

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 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.

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 Rudolf E. Boonstra, Committeemen Thomas J. Madigan, Brian D. Scanlan, John A. Carolan and Timothy E. Shanley

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

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, with a motion from Committeeman Shanley, seconded by Committeeman Scanlan.

1. James Blasie, 495 Chapman Place inquired from the Township Committee as to the status of the litigation against Ridgewood Water seeking to overturn the ordinances which overcharge the water rate payers. Committeeman Shanley advised that he attended a court session last week where closing arguments were presented. The Judge is now expected to render an opinion forthwith. Mr. Blasie asked a number of hypothetical questions regarding Ridgewood Water and whether Suez water would purchase the Ridgewood water System. The governing body replied they have not been advised of any sale.

2. Ann Rizzo, 245 Demarest Avenue came forward to report that two (2) white vans came onto the property today at 240 Demarest Avenue and chopped down trees in an unprofessional manner resulting in a greater view of this unoccupied/boarded structure from her home. Mrs. Rizzo encouraged the Township Committee to knock down the building since it is unoccupied and is in hazardous condition. Mr. & Mrs. Shin, the owners of 240 Demarest Avenue, reside in the State of Washington where the Township may contact them. The Township Attorney advised that the Township has made numerous attempts to contact the owners of the property with no success. Recently, the Township has been able to determine which company holds the current mortgage and that the taxes are current and up to date. Mr. Carl Rizzo, 245 Demarest Avenue indicated that this property has been in this deplorable manner for over sixteen (16) years when he purchased his home and would like to see this building at 240 Demarest Avenue demolished. Mr. Rizzo read/cited from State Statute which he contends the municipality can adopt and therefore demolish the home. The Township attorney asked Mr. Rizzo if he plans to submit a petition to the court to demolish the home and indemnify the Township since the taxes are paid. Mr. Rizzo stated that the property is in disrepair – it is a source of weekly vandalism from young people. The property has no plumbing or wiring and again requested the governing body to demolish the property.

At 7:50 p.m. Mayor Boonstra announced that the ten (10) minute total comment period has expired and residents may attend the public business meeting to discuss their comments.

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

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

Township Committee Reports:

Tim Shanley:

1. Mr. Shanley attended the three (3) hour court proceeding last week where closing arguments were heard in the Class Action Suit initiated by Wyckoff, Glen Rock and Midland Park to overturn and return payment to the rate payers of those three (3) communities. No time has been set for a decision.
2. The 50th Anniversary Celebration of Sicomac School was conducted last week and Mayor Boonstra explained to the students that the property where Sicomac School sits was previously a Strawberry Field.
3. Mr. Shanley attended the recent Board of Adjustment Meeting where an applicant requested to clear cut the trees on a lot. However, an analysis of the trees will be performed by the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Shanley suggested that in the future, the Township may wish to procure the opinion of a certified arborist.
4. The recent fundraiser conducted for the Wyckoff Baseball Boosters realized \$10,000.
5. Mr. Shanley attended the 9U Baseball Tournament where \$5,000 was raised for the baseball program.

Tom Madigan:

1. Mr. Madigan stated he is looking forward to the Ramapo High School Graduation on Thursday, June 22, 2017 and is anticipating good weather.
2. Mr. Madigan and Mayor Boonstra attended a retirement dinner for a longtime teacher at Indian Hills High School.
3. Mr. Madigan attended the recent Zabriskie House Trustees Meeting and a grant obtained by the Zabriskie House has been fully processed. The improvements that the grant will fund are underway.

Brian Scanlan:

1. Mr. Scanlan advised that the June Board of Health Meeting will be rescheduled to Thursday, June 29, 2017.
2. Mr. Scanlan recognized Board of Health Member Donna Garbaccio for saving a student's life using a defibrillator device in the gymnasium of Indian Hills High School. Ms. Garbaccio is a registered nurse employed at the Indian Hills High School.
3. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting has been rescheduled due to lack of a quorum.

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4. Earlier this evening, Mr. Scanlan attended the Design Review Advisory Board Meeting where the Pizza Love Restaurant was reviewed. The front façade will reflect a shade of blue and the board has asked the owner of the Wyckoff Shopping Center to take action to have the front of the shopping center uniform and or consistent for all tenants.
5. Mr. Scanlan noted that Alex Markowitz is in attendance this evening. Mr. Markowitz is a Life Scout from Troop 89 who has just completed his Eagle Scout Community Service Project at the Russell Farms Community Park. Mr. Scanlan thanked Alex for his efforts.
6. Mr. Scanlan remarked that a reporter was not in the audience this evening.

