



MINUTES
TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF OSSINING
IN PERSON AT THE
BIRDSALL-FAGAN POLICE/COURT FACILITY
86-88 SPRING STREET – OSSINING, NEW YORK
AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING

February 25, 2025

REGULAR MEETING
7:30 P.M.

SUPERVISOR
Elizabeth R. Feldman

COUNCILMEMBERS
Gregory G. Meyer Angelo A. Manicchio
Jennifer Fields-Tawil Matthew J. Weiss

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

The Regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ossining was held on February 25, 2025 at Birdsall-Fagan Police/Court Facility 86-88 Spring Street – Ossining, New York, 10562 and via video conference. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Supervisor Elizabeth Feldman, Members of the Board present were: Deputy Supervisor Gregory G. Meyer, Councilmembers Jennifer Fields-Tawil, Angelo A. Manicchio and Matthew J. Weiss. Also present were Budget Officer Martha C. Quituisaca and Deputy Town Clerk Jeaneth V. Guinansaca. Town Counsel Christie Tomm-Addona was absent but in her representation was Katherine Zalantis from the firm Silverberg Zalantis LLC.

II. DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

• Tax Receiver Holly Perlowitz

Tax Receiver Holly Perlowitz said the following:

- January was a very busy month – we collected \$34 million and the beginning of February proved to be busy too!
- We have collected 98.2% of the school tax warrant and 99.5% of the Town and County warrant!
- We are always trying to get any delinquent taxes paid by sending notices, and engaging in conversations to the extent we are able to reach delinquent taxpayers – and overall – given we have 131 delinquent parcels – which is 1.2% of the parcels we have in the Town of Ossining – I see our efforts having results.
- We are selling a parcel that we have had a judgement on – this Friday (38-40 Lincoln Place) and look forward to seeing the \$129K in outstanding in taxes paid.
- We will be seeking judgement on three other parcels soon as well – 56 Stormytown Rd, 11 Brandreth and 589 North State Rd.
 - In Conclusion
- The tax office is operating smoothly – but each day is different as we assist our taxpayers with various matters. Patti and Erin in my office have the skill and the right attitude and I appreciate their efforts and by the feedback I often get – so do our taxpayers!
- I am happy to answer any questions or address any comments you have!
 - Thank you and 3 more Tuesdays till Spring!

TOWN TAX OFFICE COLLECTIONS
OUTSTANDING TAXES AS OF 2/25/2025

	OUTSTANDING TAX			
	TOTAL WARRANT	RECEIVABLES	COLLECTIONS	% OF WARRANT COLLECTED
2024 TOWN AND COUNTY	\$ 34,260,821.78	\$ 184,142.66	\$ 34,076,679.12	99.5%
2024/2025 SCHOOL/LIBRARY TAX WARRANT				
1st INSTALLMENT	\$ 60,960,417.56	\$ 524,237.33	\$ 60,436,180.23	99.1%
2nd INSTALLMENT	60,960,329.32	1,680,352.34	59,279,976.98	97.2%
TOTAL SCHOOL/LIBRARY TAX	\$ 121,920,746.88	\$ 2,204,589.67	\$ 119,716,157.21	98.2%
TOTAL 2024 WARRANTS *	\$ 156,181,568.66	\$ 2,388,732.33	\$ 153,792,836.33	98.5%
DELINQUENT TAX LIENS				
	2017	2,738.30	1 PROPERTIES	TITLE ISSUE BEING ADDRESSED BY THE TOWN/VILLAGE
	2019	12,285.64	3 PROPERTIES	1 WAS AUCTIONED AND AWAITING CLOSING, 1 BEING FORFEITED, 1 ON A PAYMENT PLAN
	2020	81,866.93	7 PROPERTIES	1 WAS AUCTIONED AND AWAITING CLOSING, 1 BEING SOLD TO VILLAGE OF BRIARCLIFF, 1 BEING FORFEITED, 1 ON A PAYMENT PLAN
	2021	185,000.93	15 PROPERTIES	1 WAS AUCTIONED AND AWAITING CLOSING, 1 BEING SOLD TO VILLAGE OF BRIARCLIFF, 1 BEING FORFEITED, 2 ON A PAYMENT PLAN
	2022	215,152.02	24 PROPERTIES	1 WAS AUCTIONED AND AWAITING CLOSING, 1 BEING SOLD TO VILLAGE OF BRIARCLIFF, 1 BEING FORFEITED
	2023	377,950.90	37 PROPERTIES	DOWN FROM 96 SINCE FILING LIEN ON 7/1/2023- 59 HAVE REDEEMED
	2024	692,913.79	66 PROPERTIES	DOWN FROM 111 SINCE FILING LIEN ON 7/1/2024- 40 HAVE REDEEMED
TOTAL DELINQUENT TAX LIENS		1,567,908.51		
TOTAL OUTSTANDING TAX RECEIVABLES		\$ 3,956,640.84		

* IN JULY OF 2025 - ALL OUTSTANDING 2024 TAXES WILL BECOME LIENS

III. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- Town and Village of Ossining 2024 Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan – EAC Member David Margulis

Special presentation on Town and Village of Ossining 2024 Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan was given by EAC Member David Margulis.

