

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

Mayor Rudolf E. Boonstra opened the Open Work Session Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the second floor municipal court room.

Township Clerk Joyce Santimauro read the Open Public Work Session statement: "This Open Public 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 Rudolf E. Boonstra, Committeemen Thomas J. Madigan, Brian D. Scanlan, John A. Carolan and Timothy E. Shanley

Also Present: Municipal Clerk Joyce C. Santimauro Township Attorney Robert Landel and Thomas Garlick, Esq. from Robert Landel's Office

Absent: Township Administrator Robert J. Shannon, Jr

Mayor Boonstra opened the meeting for the ten (10) minute total public comment period for any item on or off the Agenda, two (2) minutes per speaker, he added that there will be an additional time to make comments during the 8:00 pm regular business meeting. A motion was made by Committeeman Scanlan; seconded by Committeeman Carolan with an affirmative voice vote.

Mary Ann Crawford, 268 Merlin Place. "Good evening, I am here representing Steve Joern and Vince Tortorelli who are the originators of the mayoral position petition, but they are unable to be with us tonight due to traveling. Since the Township Committee meeting last month I remain hopeful that the committee has listened to the petition signers, numbering about 20% of the numbers of voters in an average General Election, who feel we do not have a fair method of selecting our Mayor, and want you gentlemen to come up with a bi-partisan way to approve it. These 900 residents, by the way, when was the last time that you had 900 people sign a petition? That's a lot of people. These folks want you to ask the rest of the citizens, via the November ballot, if they believe this topic is worth further discussion or let the status quo continue. And if the voters want to proceed two (2) members of this committee should be able to come up with a solution, a compromise that fits both points of view. The way I see it, asking this question is a benign non-controversial thing. All we are asking is for you to take the temperature of the average Wyckoff voter, which is democracy. Reading some of the comments and letters this week says the mayor position is weak. Also this petition is to allow direct election of the mayor or it's the first step to completely overhaul the township's form of government. My comments, if the mayor's position is so weak, then why the partisanship to repeatedly cut out the lone Democrat? It makes no sense. Again, the petition did not specify a solution, its purpose is to get a discussion going, no specific change is being recommended. There is no secret agenda of anything. So now here we are three (3) weeks later looking forward, do you have a time table in terms of moving this petition forward? Is there anything that we can do to help with this? Will you listen to the good citizens of this small peaceful suburban community and get this subject submitted as a ballot question before the August 18th deadline? Thank you for listening."

Mayor Boonstra: "Thank you for your comments. You are looking for direction, yes. The petition that I have in front of me that 900 people signed asks for a 'non-partisan' subcommittee of this group and there is a difference between partisan and non-partisan. Anyone else wish to address the Township Committee?"

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

Anita Skolnick, 468 Caldwell Drive. "I have lived here since 1981 and I basically second everything that the people who came before me had to say. I really feel that at this point we do need to address the issue of how the township selects the mayor and whether that should be changed."

Mayor Boonstra: "Thank you for your time."

Nina Sobel, 436 Carriage Lane. "I want also to put in my support for the recommendation that we have an opportunity to have the voters of Wyckoff have a change to weigh in on how the mayor is selected. It actually blows my mind that we would have this discussion. I'm looking at the committee of five (5) people who need to work together, and I really can't fathom how they look one another in the eye year in and year out while you continue to select the same people over and over again as mayor without having an inequitable manner in which it is done. It reeks of an undemocratic way in which you are operating. I don't know how you look each other in the eye and work together and feel comfortable with the selection that you make or the lack thereof that you make on a yearly basis. I don't know how you explain it to one another or the people that you go home to live with. It really reeks of inequity, I should think that we could do a whole lot better than that. You should really look everyone in the eye and allow people to have a chance to weigh in on this."

Mayor Boonstra: "Thank you."

