

Town of Ossining Board Regular Meeting

June 9, 2020

Meeting Transcript

Video Recording of Meeting: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qrmKpp4J_Us

In Attendance: Supervisor Dana Levenberg, Councilmember Liz Feldman, Councilmember Jackie G. Shaw, Councilmember Northern Wilcher, Jr, Councilmember Gregory Meyer, Municipal Attorney Christie Addona, Budget Officer Victoria Cafarelli, Deputy Clerk Martha Quituisaca, Receiver Of Taxes Holly Perlowitz

1 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Welcome everybody, good evening.
2 Please - welcome to the Town Board of the Town of Ossining regular
3 meeting for Tuesday, June 9 2020 please rise and join me for the Pledge of
4 Allegiance.

5 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** With our virtual flag.

6 **ALL:** I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to
7 the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with
8 liberty and justice for all.

9 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** And per the Governor, our flag
10 remains at half-staff to recognize all we have lost to the Coronavirus. Okay,
11 so I am going to wait for the roll call first.

12 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Okay. Councilmember
13 Feldman?

14 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** Present.

15 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Councilmember Shaw?

16 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** Present.

17 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Councilmember Meyer.

18 **COUNCILMEMBER GREG MEYER:** Present.

19 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Councilmember Wilcher?

20 **COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN WILCHER:** Present.

21 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Supervisor Levenberg?

22 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Me behind the... I don't know what...
23 all the sun rays that are coming through. I can't get rid of them sorry.

24 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** You sparkle.

25 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Okay, so we're going to start with
26 some announcements, I have a few. First of all, I wanted to share how
27 proud I am of the Ossining Community following several peaceful forums
28 and protest, which were organized by our local chapter in Ossining, our
29 current Ossining High School students, as well as recent high school
30 graduates. A few of our Town Board members and I were able to join these
31 gatherings and I was left so inspired by the members of our own
32 community young and old alike, who are truly dedicated to change. This is
33 certainly been a difficult time since the murder of George Floyd in
34 Minneapolis, but also a time of deep reflection and exploration of how we
35 can all do better to be anti-racist. Last Friday, we held a meeting with our
36 Community Equity Task Force to engage community members and
37 stakeholders on this important topic. This group started several months ago
38 in response to symbols of hate that had appeared in our own community
39 and offer to expand community education on how to combat hate and hate
40 symbols within our Ossining borders and beyond. We knew following the
41 renewed call for change, across the country, It now was an important time
42 to gather expand beyond our initial small group of stakeholders and
43 reassess our mission. The first step of course is to listen to one another
44 and understand the experiences of others. This group also discussed ways
45 that we can work to dismantle systemic racism within our own institutions,
46 educate the broader Ossining community about institutional racism,
47 advocate against racism, ally with those may be different from us and also
48 those who are the same of us - with us of many different ways, and also,
49 who are members of this effort towards unit - unity. We think Jalay Knowles
50 for those important goals and concepts, also April Clark, who newly moved
51 to Ossining shared the importance of acknowledging feelings, helping to
52 gain access for those underrepresented, and making our work inclusive
53 and visible. Finally, thanks to standing McAllister of the NAACP, for

54 reminding us how important it is to engage our community elders who can
55 share their first hand experiences and mentor, all of us to make sure we do
56 not repeat mistakes of the past. We thank the community members both
57 new and more seasoned, representatives from - from the Ossining school
58 district and public library, Ossining NAACP, recent Ossining high school
59 graduates, our Chief of Police, and more for joining us for this meeting.
60 This is just the beginning. And we look forward to sharing this mission out
61 with the entire community soon. If you're interested in getting involved,
62 please do not hesitate to contact me at dlevenberg@townofossining.com.
63 This evening the Village have - hosted a village hall to also address the
64 issues of racism, with some of our young leaders, including Jalay Knowles
65 and Catherine Boozang-Hill who are both Ossining high school graduates
66 and are also both teach - I think they were both teachers or teaching
67 assistants at Roosevelt School right now. And they also shared, I think it's
68 OssiningsVoice@gmail.com. I thought I'd written it down but I guess I
69 didn't. No, I think I did. But I'm going to find it find it. Yes, it's
70 OssiningsVoice@gmail.com to get involved with the youth led initiative and
71 Village also shared information about the Youth Bureau that will is going to
72 be coming to Ossining the first new youth bureau in the county and I think
73 they said 30 years and that's going to be another avenue through which we
74 can build new young leaders and work for change. So I'm excited to be part
75 of that, and I hope that all of our community will continue to work together
76 as we need to do to dismantle racism throughout all of our institutions and
77 wherever we have control and influence. And speaking of influence there's
78 also been a call across the state for the State Legislature to repeal 50A of
79 the Civil Rights Law Upstate New York, which restricts public access to
80 misconduct and disciplinary records of police officers. It's clear that
81 misconduct of police across the state has long been kept in the shadows
82 and out of the public eye. This is really, really bad light so, I'm sorry. Yeah,
83 that's better. Oh, that is better. Okay, let's try that and - and making these
84 records public will help ensure accountability for all police officers across
85 New York State, so later in this meeting, this evening, my Town Board
86 colleagues and I will be considering a resolution that will support the
87 current legislation on the table in Albany calling for the immediate repeal of
88 50A. I look forward to supporting this resolution and doing what I can to
89 advocate for change as a member of this local community and I hope my
90 Town Board colleagues will join me as well. This is probably very shaky. So

