

**Yorktown Senior Advisory Committee General Meeting
February 18, 2022 at Town Hall**

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 pm by Chairwoman RoseMarie Panio. Pledge of Allegiance was said followed by a moment of silence for our first responders, our policemen, our troops and all who serve and protect us.

RoseMarie then had the Executive Board that was present introduce themselves: Barbara Leifels, Daryl Lindholm, Jennie Mention, Maria Fama, Joe Falcone, liaison for Parks & Rec., Noreen O'Driscoll, and Ed Lachterman, liaison for Town Board. Also present at the meeting was Jim Martorano, from Yorktown Parks & Rec, Town Clerk Diana Quast, Councilman Tom Diana, and Supervisor Matt Slater. She also thanked our lunch sponsor, New York Presbyterian / Hudson Valley Hospital – NYP/HVH

Brian Sillick, Chairman of Jefferson Village Veterans Club spoke about the club in Jefferson Village. This club is made up of about 100 and is for Jefferson Village residents. Ed Lachterman also reminded us that there are other Veteran's Clubs in Yorktown – VFW, Purple Heart Fraternal Organization, American Legion, Sons of the American Legion. There is a Veteran's page on Town website.

RoseMarie reminded residents that there are many volunteer opportunities throughout the Town. Next month Yvonne Cech, the new Director from John C. Hart Library, will be speaking. She will be accompanied by Ellen Tannenbaum Director of Adult Services. They are always looking for volunteers.

She then introduced Yorktown Police Chief Robert Noble who spoke about the many scams that are around. He passed out a handout outlining the elder scams and how we can be safe from these scams. He also answered questions from the floor. Many good solutions for residents were shared.

Town Supervisor Matt Slater then came to the podium to give a report of the State of Yorktown. He mentioned how proud we are that Yorktown Town Police have been named as one of the top 10 safest places to live in the country. The Department is also accredited by the State of New York.

He spoke of the back breaking increase in the utility bills. The Town has asked Con Ed to come to the table to talk about these increases. They have ignored these requests. Special Council for Rate Payer Protection has been asked by Supervisor and Town Board to look into these exorbitant increases. The Town Board has sent a resolution to Public Service Commission opposing the rate hike. The Board has also asked that a representative of the Public Service Commission attend a public meeting here in Town Hall as part of their procedure for determining the rate hike. They are awaiting the response. The Town has also put a petition on the Town website that people can sign to send to the Public Service Commission opposing the rate hike. He encouraged all residents to sign a petition.

The Town has been in touch with Sustainable Westchester. The Board voted to go ahead with getting this program going. It will be announced and information

disseminated in the very near future. It is a program that you can join or not. You may opt out or opt in. Having this program will keep our utility rates supplied by Sustainable Westchester at a fixed rate.

The Town Board has opposed the Accessory Dwelling Mandate. This mandate would legislate throughout the State what can and cannot be done with accessory dwellings. Accessory dwellings are units that are extra to your dwelling, i.e., unit above your garage, units to rent out, etc. Yorktown has 177 right now. This mandate would say "one size fits all" and most likely would affect these in Yorktown. It just doesn't make sense to enact this program, especially when you are putting New York City and Long Island into the mix. Supervisors and legislators worked together, Republican and Democratic. The Governor just said last night that she will be taking this out of the proposed budget.

The Town Board is responding to the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) law which says that any one acre residential property within ½ mile of a bus stop can put up a 25 unit apartment house on that property. The Yorktown Town Board is vehemently opposing this. Again the Supervisors and Mayors across the State, Republican and Democratic, are coming together to express their concern and are against this as it does away with home rule.

Section 8 housing is opening up again. Sandrine Nseng is the coordinator for Yorktown. The list is being opened again. Contact Sandrine to see if you qualify for help with your rent. Her number is 914-962-5757.

Our Town Board is open. All our agencies are open. It is time to integrate with our friends and acquaintances.

Information regarding Sustainable Westchester is on Town website. Phone number for Community Solar is 914-242-4725. The Town Board has initiated contact with Sustainable Westchester and begun the process of adopting their program.

Honor Flight will be on May 21st out of Westchester Airport. Yorktown will host several of the kick off events. Please contact Ed Lachterman or Supervisor's office if you are interested. Shoprite is the main sponsor of this flight.

A resident asked about donations for United For the Troops. They take donations throughout the year.

James Martorano spoke about the clubs starting up again at the Albert Capellini Community Center. Shrub Oak Seniors have already started at the AACCC. Chapter 1 will be starting on Tuesday at 1:00pm. AARP will be starting up on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 2:30pm. Booklet for Parks and Recreation will be sent out on March 19th for Spring and Summer. The Senior flyer comes out once every two months.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Daryl Lindholm, Secretary