Susan Winton, 89 Logan Lane. "I have lived in Wyckoff for 51 years and the Township Committee has always done an excellent job representing all of the citizens of this town. I was in Stop & shop several times and I was accosted by people asking me to sign a petition. They didn't know what it was, but they wanted me to sign the petition. I went in and spoke to the management of Stop & Shop and asked them, I know when we are doing campaigning for elections we are not allowed to stand in front of Stop & Shop when we are representing a candidate. I asked them why and they said it's not political. I had to take exception to that, it certainly was political. Call it what you want. Wyckoff is a good town, anyone who wants to run for Township Committee can run. But, to ask people to sign a petition which cannot be explained, like I asked what's this petition for and nobody could explain it to me. This is a big to do and makes Wyckoff look like an undemocratic town and that just offends me. I've lived here long enough to know the committee listens to people speak, they listen to everybody, everyone has the right to speak and then the people we elected analyze and reach a solution. That's my opinion."

Mayor Boonstra: "Thanks for your comments."

Erin Chung, 507 Old Post Road. "Hello again gentlemen. I felt I would be a good follow up to what that nice lady just said. First of all, I was never accosted to sign the petition and it was explained very thoroughly to me, so I'm not sure what she means by that. I wanted to go back to the last meeting where Mr. Madigan made a comment 'that it seems like some people in this town feel exploited and some people in this town need to do a better job of this'. And to her point, the woman who just spoke, it's not equal representation in town we have a Democrat on this town council who has not been mayor, who was passed over for mayor very blatantly this year. So to say we are all represented I'm guessing maybe she is a Republican so she feels entirely represented, but I don't feel represented as a Democrat in this town. I missed the first person who came up here, I don't know if she went over these statistics, let's see, 76% of the 66 positions on Wyckoff's nine (9) boards and commissions are held by GOP members; only 37% of Wyckoff residents are Republicans; Democrats hold only 6 of these 55 positions, but make up 20% of registered voters; Unaffiliated voters just 10 seats or 15%, but make up 43% of registered voters. Those statistics give a good explanation. There were a couple of letters submitted to the paper one of which said and I

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

quote 'those backing the petition are misleading residents about the need for the change they see'. This is ironic because this petition is all about residents seeking change, I was quite offended by that actually. Another quote was 'these mayors protect everyone from any one politician from becoming too powerful', my question is what about party becoming too powerful and exercising that power to limit the equal representation where our mayor is concerned. Those are my comments, I hope that you guys have thought long and hard about this, because we are the voters in this town and we elect you in order to represent us fairly and evenly across party lines. Thank you."

Mayor Boonstra: "Thank you."

Ken Porro, 15 Pace Drive. "For those who don't know, I am the Wyckoff Regional School system representative. I actually came here today to report on the good things we are doing at the school. I just wanted to quickly say that in the 12 years I've lived here we have had a wonderful experience, we came from Lyndhurst which has a government where we elect our mayor. I want to thank everyone here for the past 12 years we have lived in this town we have had a wonderful experience. I don't consider myself a Republican or Democrat, just a Wyckoff resident. Interestingly enough, for the school board I'm on my second term and I ran unopposed for two (2) terms. People don't get involved. So, I don't think the problem in Wyckoff is Republicans or Democrats, it's involvement. For the school system this year Dave Becker runs for board, I believe he's running unopposed. That's ok, but again, I'm reporting on the regional.

We are happy to report that the \$123,000.00 additional school aid given to Ramapo/Indian Hills school district we are giving back to help reduce property taxes. This is a very positive thing. Again, I'm mentioning Dave Becker is running unopposed for this election, he's excellent and a Wyckoff resident.

We are putting new bleachers at Ramapo High School and the following year we'll do the same at Indian Hills. We have also instituted a bicycle program, you can go off road biking, we have one (1) mile tracks we have created at both schools. I don't know if you have read, Mr. Collins, after 42 years' service as principal at Indian Hills has retired and we have a new principal Mr. Greg Vodka; Greg was a former English teacher at Indian Hills. We wish Greg the best. That's my report. Thank you and keep up the good work."

