

VILLAGE OF OSSINING

Municipal Building

16 Croton Avenue Ossining, NY 10562 (914) 941-3554 www.villageofossining.org

April 9, 2018



Promotion & Progress

We were pleased to formally welcome Anthony Oliveira to his new position as Police Sergeant. The honor of administering the oath of office to members of the Ossining Police Department is one of my treasured duties. Sergeant Oliveira has served our department for a number of

years, has deep roots in our community, and is trilingual. Ossining is fortunate to have him serving in his new leadership role.

2018 has been a busy year already. Last Monday, Bill Garrison, our new Superintendent of Recreation & Parks, joined the team. He has arrived just in time to enjoy the spring programming and sports seasons. If you see Superintendent Garrison at the JCYS Baseball Season Kickoff Parade on Saturday, be sure to give him a warm welcome.

On Wednesday, I delivered the 2018 First Quarter Progress Report, highlighting several of the items that we have moved forward thus far. Some of the progress was orchestrated in response to our big picture goals identified in January, and set forth for implementation. Some of them are in response to events and concerns brought to us as the first quarter unfolded. Next week, Village Manager McDonnell will provide us with a report on how she and her staff are progressing with the ambitious list of 2018 Strategic Initiatives.

Click here to read my full remarks, or you may view that portion of last week's meeting from this link. We are pleased to be moving forward with recommendations from the Housing Needs Assessment. One of the top recommendations of that report was to strengthen our code enforcement regarding unsafe and overcrowded housing. Efforts on that front began last year with an updating of Village code, expanding the tools our staff has available to enforce NYS codes. One very frustrating delay in the implementation of that initiative has been hiring adequate staff in the Building Department. This winter the County finally had a new list of qualified applicants to draw from. And I am very excited to report that just last week, we have filled the position of the third Code Enforcement officer.

Great things are happening here in the Village. Occasionally we even get noticed by outside entities. Ossining was recently identified as one of the Top Ten Most Affordable Places to Live in Westchester. The Westchester Magazine article that highlighted us in this manner took note of the historic architecture of our downtown, reminded folks that last year they had identified us as One of the Best Places to Live, and referred to us as "insanely affordable as Westchester goes." We were also recognized as one of safest places to live in America,

among communities with populations of at least 25,000. We were, in fact, ranked 29th. Safe and affordable, those are a couple of nice reasons to be recognized as a great place to live. And we all look forward to building on that reputation as we implement more of our goals and initiatives this year.

Connecting This Week

Join me for **Open Office Hours** tomorrow, Tuesday from 10am-12noon in the Board of Trustees office at Village Hall. No appointment is necessary, and all are welcome to discuss any topic, concern or idea of interest to you.

Have a burning question or idea, at any hour of the day or night?... Email me (mayor@villageofossining.org), the Board of Trustees (bot@villageofossining.org) or Village Manager Debbie McDonnell (dmcdonnell@villageofossining.org).

This Week's Work Session

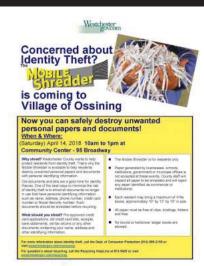
This week's Work Session includes a discussion of the proposed public dock extension at Henry Gourdine Park. That initiative is a collaborative effort including representatives from the Village, Town, Ossining Boat & Canoe Club, Ginsburg Development Companies, Clearwater, the MTA, as well as state and federal regulatory agencies. The Board of Trustees will review a design reflecting the priorities and concerns of all parties, and look to seek grant funding for the construction stage.

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 at Legislative Sessions on the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

With Regards,



Victoria Gearity, Ossining Mayor





Mobile Shredder Comes to Ossining

The Mobile Shredder will be at the Joseph G. Caputo Community Center on Saturday, April 14 from 10am until 1pm.

Protect yourself from identity theft while decluttering paper from your home. Each household may bring up to four boxes of paper to be shredded. Please remove all fasteners and hardcovers.

The mobile shredder is provided by Westchester County as an effort to share services among communities. For more information about the Mobile Shredder, click here.

