

**TOWN OF ORANGETOWN
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2003**

The Regular Town Board Meeting was opened at 7:43 P.M. Supervisor Kleiner presided. The Town Clerk called the Roll. Present were:

Councilman Edward Fisher
Councilman Denis O'Donnell
Councilman Denis Troy
Councilwoman Marie Manning

Also present:

Charlotte Madigan, Town Clerk
Eliot Tozer, Deputy Supervisor
James K. Riley, Town Attorney
Thomas O'Connell, Deputy Town Attorney
Suzanne Barclay, Executive Assistant to Supervisor
Charles Richardson, Director of Finance
James Dean, Superintendent of Highways
Robert Beckerle, Dir. Dept. Environmental Mgt. & Eng.
Robert Simon, Receiver of Taxes
John Giardiello, Director, OBZPAE
Kevin A. Nulty, Chief of Police
Terrance Sullivan, Captain of Police
Richard L. Rose, Jr., Supt., Parks-Rec.& Buildg. Maint.
Bert von Wurmb, Building department

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The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Charlotte Madigan, Town Clerk

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Supervisor Kleiner State of the Town Address Town of Orangetown

Welcome to the Town of Orangetown's January 6th 2003 Organizational Meeting. This is a mid-term report or a summary of where we are and the challenges that lay ahead for this year and beyond. There is no question that we face unprecedented challenges and opportunities in Orangetown, both locally and regionally.

RPC: Our number one priority locally remains the careful development of the surplus land at Rockland Psychiatric Center. The public's ratification of our decision to buy the surplus property and determine our own destiny, gives us confidence that we're going in the right direction. We have already put out a request for proposal for an indoor sports facility that will address unmet recreational and bring in tax ratable.

Tonight we expect to send out a second request for proposal for a swimming facility and community center on the banks of Lake Tappan, truly a remarkable site for a municipal facility. Simultaneously with these efforts we will begin to construct a request for proposal to market the difficult center core of the site.

Immediately adjacent to that core is the Broadacres golf course and we are fortunate to have reached a tentative settlement with the Broadacres golf club to have the Town assume the State's lease with the course and then have the Town assume ownership in several years. Whether the County of Rockland works with us to expand that course to an 18-hole course and take on the challenges of building remediation/demolition is not yet known. But Broadacres golf course will remain as an important amenity in Orangetown.

Providing opportunities for senior housing, whether at RPC, the Mercedes-Benz property or other appropriate site remains a priority. Councilmembers O'Donnell and Manning joined some of us for a tour of units designed by the architect who proposed units at Mercedes and we were favorably impressed. And housing for our younger residents who want to stay in our community, especially our volunteers who contribute so much, will also be sought.

Hamlet Centers and Comp Plan: Efforts are under way to revitalize our hamlet centers, a major goal of our comprehensive plan update. That update will be voted on later this month. Already, improvements have been made in our largest hamlet, Pearl River. New light stanchions are in place and Central Avenue is being readied for parallel parking.

The Orangetown Sewer Department and Highway Department deserve credit for their work that has helped us keep cost down in this regard. But as we have said many times before, these aesthetic changes will help, but revitalization of our main downtown will still need the cooperation and participation of citizens and business leaders.

The newly formed People's Council in Pearl River, an offshoot of the Chamber of Commerce, will be a great help in these efforts. The revitalization of the last remaining movie theater will also be a great shot in the arm for whatever comes next in Pearl River.

Downtown parking issues will be addressed next month. We need to develop better solutions that meet the needs of residents, businesses and commuters. We also need to think ahead to maximize the positive impact of the Secaucus transfer station, scheduled to open later this year.

Route 303 Sustainable Development Study: The completion of the Route 303 Sustainable Development Study, the final draft of which was released on December 23rd gives us great hope that the most difficult transportation and land use corridor in Orangetown, can be transformed into something that is a model for suburban land use and transportation. The Sustainable Development Study, which uniquely linked land use and its impact on transportation and traffic safety, was a success as a study.

The challenge now is to determine if its results can be implemented. We are hopeful, because of the close working relationship that we have forged with the study partners, New York State Department of Transportation and the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council, that at least some of the major recommendations can be achieved.

Tom Schuetz, the Executive Director of NYMTC came to the press conference announcing the completion of the study on December 23rd, as did Rich Peters of Region 8 of the New York State DOT.

