

MINUTES
TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OSSINING
HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING ONLY

MAY 17, 2022
SPECIAL MEETING
7:30 P.M.

SUPERVISOR
Dana A. Levenberg

COUNCILMEMBERS
Elizabeth R. Feldman Gregory G. Meyer
Angelo A. Manicchio Jennifer Fields-Tawil

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

The Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ossining was held on May 17, 2022 via video conference, pursuant to Chapter 417 of the Laws of 2021 signed into law on September 2, 2021 by Governor Hochul and Executive Order 11.6. 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, Angelo A. Manicchio, and Jennifer Fields-Tawil. Also present were Town Counsel Christie Tomm-Addona and Budget Officer Victoria Cafarelli.

A moment of silence was held in memory of the victims of the mass shooting that occurred in Buffalo on Saturday.

II. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

A. Contract – Henningson, Durham & Richardson Architecture and Engineering, P.C.

Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Fields-Tawil that the following resolution be approved.

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Henningson, Durham & Richardson Architecture and Engineering, P.C., 500 7th Avenue, New York, NY 10018 for the development of concept plans for the Louis Engel Park Stage Improvements, for a fee not to exceed \$14,480, subject to approval by Counsel to the Town as to form.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: As we have discussed before, the Town has submitted a request under the Village's DRI award for a new stage at Louis Engel Park. In order to finalize our request, we need concept plans to illustrate the Town's vision, and we have asked HDR, the firm that is also working on the Climate-adaptive Design Studio Phase 2, to work on these concept plans. The Village is soliciting comments on proposed projects now – please visit their website www.villageofossining.org to throw your comments in!

Motion: Carried

III. SUPERVISOR AND TOWN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Levenberg announced the following:

A moment of silence was held in memory of the victims of the mass shooting that occurred in Buffalo on Saturday – Aaron Salter, Jr., Celestine Chaney, Roberta A. Drury, Andre Mackniel, Katherine Massey, Margus D. Morrison, Heyward Patterson, Geraldine Talley, Ruth Whitfield, and Pearl Young.

This tragedy brings to light the ugly truth many of us have known for far too long that white supremacy continues to plague our country, and is the primary risk to our safety, security, and well-being across all corners of the United States. We must, at all levels of government, wholeheartedly reject racism and hate in all its forms and prioritize diversity, equity, and inclusion education in schools and communities. We also need to enact common sense gun reform at a federal level and strengthen existing laws here in New York State. Let us not allow this tragedy to pass us by, instead take meaningful action to ensure these acts of violence are prevented nation-wide.

First of all, if you are watching us live and haven't voted in the Ossining School and Library Board and Budget votes, I give you permission to leave Zoom, and run on over to Ossining High School before 9pm to cast your ballot! It is so important to make sure your voice is heard as part of this critical decision making process for our community.

It is National EMS week! This week – and every week – we are so grateful to our incredible Ossining Volunteer Ambulance Corps for the work they do to keep our community healthy and safe. Last Friday, we had the opportunity to recognize OVAC at the COVID-19 Remembrance Memorial at Nelson Sitting Park. OVAC went above and beyond the call of duty throughout the pandemic with disinfecting, testing, vaccinations, and just their day to day work putting their own health at risk to save lives during very uncertain times. Thank you Captain Nick Franzoso and your entire crew for being the best EMS professionals in the biz – not that we're biased or anything!

Speaking of COVID, case numbers are ticking up here in Westchester County and nation-wide. Please remember to test and isolate if you are not feeling well, are exposed, or test positive. Wear your masks when you're in public, indoor settings, and if you haven't done so already (Really? Why haven't you?) get vaccinated and boosted. We will hopefully be out of the woods eventually.

At last week's Town Board meeting, we adopted a resolution in support of the NYS Climate Action Council Scoping Plan. Sustainable Westchester is holding a lunch and learn webinar tomorrow, Wednesday, May 18 at 12pm on Zoom on the New York State Climate Act: Understanding the Climate Action Council Scoping Plan. Register now at www.sustainablewestchester.org.

This Saturday, May 21, the Ossining Historic Cemeteries Conservancy will be holding a gravestone cleaning workshop from 9am to 12noon at Dale Cemetery. These events are fun opportunities to learn more about local history, and give back to the community. Learn more at www.ossininghistoriccemeteries.org.

Bethany Arts Community has a few interesting events scheduled this weekend, starting on Friday, May 20 at 8pm with Samantha Figgins: Works & Process Showing, which incorporates American Sign Language and gestured movements into the performances to illustrate movement as a vehicle for communication. What a beautiful sentiment. Then, on Saturday, May 21 starting at 10am, BAC will hold its Wood Festival 2022 with crafts, activities, vendors and more. Wrap up your weekend at Bethany with a performance by the New Rising Sun dance project, entitled "An Imperial Message," a multi-discipline live arts presentation on Saturday, May 21 at 2pm. Register for all of these events at www.bethanyarts.org.

On Saturday, May 21, Ossining MATTERS will be back with Movie by Moonlight at Brookside School featuring "Ferdinand." Gates will open at 6pm for a pre-show by Mike Risko Band and to get a head start on some yummy eats

from Croton Tapsmith Pizza Oven and Bazodee Food Truck. The movie will start at sunset, and Sunday, May 22 is the raindate. Get your tickets now at www.ossiningmatters.org/om-events.

Mike Risko Music will be putting on a production of the Lion King – kids edition – at the Briarcliff Manor Pavilion at Law Memorial Park on Sunday, May 22 at 1pm or 3pm. Tickets are free, but reservations are required, e-mail performances@riskomusic.com to reserve your spot.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:43 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn to Work Session and Councilmember Meyer seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

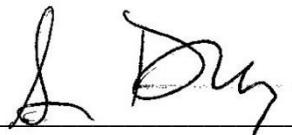
At 8:58 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn to Executive Session for advice of counsel and contracts, and Councilmember Meyer seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

At 9:34 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn the Executive Session and Councilmember Meyer seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Approved:



Susanne Donnelly, Town Clerk