



VILLAGE OF DOBBS FERRY BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA

MEETING DATE: MAY 24, 2022

AGENDA ITEM SECTION: DISCUSSION AND RESOLUTION ITEMS

AGENDA ITEM NO. : 8

DEPARTMENT: VILLAGE ATTORNEY

AGENDA ITEM:

DISCUSSION: PROPOSED LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO NEW YORK STATE

RESOLUTION: SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW REGARDING OPEN MEETINGS LAW REQUIREMENTS ON JUNE 14, 2022

ITEM BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. DRAFT RESOLUTION
2. DRAFT LOCAL LAW
3. LEGAL NOTICE FOR PUBLIC HEARING



VILLAGE OF DOBBS FERRY
112 Main Street
Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522
TEL: (914) 231-8500 • FAX: (914) 693-3470

**RESOLUTION TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A
LOCAL LAW TO AUTHORIZE BOARD MEMBER USE OF VIDEO-
CONFERENCING TO PARTICIPATE AT PUBLIC MEETINGS TO THE
EXTENT PERMITTED BY OPEN MEETINGS LAW SECTION 103-a**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dobbs Ferry is considering an Introductory Local Law which proposes to authorize use of video-conferencing technology for remote attendance and participation by members of the Village's boards, commissions and committees under "extraordinary circumstances" as permitted by Open Meetings Law Section 103-a.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, the Board of Trustees hereby calls for the scheduling of a public hearing to receive comments on the above-referenced Introductory Local Law to be conducted in the board room at Village Hall, 112 Main Street, Dobbs Ferry on Tuesday, June 14th 2022 at 6:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, with such hearing to be conducted and made accessible to the public in accordance with open meetings law and as otherwise may be permitted by Executive Order in keeping with the Village's goal of protecting public health.

LOCAL LAW XXX “AMENDING THE DOBBS FERRY CODE TO PERMIT REMOTE PARTICIPATION BY MEMBERS OF THE VILLAGE’S BOARDS AND COMMITTEES BY VIDEO-CONFERENCING TECHNOLOGY AS PERMITTED BY OPEN MEETINGS LAW SECTION 103-a

A LOCAL LAW to amend the provisions of the Dobbs Ferry Code establishing right to use video-conferencing technology under the terms and conditions set forth in Open Meetings Law Section 103-a for the conduct of public meetings.

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dobbs Ferry, as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 “General Provisions” is revised with the addition Article II as follows:

Article II Meetings of the Public Bodies of the Village of Dobbs Ferry

§1-14 Legislative intent.

The Village of Dobbs Ferry recognizes the importance of the public’s right to witness and otherwise observe the governmental process of debate, deliberation and decision-making, and commits to facilitating the public’s ability to access meetings at which Village business is conducted.

§1-15 Compliance with NYS Open Meetings Law.

All meetings convened by the Village’s public bodies for the purpose of conducting the public business of the Village of Dobbs Ferry shall comply with provisions of NYS Public Officers Law, Article 7 known as “Open Meetings Law”. The terms “meeting” and “public body” referenced in this Article shall be ascribed with the same meanings as set forth in Open Meetings Law.

§1-16 Use of technology; video-conferencing.

- (1) The Village shall employ and permit the use of available technology to the extent mandated by and in compliance with provisions of Open Meetings Law for notifications, broadcast, transmission, recording or participation at meetings convened for the purpose of conducting the Village’s business.
- (2) Without limiting the right, authority or ability of the Village to utilize available technology, the Village chooses to exercise the discretion set forth in Open Meetings Law Section 103-a and permit use of video-conferencing to conduct meetings of the Village’s public bodies.

- (a) In accordance with Open Meetings Law 103-a, members of any Village public body shall have the right to participate remotely in a public meeting with the use of video-conferencing technology when the member experiences an “extraordinary circumstance” which precludes that member from attending in-person, provided that such “extraordinary circumstance” consists of a significant or unexpected factor or event which precludes the member’s physical attendance, including but not limited to circumstances involving caregiving responsibilities, disability, illness, health condition, or other significant or unexpected factor or event.
 - (i) The Village shall establish written procedures for the conduct of any meeting which involves participation by a member exercising the right to participate remotely under Open Meetings Law 103-a.

Section 2. Except as otherwise provided herein, all other provisions of the Dobbs Ferry Code shall remain unchanged and in effect.

Section 3. This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with Secretary of State and shall be published, posted and distributed by the Village Clerk as otherwise required by law.



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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Dobbs Ferry Village Board of Trustees will conduct a public hearing at Village Hall, 112 Main Street on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, to receive public comment on an Introductory Local Law which proposes to authorize use of video-conferencing technology for remote attendance and participation by members of the Village's boards, commissions and committees under "extraordinary circumstances" as permitted by Open Meetings Law Section 103-a.

In keeping with the Village's goal of protecting public health, the Hearing will be conducted in accordance with Open Meetings Law and any applicable Executive Orders using a hybrid format with both in-person and virtual participation options available to the public. For virtual participation, interested parties may be heard using a web-based videoconferencing service by: (i) typing "join.zoom.us" on your web browser and entering the Webinar ID #205 957 953, Passcode: 309361; or (ii) using the direct link <https://zoom.us/j/205957953?pwd=aU5YNHJVYkxub2lWN0RzQUZoVzROUT09>; or (iii) dialing telephone number 929 205 6099. Parties may also provide written comments in advance of the hearing to the Village Clerk, 112 Main Street or by e-mail LDreaper@dobbsferry.com. Copies of and further details on the proposed local law and instructions for participation may be found online at the Village of Dobbs Ferry website www.dobbsferry.com

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dated: _____ 2022

Elizabeth Dreaper
Village Clerk