91 I'm going to see if I can do this in a better way. [UNCLEAR] Exactly. We'll
92 keep going in this direction.

93 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Okay, we're now officially in Phase
94 Two of the reopening of the mid-Hudson region, which includes
95 Westchester, Rockland, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan and Ulster
96 counties. And that is as of today, June 9 2020. Phase Two brings the
97 addition of the following industries allowed to reopen: offices, real estate,
98 essential, and also in store retail, vehicle sales, leases, and rentals, retail
99 rental repair - I'm sorry: retail, rental, repair, and cleaning, commercial
100 building management, hair salons, and barbershops. Not nail salons that
101 was removed it was supposed to be - it was in there, initially and then taken
102 out... Sorry, my nails are horrible. I'm sure yours are too - and outdoor and
103 takeout delivery food services. Please know that indoor malls, indoor on-
104 premises dining and bar service, large gathering and event venues, gyms
105 fitness centers and exercise classes, video lottery casino gaming facilities,
106 movie theaters, and places a public amusement remain closed at this time.
107 Businesses in these industries that are permitted to reopen in Phase Two
108 must develop a written business safety plan and read and affirm industry
109 specific guidelines prior to reopening. Essential businesses must also
110 develop a written business safety plan. The business safety plan does not
111 have to be submitted to a state agency for approval, but it must be posted
112 conspicuously on the premises of the business and made available to New
113 York State Department of Health, or local health or safety authorities upon
114 inspection. The businesses must also adhere to specific industry guidelines
115 established by the state. Industry specific guidance for Phase Two and
116 template safety plans which you still have to go through and make sure that
117 you have everything in them ready for your place of business are available
118 online@forward.nyc.gov. Phase three can also get a peek at specific
119 guidelines for their industries and begin planning. **[SUN GLARE ON**
120 **SCREEN]** Okay, I give up. Sorry. Sorry folks just really that bugs me. What
121 can I do? Okay... The Town of Ossining is developing a permit process by
122 which eating and drinking establishments in the Unincorporated Town can
123 temporarily expand their operations to include outdoor dining, in
124 accordance with Phase Two guidance. This process is currently under
125 review as it would require action by the Town that must be authorized by
126 the State Department of Health. If authorized by DOH, the Building

127 Department will be administrate this permit and if you want to learn more.
128 And if you have a business - we have, you know, a number of businesses
129 that this would pertain to on more State Road - please send an email with
130 the name and address of your business to bldgdept - like short for building
131 department - at townofossining.com.

132 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Governor Cuomo has continued to
133 be quite active with issuing executive orders over the weekend and earlier
134 this week. Some that impact our day to day lives more than others. Over
135 the weekend, he issued an Executive Order specific to the school board
136 and budget elections, which in our case in Ossining is also the library
137 board. Over the - as a reminder, there is no in-person voting allowed this
138 year instead all qualified voters should have received that directly in the
139 mail for the school district they are located within. I know, as of today, I'm I
140 heard that somebody did not receive that ballot. So you need to call the
141 school districts. And the reason is previously, all those ballots were due in
142 by today, but over the weekend, the governor extended the date that they
143 can be received by mail. So the school had actually set out a locked drop
144 box outside the building up 400 Executive - or inside the building at 400
145 Executive Boulevard - that was available for dropping off your ballot
146 yesterday and today by five o'clock today. If you didn't get it there by five
147 o'clock today, you can still get it in the mail and as long as it is received -
148 not postmarked but *received* - by June 16 at 5pm the school district is then
149 and only then authorized - and the library, well, the school district opens the
150 ballots for the library, but this is also true for Briarcliff - is then allowed to
151 open the ballots. So if you have not received a ballot, please reach out to
152 the district clerk in Ossining that's Ileana Ortiz to us at
153 iortiz@ossiningUFSD.org or the Briarcliff school district clerk at 914-432-
154 8130. This is the 11th hour at this point, but you still do have time to fill out
155 your ballots and put them in the mail and cross your fingers that the United
156 States Postal Service will get it there on time. We are also planning for a
157 mostly absentee ballot primary election on June 23 however in person early
158 voting and Election Day voting will be allowed for the June 23 primary and
159 that is all on this paper which I am going to tell you now. Basically it is June
160 - Saturday and Sunday June 13 and 14th, you will be able to vote from 12
161 to five. Monday, June 15 from eight to four. Tuesday, June 16 from 12 noon
162 to 8pm. Wednesday, June 17 at 8am to 4pm. Thursday, June 18th, 12 to