John Carolan:

1. Mr. Carolan attended the recent K-8 Board of Education Meeting where a three (3) year contract was settled with the teachers for a 2.7% across the board increase.
2. The Eisenhower Middle School Graduation is scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2017 where Mr. Carolan's daughter will be graduating.
3. The DPW completed the road resurfacing as well as the resurfacing of the Recycling Center. The road resurfacing of the Cornerstone Christian Church Park & Ride Facility will be conducted on Monday, July 10, 2017 thru Friday, July 15, 2017. Additional information will be issued and the adjacent Wyckoff Community Park will be utilized for parking during that time as well as the Coolidge School parking lot on Grandview Avenue.
4. The DPW has dispatched a "pothole" crew and a tree trimming crew this week.
5. Mr. Carolan attended the Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department Meeting yesterday where a check was presented from Mr. Felixbrod, President of the Wyckoff Chamber of Commerce to the fire department for proceeds from the Duck Derby conducted at Wyckoff Day.
6. Mr. Carolan commended Fire Chief Brock and Assistant Fire Chief Vander Plaat who worked along with the Administrator assembling a specification that aggregated the needs of the Franklin Lakes, Oakland and Wyckoff fire equipment in 2017. Through strategic bidding, the Township was able to pay less than it did for 25% of the fire equipment items and less than internet posted prices than 70% if internet posted prices.
7. Mr. Carolan attended Boy Scout Troop 77 Flag Ceremony and commented that the speaker was excellent.
8. Mr. Carolan attended the Y Cares function on Saturday, June 17, 2017 in memory of longtime resident and Planning Board Member Bob Kane. Over 400 people attended this fundraiser in support of Mr. Kane.
9. Mr. Carolan thanked Clerk Santimauro and her staff for conducting a smooth Primary Election.
10. Mr. Carolan noted that the audience is full this evening with residents seated as well as standing.

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Mayor Boonstra:

1. Mayor Boonstra attended the Planning Board Meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2017 where seven (7) applications were approved from Ridgewood Water to install emergency generators at seven (7) of their pump stations in Wyckoff.
2. Mayor Boonstra attended the Sicomac School 50th Anniversary Ceremony and was honored to present a proclamation to recognize this milestone.
3. On Saturday, June 17, 2017 Mayor Boonstra attended an Eagle Scout Court of Honor and presented a letter of congratulations to the Eagle Scout.
4. Mayor Boonstra also attended the Y Cares Dinner in honor of resident Bob Kane.

Township Attorney Report:

1. Mr. Landel reported that the ordinance to vacate Beekman Place was completed and is scheduled for introduction this evening.
2. One (1) of the Township's affordable housing units will be sold and the closing date is set for Friday, June 23, 2017.
3. Mr. Landel advised that his associate Mr. Garlick has performed research on 240 Demarest Avenue and letters have been sent to the mortgage holder in California.
4. Mr. Landel is preparing a developer's agreement for Toll Brothers as well as a developer's agreement for RS Builders.
5. Mr. Landel is preparing a petition to the court to modify the Township's affordable housing spending plan to allow for the construction of the special needs housing with the Bergen County United Way at 370 Clinton Avenue.

Committeeman Shanley reported that Ed Karpagian, a member of the Zoning Board will present a check to the Wyckoff Public Library recognizing their "Maker Space Program" on Thursday, June 29, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. The grant amount is \$25,000 which allows for construction of the maker space facility in the Library.

At 8:07 p.m. the Township Committee recesses the Open Work Session discussion of the Open Public Meeting to conduct the Public Business Meeting.

At 9:05 p.m. the Township Committee reconvenes the Open Work Session discussion of the Open Public Work Session Meeting voting as follows:

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

Continuation of the Township Attorney Report:

6. The settlement conference regarding the COAH Litigation scheduled for Friday, June 23, 2017 has been cancelled and rescheduled for Tuesday, July 18, 2017.

