



VICTORIA GEARTY  
Mayor

# VILLAGE OF OSSINING

## Municipal Building

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March 19, 2018



### **Saturday Rally & Recapping the Recent Meeting**

Last week's Work Session wrapped up with a vote on two resolutions related to the Village agreeing to co-sponsor the upcoming March for Our Lives event taking place at noon on Saturday, March 24 at Louis Engel Waterfront Park. The program, led by Ossining students, is one of hundreds being organized for this Saturday. Pictured here are two of the lead organizers, OHS students Diana Kennedy and Caroline Reed. [Click here to learn](#)

[more](#) about the national conversation that local residents are bringing to Ossining.

The recent Work Session was long, and covered a number of significant topics. Chief Sylvester joined us for two of the agenda items. Folks interested in tuning in to the discussion of how to prevent illegitimate massage parlors from operating in the Village, [can click here \(36:33\)](#). The [discussion of Towing \(1:34\)](#) was, in part, consideration of an update to our code to enable the Ossining Police Department to tow vehicles with multiple unpaid parking violations. Providing for this capability was recommended by NYS Comptroller DiNapoli's Office as one method for reducing the accumulation of unpaid parking tickets. In conjunction with this legislative action, Chief Sylvester recommended we formalize standards for local towing companies that OPD may call on for this purpose, as well as update the related fees and consumer protections.

The next two topics were related to housing. Improving the Village's ability to provide safe, affordable and accessible housing is a focus for this Board. I encourage anyone who is interested in housing policy to read the strategic [Policy Framework report from the Housing Needs Assessment undertaken last year](#). During the Work Session it was determined that the next step in consideration of a proposed update to the [Affordable Housing Policy \(2:07\)](#) would be a request for opinions from the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals. A majority of the members of the Board of Trustees is seeking to enable the NYS rent stabilization program known as ETPA. The first step in this process is to [undertake a vacancy study \(3:07\)](#). Electeds and staff discussed what would be included in the Request for Proposals (RFP) being issued to find a consultant able to conduct that survey.

The next topic of discussion was related to [a request for the Village to change our zoning ordinance \(3:30\)](#). It was noted at the meeting that former Village Planner Valerie Monastra, and the firm she works for, have been removed from the project. As was explained by our Corporation Counsel and Director of Planning, the Revised Scoping Document is a first

step in a lengthy process examining the environmental impact of a requested text amendment to our zoning code. Unlike other projects in our area that have raised significant questions where a full environmental impact study was not undertaken, the Village has embarked on a full SEQRA process. Corporation Counsel Kahan estimates that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) will be ready for review and discussion this fall, at the earliest. The results of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) will enable the Planning Board to offer an opinion on the proposed zoning change, and the Board of Trustees will then determine if we feel it is appropriate to amend our zoning code to change the density permitted in the zones currently designated as Conservation Development Districts. If we did make a change, at that time the owner of land in that district could propose the project known as Snowden Woods.

### **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 Village Board Meeting**

This week's Legislative Session includes *Resolution Approving Final Scoping Document for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Amendment to the Village of Ossining Zoning Code Presented by Ossining River Associates, Inc.* as was discussed above. I anticipate that folks interested in the potential for a zoning change that could open the door for Snowden Woods to be proposed, may want to attend and comment. I will again link last week's discussion of the SEQRA process and the revised Scoping Document that we will be voting on.

This week is a Legislative Session so it includes a number of invitations for community members to publicly comment. If you would like to spread the word about an upcoming event, please take up to two minutes during Organizational Announcements. Folks who would like to comment on the resolutions included on that night's agenda may do so for up to four minutes at the start of the Village Board Resolutions portion of the meeting. The meeting closes with an invitation for community members to comment for up to three minutes during Visitor Recognition about any topic of relevance to the common good of the Village. We invite community members to reach out to us by email (bot@villageofossining.org) anytime.

With Regards,



Victoria Gearity, Ossining Mayor

### **Repairing Beloved but Broken Items**

The Village is delighted to co-sponsor the bi-monthly Repair Cafe that is organized by Green Ossining. This



### Fixing Broken, But Beloved Items...for FREE!

**When:** Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> & May 19<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 11 AM - 3 PM

**Where:** Joseph Caputo Community Center  
Recreation Room /Lower-Level Entrance

#### *We can help with:*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ✓ Fabric Repair: seams, cuffs, hems, patches, buttons, pockets, etc | ✓ Plants: Advice & How-Tos                         |
| ✓ Wood Repair   | ✓ Ceramic Repair                                   |
| ✓ Electrical Appliances   | ✓ Bikes (including tires)                          |
| ✓ Toys  | ✓ Kids Table: learning circuitry & how stuff works |
| ✓ Tech Support for Computers & Mobile Devices                       | ✓ Costume Jewelry                                  |

\*\*\*No Gas-Powered Items\*\*\*

For more information: [www.greenossining.org](http://www.greenossining.org), or contact Michele Stone, Green Ossining's Repair Cafe Coordinator: [mstone@greenossining.org](mailto:mstone@greenossining.org). Thanks to the Ossining Recreation & Parks Department, the Village of Ossining, First Village Coffee and Melrose Lumber for their partnership in this effort.



Saturday, talented volunteers will be on hand with tools, glue, needle & thread, and most anything helpful to repairing beloved but broken items from your home.

The Repair Cafe takes place at the Joseph G. Caputo Community Center from 11am until 3pm. Bring your toys, bikes, antiques, small electrical appliances, and items made of fabric, wood or ceramic. They'll even have experts on hand to offer advice on household plants and electronic devices. While adults are seeking repair help, kids can learn circuitry and how stuff works at the Kids Table.

