

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN PUBLIC WORK SESSION
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2016 – 7:30 P.M.**

Mayor Kevin J. Rooney opened the Work Session Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the second floor municipal court room.

Municipal Clerk 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 Kevin J. Rooney, Committeemen Thomas J. Madigan and John A. Carolan

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

Absent: Committeemen Brian D. Scanlan (Mr. Scanlan advised he is in traffic on Route 208) and Rudolf E. Boonstra

Mayor Rooney 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, with a motion from Committeeman Carolan, seconded by Committeeman Madigan.

There was no public comment.

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

At 7:32 p.m. Committeemen Scanlan and Boonstra entered the Municipal Court Room.

Mayor Rooney advised that the Finance Committee has reviewed and signed vouchers.

Township Committee Reports:

John Carolan:

1. Mr. Carolan attended the monthly meeting of the Wyckoff Volunteer Ambulance Corps. and demonstrated to the public their "Vile of Life" magnet program where residents can place this magnet (the inside of the magnet contains a pouch where pertinent medical information may be stored) on their home refrigerator. Mr. Carolan thanked the thirty plus members of the Ambulance Corps. for their time as well as the enormous hours of training they devote to maintain their EMT Certification.
2. Mr. Carolan recognized and thanked the Wyckoff K-8 School Board members, Superintendent Richard Kuder, teachers and parents. The Eisenhower Middle School was nationally recognized as a New Jersey "School to Watch." This is a statewide and national honor – this effort resulted in the Wyckoff School System being evaluated and ranked as one of the best school systems in the country. Congratulations to our schools!!
3. The Shade Tree Commission Meeting was conducted this evening and Mr. Carolan reported that the Arbor Day Celebration and activities will focus on the area of the new Pulis Artificial Turf Field Facility specifically, to plant trees to provide shade for the new playground.

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Mayor Rooney advised that he spoke with Elaine Booth and Scott Fisher today with regard to this project. Recently, a meeting was conducted with a Girl Scout Troop on Monday, February 22, 2016 where Mayor Rooney suggested for their Silver Project they perform various plantings around the Pulis Facility in the area of the new playground.

Rudy Boonstra:

1. Mr. Boonstra has attended numerous meetings in the last month with members of the Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department regarding the proposed pending purchase of a fire pumper. The fire department is working diligently to reduce the cost of the fire pumper to a price identified by the Finance Committee.
2. This morning, Mr. Boonstra attended a Public Policy Subcommittee Meeting with Mayor Rooney, Township Attorney Landel and Administrator Shannon. The Annual Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department Ceremony is Saturday, March 12, 2016, also the night of the Wyckoff Education Foundation Annual Fundraiser Dinner.

Thomas Madigan:

1. Mr. Madigan attended the Environmental Commission Meeting on Monday, February 21, 2016 where two (2) new junior members were welcomed from Ramapo and Indian Hills High Schools. A request was forwarded to the Finance Committee for consideration to hire a consultant to assist them prepare a new natural resources inventory report.

Brian Scanlan:

1. Mr. Scanlan attended the CERT Meeting last evening where approximately twenty-five (25) members were present. At the meeting, the CERTS reviewed activities in 2016 as well as training opportunities.
2. Mr. Scanlan thanked Clerk Santimauro for the work performed concerning the licensing of dogs. This year, an e-mail was received from a resident who misread the dog license renewal form and assumed the Township offered a discount for a debarked dog. Research was conducted and the fact was identified that it is illegal in the State of New Jersey to debark a dog with the exception of a medical and/or veterinarian recommendation. Mrs. Santimauro was able to change the type on the dog renewal form thereby making it resoundingly clear that the Township is not providing a discount for a debarked dog.

Mayor Rooney:

1. On Wednesday, February 17, 2016 Mayor Rooney attended a Municipal Alliance Meeting.
2. On Friday, February 19, 2016 Mayor Rooney served as a 'Wisdom Read' at Coolidge Elementary School.
3. Five (5) additional budget meetings have been conducted since last reported to the governing body and the process continues.

