

VICTORIA GEARITY Mayor

VILLAGE OF OSSINING

Municipal Building

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

May 21, 2018



Inspiring Ceremonies & Public Input

May weekends are filled with ceremonies celebrating achievements and marking transitions to a new season. Assemblywoman Galef, Supervisor Levenberg and I were invited to share in the recent Girl Scout ceremony which this year included over 30 graduating seniors. Ossining is fortunate to have so many community members who volunteer to serve and inspire Ossining youth.

Will we see you at the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28? The parade begins at 9:30am, winding down Croton Avenue, Main Street, and Spring Street, then culminates in Nelson Park where we gather for a ceremony honoring our veterans. A special thank you to the Central Committee of Organized War Veterans of the

Town of Ossining for organizing this special event every year.

At last week's Legislative Session, we called for a Public Hearing to take place on June 6 regarding Local Law 3-2018, an update to our Affordable Housing Law. <u>Residents are encouraged to read the proposed changes in preparation for the Public Hearing</u>. Many of the elements of the proposed update are drawn from the <u>Housing Needs Assessment</u> policy recommendation #5. <u>To read the proposed legislation, click here</u>. When the Village passed our existing Affordable Housing Law in 2006, establishing that 10% of new residential units would be set aside for residents in the 80% area median income range, we were at the forefront of progressive housing policy. In the past dozen years, other communities have surpassed us. The Trustees and I are united in our desire to more effectively encourage affordable housing opportunities in the Village. Exactly how best to achieve that goal is being determined now, and we'd like to hear from you at the June 6 Public Hearing or in writing in the days following.

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 meeting begins with a Special Session when we plan to appoint a volunteer to represent the Village on matters associated with the Community Development Block Grant

(CDBG) program, as a <u>Community Development Advisory Group (CDAG)</u> representative. There's still time to submit your letter of interest. <u>Click here to learn more</u>.

The Work Session discussion will begin with a focus on improving the technology used for recreation programming. We will welcome Superintendent of Recreation & Parks Bill Garrison to present the new approach he proposes.

We will then transition to discussing a number of topics related to code enforcement from both a legal and operational perspective. We will be joined by Building Inspector Joe Agostinelli and Deputy Corporation Counsel Sonia Tanksley.

As always, Work Sessions are an opportunity for the Trustees and me 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



Calling all Planners!

The Village is hiring! Do you know anyone who is a qualified planner? If so, <u>please share this link</u> which provides details about the positions of <u>Director of</u> <u>Planning & Development</u> and <u>Planner</u>. The deadline for applying is June 1.

This is an exciting time to join the Village planning team. Last year was a significant one for the Village in clarifying our planning and development goals. <u>The Housing Needs</u> <u>Assessment we undertook with Kevin Dwarka Consulting</u>

produced a comprehensive and strategic policy framework through the lens of housing, recognizing the first step is a clear economic strategy. <u>The Downtown</u> <u>Redevelopment Working Committee</u> was a community led process that envisions a further revitalized downtown with a series of recommendations which overlap and complement the recommendations of the Housing Needs Assessment. Our new planning staff will be critical in guiding us forward from this foundation.

