



**MINUTES**  
**TOWN BOARD**  
**TOWN OF OSSINING**  
**HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING ONLY**

**JANUARY 18, 2022**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**7:30 P.M.**

**SUPERVISOR**  
**Dana A. Levenberg**

**COUNCILMEMBERS**  
**Elizabeth R. Feldman      Gabrielle Hamilton**  
**Angelo A. Manicchio      Gregory G. Meyer**

**I. CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-ROLL CALL**

The Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ossining was held on January 18, 2022 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, Gregory G. Meyer, and Angelo A. Manicchio. Also present were Town Counsel Christie Tomm-Addona and Budget Officer Victoria Cafarelli.

Councilmember Gabrielle Hamilton was absent.

A moment of silence was held for in memory of Reginald Lafayette, Westchester County Commissioner of the Board of Elections and immediate past chairman of the Westchester County Democratic Committee who passed away unexpectedly on Saturday morning.

**II. SUPERVISOR AND TOWN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Levenberg announced the following:

I hope everyone had a restful long weekend and you took the opportunity yesterday to reflect on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy on this holiday acknowledging his birthday. MLK Day is a day of service, and although it is a little challenging in the COVID-19 environment to lend a helping hand, I hope you will find time in your schedule to do so whenever possible. Dr. King's profound messages on equity, justice, and peace should inspire us each and every day, not just one day a year. The Briarcliff-Ossining Ministerial Association held its celebration via a virtual platform this year, so the good news is you can still watch, even if you missed Sunday night's live stream. The video recording is available on the Star of Bethlehem Baptist Church YouTube channel and Facebook page. This year, I was especially inspired by the oft-repeated quote, paraphrasing Dr. King, which reminds us that the moral arc of the universe is long but it bends towards justice. We can all take responsibility in our own lives for helping it bend that way, a laudable goal for 2022.

We are still very much dealing with a COVID-19 surge in our community, but thankfully, the data seems to be indicating that cases have peaked from the latest wave and are now going down. There are currently 2,274 active cases in the Town of Ossining, including both Villages – down by about 200 cases from last week -- and there are currently 47,069 active cases in Westchester County – also down by about 3,000 cases from last week. It is definitely great to see the curve heading down, but we continue to encourage everyone to step up and take as many precautions as they can to reduce the spread of this virus. Please be sure to get tested if you are not feeling well – the federal government is providing free

at home tests to every home in the US and the link is up today, one day early, so you can order yours at [www.covidtests.gov](http://www.covidtests.gov). Masks and vaccines continue to be our best protection against serious illness; though breakthrough infections are happening, they almost always produce less serious symptoms than infections among the unvaccinated. Please get vaccinated, get boosted, and please get your children vaccinated if eligible. Vaccines and boosters are available at the Ossining Volunteer Ambulance Corps – visit their website [www.ossiningvac.org/covid19](http://www.ossiningvac.org/covid19) for more information, as well as many other local pharmacies. We continue to ask you, if possible to consider donating to OVAC, and extremely worthy cause! Their operating costs have increased significantly due to all of the extra services they have been providing our community in the midst of the pandemic. The link to their webpage where they have a donate button is [www.ossiningvac.org](http://www.ossiningvac.org).

New York State’s eviction moratorium expired on January 15. Nevertheless, help continues to be available for those who need it. We do not want to see anyone find themselves unable to put a roof over their head, especially during the winter and with the economic impacts of the pandemic still felt by so, so many. Westchester County has resources for people struggling with rent – all you need to do is dial 211 to learn more. You can also contact Legal Services of the Hudson Valley at 877-574-8529, Hudson Valley Justice Center at 914-308-3490, or Westchester County Department of Social Services at 914-995-3333. There is also help for homeowners who may be behind on their mortgage payments due to causes related to the pandemic via the New York State Homeowners Assistance Fund. Applications opened on January 3 and are available at [www.nyhomeownerfund.org](http://www.nyhomeownerfund.org) or by calling 1-844-776-9423. We have been posting information about these essential resources on our social media channels and Town website, but certainly call my office if you have any questions or are seeking any additional information, we will do our best to help.

### III. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

#### A. Contract – Tyler Technologies

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Manicchio that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of Town of Ossining authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc. for appraisal services related to a residential and commercial update for the 2022 assessment roll, at an amount not to exceed \$20,000.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: Supervisor Levenberg said the following: This is a leftover item from our re-organizational meeting last week – on an annual basis we renew our contract with Tyler Technologies for the update to our assessment roll. This year is a regular year – not a Town-wide re-appraisal – and so we had budgeted this \$20,000 for their work.

Motion: Carried

#### B. Consulting Engineer (revised from 1/11/22 meeting)

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

Resolved, the Town Supervisor is authorized to continue the inter-municipal agreement with the Village of Ossining to provide engineering services to the Town for the calendar year 2022, for a revised fee totaling \$102,722.95 (\$8,560.25 per month).

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: Another leftover from our re-organizational meeting, we have a resolution tonight to amend the resolution

we adopted last week to continue an inter-municipal agreement with the Village for Consulting Engineer services. This resolution reflects an increase of \$2,186 from 2021, which corresponds to a 4% increase in compensation for the Village staff assigned to this work on behalf of the Town. This aligns with the salary increase afforded to all other management positions in the Town for 2022 which were frozen in 2021, so it seemed fair to apply the same increase to these important members of the Town team. This increase was brought to our attention too late for last week's meeting, but thanks to our wonderful Comptroller Dale Brennan, we have the revised figures for this week's meeting.

Motion: Carried

**C. Personnel – Resignation**

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby accepts, with regret, the resignation of Town Councilwoman Gabrielle Hamilton, effective January 14, 2022.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: It is with great regret that we accept the resignation of Town Councilwoman Gabrielle Hamilton, who was recently sworn in to the Town Board for her first term. As Gaby shared during the inauguration, she has been fighting brain cancer since her diagnosis in July, and unfortunately, the treatments that will hopefully help her heal are making it challenging for her to participate fully as a Town Board member at this time. We wish her well, and send her all of our healing thoughts and prayers! Later in tonight's meeting, we will discuss as a Board how we want to move forward to approach this unexpected vacancy.

Motion: Carried

**IV. ADJOURNMENT – WORK SESSION**

At 7:44 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn the Special Meeting to Work Session and Councilmember Meyer seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

At 8:39 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn to Executive Session for advice of counsel and personnel, and Councilmember Meyer seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

At 9:54 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn the Executive Session and Councilmember Meyer seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Approved:



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Dwy", is written over a horizontal line.