Mayor Boonstra: "Thank you for your comments."

Muraid Mukida, 8 Godwin Drive. "So, actually the gentlemen who gave the report and talked about how people don't get involved I think is very true, I think there are tons of people who run unopposed. I think it's showing involvement tonight, the people on this issue show how strongly this community, which usually doesn't get involved to leave things up to the council feels very strongly. It's the first time I have come to one of these meetings. I feel an injustice has been done to Mr. Scanlan who has done many fine things for this community, initiating the nifty 50 and many other incredible programs. I think he's been looked over since traditionally the deputy mayor becomes the mayor. I feel a grave injustice has been done to Mr. Scanlan."

Mayor Boonstra: "Thank you for your comments. The ten minutes comment time is up, does anyone have anything to say in addition to what has been said already? Now is the time and as I said there will be another opportunity to make comments during the 8:00 pm meeting."

Jennifer Feliciano, 453 Glendale Road. "I just wanted to say I came tonight because Brian knocked on my door when we were new residents. He spoke with my husband and me, I had never voted for anyone aside from the President and I came out to vote because of Brian. I felt like he was listening to us, talking to us

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

and helped us take care of something on our property and it was resolved the next week. I came out and voted for him and I just have been impressed with him.”

Mayor Boonstra: “Would anyone else would like to make a comment on the record?”

Kathy Oliver, 316 Paul Court. “Resident 23 years. I’ve only been out and spoke at a meeting one (1) other time and it was actually Mr. Scanlan who I found commonality with. It was about picking up of yard waste. I was thankful for that, he lends a different voice to the discourse in town, which I appreciate because it adds benefits to all of us. He tries a different perspective. But the referendum being proposed stands to put the town in jeopardy to what has transpired over many decades of leadership. I thank all of you for taking time away from your families and personal lives to do what you do. But, as Township Committee or any committee you have the right amongst yourselves to pick your leadership amongst you. If Mr. Scanlan or any other members of the committee feel they have been slighted that’s unfortunate. I would like to see the leadership of this town remain as it continues to be the town that I came to 23 years ago. I hope that Mr. Landel will be supportive of this and that it will not change. I hope that other people in Mr. Scanlan’s party get involved, there are some very bright people who are available to help out, like the saying ‘many hands make life work’. Keep things status quo.”

Mayor Boonstra: “Thank you very much.”

Mayor Boonstra: “Unless there is anything pressing I would like to close this portion of the meeting. “

Motion to close the public comment Mr. Carolan; Seconded Mr. Shanley with an affirmative voice vote.

Mayor Boonstra thanked everyone for their comments and asked for Township Committee reports.

All documents have been signed.

Township Committee Reports:

Committeeman Scanlan

Mr. Scanlan said that on July 19th Mr. Scanlan attended the Library Board meeting, there was an interesting program the library is instituting where the library will loan an internet access devise to persons in town who do not have internet access.

Committeeman Scanlan pointed out that with regard to the annual municipal audit there were no recommendations made for changes and the library annual audit also had no recommendations for changes. This is a good way of saying that things are being run properly with regard to finances at both town hall and the library.

On July 22nd Committeeman Scanlan said he attended the new fire pumper party at Volunteer Fire Company #3.

Committeeman Scanlan commended the Wyckoff Department of Public Works for their immediate action/work at the Gardens of Wyckoff, a 12 foot high fence collapsed and the local deer feasted on some of the rose buds. The damage was minimal due to the skilled DPW employees. Mr. Scanlan attended rose care session the previous Saturday and urged the residents to enjoy the beautiful Gardens of Wyckoff.

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

The re-scheduled movie the Secret Life of Pets will be playing under the stars at Memorial Field on August 10 and Committeeman Scanlan urged the residents to come out and relax and enjoy the event.

Committeeman Carolan

Committeeman Carolan attended the last rose garden series, which is part of a program that he and the Township Administrator Bob Shannon created. The rose maintenance program was well attended by the residents and very successful.