163 eight. Thursday, Friday, June 19 eight to four, and then Saturday and
164 Sunday, June 20 and 21st twelve to five. So there's lots of different times,
165 hard to remember, I agree.

166 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** The clerk's office in the town of
167 Ossining is going to have all this information and we will post it on our
168 website at TownofOssining.com as well. And 'where is everybody going to
169 vote' you ask, well that's going to be at the Ossining Community Center. So
170 I feel like I skipped something... I did. Um... I don't know where it went off
171 to... But... Okay... So, you will be able to vote at the Ossining Community
172 Center for - if you're in Ossining – Town of Ossining - any, any place in the
173 Town of Ossining, you can vote at the Ossining Community Center. And
174 that's 95 Broadway in Ossining. So voters will be able to enter through the
175 front door of the Community Center where there will be a greeter who will
176 ensure only people wearing a mask are allowed to enter you will be given
177 your own pants to use for voting to be disposed of after voting. I'm sure you
178 can keep your pen if you really want to, and you will then be directed to the
179 art room or voting will occur. Gloves and hand sanitizer will also be
180 available. You will then be asked to leave through the museum exit door to
181 create a one way in one way out path for voters. For voting on June 23rd,
182 registered voters who have not yet voted the absentee ballot will receive a
183 notice in the mail directing them to vote at one of two polling places that will
184 be open that day: the community center or Roosevelt Elementary school on
185 Croton Avenue. You will be required to go to your assigned polling place.
186 Voting will be open from 6am to 9pm as usual and similar protocols (that
187 one way in one way out) will be in place with a greeter as early - same as
188 early voting. Please note absentee ballots are still being processed and
189 mailed out to if you haven't received your absentee ballot in the mail yet do
190 not panic. If you submitted an application and have not yet received your
191 ballot, it will likely be on its way shortly. You - if you choose to vote
192 absentee or if you chose to your ballot must be postmarked by June 23 -
193 that's the ballot, not the application - the application I actually don't have
194 the date for when it needed to be postmarked by... Victoria?

195 **BUDGET OFFICER VICTORIA CAFARELLI:** June 16.

196 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** June 16, which is coming up, but you
197 still have a chance to send in your absentee ballot application, which you

198 should have received in the mail - everybody in New York State should
199 have received one in mail. You can still fill out your application for an
200 absentee ballot and if you get it back - hopefully you'll get it back in time so
201 that you can vote by June 23 - have it postmarked by then and have it on
202 its way back. You may also have seen that Governor Cuomo issued an
203 Executive Order over the weekend relating to municipal operations since
204 March 16 all non-essential Town Staff have primarily been working
205 remotely or taking turns, so very few people in our offices. However, as I
206 hope you have all experienced, all of our offices with the exception of the
207 Justice Court, have remained fully operational. We're just starting to get
208 information today about how our Justice Court is going to come back online
209 soon. So we've been able to process paperwork answer phones, mail has
210 been received and been sent from our offices. According to an executive
211 order issued this weekend Municipal Operations may resume at full staff as
212 of Tuesday, June 29 as long as all of the Phases happen according to plan
213 and we don't have to take any steps back because we need to wait two
214 weeks after we have been in phase... Well after we've been in...

215 **MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY CHRISTIE ADDONA:** The 23rd. After June 23.

216 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Right, no I have June 23rd but it says
217 two weeks after we've been Phase Two for two weeks. No after we've been
218 in Phase Two for two weeks. Got it.

219 **MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY CHRISTIE ADDONA:** After - two weeks after
220 Phase 2 starts. So essentially, in theory, we would get to Phase Three if we
221 continue on this path.

222 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Correct.

223 **MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY CHRISTIE ADDONA:** But it doesn't say "Phase
224 Three" it said two weeks after Phase Two.

