

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

JANUARY 24, 2023
REGULAR MEETING
7:30 P.M.

SUPERVISOR
Elizabeth R. Feldman

COUNCILMEMBERS
Gregory G. Meyer
Angelo A. Manicchio **Jennifer Fields-Tawil**

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

The Regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ossining was held on January 24, 2023 at the Municipal Building, 16 Croton Ave, Ossining, NY 10562 AND via video conference. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Supervisor Elizabeth R. Feldman. Members of the Board present were: Councilmembers Gregory G. Meyer, Angelo A. Manicchio, Jennifer Fields-Tawil, also present were Town Counsel Christie Tomm-Addona, Budget Officer Martha C. Quituisaca, and Town Clerk Sussanne Donnelly.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

- **Public Hearing in the matter of Terra Rustica Cabaret License**

At 7:32 PM, the Public Hearing opened.

Supervisor Feldman announced the following: A couple of residents have contacted our office requesting for doors to be closed at the establishment when amplified music is played.

At 7:34 PM, Councilmember Meyer moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Manicchio to close the public hearing.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

- **Parks Foreman Mario Velardo**

Since the last update in November

- The rest of Nov & Dec we did our final fall cleanup we no longer pick up leaves – we mulch and blow
- Winterized all the bathrooms, spray park and sprinklers
- We had AED boxes installed at Ryder Park and Art Center
- Installed a new dog waste receptacle at Sally Swope Park
- Cleaned and organized the shop – which we don't get much time to do in the busier months unless it rains
- Detailed the inside of our trucks
- Power washed and detailed inside of excavator
- We had one storm on Dec 24 we to come in and salt. We also cleaned up the drift wood that washed up at the waterfront.

- During the past three weeks we worked on finishing up the cemetery cottage upstairs office
- Last winter we installed headers to make the closet bigger to fit the 3 fire proof file cabinets so they didn't take up as much room in the office.
- The work that was left was to sheetrock that space, spackle, put trim back paint, and install carpet tiles
- Electrician did their work
- In the kitchen we installed some cabinets a microwave and sink and painted the kitchen.
- This week we took all of our tools out and moved the office upstairs from downstairs
- The computer was supposed to be done this week.
- We tested the pump station behind the arts center
- We put plows on our trucks today.

The rest of this month and February will be spent servicing our equipment, doing some work on our landscaping trailer

- Depending on the weather we will be milling wood for the garden at Cedar Lane
- We have made new Compost bins and new boards for the garden beds
- Start getting orders ready for spring – materials for ballfields, bathroom supplies and wood fiber for playgrounds
- Make new benches for Sally Swope Park
- Depending on the weather the first spring project will be to get Finch and Harter fields ready, there is a lot of work to be done building up the dugout areas, grating dirt and planting grass.
- We have to pick up logs from Ryder from the tree grant work that is being done

IV. SUPERVISOR AND TOWN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Supervisor Feldman announced the following:
 - I would like to wish everyone who is celebrating the Lunar New Year, a healthy, happy, and prospers New Year. It is the Chinese year of the rabbit, which is supposed to bring peace and good luck, let's hope that works for everyone!
 - We will not be having a meeting a meeting next week as it is a fifth Tuesday so here are some reminders for upcoming events. For a more complete list please visit our Supervisor's update at the end of the week. On Friday January 27th, there will be a book signing at the Hudson Valley Books for Community at Central Ave by local author Lauri Nemetz. Her newest book is titled *The Myofascial System in Form and Movement*. Come and get your copy signed!
 - Starting January 28th through March 3rd, at Bethany Arts Community there will a Black History month exhibit curated by Ossining Village Historian Joyce Sharrock Cole. This amazing event is free to experience but curated tours are also available. Please see the Bethany Arts Community website at www.bethanyarts.com for more information on this and other Black History month events happening at the Bethany Arts Community.
 - Don't forget about Tea Town's Eagle Fest event on February 4th at Croton Point Park. The program includes thrilling live bird shows spotlighting birds of prey, bird walks where you can view eagles through spotting scopes, heated tents filled with educational displays and exhibits, crafts and games for children, food trucks, and more! To purchase tickets and find more information about the event please visit www.teatown.org. The snow date for the event is Sunday, February 5.
 - Saturday February 4th at 7:30 PM, International Orange will be performing at Jazz at the Lodge at the Elks Club on Croton Ave.

- Ossining’s First Fridays Community Crawl event will on February 3rd. Look for many live events and restaurant specials throughout the community on that date.
- Troop 49’s Annual Pasta Dinner will be on February 4th at St. Augustine School. Bring your family and friends to enjoy a delicious pasta dinner and help support our local scouting program.
- On Thursday February 2nd at the Ossining Public Library the Ossining Parents Advocating Collectively for our Children will be presenting Equity 101: Improving outcomes for our Children. Come and learn new skills and tools to advocate for your child’s educational needs and wellbeing. Go online at www.tinyurl.com/56e34tku
- There will be a Queeraoke and Open Mic night at Sing Sing Kill Brewery on Thursday February 2nd at 7 PM.
- Lastly, the Westchester County Youth Bureau is looking to develop programs for youth ages 12 to 21. The survey can be found in both English and Spanish at youth.westchester.gov.com

V. LIAISON REPORTS

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

VII. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

A. Approval of Minutes — Reorganizational Meeting – January 10, 2023

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby approves the January 10, 2023 minutes of the Reorganizational Meeting as presented.