On September 2nd the Annual Wyckoff Fire Department fund raising fireworks will be held on Memorial Field behind Volunteer Fire Company #1. Committeeman Carolan said this is a major fund raiser for the fire department and urged the residents to come out and enjoy the show. Music will start at 5:00 pm, there will be food vendors on site and we are expecting another fabulous fireworks display. All are welcome!

Committeeman Madigan

Committeeman Madigan welcomed Marsha Stolz from the Record who was in the audience. He also thanked Ken Porro from Ramapo Indian Hills for giving his report to the committee. Committeeman Madigan said he attended the last Ramapo/Indian Hill board meeting where curriculum was discussed at length.

Committeeman Madigan reported on the Zabriskie House maintenance going on there and he referenced the two (2) Eagle Scout projects at the Zabriskie House.

The Fall Shred Fest was announced by Committeeman Madigan and he said the shred event would be held in October. The September 30, 2017 shred fest was cancelled because it was mistakenly scheduled on the holiday of Yom Kippur. Mr. Scanlan said the Shred Fest would be held on October 7, 2017 at the DPW yard, 475 West Main Street. Committeeman Madigan said he asked but had not been advised of the date of the shred fest.

Committeeman Shanley

Committeeman Shanley attended the Board of Adjustment Meeting, where the Board of Adjustment required two (2) aggressive applications to be resubmitted to the board revised with landscaping plans as well.

Committeeman Shanley met with the attorney who handled the Ridgewood Water matter, they discussed the victory in terms of liability in striking the ordinances as arbitrary and capricious. The issue of damages is not determined. This issue will be discussed further in Closed Session as it is a litigation matter.

Committeeman Shanley was notified by a resident, Scott Moody, about damage at Zabriskie Pond. Committeeman Shanley inspected the damage, which was a fence that was torn down and thrown into the pond and he notified the police department. Officer Kaitlyn Maglione, Wyckoff's new officer, took a report and will follow up.

Mayor Boonstra

Mayor Boonstra reported that he has attended police committee meetings and public policy committee meetings. The police committee meetings have been focusing on the PBA contract and negotiations.

On July 28, 2017 Mayor Boonstra attended a meeting in Glen Rock with Committeeman Shanley, representatives from Glen Rock and Midland Park to discuss the decision regarding the Ridgewood Water rate litigation.

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

Mayor Boonstra said he attended the Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department Company #3 barbeque on July 27, 2017 to celebrate the arrival of the new fire engine. On August 9, 2017 the Mayor will attend a Planning Board meeting where a minor subdivision will be reviewed on Ravine Avenue in Committeeman Scanlan's neighborhood. Another application will also be heard for a use change on Highland Avenue.

Mayor Boonstra asked for Township Attorney Landel's report regarding the resident petition proposing to study the annual procedure to select the Mayor.

Report of Township Attorney Landel

Township Attorney Landel: "The issue with regard to the petition which was presented to you at the last meeting – It was my understanding that at the last meeting the issue was whether or not the requisite number of names and signatures on the petition could somehow force the question, but I guess that's not the intent. My research shows that it does not matter how many signatures they have, we could have 18,000 signatures and it can't force the question on the ballot. We are a Township Committee form of government, not a Faulkner Act form of government and the powers of initiative and referendum are different in different forms of government. There are certain statutes that we have and there are statutory references that if there are a certain number of signatures on the petition a question can be forced on the ballot, an example of that is when we had about ten (10) years ago, which was the Open Space Trust Fund referenda. However, all municipalities have the right for non-binding referendum and I think that's what they are asking for here. So, I think what you are getting is a petition with 900 signatures and they are saying you are the governing body and we are trying to show you that this is an issue that interests a lot of people from town and we would like to put this non-binding question on the ballot. Certainly the governing body can put a non-binding question on the ballot, it's your decision it doesn't matter how many signatures they have. It's your decision as to whether or not you want to take the temperature of the residents of Wyckoff. The statute does say that the question does have to pertain to the government or the internal affairs thereof, I would say this question certainly does in my opinion. Really, the question is for the five (5) of you as to whether or not you want to put the question on the ballot."