225 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Right. So again, presuming that
226 everything is okay and we don't go backwards and our numbers don't start
227 to rise, which so far, they've been looking very good. So we're closely
228 evaluating how best to increase our in person workforce in accordance with
229 this change in policy always looking to balance the safety of our employees
230 with the needs of our constituents. As reminder offices remain closed to the
231 public and will likely remain so for the next several weeks, but there are

232 opportunities to make appointments, if we need to, we will come meet you
233 outside. We've been doing - excuse me - a lot of things to meet people
234 where they are at, if need be, but we have not invited people back into the
235 office yet. However, I did see some excellent work, thanks to the Village of
236 Ossining Public Works Department and their - and also, our - their Human
237 Resources, they've already started suiting up the building the Armory
238 Building so that when we are back up and running for the public there are
239 now plexiglass screens on all of the counters in the Building Department in
240 the Town and in the Village and in the DPW offices. So that's looking really
241 great and they're going to be moving to 16 Croton next, and really doing
242 their best to outfit, the first floor. And we're going to do um - also be
243 focusing on keeping as much business as possible on the first floor.
244 Instead of having people travel throughout the building until we really know
245 that we have a handle on this virus, and I'm going to say until there's a
246 vaccine in place, because I can't imagine why else we would change our
247 routines before that, but we will see. One more note on reopening, the
248 Town has partnered with the Greater Ossining Chamber of Commerce to
249 create an Economic Recovery Task Force specifically for the North State
250 Road businesses and other businesses located in the Unincorporated
251 Town. We would like to invite all business owners in our neck of the woods,
252 please consider joining this important discussion. There's a link to a short
253 Google form on our website if you're interested in joining. Or you can just
254 shoot me an email at dlevenberg@townofosining.com and I will gladly and
255 point you in the right direction.

256 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Finally, you know what I'm going to
257 talk about everybody. I once again will remind you to please fill out your
258 2020 census because, just so you don't have to hear from me anymore
259 about this. Believe it or not, it was 89 days ago, March 12, that the first
260 Census 2020 materials started arriving in our homes. Pretty crazy. Since
261 then, right in the middle of the pandemic across the county, the response
262 rates have continued to inch up at a county-wide rate of 61.7% right now
263 and just 6.2% away from the total county-wide response rate of 2010. I
264 guess that's our goal. I think our goal was to surpass 2010, especially since
265 we all have the time to do this. Here in Unincorporated Town of Ossining
266 we are at 63.1% and I think that leaves us about 6.5% away. It's either 6.2
267 or 6.5% away from where we left off, where we ended in 2010 which is

268 slightly better than the county, but about the same percentage away from
269 where we were in 2010. The Village of Ossining is 58.3% and they're also
270 in that six point a little bit away from their 2010 numbers and the Village of
271 Briarcliff is 76.6%. We can all do a lot better. So come on now people can –
272 fill out your census. Just answer me this - I'm praying that my entire board
273 is filled out their census. Can you please shake your head yes if your
274 census have been **[UNCLEAR]**. Thank goodness, I don't know, Northern I
275 didn't see your head shaking. Yes, I'm just like 'I don't know. Jesse did it'.
276 Holly Perlowitz, census done? Yeah, okay, Martha? Martha all your
277 census? Okay we – I - I'm not putting you on the spot. Everybody fill out
278 your census. If you haven't done it yet because like my family member
279 didn't - everybody needs to fill out the census. And if you didn't fill out your
280 census fill out your census. Please get your friends and family to fill out the
281 census everybody. Okay, I think I've said enough of that. Field operations
282 for the 2020 census have started to resume, which means that we're going
283 to start seeing people coming, door to door in August if you haven't filled
284 out your census. So if you don't want strangers knocking at your door - and
285 who does, nobody – please fill out your census, then you won't have them
286 come to your door. Okay, it's just, it's just that simple. And we do want to
287 get to 100%. Okay that is enough about that. Do any of my colleagues
288 have any other announcements? I'm going to just say announcements and
289 or liaison reports, because that's up next on the agenda, you can do them
290 all together if you'd like.

291 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** I have a liaison report. The
292 Recreation Advisory Board met last night and I know many people are
293 chomping at the bit to see if summer camp will go off or not. There hasn't
294 really been a consensus yet. We're still waiting for guidance from the State
295 as to what they're looking for and what the parameters are for camp so
296 before we get that -

297 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Yeah.

298 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** - it's kind of hard to create camp.

299 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Those did come out today, just so
300 you know.

301 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** Okay, so –

302 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** It –

303 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** - the meeting -

304 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** yeah -

305 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** - was last night.

306 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Yes – and – and – and – We'll get
307 them to Bill Garrison, who's our Parks and Recreation Superintendent, did
308 receive them today -

309 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** Okay.

310 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** - because I did check with him.

