

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE ROOM IN TOWN HALL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2007 - 7:30 P.M.**

Mayor David N. Connolly opened the Work Session Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the second floor west wing conference room.

Municipal Clerk Santimauro read the Open Public Work Session statement: "This regular Work Session Meeting of the Wyckoff Township Committee is now in session. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting appears on our Annual Schedule of meetings. A copy of said Annual Schedule has been posted on the Bulletin Board in Memorial Town Hall; a copy has been filed with the Municipal Clerk, The Record, The Ridgewood News and the North Jersey Herald and News – all newspapers having general circulation throughout the Township of Wyckoff. At least 48 hours prior to this meeting the Agenda thereof was similarly posted, filed and mailed to said newspapers."

Present: Mayor David N. Connolly, Committeemen Harold Galenkamp, Richard C. Alnor, Henry J. McNamara and Joseph B. Fiorenzo

Also Present: Township Administrator Robert J. Shannon, Jr., Township Attorney Robert Landel and Municipal Clerk Joyce C. Santimauro

Mayor Connolly requested a review of the proclamation process. The Administrator reported that this evening two (2) proclamations will be presented to the Ramapo High School Girls Varsity Soccer and Tennis Teams for their state championship achievements. The Administrator suggested to the governing body that the proclamation presentations take place in the Municipal Court Room for additional room capacity. It was noted that it is extraordinary that one (1) high school have three (3) state championship teams in one (1) season. Therefore, the Township Committee can recess the meeting to present the proclamations and reconvene back to the West Wing Conference Room.

Mayor Connolly indicated the Finance Committee was reviewing and signing vouchers and asked Committeeman McNamara for an update.

Township Committee Report:

1. Committeeman McNamara advised that a budget work session was postponed with the Recreation Director, since he was not available and that is the last department to review. Mr. McNamara further stated that until clarification is received from the State of New Jersey regarding the mandated 4% tax levy, the Township cannot move forward. In order to bring the budget to a 4% levy cap, a reduction in last year's budget must be realized.
2. Mayor Connolly reported he attended the Northwest Bergen Mayor's Association Meeting on Saturday, February 10, 2007 and the Mayors echoed the same concern that the 4% tax levy cap is inappropriate without the state abolishing their unfunded mandates and repealing these mandates such as health benefit increases and pension rollbacks to the municipality.
3. Committeeman McNamara pointed out that Governor Corzine's plan of the 4% tax levy and the 20% property tax credit depending on a person's income is in reality a credit on their property tax bill. It is unclear how the municipality receives the funding from the State (the State has not indicated how they will perform this) to pay those tax

credit amounts to each municipality. This will have serious implications regarding cash flow for

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the municipality since the municipality is mandated by law to pay the schools, county and library even with limited cash flow.

4. Committeeman Fiorenzo reported that he is preparing a formal response to the PBA with a working outline for a near future meeting. The Administrator provided Mr. Fiorenzo with labor contracts from surrounding towns for comparison trends.
5. Mayor Connolly reported that at the last Recreation Board Meeting, three (3) other surrounding towns have followed Wyckoff's lead by prohibiting aluminum bats for their baseball programs. Mr. Connolly also referenced the impact of the school construction will have on the recreation summer camps this year specifically, the revenue created by the recreation fees for summer camp. The Finance Committee is expected to review this item with the Recreation Director at the Budget Meeting.

Policy Action Items:

1. The Town Hall will be closed for President's Day on Monday, February 19, 2007.
2. A request was received from Alan Reiffe, Wyckoff Board of Education Business Administrator requesting that the Township maintain and repair Board of Education vehicles. A recommendation from Scott Fisher, DPW Manager was opposed to the Township performing vehicle repair service for the Board of Education. Mr. Fisher indicated that the DPW is currently repairing DPW, fire and police vehicles and an additional mechanic/laborer may be required if additional fleet assignments were made. A 4% tax levy cap will exclude any additional staff.
3. The Administrator drafted a letter requested by the Finance Committee which establishes a policy for the amount the Township would pay for police traffic directors on a county projects. The draft proposal indicates that the Township will only pay the county amount. Township Committee members expressed frustration how the county can limit their costs and pass them along to municipalities.
4. The Administrator reviewed a recommendation to increase the special meeting fee which is requested periodically for the Planning Board. The Township Committee agreed.
5. The Court Clerk has advised that the new Shared Services Agreement allowing cost savings by sharing a teleconferencing facility with the Village of Ridgewood was successfully utilized.
6. The Administrator asked the governing body if a resolution should be drafted in support of Senator McNamara's bill regarding libraries. The Township Committee agreed and Committeeman Fiorenzo stated that the Library is exempt from the Township's budget appropriation cap.

Libraries have received an average of 10% increase in the last five (5) years by a State cost generative statute.
7. The Partners in Pride (PIP) have requested to utilize the Township's bulk mail account. The Township Committee agreed.

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8. The Administrator asked the Municipal Clerk to provide an update on the "Civil Union" law. Mrs. Santimauro indicated she spoke to the Mayor but additional information is needed.
9. Mayor Connolly indicated he read an article over the weekend regarding Franklin Lakes Open Space Tax and the Franklin Lakes project will cost more than what Franklin Lakes anticipated. He suggested that diligence in these efforts be followed.

Mayor Connolly opened the meeting for the ten (10) minute public comment period. There was no public comment at this time.

Committeeman Galenkamp motioned to close the public comment period, seconded by Committeeman Alnor with an affirmative voice vote.

The Work Session Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

David N. Connolly
Mayor

Joyce C. Santimauro
Municipal Clerk