Motion: Carried

B. Approval of Voucher Detail Report

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby approves the Voucher Detail Report dated January 24, 2023 in the amount of \$325,260.12.

Motion: Carried

C. Appointment - Town Councilmember

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

Be It Resolved; the Town Board hereby appoints Matthew Weiss to fill the unexpired term of Town Board member Elizabeth Feldman until December 31, 2023; with the seat to be filled at the next general election in November 2023.

Supervisor Feldman announced the following: The town board would like to thank the many talented and community minded people who applied for the vacant town council member position after deep deliberation we have landed on the candidate that we think best completes the town board as it is. After many years on the library board, we would like to welcome Mathew Weiss to join us on our board.

Motion: Carried

D. Appointment - Town Clerk's Office - Intermediate Clerk

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining appoints Kevin Guiracocha, Briarcliff Manor, to the part-time position of Intermediate Clerk in the Town Clerk's Office, 17.5 hours per week, \$16 per hour, effective January 17, 2023.

Motion: Carried

E. Appointment - Town Supervisor's Office - Confidential Secretary

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining appoints Eileen Tacuri, Ossining, to the part-time position of Confidential Secretary in the Town Supervisor's Office, 17.5 hours per week, \$23 per hour, effective January 24, 2023.

Supervisor Feldman announced the following: We are super excited to have found the perfect addition to our supervisor's office team Eileen comes highly recommended and we are very much looking forward to working with her!

Motion: Carried

F. Appointment – Environmental Advisory Board

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining re-appoints the following members to a 5 year term expiring December 31, 2027 in the Environmental Advisory Board:

- James Nolan
- John Ladd
- Mitzi Elkes

Supervisor Feldman announced the following: We are very grateful that these long time members of our environmental advisory board are willing to continue protecting the environment and water ways in Ossining and have all agreed to be appointed for another term

Motion: Carried

G. Appointment – Town Zoning Board

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining re-appoints the following members to a 5 year term expiring December 31, 2027 in the Town Zoning Board:

- David Krieger
- David O'Neil
- Lynn Farrell

Supervisor Feldman announced the following: We are also excited that these members of our planning board are willing to continue making a difference

in Ossining through their service on our zoning board. Thank you all for your commitment and dedication to our community.

Motion: Carried

H. Calling for a Public Hearing in the matter of a local law to implement a real property tax exemption for volunteer emergency service members

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 hereby calls for a Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in the First Floor Boardroom at the Ossining Municipal Building, 16 Croton Avenue, Ossining, NY 10562 and via Zoom videoconferencing (which information will be available at www.townofossining.com), in the matter of a local law to implement a real property tax exemption for volunteer emergency service members.

Supervisor Feldman announced the following: As many of you know the state has made it possible for municipalities to enact a real property tax exemption for our volunteer emergency service members like our amazing Ossining fire department and Ossining volunteer ambulance corp. members.

Motion: Carried

I. Contract – Hothouse Designs, INC.

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Hothouse Designs, INC, 2 Ellis PL, Ossining, NY, 10562, for the 2023 RiverJam Concert Series Design.

Motion: Carried

J. Contract – Millennium Strategies LLC

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Millennium Strategies LLC, 25 Smith ST, Suite 401, Nanuet, NY 10954, for grant consulting services.

Motion: Carried

K. Resolution – Declaration of Restrictive Covenants – Chocolate Sky LLC

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

WHEREAS, as a condition of the subdivision approval granted by the Planning Board and as required by the Town of Ossining Zoning Code, Article VI, Chocolate Sky LLC is required to enter into a declaration of restrictive covenants with the Town to ensure there is one below-market-rate unit, as that term is defined and regulated by the Zoning Code, as part of the subdivision; and

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to execute a Declaration of Restrictive Covenants with Chocolate Sky LLC; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Supervisor is authorized to sign all documents reasonably necessary for the Declaration to be recorded with the County Clerk.

Motion: Carried

VIII. MONTHLY REPORTS

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby accepts the following monthly reports for the month of December 2022:

- **Highway Department**
- **Dale Cemetery**

Motion: Carried

IX. CORRESPONDENCE TO BE RECEIVED AND FILED

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby accepts the following correspondence:

X. VISITOR RECOGNITION

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

XI. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:05 P.M., Councilmember Meyer motioned to adjourn to Executive Session for advice of counsel, personnel, and contracts and Councilmember Manicchio seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

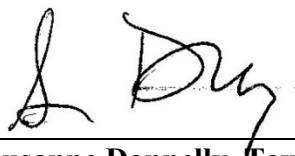
At 9:06 P.M., Councilmember Meyer motioned to leave Executive Session and Councilmember Manicchio seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

At 9:06 P.M., Councilmember Meyer motioned to adjourn the Regular Meeting and Councilmember Manicchio seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Approved:



Susanne Donnelly, Town Clerk