on submitting a grant application to the New York State Department of State’s Local Government Efficiency Program to request funding to study the consolidation of firehouses in the Ossining Fire Department; and

Whereas, the potential outcome of the study would provide for improved facilities for the community’s emergency responders, and would at the same time decrease long-term capital and operational costs for Ossining taxpayers; and

Whereas, via an inter-municipal agreement, a majority of the Unincorporated Town of Ossining receives fire protection from the Ossining Fire Department, so the Town and its taxpayers stands to benefit from the potential cost-savings and increased efficiencies that would be identified in the firehouse consolidation study; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining expresses its support of the Village of Ossining’s application to the Local Government Efficiency Program and affirms its intent to serve as a partner in the grant application, committing \$6,250 in matching funds from the Town towards the project; and be it further

Resolved, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to sign a letter of support for the Village of Ossining's grant application and execute any necessary documents to satisfy the grant program requirements.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: The Village of Ossining requested that the Town sign on as a partner for a grant application to study the potential consolidation of firehouses in the Ossining Fire Department. It is our understanding that this study will hopefully lead to improved facilities for our dedicated volunteer first responders in addition to savings for both the Town and the Village. Most of our current firehouses are historic buildings and were certainly not built to support the modern needs of today's firefighters and apparatus. We recognize it is so important to invest in our top rate fire department, support their needs in the long term, and we believe this study is a first step to accomplishing those goals. Thank you to the Village and Fire Chiefs for identifying this important project to be completed... happy to support!

Motion: Carried

VII. MONTHLY REPORTS

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 accepts the following monthly reports for the month of June 2021:

- Tax Receiver
- Town Clerk
- Dale Cemetery
- Town Highway Department
- Town Supervisor

Motion: Carried

VIII. VISITOR RECOGNITION

Visitors shall be accorded one (1) four (4) minute opportunity to speak

IX. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:17 P.M., Councilmember Shaw motioned to adjourn to Executive Session for advice of counsel, personnel, collective bargaining, and contracts and Councilmember Feldman seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

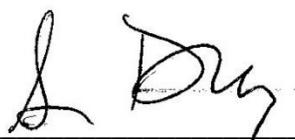
At 10:13 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to leave Executive Session and Councilmember Wilcher seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

At 10:13 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn the Regular Meeting and Councilmember Shaw seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Approved:



Susanne Donnelly, Town Clerk