

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Thomas J. Madigan opened the Open Work Session Meeting at 7:00 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 Thomas J. Madigan, Committeemen Rudolf E. Boonstra, Timothy E. Shanley, Brian D. Scanlan and Committeewoman Melissa D. Rubenstein

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

Fire Chief Brock was present this evening to accept a proclamation proclaiming the month of October as “Fire Prevention Month” in the Township of Wyckoff. Throughout the month of October, the Township Staff would be issuing fire safety prevention tips on all social media accounts and weekly E-New communications. Mayor Madigan encouraged all residents to assist the fire department to encourage fire safety. The proclamation was presented to Fire Chief Brock – a photo was taken.

Mayor Madigan opened the meeting for the ten (10) minute public comment period, two (2) minutes per speaker for public comment on any governmental issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the Township of Wyckoff, with a motion from Committeeman Shanley, seconded by Committeeman Rubenstein.

Mayor Madigan commented that with regard to the number of residents in the audience this evening who wish to speak to the governing body concerning the coyote matter, a meeting was conducted last week with himself, Committeeman Boonstra, Police Chief Murphy, the Administrator and Carol Tyler, the Township’s Certified Animal Control Officer. The Township has been able to schedule three (3) public education sessions to address safety precautions for residents living with wildlife in the area. A new bulletin has been drafted with the assistance of Ms. Tyler and will be distributed later this evening.

1. Bill Kirchner, 429 Patton Place stated that he appreciates the guidance from Tyco Animal Control and the information provided however, residents are looking for the governing body to do more than just provide public education sessions. The residents in the neighborhood of Patton Place, Old Post Road, Spring Meadow Drive are concerned about letting their children play in their yards for fear of being attacked by coyotes. Just telling residents to be careful does not appease us. What else can the Township Committee do to proactively help our community? In the evenings, we hear the coyotes howling – can the coyotes be trapped? Mayor Madigan advised that it is against the law to relocate coyotes. Tyco Animal Control stated that coyotes do not like humans and an effective tool to use would be a small airhorn or whistle.
2. Lillya Kantorovich, 425 Patton Place confirmed to the governing body that her dog was attacked and killed by a coyote on Sunday, September 22, 2019. The dog was a Yorkshire Terrier and was a member of her family and stated, “The coyote did not simply take our dog, the coyote took our sense of safety.”

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3. Albert Barreto, 444 Patton Place stated he has lived in Wyckoff for 37 years and never previously heard anything with regards to coyotes. Mr. Barreto's concern is with the children in the neighborhood and requested the Township Committee trap the coyotes and relocate them outside of Wyckoff. Mr. Barreto did confirm that he has seen a greater police presence in the neighborhood after the coyote attack.
4. Roseann Thompson, 465 Woodbury Drive advised that when she moved into her home, there were no homes on Old Post Road. Now that there is more development in the area, we are seeing more coyotes than in the past. Previously, we would only view deer in the yards. Ms. Thompson resides in the last house on the cul-de-sac on Woodbury Drive and sees coyotes at 5:00 p.m. Her neighbor took a picture of a coyote that was able to gain access to their fenced in back yard. Committeeman Boonstra mentioned that coyotes are not a protected species and there is a period every year when coyotes may be trapped in February and March.
5. Grace King, 416 Patton Place has resided in Wyckoff for twenty-five (25) years – she has seen fox and bear in her neighborhood. Ms. King can hear the coyotes howl at dusk and was she informed that the coyotes bed down in Franklin Lakes. There is access to water at this location near Parsons Pond and Ms. King is concerned about the children in the area.

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

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

Review of the 8:00 p.m. Agenda:

1. The Municipal Clerk has provided a revised agenda. It includes the addition of a resident appointment to the Environmental Commission and the appointment of two (2) probationary firefighters.
2. The agenda includes six (6) zoning ordinances regarding overlay zones, planted buffers and pedestrian and bicycle regulations for affordable housing zones. The Administrator complimented the Project Team of Mr. Landel, Mr. Boonstra and Mr. Scanlan for their work in crafting these ordinances.
3. There is a Closed Session discussion for litigation matters this evening.
4. A public hearing and further consideration on the Mountain Avenue weight limit reduction to four (4) tons ordinance amendment is scheduled for this evening. A letter from Police Chief Murphy will be entered into record recommending the adoption of this ordinance.

