

MINUTES
TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OSSINING
HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING ONLY

OCTOBER 12, 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 October 12, 2021 via video conference, pursuant to Chapter 417 of the Laws of 2021 signed into law on September 2, 2021 by Governor Hochul. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Supervisor Dana A. Levenberg. Members of the Board present were: Councilmembers Elizabeth R. Feldman, Jackie G. Shaw, 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:

I hope everyone had a nice three-day weekend, my weekend started with a very touching event as we gathered to remember former Town Councilman Geoff Harter with a field dedication in his memory at Ryder Park. It was great to hear from Ossining elected officials who served Geoff during his many years on the Town Board, including former Town Supervisors Richard Wishnie, Catherine Borgia, and Sue Donnelly, Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, and former Village of Ossining Mayor Victoria Gearity, speaking on behalf of her new boss Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick. Thank you also to my Town Board colleagues who joined us on Saturday morning. We also know Ossining Recreation programs and youth sports were very important to Geoff, as he served as Town Board liaison to the Recreation Advisory Board for many years, so it was extra meaningful to be able to dedicate a field at one of our Town Parks in Geoff's memory. Thank you to Geoff's wife, Suzie, daughter Kim Cowan and her family Brooks, Drew, and Molly Cowan, Ossining JCYS, and especially team 12U, and Mike and Miriam Risko for joining us on Saturday to remember Geoff and enjoy a good ol' game of Ossining youth baseball. Next time you are at Ryder Park, please check out the newly dedicated Geoff Harter field.

This beautiful fall weather has been a great setting for lots of outdoor events these past few weekends, and this coming weekend is no exception.

On Friday, October 15, Ossining Recreation is hosting a Kids' Night Out at the Joseph G. Caputo Community Center from 6pm to 8:45pm. There will be fun and food for all kids from kindergarten to 6th grade! Advanced registration is required with a fee of \$12 for one child and \$10 per each additional sibling. Visit www.villageofossining.org to learn more and register on Community Pass.

Ossining MATTERS is hosting a Movie by Moonlight fundraiser on Saturday, October 16, with the movie "Ferdinand" starting at 7pm. Get there early when the gates open at 5:40pm to enjoy dinner and a show from GRAZIella Food

Truck and Horseman Deli Food Truck with the Mike Risko Band performing a pre-show. There will also be snack bags available for purchase. Space is limited, so grab your tickets now at www.ossiningmatters.org.

On Sunday, October 17 from 2pm to 4pm, join the Ossining Historic Cemeteries Conservancy for their Jazz Picnic and fundraiser at Dale Cemetery. Help them help us keep our cemeteries the envy of all municipal cemeteries (and even some private ones!). For more information, visit www.ossininghistoriccemeteries.org.

COVID Booster Shots are available for recipients of the Pfizer vaccine who completed their initial series at least 6 months ago, and are either 65 years and older, 18 years and older with underlying medical conditions, or 18 years and older who work or live in high-risk settings like hospitals or nursing homes. If you are eligible, please get your booster now as it will help protect you further from getting COVID-19, and therefore protect others as well. Also remember now is the time to get your flu shot! Flu shots are available at most local pharmacies and healthcare providers. The Town will be providing flu shots to its employees free of charge – we can all do our part to keep our workplaces and community safe from the flu and COVID-19.

We are continuing to look for feedback on the Town’s new Comprehensive Plan entitled Sustainable Ossining. The Comprehensive Plan is organized into specific themes with draft goals, objectives, and strategies. We are interested in understanding you, our public’s, planning priorities. Please visit the project website at www.sustainableossining.com to complete a survey that shares themes, goals and draft objectives, take a moment to read each objective, then prioritize those that you would like to see the Town focus on in the near term. We look forward to sharing the full draft of the Plan with the public in the near future.

Believe it or not, but November is right around the corner and please do not forget to make your plan to vote on Election Day which is November 2. Monday, October 18 is the deadline to postmark an absentee ballot, and November 1 is the last day to request one in person. Early voting will be from October 23 through October 31, and once again the closest early voting polling location for Ossining and Briarcliff residents is the Joseph G. Caputo Community Center. However, all Westchester County residents can vote at any early voting location, so be sure to check out the full list on the County Board of Election site – citizenparticipation.westchestergov.com – in case there is a location that may be more convenient to your workplace, school, or any other part of your daily routine. Although there are no national elections on the ballot this year, it is just as, if not more, important to remain engaged in local elections as most decisions made on the local level are more likely to impact your day to day lives in your community. Please make a plan now to vote!

III. LIAISON REPORTS

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

V. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

A. Approval of Minutes—Regular Meeting – September 28, 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 September 28, 2021 minutes of the Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion: Carried

B. Approval of Minutes—Special Meeting – October 5, 2021

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 October 5, 2021 minutes of the Special Meeting as presented.

Motion: Carried

C. Approval of Voucher Detail Report

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 Voucher Detail Report dated October 12, 2021 in the amount of \$794,607.21

Motion: Carried

D. Westchester Municipal Planning Federation Event

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 grants permission to the Westchester Municipal Planning Federation to serve wine and beer to attendees over the age of 21 at their event scheduled for Tuesday, October 19, 2021 from 4:30pm to 6:30pm at Dale Cemetery.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: We learned recently that the Westchester Municipal Planning Federation would be recognizing the Town of Ossining with a planning achievement award for the historic preservation of the Dale Cemetery cottage. They also wanted to feature the Dale Cemetery cottage with an event which will consist of a portion of the Historic Dale Cemetery walking tour and a presentation on our now award-winning project. They have also requested to serve some adult beverages for the attendees, which this resolution would grant.

Motion: Carried

E. Westchester County Urban County Consortium Contract Extension for Senior Center Kitchen Renovation

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 authorizes the Supervisor to sign an amendment to the contract between Westchester County and the Town of Ossining with regards to grant funding for the renovation of the senior center kitchen at the Joseph G. Caputo Community Center to extend the expiration date of the agreement from September 14, 2021 to February 25, 2022.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: As we presented at our Work Session last week, we received grant funding from the CDBG program to support the renovation of the Senior Nutrition Program kitchen. As we anticipate bidding and construction in the fall and early winter, we need to extend our contract for the grant funding through February.

Motion: Carried

F. Resignation – Court Attendant

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 accepts, with regret, the resignation of Franklin Jackson, Jr. from the position of Court Attendant, effective October 1, 2021.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: Yes, unfortunately the day has finally come! Franklin Jackson, Jr. retired from his “day job” with the Village of Ossining in June, but continued working for the Town while he and his family planned their move to North Carolina. Franklin and his family are now permanently relocating south, so he can no longer work for the Town as Court Attendant and Constable. Franklin has worked for the Ossining community for most of his adult life, and he will be sorely missed!

Motion: Carried

G. Resignation – Constable

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 Franklin Jackson, Jr. from the position of Constable, effective October 1, 2021.

Motion: Carried

VI. MONTHLY REPORTS

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

- GE Helicopter
- Town Building Department
- Dale Cemetery
- Town Highway
- Tax Receiver
- Town Clerk
- Town Supervisor

Motion: Carried

VII. VISITOR RECOGNITION

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

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:46 P.M., Councilmember Wilcher motioned to adjourn to Executive Session for advice of counsel, personnel, and contracts and Councilmember Feldman seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

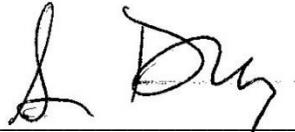
At 8:59 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to leave Executive Session and Councilmember Shaw seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

At 8:59 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn the Regular Meeting and Councilmember Shaw seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Approved:



Susanne Donnelly, Town Clerk