



MINUTES
TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OSSINING
HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING ONLY

August 9, 2022
REGULAR 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 Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ossining was held on August 9, 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 11.8. 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, Greg Meyer, and Angelo A. Manicchio. Also present were Town Counsel Christie Tomm-Addona, Budget Officer Victoria Cafarelli, and Deputy Town Clerk Martha C. Quituisaca.

Councilmember Jennifer Fields-Tawil was absent from the meeting.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- **Local law regulating bicycles, bicycles with electric assist and electric scooters in the Town of Ossining**

At 7:31 PM, the Public Hearing opened.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: Tonight, we are reopening the public hearing on a local law to regulate the use of ebikes and escooters in the Town of Ossining. We are still waiting on some feedback from the Village of Ossining's consultants who were involved in drafting the Village's local law, which served as the basis for the Town's draft law.

At 7:32 PM, Councilmember Feldman moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Meyer to adjourn the public hearing to September 13, 2022.

III. ADJOURN – WORK SESSION

At 7:32 PM, Councilmember Feldman moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Meyer to adjourn to work session.

- Ridgeview Drive Paving Project
- River Knoll Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement

At 8:45 PM, Councilmember Feldman moved and it was seconded by Councilmember Meyer to adjourn to the Regular Meeting.

IV. SUPERVISOR AND TOWN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Levenberg said the following:

RiverJam is back this Friday, August 12 with Marc Von Em! Marc is a returning favorite to the Louis Engel Park stage, so don't miss him and his band this Friday. We will post the food truck line up later this week, so you know what to head down to Engel Park at 5pm hungry for...music will start at 7pm. Thank you to the planning team for RiverJam – the Greater Ossining Chamber of Commerce, Mike and Miriam Risko, and Sing Sing Kill Brewery. The weather is also looking beautiful for Friday, when hopefully the heat will be breaking just in time for a perfect night on the River!

Other free summer entertainment continues with the last installment of the Summer Acoustic Series at Market Square tomorrow, Wednesday, August 10 at 7pm with Sundad. The Family Summer Entertainment Series also wraps next week on Tuesday, August 16 at 7pm with Magician Anthony Salazar at Market Square. The next (and last!) Monday night Jazz at Henry Gourdine Park is Monday, August 22 with Peter Brainin and Talking Drum, starting at 6:30pm. Be sure to grab some dinner from one of our great local eateries at all of these wonderful entertainment programs in Ossining's beautiful parks and public spaces!

The Ossining Schools are continuing to collect school supplies through August 23. You can donate new school supplies like crayons, markers, #2 pencils, post-its, composition notebooks, and more to either the Mike Risko Music School, Ossining Public Library, Ossining School District Administrative Office at 400 Executive Boulevard, Value Drugs in Briarcliff, or Prescription Plus. In advance: THANK YOU!

The Ossining Youth Bureau is offering Summer Workshops for young women ages 12-17 to start the school year off in a motivated and empowered mindset. Meet other Ossining teens, explore who you are, be clear about your strengths, get your mind focused, and most importantly, harness your GIRL POWER! The program runs August 13-27 from 11am to 2pm and August 30 from 5:30pm to 7pm at the Ossining Community Center. Register at www.villageofossining.org.

Also, as we are starting to hear more about the spread of Monkeypox, we are happy to report Westchester County is now able to offer free vaccines for those at higher risk of contracting the disease. This includes those who traveled outside the US to a country with confirmed cases of monkeypox or where monkeypox activity has been ongoing, or those who have had contact with someone who had a rash that looks like monkeypox or with someone who was diagnosed with confirmed or probable monkeypox. The Loft LGBTQ+ Community Center will host monkeypox vax clinics on Thursday, August 11 and August 18th. Vaccines are free. You can sign up on the NYS Dept of Health website. They are also available at Westchester Medical Center. Westchester residents can call (914) 326-2060 to schedule an appointment from M-F 9a-5p.

Finally, Ossining voters – remember to cast your votes in the Democratic, Republican, and Conservative party primaries for the 17th Congressional District this August! Primary Day is August 23 and early voting starts this Saturday, August 13. Early voting dates and times are as follows:

- Saturdays, August 13 & 20 and Sundays, August 14 & 21 from 10am-6pm
- Monday, August 15, Wednesday, August 17, and Friday, August 19 from 8am-4pm
- Tuesday, August 16 & Thursday, August 18 from 12noon-8pm

The closest early voting location to Ossining is the Joseph G. Caputo Community Center at 95 Broadway, Ossining, but there are locations throughout Westchester where you can also vote. The deadline to mail in a request for an absentee ballot has passed, but you can request an absentee ballot in person now through August 22. If you have any questions, please visit the Board of Elections website at citizenparticipation.westchestergov.com or call 914-995-5700.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT ON TOWN OPERATIONS

Supervisor Levenberg said the following:

As we work to reduce our carbon footprint, we also recognize the need to become more resilient in the face of climate change, which is already happening. To that end, we are continuing our public engagement around the Shoreline Revitalization Project as part of the Climate-adaptive Design Studio Phase 2. We need your input as we design a climate adaptive shoreline. Get the latest on this project and provide your input by visiting the Green Ossining website, www.greenossining.org. Thank you to Green Ossining for playing virtual host to this shared, Town/Village effort!

