

VILLAGE OF OSSINING

Municipal Building

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

October 22, 2018



Storm Preparations, Budget Hearing & Tree Clearing

Hoping for the best and preparing for the worst. That's what motivated a room full of state, county and local officials to meet last week at ConEd headquarters. We learned about improvements to further prevent outages, respond more quickly, and enhance customer communication. Ongoing feedback from folks on the ground in municipalities has influenced the utility's priorities now being implemented.

<u>Last week</u> we called for the Public Hearing on the 2019 Budget to take place on Wednesday, November 14 at Village Hall. Village Manager Debbie McDonnell will open the hearing with a presentation about what is included in her proposed budget. The

proposed budget will be delivered to the Trustees and me the previous week and will be available for public review. What do you believe the Village Board should prioritize in the 2019 budget? Bring your questions or comments to the Public Hearing at 7:30pm on November 14 at Village Hall.

Item F on last week's agenda was related to clearing trees at the Indian Brook Water Treatment Facility in preparation for the infrastructure upgrades planned for next year. Even those of us on the Village Board that have participated in a number of public conversations about this project took note of the startling number of trees that will be cut down this winter. For an understanding of the review and requests by the Town Planning and Zoning Board, as well as reasons the date specific reasons for the timing to this effort, click here to view my exchange with Corporation Counsel Stuart Kahan regarding the process.

Connecting This Week

Open Office Hours will take place tomorrow from 10am-12noon in the Board of Trustees office on the first floor of 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).

Work Session Wednesday

<u>This week's Work Session</u> begins with consideration of funding again this year for a program called BEAMS (Be Excellent at Middle School) that is a partnership between the Village and the Ossining Public Library. This program was initiated last year as an extension of our goal to support healthy youth development in Ossining.

We will also be looking ahead to winter storms locally as Corporation Counsel introduces a recommendation for updating the Village code related to snow.

As always, Work Sessions are an opportunity for the Village Board 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 typically held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

With Regards,



Victoria Gearity, Ossining Mayor



Elections Matter

On Thursday evening at 7PM the Ossining Chamber of Commerce and the League of Women Voters will be hosting a Candidates Forum at the Ossining Public Library. The program will be recorded and available for viewing on television and online for those who are not able to attend in person. Anyone interested in submitting a question for the moderator to consider posing to candidates, is encouraged to arrive early. Overflow parking spaces are available behind Village Hall.

If you or a member of your household will be unable to get to the polls on November 6, there is still time to apply for an absentee ballot in person at the Westchester Board of Elections. Click here to learn more.

Interested in knowing what candidates will be on your ballot? <u>The League of Women Voters can help.</u>