311 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** Great, right. So, but some of the
312 parameters are I think they have to operate at like 25% capacity. I think that
313 was the number that was tossed around so if camp does happen, it's going
314 to be very different than what people are used to. One of the consensus
315 that we did find is that the Parks and Rec will be doing different kinds of
316 programs, whether it's kayaking -So that they're working on some kind of
317 programming for the summer. It's just I don't think it'll be camp as we know
318 it. So that's where they are right now.

319 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** And thank you for that. I am just
320 going to add to that. We're very excited that we - through a grant through
321 Senator, State Senator Carlucci's Office - we were able to purchase a new
322 dock for Cedar Lane Pond and I'm mentioning this in the context of
323 kayaking, because I know that there has been kayaking before at Cedar
324 Lane Pond and hopefully, there might be again as part of the summer
325 program. So where we need to get a little bit more direction on that is from
326 Bill Garrison. I - Bill and I spoke today also about the Spray Park. We are
327 still do not have approval to have the Spray Park open, but it is possible we
328 can request through the economic... what's... ESD? ESD anybody do you
329 remember?

330 **BUDGET OFFICER VICTORIA CAFARELLI:** Empire State Development.

331 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Empire State Development. They're
332 the ones who kind of overseeing the whole re - you know New York forward
333 plan. We can request possibly that to open the spray Park, even without

334 the formal guidance and there is, there have been guide guidelines issued
335 by the New York State Parks so... Oh uh Association. So Bill Garrison is
336 going to be looking into that with us. Also bathrooms, as I understand it, are
337 - are supposedly going to be allowed to be open in parks starting June 23rd.
338 We have been very busy working on updating all of the conference stations
339 throughout our parks and we're hoping that we're going to have automatic
340 soaps, automatic flushes in some cases I believe - I'm not 100% sure about
341 the automatic flushes – and automatic paper towel so we don't have to
342 have a lot of high touch areas. It's my understanding that when the
343 bathrooms do open, they will be limited to one person at a time. So we
344 have a lot of signage that we have to get working on to remind people. And
345 a Spray Park would have to have somebody there to manage the number
346 of people and to make sure that people keep a distance. So we are hopeful
347 that we can get it up at some point, probably. I'm going to guess, is early
348 July is going to be the soonest, but that is certainly a goal of ours. And
349 finally, I think Phase Four is when we would be able to open up our ball
350 fields and other place play areas for contact sports. That's in Phase Four
351 so we, again, that's probably going to be early July. If everything again
352 goes according to plan. And we're going to be working on everything that
353 we can do to make sure all of our parks and public spaces are ready for
354 those eventualities. Right now the only other large gatherings. There are
355 allowed our graduation ceremonies outdoors starting... it is June 26th, does
356 that sound right? Sunday June 26 and they're - they're allowed to have 150
357 people all in, that includes every you know staff person from school parents
358 graduates, etc. So I don't know that Ossining's going to change whatever
359 their plan is right now. I think they're doing graduation today, tomorrow, the
360 next day. And they're having kids walking across the stage receiving their
361 diplomas are videotaping everything and then they're going to have a
362 parade. I want to say, and some kind of and then hopefully it find a place to
363 me to show the video, um, June – I want to say June 19th and 20th, is that
364 time right? Anybody a school district mama? Jackie Shaw, I'm gonna ask
365 you.

366 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** That does sound right -

367 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** I think – Yes, I think that's
368 approximately right. So the School District is doing their best also to find
369 some are opportunities for our children. Parks are going to be doing their

370 best. Part of the problem is: if it isn't camp, then it's recreation and it doesn't
371 start until Phase Four, which again is pretty probably pretty close to one
372 camp normally have started anyway, just maybe, maybe a week late. And
373 so anyway, working hard, thank you for all the work from the Recreation
374 Advisory Board. Continuing with my colleagues, does anybody else have
375 any announcements? Or if even if you had any questions about my
376 announcements, feel free. Otherwise, we gonna launch into our meeting.

377 **[NO RESPONSE]**

378 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Alright, fantastic. So with that we had
379 done the Liaison Reports and now we are at our public comment on
380 agenda items. We have one member of the public here happens to also
381 work for the town.... And she has no comments. Okay. So hearing none.
382 Let's move into our board resolutions. Please, Madam Deputy Clerk.

383 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Okay um approval of minutes
384 regular meeting May 26 2020. Resolve that the Town Board of the Town of
385 Ossining hereby approves the May 26th 2020 minutes of the regular
386 meeting, as presented.

387 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Motion?

388 **COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN WILCHER:** So moved.

389 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** Second.

390 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** All those in favor?

391 **[ALL COUNCILMEMBERS]:** Aye.

392 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Anybody opposed? Okay.

393 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Approval voucher detail report
394 Resolve the Town Board of the Town of Ossining and hereby approves the
395 voucher detail report dated June 9 2020 in the amount of \$299,673 and 19
396 cents.