We recently learned of an exciting grant opportunity available through New York State, called NY Forward. This program is very similar to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, which the Village of Ossining won in the last round, but is scaled down to meet the needs of communities without large downtowns like more suburban and rural communities. After discussing with our grant writer and Town Planner, we think it is a good idea for the Town to put our hat in the ring for the Executive Boulevard/Stormytown Road area of Town due to the potential for public and private investment in the near and long term that could be capitalized by matching state funds. The turnaround for the letter of intent is quite tight – it's due tomorrow – with the full application due in September. Fingers crossed we can make the case to the state to help us bring in a couple of million dollars to help improve this area of Town!

VI. LIAISON REPORTS

Councilmember Feldman announced that the Ossining Boat and Canoe Club's (OBCC) meeting will be tomorrow August 10, 2022. People interested in joining the OBCC are encouraged to attend the meeting to learn about membership. The OBCC is running a lifejacket loaning program.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

VIII. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

A. Approval of Minutes—Regular Meeting – July 12, 2022

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 approves the July 12, 2022 minutes of the Regular Meeting as amended.

Motion: Carried Unanimously

B. Approval of Minutes—Regular Meeting – July 26, 2022

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 approves the July 26, 2022 minutes of the Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion: Carried Unanimously

C. Approval of Voucher Detail Report

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 approves the Voucher Detail Report dated August 9, 2022 in the amount of \$121,840.18

Motion: Carried Unanimously

D. Authorizing Execution of Electric Service Agreement with Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Ossining adopted a Local Law to participate in the Sustainable Westchester Community Choice Program (“Program”) to aggregate customers located within the unincorporated Town and to negotiate competitive rates for the supply of electricity for such customers; and

WHEREAS, Sustainable Westchester, Inc. has been authorized by the Town to act as Program Manager for a Community Choice Program, pursuant to Local Law and Memorandum of Understanding 2022-06, to issue a request for proposals (“RFP”) to suppliers to provide energy to Participating Customers, and to award supply contracts; and

WHEREAS, Constellation NewEnergy, Inc., an entity duly authorized to conduct business in the State of New York as an energy service company (“ESCO”) (the “Competitive Supplier”), desires to provide Full-Requirements Power Supply to customers located within the Town, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Community Choice Program and the Electric Service Agreement (“ESA”); and

WHEREAS, the Town has chosen the 100% Renewable Clean Power Product as the Default Product for Participating Customers; and

WHEREAS, the local governments that participate in the Sustainable Westchester Community Choice Program, including the Town, intend that this Agreement be uniform in form and substance in each instance throughout the Program; and

WHEREAS, notifications will be provided to all eligible customers in the Town and those customers will have the opportunity to opt-out of this program; and

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to enter into an Electric Service Agreement with Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. effective August 4, 2022 to provide electricity at a rate not to exceed 15.128 cents/kWh for 100% renewable supply and 13.364 cents/kWh for standard supply for the term of November 1, 2022 to October 31, 2024.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: We know all of us are facing difficult times now and to come, particularly as we look at our utility bills. For those of you who have been following, we are happy to report Westchester Power/Sustainable Westchester was able to secure a new bid for green electricity, and signing this contract enables the Town to participate in this new contract, so we are hopeful we can be back on track with renewable electricity supply. If for any reason you wish to opt out of the program, you can call Westchester Power at 844-605-7650, and to get more information.

Motion: Carried Unanimously

E. Cancellation – Town Board Work Session, Tuesday, August 16, 2022

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

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby cancels its work session scheduled for Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: We are winding down our meetings for the summer and cancelling next week's Work Session. Also as a reminder, our August 23 meeting will be held at 8:30am due to the scheduled congressional and state senate primary, and then August 30 is a 5th Tuesday. We will be back to our regularly scheduled meetings on Tuesday, September 6 with a Work Session.

Motion: Carried Unanimously

F. Extension of Bid Deadline – Highway Department Mechanic Shop Roof Replacement

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

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby extends the deadline for bids for the Highway Department Mechanic Shop – Roof Replacement project to Thursday, September 15, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: At the advice of our bidding expert, Water Superintendent Andy Tiess, we are extending the deadline for bids for the Highway Department Mechanic Shop roof replacement to September 15.

Motion: Carried Unanimously

G. Call for Public Hearing – Local law to amend the Zoning Code to establish a special permit use for artist communities

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 calls for a Public Hearing to be held in the matter of a Local law to amend the Zoning Code to establish a special permit use for artist communities), on Tuesday, September 13 at 7:30 p.m. held via videoconferencing only in accordance with State authority, with the log-in information available on the Town's website in advance of the meeting.

Supervisor Levenberg said the following: Following our Work Session discussion last week on this local law, we are setting the public hearing to move this legislation through the pipeline.

Motion: Carried Unanimously

IX. MONTHLY REPORTS

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 the following monthly reports for the month of July 2022:

- Tax Receiver

- **GE Helicopter**
- **Town Supervisor's Office**
- **Town Clerk**
- **Dale Cemetery**
- **Town Highway**

Motion: Carried Unanimously

X. VISITOR RECOGNITION

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

XI. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:06 P.M., Councilmember Feldman motioned to adjourn to Executive Session for advice of counsel, personnel, contracts, and collective bargaining and Councilmember Meyer seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

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

Motion Carried: Unanimously

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

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Approved:



Susanne Donnelly, Town Clerk