



VICTORIA GEARTY
Mayor

VILLAGE OF OSSINING

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January 22, 2018



First Law of the Year & USPS Frustrations

Last week we passed the first new law of the year, and it may turn out to be rather short-lived. Local Law #1-2018 is a zoning text amendment that modifies the potential uses of properties in some neighborhoods to allow for lots of at least one-acre, to provide an on-site private school with up to 25 residents. Something

unusual about this new law, is that it may be irrelevant in the near future. There could be changes of how land is used in many neighborhoods, as this year the Village Board updates our Comprehensive Plan, which is the foundation for all zoning codes.

Last week, I spoke with Congresswoman Nita Lowey's office once again expressing concerns about poor delivery from the US Postal Service. I was assured that, aside from the Congresswoman's efforts to keep the federal government from shutting down, the ongoing trouble with the USPS is a top priority for her staff. They are hearing your complaints, and Ossining was one of the first affected communities where there was an attempt at improved practices. Unfortunately, efforts to this point have been only marginally successful. The Congresswoman's office is scheduling another meeting, when her representatives will make specific recommendations to the USPS for how to rectify this serious situation.

Connecting This Week

Join me for **Open Office Hours** tomorrow, Tuesday from 10am-12noon in the Board of Trustees office at 16 Croton Avenue. I'll be ready to hear from community members on any topic, concern or idea of interest to you. No appointment necessary.

Join me for a **Weekly Walk** this Friday at 11am. We'll begin at the corner of Piping Rock Drive and N. Highland Avenue. This week we'll complete the northern tip of the Village, walking up Ogden Road and down Cedar Lane. We are nearing the end of these Weekly Walks, as there are only a few blocks still needed to accomplish my goal of walking every block of the Village! The above landscape pic is from last January, the month the Weekly Walks began. With so many Village hills presenting picturesque views, can you recognize where we were standing for this vista?

Have a burning question or idea, but can't make it to Office Hours or the Weekly Walk?... Email me (mayor@villageofossining.org), the Board of Trustees (bot@villageofossining.org) or Village Manager Debbie McDonnell (dmcdonnell@villageofossining.org).

Coming up This Week

At Wednesday's Work Session, we will be discussing a number of important items, notably further consideration of a new Affordable Housing Policy. If we move forward with the recommendations proposed by the recent Housing Needs Assessment, we will have the most progressive policy of its kind in Westchester County. The first item on this week's agenda is a discussion regarding feral cats and the trap/neuter/return program. We will hear from representatives from the Humane Society and the SPCA.

As always, Work Sessions are an opportunity for the Trustees and I to have discussions with staff and invited experts regarding potential policy or legislative changes. We invite community members to reach out to us by email (bot@villageofossining.org) anytime, or to speak during Visitor Recognition during Legislative Sessions on the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

With Regards,



Victoria Gearity, Ossining Mayor



[Last week we officially launched our newly designed website!](#) With you in mind, we've made the site both fresh and modern. You will find streamlined menus, simple navigation and a responsive layout that performs on all platforms. We encourage everyone to [visit the site](#).