397 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Do I have a motion?

398 **COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN WILCHER:** So moved.

399 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** Second.

400 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Any discussion? I just want to thank-

401 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** I see that the docks in there, but we
402 get that back from the grant.

403 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** We do. I do want to mention that the
404 doc is not formally and officially open yet because there's a couple of little
405 details that we still have to attend to. So if see some caution tape up over
406 the dock please respect it.

407 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** Is it water level or...

408 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Water level?

409 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** or higher? I'll go see.

410 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** It's about the same, I think, is it. Well,
411 it's actually, it's a floating – it's a floating dock, so it's on- it's on -

412 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** Water level. Okay.

413 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Okay.

414 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** Thank you.

415 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Sure. And it looks beautiful. Um,
416 okay. So, all those in favor?

417 **[ALL COUNCILMEMBERS]:** Aye.

418 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Any opposed?

419 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Personnel reclassification of
420 title.: Parks Department. Resolve the Town Board of the Town of Ossining
421 hereby be classified as a title of Jose Ramon Castro from laborer to parks
422 groundskeeper step one effective June 15 2020 at a pro-rated and annual
423 salary of \$62,480 for 2020.

424 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Do I have motion?

425 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** Second.

426 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Okay, so two resolutions in a row on
427 our agenda. Yes to Jose's who currently working at Dale Cemetery and
428 have worked there for many years as we entered union negotiations with
429 our teamsters last fall, we began to think hard about how we could better

430 take advantage of the personnel resources we already had on our staff.
431 Jose and Jose had been working exclusively cemetery, but we discovered
432 that with some coordination they could join forces with our parks crew to
433 tend to our parks and cemeteries as one larger crew. So we've been, we
434 did a little test run it's been working pretty smoothly. Tonight we are
435 formally reclassifying Jose and Jose as parks groundskeepers at step one,
436 so they can officially become part of our parks crew. So congratulations to
437 Jose and Jose and thank you so much for your service to the town,
438 especially in these new roles. Do I have a motion?

439 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** So moved.

440 **BUDGER OFFICER VICTORIA CAFARELLI:** Don't we already have a
441 motion?

442 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** I already took a motion. Okay. Sorry,
443 any questions? Discussion? All those in favor?

444 **[ALL COUNCILMEMBERS]:** Aye.

445 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Anybody opposed?

446 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Personnel reclassification of
447 title: Parks Department. Resolved that the Town Board of the Town of
448 Ossining hereby reclassify as a title for Jose Juan Castro from laborer to
449 post groundskeeper step one effective June 15 2020 on a prorated annual
450 salary of \$62,480 for 2020.

451 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Motion?

452 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** So moved.

453 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW, COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN
454 WILCHER:** Second.

455 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** All those in favor?

456 **[ALL COUNCILMEMBERS]:** Aye.

457 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Anybody opposed?

458 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Change in Town Board
459 meeting scheduled for July and August 2020. Be it resolved the Town
460 Board hereby cancels the work sessions scheduled for July 7, July 21,

461 August 4 and August 18, 2020. And be it further resolved any work session
462 agenda items will be heard at the Town Boards Legislative Sessions called
463 on July 14, July 28, August 11, and/or August 25 2020; and be it further
464 resolved, in the event that the Town Board determines it is necessary to
465 hold a work session, other than the above reference legislative sessions,
466 such work sessions will be scheduled and noticed as required by law; and
467 be it further resolved the Town Clerk is hereby directed to provide notice or
468 the cancellation of the above reference work sessions as required by law.

469 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Do I have a motion?

470 **COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN WILCHER:** So moved.

471 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** Second.

472 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** So as you hopefully all recall at our
473 last work session we discussed revising our meeting scheduled for the
474 summer. Tonight we have a resolution to normalize this revised schedule,
475 which includes canceling our work sessions during the month of July and
476 August and including any work session discussion items on to our
477 legislative session agendas. We'll closely monitor our workload and we can
478 always add dates back on if need be. We just think that this is making a
479 better use of everybody's time and our meetings have in general have been
480 fairly swift. So we think that this will be effective. Any questions?
481 Discussion? All those in favor?

482 **[ALL COUNCILMEMBERS]:** Aye.

483 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Approval of contract with CSEA
484 regarding 2019 carry-over vacation. Resolve that the Town Board of the
485 Town of Ossining authorizes the Supervisor to sign a stipulation of
486 agreement with civil service employees associates CSEA **[UNCLEAR]**
487 extending the deadline **[UNCLEAR]** carry over from August 31 2020.

488 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Okay. We all have in front of us,
489 because I lost you on a couple of those words. Okay. So, due to the COVID
490 - is that okay, just do we need to read that? Or do you think that would be
491 okay?