We expect that a vegetative or treed median on at least the key portions of Route 303, improved landscaping, improved signage, improved safety including left-hand turn signals and lanes at intersections will happen. The biggest ticket item, the reconfiguration and realignment of the Orangetown Road Bridge with Route 340 in Orangeburg, is a long-term goal, but is obviously dependent on financing and the state of our economy.

Water Crisis: Regionally, it now appears that even non-drought conditions will not cure our water woes. Information provided to us by Nick Christie-Blick of Lamont indicates that a drought only focuses our attention on a problem that must be solved by better control of development patterns. It is not enough to conserve water. The impact of development on our water supply must be evaluated in every large development project. A Water Committee has been set up in Orangetown to do just that. Eileen Larkin, Watson Morgan, Fran Oldenburger and Mr. Blick have already expressed interest in serving.

Millennium Pipeline: The Millennium Pipeline, which is an issue that is really quite new to Orangetown residents. We must, however, continue a united front of opposition to any plan that proposes to locate the pipeline here. The Pipeline is already constructed to Haverstraw. The issue now is whether it should cross the Haverstraw Bay and continue into Westchester or be diverted south possibly along the Palisades Interstate Parkway across Tallman Mountain Park across the Piermont Marsh, crossing the Hudson at that point. This latter option, actually one of three proposed, is not only bad for Orangetown residents but is unnecessarily disruptive of major parts of Rockland County that did not anticipate such a disruption. Joan Konner from Palisades recently sent an article from a Toledo, Ohio paper that catalogued the dangers of pipelines.

Indian Point: We will continue to urge the closing of the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant and put pressure on our fellow elected officials to do the same.

TZ Bridge: The final regional issue is the one with the most far-reaching implications for Orangetown, the River Villages and the region: the future of the Tappan Zee Bridge. A 31-page

scoping document has just been released by the study team and it is quite comprehensive. The inclusion of such things has the impact of any new structure on the view shed of the Hudson. The fact that the Hudson is a designated national historic river and the fact that aesthetics must be taken into account in any new plan is encouraging. The scoping document emphasizes four issues: the need to solve congestion in the region, the service of the bridge for "defense" highways, the aging structure of the bridge and the lack of mobility, e.g. mass transit.

This emphasis certainly suggests that a replacement of the Bridge is likely to be a preferred option. If that is the case, the challenge is to insure that any new structure takes into account the unique, natural surroundings of the Hudson River and its environs and that that part of the analysis is given great weight in the final determination. We must insure that if a mass transit component, i.e. passenger rail, is preferred, that there is money to support it. Otherwise, as critics of Robert Moses discovered decades before, additional highway lanes will only provide the opportunity for more, not less congestion.

Efficient Government: Along with these unprecedented planning issues we will continue to keep Orangetown one of the leanest, most efficient municipalities in Rockland County with fewer Town employees per capita than any other municipality. Our employees and departments have done a great job containing costs and doing more with less. Some examples:

Police Department: The department advocated for and, with the assistance of Congressman Gilman, was awarded a grant to allow us to have youth officers in our schools four days a week. The police administration has worked with us to make these changes by reorganizing the force without the need to increase person power. In fact, the number of officers is at its most efficient level ever.

Highway Department: The department continues to do its excellent job under difficult conditions. Because Superintendent Jim Dean fought for a responsible capital program and the Town Board has accommodated most of his requests, the condition of the fleet is excellent. So, during the last difficult snow and ice storm, only one of our trucks was out of service, a rate that far exceeded other municipalities.

Parks: Aside from the obvious challenges of RPC, the parks department continues to advocate for the upkeep and improvement of our existing parks. The Town Board has authorized a modest bond issue that will address some of our most pressing needs: among them: new surfacing for the Independence Park tennis courts, a new showmobile.

Attorney: Jim Riley and Tom O'Connor along with the town attorney's office have worked with the Board to pass a comprehensive property maintenance law & are working to close on the RPC property. Despite all this, there is less work farmed out to outside counsel than ever before.

Building Department: Director John Giardiello is working with the Rockland Economic Development Corporation to computerize the permitting and approval process so that permits can be granted over the Internet.

Sewer: Director Bob Beckerle and the engineering department continue to assist us with the latest G.I.S. technology, which will be important in evaluating RPC and other planning proposals.

Assessor, Receiver, Clerk, Town Justice: These offices are performing at their typically high standards.