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Report of the Administrator:

1. The Crescent Avenue Road Improvement Project, funded by a New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Grant will begin Monday, June 26, 2017. Broad and extensive public information has been disseminated.
2. The next Township Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 5, 2017. There will be a Special Meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of interviewing police sergeants for a police lieutenant vacancy. Therefore, the Open Special Meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m., the 7:30 p.m. Open Work Session meeting will be cancelled. The governing body will convene the 8:00 p.m. Business Meeting and once this meeting is adjourned they will reconvene the 6:00 p.m. Special Meeting to continue with the interviews.
3. The Administrator and Police Chief Murphy will attend a meeting on Thursday, June 22, 2017 at noon with the Coach USA representatives regarding the Cornerstone Christian Church Park & Ride road resurfacing project. The Township must finalize various issues such as where will the pick-up point and drop-off point will be established during the five (5) day commuter parking lot will be milled, paved and striped.
4. The Township Committee has received notification that the Township was awarded a \$36,538.23 Clean Community Grant.
5. Also, notice was received that a New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Trust Fund Grant amounting to \$165,627.00 for Phase II of the Crescent Avenue Road Improvement Project.
6. This Summer marks the 35th consecutive year the Wyckoff Recreation Department will provide its Summer Day Camp Program for children entering grades K-4 in the Fall. Our camp takes place from 8:30am-12:30pm and this year will run for 5 consecutive weeks from June 26th through July 28th. This camp provides fun games, sports activities, arts & crafts stations, fun trips like bowling and miniature golf, and entertainers are brought in each week to put on a show for the children. At last count, we have 375 campers attending camp for a grand total of 951 weeks of camp. The average K-4 camper attends our camp for 2.5 weeks. At \$85/week, there is no better bargain around. The average sports camp costs over \$250/week these days and some camps that offer full day services are upwards of \$800/week.

While our K-4 camp boasts large numbers per week and appropriately aged activities, our camp for Grades 5-8 children in town that is managed by the Wyckoff YMCA boasts terrific activities and trips for those that take advantage of this \$125/week camp that runs 6 weeks (6/26 through 8/4) from 9am-1pm. Swimming at the YMCA Spring Lake and taking a day a trip to CitiField are just two examples of the great activities this camp offers. As of now, we have 101 campers attending the Grade 5-8 camp for a total of 193 weeks (or almost two weeks per camper).

In addition to the fun provided to the children that participate in these camps, the Wyckoff Recreation Summer Day Camp, year in and year out, also gives 14 year olds and up the opportunity to work for quite possibly the first time in their lives. This year, 85 employees, including 32 volunteers, made up of mostly Wyckoff 14-18 year olds, will serve as Camp Counselors or Counselors-In-Training for our camp. Over the years, over 1,000 teenagers have called the Wyckoff Recreation Summer Day Camp their place of summer employment.

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- 7. The award of the two (2) contracts for the remaining two (2) of 92 firefighter equipment individual items, (turnout gear and the 511 jackets) is another example of utilizing strategic purchasing where Wyckoff will be paying 13% less than they paid last year for these items. Overall, the savings results in an \$8,700 cost avoidance.

- 8. With regard to the resolution that was adopted at the public business meeting, Plan & Design Immunities for the Crescent Avenue Improvement Project, this is a risk management technique which allows the Township Committee to perform an improvement and also invoke immunities for the taxpayer.

- 9. The Administrator reviewed a memo regarding a meeting he and Scott Fisher conducted to discuss the first traffic island on Sunrise Drive at the request of a resident. The intent of the memo is to improve the untidy traffic island. The municipality provides a basic level of maintenance as it relates to traffic islands, however, the main concern is that with the lack of irrigation it is impossible to establish any robust lawn or plant growth. The proposal includes removing dead trees, weeds and replacing same with excess brick pavers and mulch, available at the DPW Yard along with various potted plants. The governing body discussed this issue and determined to move forward with the referenced improvements.

- 10. Estimated tax bills will be mailed this week.

At 9:05 p.m. the Township Committee recesses the Open Work Session Meeting discussion to enter into Closed Session Discussion via Resolution #17-C12.

At 9:50 p.m. the Township Committee reconvenes the Open Work Session Meeting Discussion voting as follows:

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

The Open Work Session Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Rudolf E. Boonstra
Mayor

Joyce C. Santimauro
Municipal Clerk