492 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** Maybe reread it.

493 **COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN WILCHER:** **[UNCLEAR]**

494 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Okay. Victoria if I could just ask you
495 to mute everybody except for - for Martha, just make sure that we can hear
496 her better.

497 **MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY CHRISTIE ADDONA:** I think it was the way
498 Martha was sitting against her computer.

499 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** She wasn't talking into the
500 microphone.

501 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Martha can you put your agenda like
502 on - on your computer, like right and like so, like in front of you present
503 your, your – do you know what I'm saying, like, you won't -

504 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** I have it like right next to tell my
505 iPad.

506 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Oh, okay. All right. Go ahead. I'm
507 just, I'm just trying to make it so that because for whatever reason, when
508 you look down like we lose some of the words.

509 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Really? Okay, hold on... Give
510 me one second. Let me pull it up here...

511 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Just since these - these zoom
512 meetings are like our official record kind of right now, we just want to make
513 sure everything...

514 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Okay, here we go. Approval of
515 contract with CSEA regarding 2019 carryover vacation. Resolved that the
516 Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the supervisor to sign a
517 stipulation of agreement with Civil Service Employees Association
518 incorporated (CSEA) local 100 AFS CLE AFL dash CIO Town of Ossining
519 unit Westchester County local 860 extended the deadline by which you
520 know members can utilize 2019 carry over their vacation from June 30 until
521 August 31 2020.

522 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Fantastic. Heard every word, thank
523 you. Okay, all those in favor - oh, I'm sorry. Due to the COVID pandemic
524 and restrictions on our workforce. Many of our town staff have been unable
525 to utilize their carryover right now - I didn't take motion, but I will – 2019
526 vacation by the deadline of July 30 so due to these extenuating

527 circumstances and because we already have a way to approach this with
528 our Teamsters Union. We approached our CSEA unit with a solution that
529 will hopefully work for most allowing the unit members to continue to carry
530 over vacation time from 2019 through the end of next. Do I have a motion?

531 **COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN WILCHER:** So moved.

532 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** Second.

533 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Any questions or discussion? All
534 those in favor?

535 **[ALL COUNCILMEMBERS]:** Aye.

536 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Aye. Any opposed, I'm sorry I got
537 thrown off by the reading, so... Okay.

538 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Resignation Ethics Board.
539 Resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby accepts with
540 regret the resignation of Nadia Bernstein from the Town of Ossining Ethics
541 Board effective June 9 2020.

542 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Motion?

543 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** So moved.

544 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** Second.

545 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Second Nadia Bernstein has been on
546 the Town's Ethics Board for a few years now. She recently submitted her
547 letter of resignation from this volunteer appointment. We thank you, Nadia,
548 for your service to the Town.

549 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** All those in favor?

550 **[ALL COUNCILMEMBERS]:** Aye.

551 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Any opposed?

552 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Resolution of Support S3695
553 Bailey 82513 O'Donnell Bill to repeal Section 50A of the Civil Rights Law,
554 whereas the recent murders of George Floyd, Tony McDade, and Brianna
555 Taylor and unfortunately many other black people at the hands of the police
556 have brought strong cause from the community for government leaders to

557 chase transformative actions to address systematic racism which has
558 pervaded our country for too long, and whereas section 50A of the civil
559 rights law relating to the personnel records of police officers, firefighters,
560 and correction officers currently prevents the misconduct and disciplinary
561 records of frustration being made public allowing for abusive officers to
562 continue to access impunity and whereas there is a bill currently under
563 consideration, by the New York State Senate and Assembly as 3695 Bailey
564 slash 82513 O'Donnell to immediately repeal section 50A of the civil rights
565 law finally bring into my records which will hopefully lead to better
566 accountability of police across New York State. Now, therefore, be it
567 resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby expresses its
568 support for New York State Senate and Assembly Bill as 3695 Bailey
569 82513 O'Donnell, which would immediately repeal Section 50A of the civil
570 rights law. Finally, allowing the misconduct and disciplining records of
571 police officers to be made public and urges members of the New York
572 State Senate in assembly to lead during this important time and taking
573 whatever legislative actions. May be necessary to dismantle systematic
574 racism and State of New York and vs further resolved. But this resolution
575 be circulated to New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-
576 Cousins, New York State Assembly Speaker [UNCLEAR], New York State
577 Senator David Carlucci in New York State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef
578 stating the support of the town board of the town of Ossining for this
579 necessary legislation.

580 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** And also to the sponsors, you can
581 ask those on friendly amendment. Thank you. So, can I have a motion?

582 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** So moved.

583 **[UNCLEAR]:** Second.