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4. Mayor Rooney presented a proclamation on Friday, February 26, 2016 to a gentleman who was an original faculty member of Ramapo High School.
5. Mayor Rooney reported that one of the new police officers, Joseph Fullam was driving on Monroe Avenue and observed a motor vehicle travelling above the speed limit. Officer Fullam signaled the driver to stop and pull over. During his discussion with the driver, he smelled the odor of marijuana. Two (2) other officers assisted Officer Fullam and it was established that the driver had a concealed handgun in the vehicle. The officers relieved the driver of the concealed handgun.
6. On this evening's Agenda the Township Committee will consider an ordinance to establish parking permits known as "Summer Permits" for the period of May 15th thru September 15th at the Wyckoff Community Park/Cornerstone Christian Church for the benefit of Summer internships and/or educational classes. The Police Chief has been observing the pattern of vehicles parking and it is believed based on observation that the Township can increase the number of permits from 350 to 400. Currently, there are two (2) residents on the waiting list. The additional fifty (50) spaces can be for either yearlong permits or Summer parking permits. Committeeman Carolan was in favor of the additional permits and opined that the Township is approving this after a thoughtful process. All governing body members concurred with this decision.
7. Mayor Rooney provided an update concerning the formulation of the 2016 Municipal Budget. The theme of this year's budget is an austerity budget; cutbacks will be visible in most appropriations so that services can be maintained as they exist. A number of user fees where appropriate will be increased. The Finance Committee is examining each individual line item. With regard to the Shade Tree Commission, a discussion ensued as to whether the Township should be responsible for the care and maintenance of trees in the municipal right-of-way and expend a considerable amount of money providing this service or similar to many other towns, adopt an ordinance turning that responsibility back to the property owner.
Mayor Rooney also indicated that an "austerity budget" denotes cutting back on items that are not necessary which will include maintenance of the Rose Garden and/or the planting of flowers by the DPW in lieu of a vendor.
8. Mayor Rooney discussed the current draft of the ordinance to regulate trees on private property and how that relates to heritage trees when located in the public right-of-way if such responsibility is turned over to the property owner. The Township Attorney continues to "sift" through the comments received from Committeemen Madigan, Scanlan, Carolan and the Township Engineer. A report should be realized prior to the next public business meeting. Mayor Rooney asked Mr. Landel to forward the report to the Shade Tree Commission for their comments and/or input.
9. The Township is looking to find new ways to decrease its utility costs such as street lighting (possible LED replacement). Committeeman Scanlan suggested conducting one (1) town-wide leaf collection instead of two (2) collections. Mayor Rooney spoke about a proposal to decrease employee costs by not scheduling DPW Staff at an overtime rate to work on Saturdays but possibly hiring a part-time person at approximately \$15.00 per hour at the Recycling Center. Also, employees of the DPW would not be utilized at the annual free rabies prevention program in January. Finally, Mayor Rooney recommended a cut-back of DPW Staff

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who collect garbage and recyclables at the annual town-wide clean-up day.

Report of the Administrator:

1. The public business meeting agenda is as submitted on Friday.
2. The Administrator has prepared public service announcements to explain governing body actions this evening which have been provided to the press and posted on all Township social media sites. The Township posts useful and timely municipal information on a daily basis.
3. Upcoming events include the following: 1) the Annual Team Up to Tidy Up town-wide clean-up day and the Free Personal Paper Shredding Event, both scheduled for Saturday, April 16, 2016. The Spring Leaf Collection begins on Monday, April 4, 2016 and on Saturday, April 30, 2016 the Township will celebrate Arbor Day at the Pulis Soccer Facility.
4. The Administrator “pinch hit” for the Ms. McQuaid at the Environmental Commission Meeting on Monday, February 22, 2016.
5. A second letter was sent to the Bergen County Executive from Township Engineer DiGennaro requesting Cedar Hill Avenue and Russell Avenue be paved in 2016.
6. The Municipal Clerk will begin a Records Management Project on Friday, March 4, 2016.
7. The Administrator has prepared a report indicating that Township residents have recycled at a 34.53% rate in 2015, up from 33.53% in 2014. In the last five (5) years, the Township’s recycling rate has increased a minimum of 1% each year.
8. The Administrator reported that Mayor Rooney sent a letter this week to the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) regarding the flooding that occurred on Route 208 last week. Today, the NJDOT trucks were cleaning the drainage pipe that runs under Route 208 by Cedar Hill Avenue.

Township Attorney Report:

1. Mr. Landel is reviewing the comments regarding an ordinance to regulate trees on private property and anticipates a detailed report forthwith.
2. The Public Policy Subcommittee Committee has asked Mr. Landel to prepare an ordinance which would extend the Open Space Trust Fund/Tax, expiring on December 31, 2016, for an additional five (5) years. This ordinance must be completed prior to the middle of August, then conveyed to the Bergen County Clerk for placement on the election ballot for the November General Election. The Township Committee agreed.

The Open Work Session Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Kevin J. Rooney
Mayor

Joyce C. Santimauro
Municipal Clerk

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