Finance: The Department has reaped its sixth consecutive Government Finance Officers Association award. Credit is due to current finance director Charlie Richardson and chief accountant Barbara Feld.

Land Use Boards: Charlie Richardson, as many of you know, was appointed following a merit selection process that has served the town well. We also strive, through this kind of a process, to strengthen our land use boards through strong, independent appointments. Not all of this can be accomplished in any one year, but we pledge that progress will be made.

For all of these challenges, local and regional, we seek your input, your ideas and your vision as we try to make Orangetown an even greater place to live, work and raise our families.

Councilman Fisher said "I firmly believe that each of us comes to our position on the Town Board with our strengths, and weaknesses. It is my clear belief that each of us comes with the sole purpose of serving the people of Orangetown. We must set aside our personal agendas, which we carry with us. We must look at all issues we face-as a cohesive group and not as five individuals. We can truly make a positive difference with the following 1. The redevelopment of Rockland Psychiatric Center. 2. A tax neutral Rockland Psychiatric Center. 3. Development of ball fields. 4. A pool. 5. A full service recreational center. 6. Senior Housing with a full and comprehensive study of needs and cost of Senior Housing."

RESOLUTION NO. 4**2003/MARRIAGE OFFICERS**

Councilman Fisher offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilwoman Manning and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following are designated as Marriage Officers for a one-year term, effective January 1, 2003, at no salary.

Supervisor Thom Kleiner
 Councilwoman Marie Manning
 Councilman Edward Fisher
 Councilman Denis O'Donnell
 Councilman Denis Troy
 Town Clerk Charlotte Madigan

Ayes: Councilpersons Fisher, Manning, Troy, O'Donnell,
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 5**JOURNAL NEWS/OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER**

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilwoman Manning and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Journal News is designated as the official newspaper for the Town of Orangetown pursuant to NYS Town Law Section 64 (11).

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, Manning, Fisher, O'Donnell
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 6**OUR TOWN/ROCKLAND COUNTY
TIMES/NOTICES/BIDS**

Councilman O'Donnell offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Troy and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, for the purposes of additional notices beyond those published in the Journal News as the official newspaper, designate the Our Town and the Rockland County Times for any notices of the Town Board and for any other official Board of the Town of Orangetown. Publication of such bids and notices shall be at the discretion of the Town of Orangetown.

Ayes: Councilpersons O'Donnell, Troy, Manning, Fisher
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 7**COMBINE AGENDA ITEMS**

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that agenda items seven (7) through twenty (20) are hereby combined as one.

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 8

2003 BLUE HILL/GOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following members are reappointed to the *Blue Hill Golf Advisory Committee*

John Clifford	Ann Marie Pettus
Dan Dinan	Julia A. Regan
Daniel Davis	Carol Silverstein
John Hickey	George Voorhis
Robert Ortman	Patrick J. Wrafter
Robert Parsons	Christopher Brauer

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
Supervisor Kleiner

Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 9

2003/VOLUNTEER HEALTH SERVICES

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following members are reappointed to the *Volunteer Health Services Committee*

Kitty Rooney Koch	James Dress
Paul Hadelar	Donna Alise
Maryanne Portoro	Margaret Warren

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
Supervisor Kleiner

Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 10

2003/CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR CDBG FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following members are reappointed to the *Citizens Advisory Committee for CDBG Funding Applications.*

Sister Jude Miriam DePalma	Mary Vail
Sister Peggy Scarano	

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
Supervisor Kleiner

Noes: None

RESOLUTION NO. 11

2003/PARKS DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following members are reappointed to the *Parks Development Advisory Committee:*

Mary McCloskey	Rich Volpe
Catherine Dodge	Barbara Olson
Micki Leader	Anne Byrne
Dr. Robert Schelin	Stanley Troy
Mary Kuhner	Kimball Parker
Watson Morgan	Bill Schule
Rita Dinan	Dan Dinan
Anthony DiGiavanni	Ed O'Dea

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 12 **2003/SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMITTEE**

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following members are reappointed to the *Substance Abuse Committee*:

Alessandro Sabatino	Detective James Neeck
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Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 13 **2003/TRAFFIC ADVISORY BOARD**

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following members are reappointed to the *Traffic Advisory Board*:

Leroy Holmes	Mike Yannazzone
Sgt. Dennis Flannery	Michele Violetto
Philip DeLorenzo	Sgt. Steven Fisher
Thomas Edatell	

And reappoint Rosemarie Fornario as clerk.