Mayor Boonstra: "So it's optional in your view. Is it possible to do what is asked on the petition without changing the form of government?"

Township Attorney Landel: "I would have to research that, I can tell you what the statute says that the Township Committee picks their chairman, I don't think the statute calls it a mayor position, it's not the typical type of mayor that we would have in big cities with different forms of government. To be honest research hasn't been done on this issue. I can advise about what this question is about, if you want me to address this I'll do it."

Mayor Boonstra: "Does anyone on the township committee have questions for Mr. Landel regarding what he just reported?"

Mayor Boonstra asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular Work Session portion of the meeting, the time was 8:02 pm. He announced there would be an additional comment time for the residents and there may be additional questions from the committee on Mr. Landel's report during the Regular Business Meeting.

Motion to recess regular work session meeting to begin the regular business meeting Committeeman Carolan; Seconded Committeeman Scanlan all voting in favor. Two (2) Minute recess.

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

At 8:32 pm the business meeting was adjourned and the Township Committee voted unanimously to reconvene the regular work session meeting. Mayor Boonstra said when the regular work session meeting is adjourned the Township Committee will go into closed session to discuss PBA contract negotiations and Ridgewood Water litigation.

Mayor Boonstra: "We are back to the issue at hand regarding the petition. Our attorney advised us it is not necessary to put on the ballot for referendum in the November election and even if it is on the ballot regardless of the outcome it is not binding. In addition, there is ambiguous language in the petition itself, it calls for a non-partisan subcommittee of this governing body. We have actually, as Mr. Landel indicated earlier one of our members who is technically non-partisan, Mr. Madigan, in the last election he ran as neither a Republican nor Democrat, he ran as an Independent candidate. He is of all of us truly non-partisan. Having said that, the petition calls for a non-partisan subcommittee, so that would be as Mr. Landel indicated a possible sub-committee of one (1). We have an email from Mr. Joern from July 25th that actually asks to appoint a sub-committee of this committee that is bi-partisan. So there's a little confusion here and I will ask Mr. Landel, do we have the liberty, we have 900 residents who signed the petition that calls for non-partisan, does this body have the liberty to change the question to bi-partisan on the ballot?"

Attorney Landel: "Yes, because as I said the number of signatures on the petition – it does not matter how many signatures we have. You have a large segment of the population, 900 people are telling you they would like you to look into this issue. If you want to put this question on the ballot and it has to be by the 18th certainly I can modify the language to clarify it or change it. If that's what you want to do, you don't have to follow it to the letter. It's your question, they are telling you they want a question, they are spotting an issue for you, it wasn't artfully drafted as it could have been. You can certainly come up with your own question for the issue. "

Mayor Boonstra: "Ok. I'm still reluctant to change the petition that 900 people signed that said non-partisan. Having said that, we have an opportunity actually at this point to put all of that aside. If this township committee would be so inclined to convene such a committee almost immediately. I think we can do that, I don't think it has to go on the ballot, I think 900 people have given us their opinions on this. We have heard numerous residents tonight speak to it and I think we have an opportunity here to use the outline as presented by Mr. Joern in this petition and to convene a subcommittee of this committee almost immediately, perhaps in September when the summer is over and people are back from vacation we could consult with the attorney and among ourselves, and perhaps have Mr. Madigan involved as a non-partisan and obviously Mr. Scanlan would represent his side of the aisle. The committee would obviously have to be less than three (3), otherwise there's a quorum. I think we should talk about that. We could start in September, we could have a report done by the end of the year. We know the make-up of the governing body, I don't want to assume anything, I learned unfortunately in 1995 and Mrs. Clinton learned last year that any time you put your name on a ballot you can loose. We know what our make-up is now, we have a non-partisan/bi-partisan or the ability to make a non-partisan/bi-partisan subcommittee of this body to have a look at the question. Anyone else?"

