



VICTORIA GEARTY  
Mayor

# VILLAGE OF OSSINING

## Municipal Building

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### Honoring Firefighters

Thank you to the Ossining Fire Department for doing a terrific job again hosting the Ossining Firefighters Parade. This annual celebration to honor the volunteers who protect us, happened just hours before a reminder of why their dedication is so critical to our safety. The stubborn fire that night in the Olive Opera House thankfully did not cause any injuries to OFD members or the surrounding Mutual Aid departments that came to assist. No residents were displaced by the fire. The initial report indicates the structure of the roof and brick facades appear to be sound.

Last week's Legislative Session included calling for Public Hearings on five proposed local laws.

Provided below is information and a link for the three local laws that will be open for comment at the August 15 meeting. The other two local laws will have their Public Hearings at future meetings.

### Summer Break Schedule

There will not be **Open Office Hours** this week or next. Open Office Hours will resume on Tuesday, August 21. No appointment is necessary, and all are welcome to discuss any topic, concern or idea of interest to you.

The next **Open Office Hours on the Road** will happen from 10:00-11:30AM at Good Choice Kitchen at 147 Main Street. If I have a break between visitors, I'll be tempted to indulge in some delicious avocado toast with hummus on multigrain bread--yum! All are encouraged to stop by my table, and just like regular Office Hours, feel free to share any topic, concern or idea, and no appointment is necessary.

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

### Updated August Village Board Calendar

There will not be a Village Board meeting this week. But since August includes a fifth Wednesday, we do still have three more public meetings to look forward to this month. Here are some of the highlights of what to expect. Take note of the alternate time and location for the August 29 meeting.

August 15, Village Board Legislative Session, 7:30PM at the Birdsall-Fagan Police/Court Facility on Spring Street: This meeting will begin with Public Hearings on proposed Local Laws #6, #8 and #9. [Links to all proposed local laws are available here.](#) Local Law #6 opens the door for venues that may want to apply for a one-day cabaret permit. Local Law #8 streamlines the process for parade and public gathering permits. Local Law #9 is related to animal tethering.

August 22, Village Board Work Session, 7:30PM at Village Hall: This meeting will include an update on progress with designs for updating the Operations Center and well as constructing a new Water Treatment Facility. We will also hear from Pattern for Progress and IFCA about a series of recent charrettes with community stakeholders and financial investors focused on the Broad Avenue corridor.

August 29, Village Board Work Session, 7PM in the Ossining High School Library: The focus of this meeting will be the results of the Vacancy Study which was undertaken to learn if residential buildings with six+ units that were built prior to 1974 are eligible to be part of the NYS rent stabilization program known as ETPA (Emergency Tenant Protections Act). Thank you to the Ossining School District for opening their facility for this meeting. As we anticipate significant interest in the results of this study, we wanted to secure a space that would allow for ample seating as well as a slide presentation.

With Regards,



Victoria Gearity, Ossining Mayor



### Gender Neutral Signage Installed

Gender neutral signage for single person bathrooms in Village facilities began getting installed last week. There was some press coverage of this topic which will be helpful in sharing two messages. As a Village that values diversity and inclusivity, this policy makes a clear statement that all people are welcome in our community. Also, it helps to make folks aware that when they see a door with the symbol of a triangle within a circle, it means there's a restroom inside.

[Here's a link to one of the news stories](#) about the implementation of this new signage policy.