Township Committee Reports:

Brian Scanlan:

1. Mr. Scanlan commented on the success of the Bergen County Clerk Satellite Office in Wyckoff Town Hall that for three (3) days resulted in 118 residents utilizing the convenient services the county offered. When one counts the hours to travel back and forth to Hackensack, Mr. Scanlan estimated this service saved 78 hours of driving for the 118 residents.

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2. On Saturday, September 28, 2019 Mr. Scanlan attended with Mayor Madigan and Committeeman Boonstra the “Never Stop the Fight” 5K Run/Walk. This event was initiated by the Macaluso Family who lost their son Dillion, to encourage the discussion of opioids and depression as “Stigma Free” and to assist other individuals who may be suffering from similar situations.
3. Mr. Scanlan thanked Committeeman Shanley and the Fireworks Committee as well as the police, ambulance and fire departments for the wonderful fireworks display on Saturday, September 28, 2019. Special thanks to the Wyckoff Shop Rite and Lakeland Bank for sponsoring the event.

Rudy Boonstra:

1. Last Monday, September 30, 2019 Mr. Boonstra attended an OEM Meeting at Fire Co. #1 for safety planning for the patrons attending the fireworks display.
2. Mr. Boonstra also attended the “Never Stop the Fight” 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, September 28, 2019.
3. Mr. Boonstra attended the fireworks show on Saturday, September 28, 2019 and described the event as a great show.
4. A Police Committee Meeting was conducted on Monday, September 30, 2019 and there will be a closed session discussion this evening. A police sergeant will be retiring at the end of the year and the Chief of Police has initiated the promotional process and a hiring process to fill that vacancy and rank.
5. Mr. Boonstra and Mayor Madigan attended Coolidge School for the Walk or Bicycle to School Day. It was a very enjoyable time meeting both parents and students.
6. The TD Bank will sponsor “Coffee with a Cop” on Friday, October 4, 2019 from 10:00a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Mr. Boonstra encouraged residents to stop by and meet our police officers.
7. There are a number of activities taking place this weekend – on Saturday, October 5, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. the ribbon cutting ceremony will be held for the special needs housing facility at 370 Clinton Avenue. Then, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the Zabriskie House will conduct their historic house tour. Finally, the Annual Buddy Walk will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 5, 2019.
8. The Planning Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, 2019 has been rescheduled for Monday, October 7, 2019 due to Yom Kippur. At this meeting, the Planning Board will review the zoning overlay zones that will be introduced this evening at that time.
9. Last week, Mr. Boonstra and Mayor Madigan and two (2) police officers met with residents on Eder Avenue regarding their concerns about burglaries in that area of Wyckoff. The meeting was a good exchange of ideas.

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Melissa Rubenstein:

1. The Environmental Commission did not meet last month but are scheduled to meet on Monday, October 21, 2019. At the last public business meeting, Kevin Hanly was appointed to the Environmental Commission. This evening, the governing body will appoint Ben Weiner to the Environmental Commission.
2. At the recent Board of Health Meeting, a discussion ensued with regard to the opioid abuse crisis. The Board of Health is being extremely pro-active in trying to educate the public concerning opioid abuse and vaping. In an attempt to partner with the Wyckoff Family YMCA, a public education session on opioid abuse and vaping will be presented in the near future.
3. Ms. Rubenstein invited and encouraged all to visit the Zabriskie House Museum on Saturday, October 5, 2019 and tour the beautiful grounds.
4. Ms. Rubenstein advised the Township Attorney that the property at 240 Demarest Avenue was listed on the MLS Listings and then withdrawn. Mr. Landel will reach out again to the property owner to inquire when they will sign the contract of sale.
5. Ms. Rubenstein thanked Committeeman Shanley and the Fireworks Committee, with special thanks to the Wyckoff Shop Rite and the Lakeland Bank for sponsoring the fireworks event. The Junior Firefighters did an outstanding job as the evening's DJ. – playlist was outstanding.
6. Today is Walk or Bike to School Day and Mr. Rubenstein was a participant at Lincoln School.

Timothy Shanley:

1. Mr. Shanley thanked all who supported the fireworks fundraiser – especially Lakeland Bank and the Wyckoff Shop Rite who funded the lion-share of the cost for the event. Special thanks go out to the Fireworks Committee. The Township will begin planning for the event in 2020. Mr. Shanley thanked Bob Shannon for his work as well as the Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Shanley especially thanked the DPW and the Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department for the incredible work performed for the event.
2. Mr. Shanley reported that the Torpedoes will fund the repair of the soccer gauge fencing.

