

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OSSINING PUBLIC LIBRARY
Special Meeting
May 8, 2025 – 6:00pm
2nd Floor Conference Room
53 Croton Ave., Ossining, NY,
61 Babcock St., #4, Brookline, MA**

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

BOT Members physically present: Amanda Curley, Meghan Huppuch, Rachel Murphy, and Phil Rice

BOT Member attending remotely via Zoom with prior notice: Alice Joselow

BOT Member attending remotely via Zoom without prior notice: Althema Goodson

BOT Member absent with prior notice: Cecilia Quintero

OPL Staff physically present: Karen LaRocca-Fels, Molly Robbins, and Steve Hamilton

Call to Order

Meghan Huppuch called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

Meghan Huppuch read aloud the OPL Mission and Vision statements:

The Ossining Public Library enriches, connects, and inspires our community. The Ossining Public Library will be the community's center for lifelong learning.

Resolutions

RESOLUTION #51 Approval of the Calgi Construction Company Contract for Pre-Project Bond Referendum, Dated May 8, 2025.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the Calgi Construction Company Contract, dated May 8, 2025.

On a motion by Phil Rice, seconded by Amanda Curley, and passed unanimously 5-0, Resolution #51 was approved.

RESOLUTION #52 Approval of the Lothrop Additional Services Request #3, Dated April 25, 2025, in the Amount of \$18,700.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the Lothrop Additional Services Request #3 – Acoustical Consulting Contract, dated April 25, 2025, in the amount of \$18,700.

On a motion by Rachel Murphy, seconded by Amanda Curley, and passed unanimously 5-0, Resolution #52 was approved.

RESOLUTION #53 SEQRA CONCLUSION RESOLUTION, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Ossining Public Library (the "Library") seeks to undertake a capital improvement project (the "Project") at the existing Library facility at

53 Croton Avenue, Ossining, New York, with both interior and exterior work as described in the Project Scope document set forth in **Exhibit A**, attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Library desires to comply with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, as set forth in Article 8 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, and the requirements of the implementing regulations set forth at 6 NYCRR Part 617 (the “Regulations”) (collectively, “SEQRA”); and

WHEREAS, the Library drafted Part 1 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form (“FEAF”)¹ with respect to the Project, dated March 17, 2025; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2025, the Library adopted a Resolution declaring its intent to serve as lead agency for the coordinated SEQRA review of the Project and preliminarily classified the Project as a “Unlisted action,” as that term is defined in SEQRA, a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**; and

WHEREAS, the Library identified potentially involved agencies in regard to the Project and contacted such agencies to request consent for the Board to serve as lead agency and sent Part 1 of the EAF in accordance with SEQRA’s coordinated review requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Ossining Union Free School District Board of Education adopted a Resolution on April 22, 2025, giving the Library permission to act as lead agency for the SEQRA review of the Project, a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit C**; and

WHEREAS, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (“OPRHP”) replied by letter dated March 25, 2025, and opined that no properties, including archaeological and/or historic resources, listed in or eligible for the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places will be impacted by the Project, a copy of OPRHP’s letter is attached hereto as **Exhibit D**; and

WHEREAS, all other involved agencies did not respond to the Library’s SEQRA coordination letter and thereby consent to the Library’s role as lead agency; and

WHEREAS, the Board has prepared Part 2 of the FEAF, a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit E**, and considered all information and documentation regarding the Project, including Parts 1 and 2 of the FEAF and the Library’s knowledge of the property involved in the Project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to SEQRA, the Library has considered the Project in light of the actions included on the Type I list specified in Section 617.4 of the Regulations and in light of the actions included on the Type II list specified in Section 617.5 of the Regulations; and

¹ Note that the Library used the new draft model FEAF, as allowed per New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Guidance, to fully evaluate potential impacts to disadvantaged communities in compliance with the Environmental Justice Siting Law (Chapter 840 of the Laws of 2022, as amended by Chapter 49 of the Laws of 2023).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Library declares that:

1. *The Library assumes the role of lead agency for the coordinated review under SEQRA for the Project; and*
2. *Based upon the record before it, and under the applicable standards of SEQRA, the Project is classified as an “Unlisted action,” as that term is defined in SEQRA; and*
3. *No significant adverse environmental impacts are noted in Parts 1 or 2 of the FEOF for the Project and none are known to the Board, therefore, the Board hereby determines that the Project will not have a significant adverse environmental impact, and will not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement with respect to the Project; and*
4. *Accordingly, the Board approves the Negative Declaration for the Project and Part 3 of the FEOF, attached hereto as **Exhibit F**, and will maintain a copy of such Negative Declaration in the Library Director’s office in a file that will be accessible to the public and*
5. *The Board hereby adopts Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the FEOF; and*
6. *A copy of this Resolution shall be provided to all involved agencies; and*
7. *The Library will comply with guidance issued by the New York State Education Department; and*
8. *This Resolution shall take effect immediately.*

On a motion by Amanda Curley, seconded by Rachel Murphy, and passed unanimously 5-0, Resolution # 53 was approved.

Discussion

- Building Renovation Project Scope and Budget

BOT discussion focused on 1) the upcoming meeting with Community Leaders; 2) building project scope and bond messaging, and 3) coordinating dates with the Ossining Union Free School District for the required project approvals and a scheduled bond vote date.

- Library Tours

BOT discussion focused on opening the library for guided tours for interested parties to view the areas in need of repairs and to explain what the library will look like after the envisioned repairs and upgrades are completed.

Adjournment

On a motion by Amanda Curley, seconded by Rachel Murphy, and passed unanimously 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53pm.