

**DRAFT  
BOROUGH OF OLD TAPPAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 19, 2025**

**REGULAR IN-PERSON MEETING:**

The Open Public Meeting Notice: In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, notification of this meeting has been sent to our official newspapers and other publications circulated in the Borough of Old Tappan, and notice was posted on the bulletin board at Borough Hall.

**ATTENDANCE:**

David Keil	Chairperson
Nora Mann	
Wendy King	
Bill Boyce	Council Liaison

Absent:

Ryan Weaver  
Patrick Gambuti

Public: Dave Rosen (Buckingham Court, Old Tappan)

**PRIOR MINUTES:**

Minutes of the OTEC meeting from January were approved.

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:**

Dave Rosen provided a report about the proposed Phase II Data Center construction project in Orangetown, NY (right over the border with Old Tappan). Phase I has been constructed however the facility has not been brought into service at this time. Phase II of the project calls for additional expansion of a large data center, associated parking facilities which encroaches closer to Lake Tappan.

Taking notes, Bill Boyce was drafting a bulleted list of issues that are of concern to abutting residents. Many of those concerns are environmental in nature including new stormwater regulations, new wetland regulations, water quality at Lake Tappan, potential ELF exposure, noise mitigation etc. It is intended that the M&C will prepare a Resolution opposing the planned Phase II development in Orangetown.

## **COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT: (Bill Boyce)**

Bill provided updates on the following matters:

-the Borough continues to work with its attorneys on a settlement agreement with the developers of 244 Old Tappan Road. To date, those negotiations have resulted in an increase of the size of the property that will be donated to the Borough and keeping the historic house on the north side of Old Tappan Road.

-Borough is working on a Resolution opposing/challenging the Phase II proposal for Data Center construction in Orangetown, New York---which borders Old Tappan residential homes on Corrigan Way,

-a Landscape plan was developed for the DPW building on Central Avenue. Designed to help screen the building from view, the plans utilizes all native tree and plant species.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** There were no correspondences to discuss

### **ADENDA ITEMS:**

#### **Community Gardens:**

Commission members voted to increase the price for garden membership to \$50 per plot.

**Tree Sapling Give-Away:** Wendy reported progress. Event is scheduled for April 25, 2025

**Photo Contest 2025.** No report

**Northern Valley Earth Fair** No Report.

**Walk/Bike to School Day/Week:** OTEC will look to support this event in 2025—to correspond with National Walk to School Day October 8, 2025.

**Pollinator Garden:** OTEC looks to make improvements to the protective fencing at the gardens on Central Ave and Old Tappan Road and to add native pollinators to the plant list.

**Amendments to the Borough Tree Ordinance:** No report

**Hooked on Fishing 2025:** No report Tentatively scheduled for June 7 or June 8

**Open Forum Discussion:** in open forum, discussions regarding:

-See discussion on the proposed Orangetown data center above.

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES 2025**

March 18

April 15

May 20

June 17

September 16

October 21

November 18

**ADJOURNMENT:** Upon motion by Bill and seconded by Nora and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**