

MINUTES
TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OSSINING
HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING ONLY

MARCH 1, 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 March 1, 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 11.3 which continues the suspension and modification of the Open Meetings Law through March 16, 2022. 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.

A moment of silence was held for those lives that have been lost over the past week since the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by Russian military forces.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: Over the past two days, the Russian military, at the direction of President Putin, have focused their efforts on populated cities and the seat of the Ukrainian government in Kyiv, resulting in the deaths of innocent civilians, including children, as well as Ukrainian and Russian military personnel. These cruel acts of war must stop to prevent further casualties. We stand with the Ukrainian people in their fight for democracy, and pray that peace is restored soon.

II. SUPERVISOR AND TOWN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Levenberg announced the following:

Today is the first day of March, and also the first day of Women's History Month! I always find inspiration in the incredible Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and her life's work to advance gender equality. Justice Ginsburg frankly reminded us of what true equality looks like with her quote - "When I'm sometimes asked 'When will there be enough [women on the Supreme Court]?' and I say 'When there are nine,' people are shocked. But there'd been nine men, and nobody's ever raised a question about that." I am proud to work alongside many women in our local, county, state, and federal government here in Ossining, now finally including our first female governor, Kathy Hochul, and first female Vice President, Kamala Harris. All of the little girls out there can see themselves represented in their leaders, and hopefully dream a little bigger for that reason. I look forward to sharing more resources and events as we recognize Women's History Month this March.

This week also marks the two year anniversary of the first identified positive COVID-19 case in Westchester County. We have all been through so much since March 2020, it is pretty surreal that it has been two years. County Executive George Latimer is holding a virtual memorial on the Westchester County

Facebook page this Thursday, March 3 at 2pm. We will also be planning an Ossining commemoration in the coming weeks.

I am also happy to report that Bethany Arts Community is taking the sentiment “every month is Black History Month” to heart, with programming continuing into the month of March. On Saturday, March 5 at 7pm, there will be a DJ Battle, then on Saturday, March 12 the Ossining NAACP Youth Council will be hosting a Talent and Fashion Show. On March 19, there will also be a Ladies of Hip Hop Public Show and Tell at 8pm. All of these events are taking place at Bethany Arts Community right here in Ossining, and you can learn more and register at www.BethanyArts.org/Black-History-Month-2022. The Bethany Arts Community exhibit, Ossining Black History & Culture: Resilience. Dedication. Excellence. will also continue to run through March 12. I had the opportunity to check it out shortly after it opened, and I strongly encourage you to do so as well. Huge huge shout out to Village Historian Joyce Sharrock Cole for curating this fantastic showcase of Ossining’s incredible history.

The Village of Ossining is kicking off the Downtown Revitalization Initiative process with a public meeting scheduled for next Tuesday, March 8 from 6pm to 8pm. Ossining is slated to receive \$10 million in grant funding through the DRI, so make sure your voice is heard in this process. Join the meeting by visiting bit.ly/ossiningdri at the time of the meeting. The Village has also posted information regarding this funding on their website if you would like to learn more now.

The Ossining Recreation has a few fun activities scheduled for kids this week and next, starting with a night out for children with disabilities and their caregivers – with a splash! From 6pm to 8pm on Friday, March 4, this program will include pool time so make sure to bring your swimsuit and towel! This program is free, but you must register at www.VillageofOssining.org. Next Friday, March 11, there will be a Kid’s Night Out for those in kindergarten through grade 6, starting at 6pm. The fee for this program is \$12 for the first child, and \$10 per sibling. Make sure to register in advance!

The Green Ossining Repair Café is back next Saturday, March 12 from 11am to 3pm at the Community Center. Bring your broken, but beloved items, and have them fixed for free – from tech support to broken furniture, and even your bikes! Thank you to Green Ossining, and program sponsors First Village Coffee and Melrose Lumber, for organizing these events.

III. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

A. Contract - Greater Ossining Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement with the Greater Ossining Chamber of Commerce, Inc. for the administration of 2022 Food Truck Fridays events and marketing of 2022 Summer Events (to include Food Truck Fridays, Summer Concert Series, and Fireworks Celebration for Independence Day), subject to approval by Counsel to the Town as to form.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: We are very much looking forward to Summer 2022 for another great year of Food Truck Fridays and our Summer Concert Series!

Motion: Carried

IV. ADJOURNMENT – WORK SESSION

At 7:38 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn to Work Session and Councilmember Meyer seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

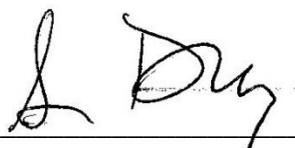
At 9:12 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn to Executive Session for advice of counsel and personnel, and Councilmember Meyer seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

At 9:35 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn the Executive Session and Councilmember Meyer seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Approved:



Susanne Donnelly, Town Clerk