Committeeman Scanlan: "I just have a question, because you did not change your affiliation from Independent to Republican, you can run as an Independent even if you are a registered Republican. It's who the local county committee selects."

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

Committeeman Madigan: “Obviously I ran as an Independent and at the same time previously I ran as a Republican and I am still a registered Republican. As far as the party goes in Bergen County, I am not allowed to participate in the next election because I was elected as an Independent. “

Committeeman Scanlan: “When it’s time for you to run again you can certainly run as a Republican if you got the appropriate permission.”

Committeeman Madigan: “I could run like most of the people I grew up with in Boston as a Democrat.

Committeeman Scanlan: “You have a choice. If you are selected by the Republican County Committee to run by the Chairman in Bergen County then you could run as a Republican.”

Committeeman Madigan: “I think the question here is interesting what the mayor is proposing and also listening to what our attorney is saying is non-binding and if we have no party and we know and we know the timetable, because I read the petition too as we all did. I think this is a good faith opportunity for this township committee to do what the people have asked us to do. I don’t know why we have to vote, we have a majority here. There’s an election this year, who knows who will be here next year. Even with the petition, if you voted for it and the township committee would put together a committee afterwards and then do something at the end of February. We don’t know who may or may not be here. I actually think its great idea, plus if that’s the intent for a bunch of people to have a committee non-partisan/bi-partisan, whatever we want to call it put together – I think it’s a great idea.”

Committeeman Shanley: “We’re getting it done before January 1st and the petition could stretch out all the way to March. I think it is a good idea.”

Mayor Boonstra: “I would suggest we start in September, people are away now and we have only one more meeting in August anyway. We can get going in September, among ourselves agree on a bi-partisan, now it’s bi-partisan that we are hearing, a bi-partisan subcommittee of this committee and with the attorney and the Administrator Bob Shannon who is non-partisan have a look see. Maybe get answers to the question I asked of Rob Landel and that is if nothing else we have been asked to look at constitute the change of government? That’s a whole different discussion. “

Committeeman Madigan: “I would Second Rudy’s motion, if that’s a motion.”

Attorney Landel: “Yes, you could put this in the form of a motion. Yes, a motion. You are putting a subcommittee together.”

Mayor Boonstra: “I understand this is a petition, I look at petitions from the point of nominating petitions. If you ask someone to sign a petition as a nominating petition, you can’t change what’s on that petition. You have to submit that petition with whatever persons or language that is on that petition. Getting into changing this petition to put it on the ballot, I for one am uncomfortable with because of my background in that area. We can have a motion to do it then we are not bound necessarily by the language in the petition. We could have a motion to agree on who the subcommittee might be, we need two (2) members out of the five (5) and try to wade through what the options are from Mr. Joern’s petition.”

Committeeman Scanlan: “I have a couple of comments about that. I can see the opinion of this board, which is not putting the question on the ballot, which is unfortunate because the question was asked by one of the speakers earlier when was the last time we had 900 people sign a petition, which had been circulating a

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

couple of months? I note that what impressed me about the petition which I've got a bunch of emails over the past couple of weeks of people looking to sign. This was done by speaking to neighbors person to person. I think a lot of time was put in, I also note that at the bottom of each page is the name of the person who collected the signatures. So, you could go and ask Steve Joern or Tom Bugel or any of the other folks who collected signatures, Gail Scanlan, Chris Wilson and say 'Chris, did you collect those signatures on that page?' My expectation is that she printed and signed her name at the bottom, and the answer is yes. So, I think by not putting the public question on the ballot, we are dismissing a significant portion of voters who want to see this question put on the ballot. I think if we take the temperature of the voters, with an opportunity to understand whether this is an urgent question or not, whether we should be spending the time of the township attorney and the governing body on the question. So, I would be in favor of putting a public question on the ballot, because it is the democratic thing to do. Mr. Landel has already pointed out that you could put any question you want on the ballot so long as it pertains to the government of Wyckoff as Mr. Landel pointed out. I would argue to put the question on the ballot."