IV. SUPERVISOR AND TOWN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Elizabeth Feldman said the following:

- We have been experiencing some difficulty with our email system this week so we may not have received emails that were sent in the past few days. It has since been fixed so, if you have sent an email to any of the Town of Ossining Offices and have not received a response, please re-send it. We apologize for any inconvenience.
- Last week we attended the New York Association of Towns annual training conference. It was an extremely educational opportunity that my staff and I were happy to take advantage of. In addition to the learning and networking opportunities, we are very proud to announce that our very own Holly Perlowitz was elected 3rd vice president! Also, our community received the safety award from Comp Alliance at the annual dinner.
- I hope everyone got a chance to see the Black History Month events throughout the community. If not, Bethany Arts Community is currently running the “Black History & Culture: Eyes Wide Open” art exhibit through March 14th. The Gallery is open Monday-Saturday from 10am-4pm.
- This Thursday, February 27th Westchester County will be hosting the Black History Month and our Trailblazers Awards Ceremony. This event honoring Westchester county’s outstanding African American citizens will be held at “The Little Theater” Westchester County Center in White Plains starting at 5:30pm.
- Westchester Community College is running a Civil Service Exam prep course on Mondays and Wednesdays from March 3rd through the 26th. This course includes everything from an introduction to the Civil Service Exam itself to State Government Laws. For more information call 914-606-6830.
- Registration for Muscoot Farm’s Summer Camps are currently open. Head over to parks.westchestergov.com for more information on how to register.
- Teatown is starting up the “Sugaring Days” Events! Learn and experience everything from Tapping to Bottling, open on Saturdays and Sundays. If you want your own bottle of syrup from Teatown’s own maple trees then join the

“Rent-a-Bucket” program. Members will get their own 8-ounce bottle and two tickets to the annual Pancake Brunch on Saturday, March 15th! More information can be found at Teatown.org.

- **Westchester Collaborative Theatre is continuing its “Music in the Box” program with the Mala Waldron Quartet on Saturday March 1st at 7:30pm.**
- **Ossining Historic Cemeteries Conservancy and the Jug Tavern of Sparta will be running the “Trivia Time” event on Wednesday March 12 at 6:30pm. All proceeds from this event will go to the Ladew Plot Restoration Project. For more information, please visit Ossininghistoriccemeteries.org/ohcc-events**
- **Sing Sing Kill Brewery is partnering with the Ossining Matters Education Foundation to host the “Sip, Sing & Support” Fundraiser. On March 15th at 7pm enjoy karaoke and more with all proceeds of the event going to the Ossining Matters Education Foundation. For more information, please visit www.ossiningmatters.org.**
- **Westchester County is running a Free Tax Prep program currently running until April 15th. This program is open at 9 different locations including our very own Ossining High School and the Joseph G. Caputo Community Center. For more information, please call 1-800-899-1479.**
- **Bethany Arts Community will be opening their art workshops for older adults’ programs. Please visit their website at Bethanyarts.org for more information.**
- **Please remember Neighbors Link is a great source for information and community resources for our immigrant population. Please visit their website www.neighborslink.org and click Resources to register to attend informational webinars about Knowing Your Rights in English and in Spanish and to find contact information for trusted professionals.**
- **The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) is available to help cover your heating costs for those who meet the application criteria. For assistance, contact the Westchester County Department of Social Service at 914-995-3333.**
- **As always, our Ossining Public Library will be hosting many events including movies, craft events, meditation, tutoring, yoga, book clubs and more. Please see their website at ossininglibrary.org for more information.**
- **The Loft LGBTQ+ Community Center has everything from events and programs to resources and presentations all dedicated to providing support to everyone who is a part of the LGBTQ+ Community, including many virtual and in person support groups and clubs for a multitude of different topics. Please check out their website at loftgaycenter.org for more information.**
- **There are many fun and interesting events being held locally, and you can look at the weekly Supervisor’s Update on the Supervisor’s webpage to see them.**

V. LIAISON REPORTS

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Visitors shall be accorded one (1) four (4) minute opportunity to address the Board on any of the resolutions on the agenda.