584 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Okay. Well, as I mentioned in my
585 announcements. You've heard across the state calls for the repeal of 50A
586 civil rights law which restricts public access to misconduct and disciplinary
587 records of police officers in New York State. In fact, this restrictive law is
588 not - was not even in place in Minneapolis, where this horror happened. So
589 it's not like - it's any kind of solution, its just a step. There's currently a bill
590 under consideration in Albany, as mentioned to immediately repeal this law,
591 which has allowed police misconduct to meet essentially swept under the

592 rug and out of the public eye. Now is the time to call for change. And
593 through this resolution, the town board asserts our support of
594 transformative change on a more broad State level. I look forward to
595 catching my 'Aye' or 'Aaye' in support of this important legislation. Is, are
596 there any questions? Does anybody else want to say anything about this?

597 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** I think it's a good first step. I know
598 there's a lot more steps to go.

599 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** I think I just want to make - make you
600 aware that Greg Meyer Councilman Greg Meyer works for the State
601 Senate. So he's going to have to abstain from this. But I also think from our
602 inside or knowledge counts with higher is an early voting on this this tonight
603 in the Senate, or is it already done deal?

604 **COUNCILMEMBER GREG MEYER:** Yeah, they're doing it today. They
605 actually [UNCLEAR] the Senate today, so we're good there. I think the
606 assembly is doing it tonight.

607 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** [UNCLEAR] shoot it up an email that
608 you might have for assembly, Assembly member, and Senator and
609 hopefully they will have it at least in front of them and know that we have
610 supported it. Anybody else? Councilman Wilcher? Councilwoman Shaw?
611 Any other comments?

612 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** No.

613 **COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN WILCHER:** No comment.

614 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Alright. So with that, all those in
615 favor?

616 **[ALL COUNCILMEMBERS]:** Aye.

617 **COUNCILMEMBER GREG MEYER:** Oh, I actually abstain. I'm sorry.

618 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** And abstentions. Okay, got it. And I
619 know nobody's opposed. Correct? I just want to make sure I hear these
620 voices. Thank you.

621 **COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN WILCHER:** Could - can I ask you a
622 question? Where's Martha's - wherever she is, it's beautiful - behind her.
623 Behind the flowers are beautiful.

624 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Thank you, it's the background,
625 the background that I chose today.

626 **COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN WILCHER:** Yes, it's beautiful.

627 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Yes, yes, I was commenting. My
628 favorite flowers, hydrangea. Okay, wonderful. So correspondence to
629 received and filed?

630 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** Resolved that the Town Board
631 of the Town of Ossining hereby accepts the following Planning Board
632 Minutes of May 6, 2020 and May 20 2020.

633 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Do I have a motion?

634 **COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN WILCHER:** So moved.

635 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** All those in favor?

636 **[ALL COUNCILMEMBERS]:** Aye.

637 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Anybody opposed? Thank you. Any
638 abstentions? Okay.

639 **DEPUTY CLERK MARTHA QUITUISACA:** And then so monthly reports.
640 Resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby accepts the
641 following monthly reports for the month of May 2020: Town Clerk's Office,
642 Tax Receivers Office, Dale Cemetery, Town Building Department, and GE
643 helicopter.

644 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Do I have a motion?

645 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** So moved.

646 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** Second.

647 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** All in favor?

648 **[ALL COUNCILMEMBERS]:** Aye.

649 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Any opposed? Okay, with that we will
650 go to visitor recognition. Any visitors will be **[UNCLEAR]** an opportunity to
651 speak. Is there anybody here to address the Town Board or who would like
652 to? And seeing head shaking. No? One head. Thank you, our - to our Tax
653 Receiver Holly Perlowitz for joining us on this meeting and shaking her

654 head in the no direct. Without any further ado, I would like to take a motion
655 to go into executive session for personnel, advice of counsel, and
656 contracts.

657 **COUNCILMEMBER NORTHERN WILCHER:** So moved.

658 **COUNCILMEMBER JACKIE SHAW:** Second.

659 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** Second.

660 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** All those in favor?

661 **[ALL COUNCILMEMBERS]:** Aye.

662 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Opposed. Okay, we are going to
663 continue in phase two with everybody. If you have any questions and
664 concerns. Please make sure that you email us or call us 762-6001 and we
665 will direct you to resources to help guide you and continue to work together
666 with our community to get us back safely on track. And we hope that you
667 have a wonderful week and we will see you back here for a work session
668 next Tuesday, June... 16. June...

669 **COUNCILMEMBER LIZ FELDMAN:** 16.

670 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** 16. Okay. Have a wonderful week
671 everybody and I will see you soon.

672 **SUPERVISOR DANA LEVENBERG:** Bye bye.