Committeeman Shanley: "I respectfully disagree in the sense that the petition was signed wanting this and we are giving them exactly what they signed for. And we are giving it to them months earlier. It will be decided right before or after the election and not after the New Year and after the new governing body takes office."

Committeeman Scanlan: "I think, Tim, I understand that point of view, but if we have 4,500 or 5,000 people turn out and this public question is on the ballot and saying 900 people who signed it are the only ones who vote for it, I for one would say 'well it's not really worth spending time on'. The amount of time we would put in to simply put this language as written on the ballot would be something that would take Joyce a half hour I guess to type up and send to the county clerk."

Mayor Boonstra: "Brian, we have said so many times that we needed to respect the wishes of 900 people, now you are being dismissive of the 900 people and saying 5000 people. "

Committeeman Scanlan: "I'm not saying we need 4000 or 5000 people, I'm saying this is an opportunity to take the temperature of the town on this issue. "

Mayor Boonstra: "The petition isn't presented as taking the temperature of the town. The petition states clearly to create a subcommittee, two (2) members of this body to look at if there is a different way, or a way that the populous can participate in selecting the chairman on New Year's Day. It says nothing about taking the temperature of the town, it says nothing about 900 voters is not enough, we need more to gauge how serious of an issue this is. We have 900 voters who say this is a serious issue. I'm proposing to form a subcommittee to look at it. I don't think the subcommittee would be any more or less serious about looking at it, because it is a serious consideration. It could involve changing our form of government, which is a big deal. So, we can't handle it lightly and I don't think if it received 900 votes at the ballot you would think any differently than of the 900 signatures which we have been told numerous times here we need to respond here, we need to listen to those people. We are listening to them."

Committeeman Shanley: "And the people that came and spoke wanted us to form this committee, that's what they said."

Mayor Boonstra: "It doesn't say take the temperature of the town, it says let's have a look and I understand their passion."

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

Ms. Maloney (294 Meadowbrook Road) from the audience: "We came here for you to put it on the ballot. That's why we came here. We want it on the ballot."

Mayor Boonstra: "You are out of order. This is a discussion..."

Ms. Maloney (294 Meadowbrook Road) from the audience: "Do you not think if more people were to point out that this is important to them that you might take that information into consideration?"

Mayor Boonstra: "We are not going to respond."

Ms. Maloney (294 Meadowbrook Road) from the audience: "That's fine. The rest of you when it comes time to vote for town council make sure you know who you are voting for. I'm going. Good bye. This is a joke. You don't represent the people, you represent yourself."

Committeeman Madigan: "I just want to add to the discussion, it's been a healthy discussion as we usually do, I understand it and I think all of us in the spirit of what the people are trying to ask us what to look at and we've been told this is not political. So, let's not make it political. We are also given the Mayor's suggestion in his motion, which I second, the petition was given to us three (3) weeks ago and we were asked to look at it, see if we can get the voters to vote so that we could form a subcommittee to look at this. Their objective is to form a subcommittee to look at it and three (3) weeks later we are saying 'we hear ya'. We are willing to do it. It could be a change in the makeup of the party we are willing to do it this year. Why would anyone be against getting the results that the petition is really asking for."

Committeeman Carolan: "We have the petition in front of us, we had three (3) weeks to take a look at it, we are coming back and we are acting on what the citizens have asked us to do. 20% of the voting population I believe."

Mayor Boonstra: "It's 20% of voters, 5% of total population."