VII. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

A. Approval of Minutes – February 11, 2025

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

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Ossining hereby approves the February 11, 2025 minutes of the Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

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 February 25, 2025 in the amount of \$753,612.79.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

C. Resolution – Adopt Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Ossining pledged to take part in the NYS DEC Climate Smart Communities Certification Program with pledges including to address local climate threats, documenting the Town's most vulnerable assets and recommending strategies to protect the community and its assets from increasing climate risks; and

WHEREAS, a Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan sets out to both document these vulnerable assets and set goals, through concrete and prioritized initiatives, and to effectively address vulnerabilities related to the changing climate in our region; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Centers for the Environmental Information, the last decade (2011-2020) was the warmest on record, and each of the last four decades has been warmer than any previous decade since 1850, and climate-related storms, including Superstorm Sandy in 2012 and Hurricane Ida in 2021, have caused significant financial and social impacts in New York and resulted in billions of dollars in damages; and

WHEREAS, according to the latest New York State Climate Impacts Assessment, sea level along the tidal Hudson is projected to increase by 12 to 17 inches by the 2050s and by 25 to 46 inches by the 2100s compared to a 1995-2014 baseline; and

WHEREAS, certain frontline and vulnerable communities, including young children and the elderly, will disproportionately feel the health impacts of climate change, as they can be less climate-resilient; and

WHEREAS, in the development of this Plan, the Town's CAPI Adapt Team, comprised of municipal officials and environmental volunteer community leaders, collaborated with municipal officials, key stakeholders, community residents and neighboring municipalities participating in the Hudson Valley Regional Council's Climate Action Planning Institute Adaptation Cohort Program; and

WHEREAS, the plan was publicly shared online and presented to the Town Board and the public at the December 17th, 2024 and February 25th, 2025 Town board meeting;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Ossining Board, hereby adopts this Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Municipal Board authorizes submission of this document to the NYS DEC Office for Climate Change for consideration of points toward Climate Smart Communities certification for the Town of Ossining.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

D. Village of Croton-Town of Ossining Bridge Maintenance Agreement

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 authorizes the Supervisor to enter into an agreement with the Village of Croton-on-Hudson for calendar years 2025-2029 for the maintenance of the Croton-Ossining Bridge walkway and bike path in accordance with the rate schedule below, and authorizes the Supervisor to sign a contract reflecting the same, in accordance with approval of the Town Counsel.

2025: \$3,982

2026: \$4,181

2027: \$4,390

2028: \$4,610

2029: \$4,841

Motion Carried: Unanimously

E. Resolution – Local Law # 1 of 2025 – Amending Chapter 138 of the Town Code

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

WHEREAS, the Town Board initiated a proposed local law to amend Chapter 138 of the Town Code (“Parks”), Section 3 (“Permits”) to incorporate language restricting the ability of persons, entities or organizations to rent Town parks for events that would permit entry only by a required payment; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board held a duly-noticed public hearing on proposed Local Law #1 of 2025 at its regularly scheduled legislative session on February 11, 2025, and members of the public having the opportunity to attend and be heard, the public hearing was closed on February 11, 2025; and

WHEREAS, said local law has been on the desks of the members of the Town Board for at least seven days, exclusive of Sunday, prior to the adoption of this resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board believes that with the exception of tax-exempt not-for-profit organizations that present their proposal to the Town Board in advance for the Town Board’s consideration and discretionary approval, it is not in the public interest for Town parks to be rented for potentially profiting or fund-acquiring purposes; and

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby determines this action is not subject to the State Environmental Quality Review Act as it will not affect the environment as it does not regulate the parks itself but the circumstances under which the Town’s park areas can be rented to raise funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Board, after due deliberation, finds that in the furtherance of the health, safety and well-being of the persons and property in the Town, it is in the best interest of the Town to adopt said local law, and the Town Board hereby adopts Local Law # 1 of 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Clerk is directed to enter said local law in the minutes of this meeting into the local law book for the Town of Ossining; to publish said minutes in a newspaper published in the town, if any, or in such newspaper published in the county in which such town may be

located having a circulation in such town, and affidavits of said publication shall be filed with the Town Clerk; and to file a copy of said local law with the Secretary of State of New York.

Motion: Carried
Ayes: Meyer, Manicchio, Weiss, Feldman, & Fields-Tawil
Nay: None

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE TO BE RECEIVED AND FILED

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 accepts the following correspondence:

- Planning Board Minutes 10.16.2024
- Planning Board Minutes 01.15.2025

Motion Carried: Unanimously

IX. MONTHLY REPORTS

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 accepts the following monthly reports for the month of January 2025:

- Tax Receiver
- Town Building Department
- Town Clerk

Motion Carried: Unanimously

X. VISITOR RECOGNITION

Visitors shall be accorded one (1) four (4) minute opportunity to address the Board on issues not relating to the agenda, but of relevance to the common good of the Town.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:56 P.M., Councilmember Meyer motioned to adjourn to Executive Session for matters of Personnel, Contracts and Advice of Counsel and Councilmember Fields-Tawil seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

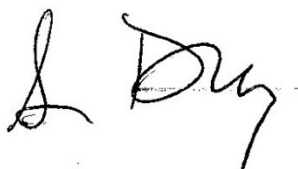
At 9:08 P.M., Councilmember Meyer motioned to leave Executive Session and Councilmember Manicchio seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

At 9:08 P.M., Councilmember Meyer motioned to adjourn the Regular Meeting and Councilmember Manicchio seconded.

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Approved:



Susanne Donnelly, Town Clerk