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 14 **2003/ BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION**

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following members are reappointed to the *Bureau of Fire Prevention*:

Mike Bettmann	Franklin Knower, Jr.
Robert Morrison	William Schlickenreider
John Ahlf	Christopher Flatley

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 15**2003/ CABLE TV COMMITTEE**

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following members are reappointed to the *Cable TV Committee*:

James Murphy	Akira Yamasaki
Al Goldstein	John Duffy

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
Supervisor Kleiner

Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 16**2003/ PEARL RIVER PARKING ADVISORY**

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following members are reappointed to the *Pearl River Parking Advisory Comm.:*

Ennio Munno	Gus Pappas
Carmelo Ritrovato	Robert Simon
Michael Fury	Melvin Liebmann
Tom Bertussi	Jeff McNichol
Herb Peckman	

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
Supervisor Kleiner

Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 17**2003/ SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following members are reappointed to the *Shade Tree Commission*:

Paul Melone

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
Supervisor Kleiner

Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 18**2003/ SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY**

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following members are reappointed to the *Senior Citizens Advisory Committee*:

Mary Brennan	Josephine Urban
Joseph Schaeffer	Anne Conklin
Phoebe T. Colwell	Anthony Ferrera
Martha Mian	Tom Meyer, Sr. Citizen Leader

and reappoint Rosemarie Fornario, Clerk.

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
Supervisor Kleiner

Noes: None

RESOLUTION NO. 23

2003/DELEGATE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman O'Donnell and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that Supervisor Kleiner be the delegate to the Association of Towns Meeting February 16-19, 2003 with John Giardiello as the alternate delegate to represent and vote on behalf of the Town of Orangetown.

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, O'Donnell, Manning, Fisher
Supervisor Kleiner
Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 24

2003/RTBM & W/S CALENDAR

Councilman Troy offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilwoman Manning and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the CALENDAR FOR THE 2003 TOWN BOARD MEETINGS is adopted

1/06/03		Organizational Meeting
1/13/03		RTBM/Audit
1/21/03		Workshop
1/27/03		RTBM/Audit
2/03/03		Workshop
2/10/03		RTBM/Audit
2/18/03		Workshop
2/24/03		RTBM/Audit
3/03/03		Workshop
3/10/03		RTBM/Audit
3/18/03	(Tues)	Workshop
3/24/03		RTBM/ Audit
4/07/03		Workshop
4/14/03		RTBM/Audit
4/21/03		Workshop
4/28/03		RTBM/Audit
5/05/03		Workshop
5/12/03		RTBM/Audit
5/19/03		Workshop
5/27/03	(Tues)	RTBM/Audit
6/02/03		Workshop
6/09/03		RTBM/Audit
6/16/03		Workshop
6/23/03		RTBM/Audit
7/14/03		Workshop
7/21/03		RTBM/Audit
8/04/03		Workshop
8/11/03		RTBM/Audit
9/02/03	(Tues)	Workshop
9/08/03		RTBM/Audit
9/15/03		Workshop
9/22/03		RTBM/Audit
10/07/03	(Tues)	Workshop
10/14/03	(Tues)	RTBM/Audit
10/20/03		Workshop
10/27/03		RTBM/Audit
11/03/03		Workshop
11/10/03		RTBM/Audit
11/17/03		Workshop

11/24/03	RTBM/Audit
12/08/03	Workshop
12/15/03	RTBM/Audit

Ayes: Councilpersons Troy, Manning, Fisher, O'Donnell
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 25

ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilwoman Manning offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Fisher and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby enters into executive session at 10:03 PM to discuss particular Personnel and particular litigation matters.

Ayes: Councilpersons Manning, Fisher, O'Donnell, Troy
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 26

RE-ENTER ORGANIZTIONAL MEETING

Councilwoman Manning offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Fisher and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby re-enters the organizational meeting at 11:05 PM

Ayes: Councilpersons Manning, Fisher, O'Donnell, Troy
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

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RESOLUTION NO. 27

ADJOURNMENT OF 2003 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Councilwoman Manning offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Fisher and was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Organizational Meeting is hereby adjourned at 11:06 PM.

Ayes: Councilpersons Manning, Fisher, O'Donnell, Troy
 Supervisor Kleiner
 Noes: None

CHARLOTTE MADIGAN, TOWN CLERK