Mayor Madigan:

1. Mayor Madigan recognized Committeeman Shanley and the Fireworks Committee for organizing the fireworks display fundraiser on Saturday, September 28, 2019. Special thanks to the fire department, ambulance corps. and DPW for the set-up preparations and to Bo Moore from Franklin Lakes for the use of his sound equipment which made a world of difference.
2. This Saturday, October 5, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. the ribbon cutting ceremony will be conducted at 370 Clinton Avenue, a home for individuals with special needs and administered by the United Way of Bergen County.

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- 3. The Buddy Walk will celebrate its 15th year on Saturday, October 5, 2019 at the Wyckoff Family YMCA.
- 4. Mayor Madigan complimented Bob Shannon for his article that was published in the October Issue of the New Jersey League of Municipalities Magazine as a best practice that is performed in Wyckoff. The article recognized Alex Sullivan who was one of the three (3) winners in the statewide essay contest entitled “What my Governing Body does Best.”
- 5. Mayor Madigan and Committeeman Boonstra participated in Shop Rite Cares – a volunteer program where groceries are packed for shoppers at the stores and proceeds are donated to folks in need. Also of note, Shop Rite has a depository where folks can recycle books and borrow books – a nice addition to our community.
- 6. Mayor Madigan and Committeeman Boonstra visited Coolidge School today for “Walk or Bike to School Day.” Safety measures and procedures were discussed with parents.

At this time, Mayor Madigan requested to re-open the (10) ten-minute public comment period, two (2) minutes per speaker for public comment for any further discussion regarding the coyote issue examined earlier this evening with a motion from Committeeman Shanley, seconded by Committeeman Rubenstein.

- 6. Carla Moschetto, 405 Patton Place requested answers to the following two (2) questions; (1) How does Tyco Animal Control know that coyotes know the difference between a toddler and a dog. The residents have been informed by Tyco that coyotes are fearful of humans; (2) Why do coyotes need to be destroyed – why can't they be tranquillized much like bears are tranquillized and relocated to a different environment? Committeeman Boonstra indicated that during a discussion with Tyco, a question was raised about using a Have-a-Heart Trap. Apparently, coyotes are considered too smart to be trapped in such a type of entrapment.

At 8:00 p.m. the Township Committee recesses the Open Work Session discussion of the Open Public Meeting to conduct the Public Business Meeting.

At 8:20 p.m. the Township Committee reconvenes the Open Work Session discussion of the Open Public Work Session Meeting voting as follows:

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

Policy Action Items:

- 1. A meeting was conducted with Boswell Engineering – they have submitted plans to the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) to utilize the NJDOT Trust Fund Grant to perform intersection improvements on Greenwood Avenue at its intersection with Wyckoff Avenue and Greenwood Avenue. The plan is for advertisements to be published in December with work to begin Spring 2020.
- 2. Mayor Madigan signed a letter prepared by Boswell Engineering that was mailed to the NJDOT decision makers inquiring and encouraging them to fund the Mountain Avenue culvert replacement.

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3. The Township will submit a grant application to the Bergen County Community Development Block Grant to replace the windows at the Larkin Senior Citizen Center with energy efficient, safety windows.
4. The Administrator reviewed a NJDOT Memorandum of Record regarding a 7/19/19 diagnostic team meeting conducted at the Newtown Road railroad crossing in Midland Park directly adjacent to Wyckoff. The NJDOT plans on installing additional warning safety features and gates in the future.
5. The Fall Resident Newsletter was received in homes on 9/25/19 – in time for the September 28th Fireworks Article.
6. The Wyckoff Board of Health no longer conducts a flu clinic as flu vaccinations are offered at all pharmacies. However, on Monday, October 21, 2019 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. the Board of Health will sponsor a flu clinic at Fire Co. #1 for all first responders and employees.
7. Three (3) of the Township's police officers had been injured during the arrest of a very violent individual. The officers are now back to work.
8. The Administrator and Denise Capparelli are working to attain energy savings by obtaining grants to fund those improvements. The New Jersey Board of Public Green Energy Program has denied participation in energy savings at the Larkin House due to their rules regarding facilities that have low energy usage. However, the Township is attempting to obtain a grant through the Gardiner Environmental Fund for the same improvements.
9. The Building Department has issued a fine to the owner of 647 Quackenbush Avenue. The basement was finished without a permit. Work without building permits is the primary reason why Wyckoff is ordered and taxpayers must pay for costly revaluations.
10. The Administrator and Cindy Risseuw obtained sample fees that are charged by area board of healths for the inspection of food handlers license related to commissary kitchens. Mr. Shannon has drafted an ordinance and provided the ordinance to the Board of Health.
11. With regard to the public comment concerning sewer billing from the September 15th meeting, a report was provided to the governing body.
12. An employee has advised the Administrator that she will apply for the Family Medical Leave Act.
13. The police department issued a report that indicated the number of vehicles that were stolen in Wyckoff was due to residents leaving their key-fob in the unlocked vehicle. Public information to refrain from this action has been and will continue to be posted on all social media accounts.
14. At last meeting, the Township decided to be proactive after an update from Committeemen Scanlan and Shanley regarding their meeting with Orange & Rockland Utilities. Orange & Rockland indicated there are approximately eight (8) property owners that the utility has identified as having unsafe conditions with their electric meters. The governing body drafted letters from the Construction Code Official to encourage and offer assistance so these residents will respond to the warning letters from Orange & Rockland.