Committeeman Carolan: "20% of voters, 5% of total population. We are acting very quickly as the representatives of the township. So, what we are saying we need to do, they are asking for a subcommittee be put together, we are acting on it and we are willing to do it this year. I don't see the difference between now versus later. This is not political and we are doing what has been asked of us. "

Committeeman Scanlan: "My concern in terms of not being political is that one would be carrying out this activity as a subcommittee."

Mayor Boonstra: "Anyone else?"

Committeeman Madigan: "I would like to make the motion on the public question."

Mayor Boonstra: "I have made my motion, you have seconded. The motion to form the subcommittee as requested by the petition."

Attorney Landel: "Gentlemen, let me help out. The motion, is it bi-partisan or non-partisan? It should be clarified."

Committeeman Madigan: "I feel like I'm being singled out. Mr. Scanlan is singling me out because I am non-partisan. He wants something non-partisan so I'm getting singled out. So, I think we should figure out how it's going to be worded by-partisan, non-partisan, multi-partisan. As we know we cannot form we only have two people, I'm not saying I have to be on it. Understand I don't want to be singled out."

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

Committeeman Scanlan: “Tom, the last thing I would accuse you of is being non-partisan.”

Committeeman Scanlan: “Mr. Chairman, I would like to request we take this in two (2) parts. That we first, and I’d be willing to make a motion.”

Mayor Boonstra: “We have a motion on the table.”

Committeeman Scanlan: “I think the motions are in the wrong order, I think we need a motion that basically says we will. I’m not going to make a motion but, or I could and then basically say I would make a motion to put the petition/public question on the ballot as written and have that process gone through so we can formally basically say that no we will not put this public question on the ballot. That needs to be done first and then the subcommittee question should be decided.”

Mayor Boonstra: “So, you are looking to put a motion on the table to put the question on the ballot in November.”

Committeeman Scanlan: “Or not to put the question on the ballot.”

Mayor Boonstra: “The motion dealing with whether the question goes on the ballot. I don’t have a problem with that if you will withdraw your second.”

Committeeman Madigan: “You don’t have a problem with him making that motion? “

Mayor Boonstra: “I’ll allow the motion.”

Committeeman Madigan: “Ok. I withdraw my second.”

Committeeman Scanlan made a motion to put the public question on the ballot for November 7, 2017 as written in the petition amended as a bi-partisan not non-partisan subcommittee. Committeeman Scanlan asked for a Second. Mayor Boonstra said there was no Second to the motion. The motion failed.

Mayor Boonstra made a motion to create a sub-committee of the governing body, two members not from the same political party to investigate the question stated in the petition submitted on the 18th of July, 2017 which requests an investigation of the potential direct election of the mayor by the voters of Wyckoff to conclude by years end. Seconded by Committeeman Madigan

MOTION: BOONSTRA SECOND MADIGAN
CAROLAN YES MADIGAN YES SCANLAN ABSTAIN SHANLEY YES
BOONSTRA YES

Committeeman Madigan: “Mr. Scanlan abstained, yet he’s happy to be on the subcommittee.”

Committeeman Scanlan: “Tom, I’m just acknowledging the fact that 900 people signed a petition requesting a direct public question to be put on the ballot. The committee opted not to do that. I objected to that. My abstention is reflective of the fact that I would have really liked the public question on the ballot and that’s not going to happen. However, in the spirit of cooperation, non-partisanship, shall we use that word? I’m happy to participate in the exercise that my colleagues on the township committee have voted to undertake.”

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**

Committeeman Madigan: “I think it’s unfortunate you are trying to make something that is not political, political, I just want clarification on if someone doesn’t vote for the subcommittee that he could be on it.”

Attorney Landel: “He could be on it.”

The Open Work Session Meeting recessed at 8:02 pm.
The Regular Business Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.
The Open Work Session Meeting reconvened at 8:33 pm
and adjourned at 9:00 pm
The Closed Session discussion meeting began at 9:03 pm and
adjourned at 10:10 pm.

Rudolf E. Boonstra
Mayor

Joyce C. Santimauro
Municipal Clerk

PAGE NO.

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.**