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15. The work on the 2020 Municipal Calendar continues and is a full court press. Nancy Cole has sold twenty (20) of the twenty-four (24) advertisements that fund the calendar.
16. The crack in the tennis courts was repaired so that will effectively extend the useful life of the court surface.
17. The New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles (NJDMV), at the request of the Wyckoff Police Department, conducted a three (3) hour vehicle checkpoint on Monday, September 30, 2019 at the intersection of Wyckoff Avenue and Main Street. The police department stopped thirty-nine (39) vehicles, twenty (20) of those vehicles were issued summonses for failure to obtain a motor vehicle safety inspection. The police department has been partnering with the NJDMV to perform these types of inspections throughout the year and it is alarming the number of vehicles that drive thru the Township that are not inspected. This is a concern because our children, pedestrians and seniors utilize the sidewalks, crosswalks and drive to and from community events. The desired effect is that it will become known that the Township is performing these random inspections and the fear of punishment will result in more safety compliance.
18. The Annual Tax Sale is scheduled for Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Court Room.
19. The Administrator thanked Committeeman Shanley for his leadership on the Fireworks Committee. Mr. Shannon devoted fifty-two (52) hours to this project dealing with the business portion of the event. Mr. Shannon especially thanked the Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department and the DPW. Whether this event is a fireworks fundraiser or a community event, the staff and volunteers from these two (2) agencies continue to perform the same extensive volume of work to prepare for this event. Their participation was invaluable.
20. The Administrator reviewed the success of the Bergen County Clerk's Satellite Office in Wyckoff on September 17, 18 & 19, 2019 and inquired if the governing body wanted to schedule a date for 2020. The Township Committee agreed and requested the Administrator to report back with potential dates.
21. The governing body was asked if they wished to participate in the one (1) day New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles (NJDMV) inspection in Wyckoff. The response was yes, but requested the Administrator to procure the dates. Committeewoman Rubenstein asked Mr. Shannon if he could obtain information and distill it into an easily read format that may be helpful to the governing body and residents regarding the new "Real ID" driver's license.
22. Committeeman Shanley asked the Administrator to contact Orange & Rockland Utilities and inquire as to the status of the storm hardening project where Orange & Rockland informed the governing body they would be installing lines underground from the Brookside power substation in Allendale that feed most of Wyckoff.

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Township Attorney Report:

- 1. Mr. Landel will provide an update to the governing body in Closed Session regarding the threat of litigation from Waste Management. The Administrator drafted the bid specifications significantly straightforward so the Township should be on firm ground.
- 2. Mr. Landel has provided the overlay zoning ordinance for the affordable housing overlay zones and recognized Rudy Boonstra, Brian Scanlan, Bob Shannon and Beth McManus for their assistance in reviewing the ordinances.
- 3. There are additional ordinances that must be drafted. They include two (2) properties on Greenwood Avenue and the gas station property in Franklin Avenue next to Town Hall.
- 4. Mr. Landel completed the shared service agreement with Bergen County that allows Wyckoff to utilize the transport vehicle provided by the county to tow the swift rescue boat and trailer.
- 5. On a personal note, Mr. Landel attended the fireworks display on Saturday, September 28, 2019 and stated they were the best fireworks yet.

At 8:40 p.m. the Township Committee recesses the Open Work Session discussion of the Open Public Meeting to enter into Closed Session discussion via Resolution #19-C12 and #19-C13.

At 9:10 p.m. the Township Committee reconvenes the Open Work Session discussion of the Open Public Work Session Meeting voting as follows:

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

The Open Work Session Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Thomas J. Madigan
Mayor

Joyce C. Santimauro
Municipal Clerk