

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 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 and Committeewoman Melissa D. Rubenstein

Also Present: Township Administrator Robert J. Shannon, Jr., Municipal Clerk Joyce C. Santimauro, Thomas Garlick, Esq. and Carol Tyler, Tyco Animal Control Service

Absent: Committeeman Brian D. Scanlan and Township Attorney Robert Landel

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.

There was no public comment.

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

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

Review of the 8:00 p.m. Business Meeting:

1. The Administrator stated that this evening's agenda is as submitted and posted on the municipal website on Friday, October 11, 2019. There are no additions or deletions to the agenda.
2. The agenda includes a resolution to authorize filing of a grant and a resolution authorizing the Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department to participate in a Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) pilot program which is saving the Township approximately \$20,000.
3. The public hearings this evening includes a number of land use ordinances which the governing body may either adopt, deny or carry to the next meeting on Monday, November 4, 2019. At this time, Mr. Boonstra announced that he has been serving on a project team consisting of Committeeman Scanlan, Rob Landel and the Administrator. A meeting was conducted earlier this week where the subcommittee review comments from the Planning Board. Based on those comments, there is a recommendation that the Township Committee carry these ordinances until the next meeting. However, the public hearings would be conducted this evening to allow members of the public to comment.

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Policy Action Items:

1. The process has begun to prepare for the 2020 Municipal Budget specifically, copies were provided of requests for price quotes to update three (3) elements of the Master Plan. These updates must be completed in 2020. They include a re-examination report, a recreation and open space inventory report and the stormwater management element of the Master Plan.
2. In accordance with governing body direction from last meeting, the Administrator contacted Orange & Rockland Utilities and inquired as to the schedule of their storm hardening efforts. Orange & Rockland had advised the Township Committee that they would be re-installing the electric circuits from their Allendale Substation which feeds Wyckoff underground. Orange & Rockland has reported that the work will begin in November and will require several months for completion. With regard to the eight (8) letters the Township Committee requested to be sent to the eight (8) property owners who were notified by Orange & Rockland of potential hazardous conditions with their electric meter, only two (2) of those eight (8) property owners have responded to the Building Department. The Building Department will send second notices to the remaining six (6) property owners in this regard.
3. The Wyckoff Board of Health adopted Ordinance #94 which updates the sanitary sewer system and provides clarity that the Township Engineer has requested.
4. The Administrator distributed a survey of Northwest Bergen Municipalities which indicate that all thirteen (13) Northwest Bergen County Municipalities and the County of Bergen require the property owner to be responsible for the maintenance and repair of sidewalks in their right-of-way.
5. The twice a year community event – personal document and paper shredding known as “Shredfest” will be conducted on Saturday, October 19, 2019 at the DPW Garage, 475 West Main Street beginning at 8:30 a.m. Volunteers are needed.
6. The Annual Fall Curbside Leaf Collection Program begins Monday, October 21, 2019.
7. The Township was notified by the New Jersey League of Municipalities and Rutgers University that the Township has received Honorable Mention in this year’s Public Information Contest. This year’s public information was primarily focused on environmental matters. The 2019 Municipal Calendar featured the Resource Inventory prepared by the Environmental Commission. It also included the social media posts which took the Stormwater Management Act Legal requirements and distilled them into easily understood language for residents to comply.
8. The Administrator is currently out to bid with two (2) projects to create non-tax revenue. Those bids are due on Wednesday, November 13, 2019.
9. On Wednesday, October 23, 2019 the Christian Health Care Center will honor the first responders (police, fire and ambulance) from Wyckoff, Wayne and Hawthorne. A proclamation has been drafted.

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10. The Township Committee has asked Mr. Shannon to attend the Monday, October 21, 2019 Environmental Commission Meeting to “pinch hit” for the Chair who cannot attend. The Administrator will attend the meeting.
11. The month of October is Fire Prevention Month. A series of six (6) social media bulletins have been prepared by Nancy Cole and will be issued through the month. The purpose of these bulletins is to provide information to property owners and residents to help the fire department assist them.
12. The 2020 Municipal Calendar theme “2020 Vision” is in full swing. The Staff is reviewing monthly grids and the narrative of technology utilized by the Township.
13. A reminder concerning the Tuesday, November 19, 2019 business meeting that is listed in the municipal calendar has been changed via a 48 Hour Notice to Monday, November 18, 2019.
14. A request was received from Congressman Gottheimer’s Office to utilize Town Hall on one day between 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. for a member of his staff to represent the representative for the public to have any questions. Mayor Madigan suggested Tuesday, November 12, 2019 because the Town Hall is open on Tuesday evenings. The governing body approved.

Township Attorney Report:

1. Mr. Garlick and Mr. Landel have had contact with the realtor in an attempt to obtain a signed contract of sale for 240 Demarest Avenue.

Township Committee Report:

Timothy Shanley:

1. Last evening, Mr. Shanley assisted the Fire Chief at the company meetings at Fire Co. #1, Fire Co. #2 & Fire Co. #3. There are a number of upcoming fire department fundraisers – Fire Co. #2 is conducting a “Texas Holdum” fundraiser on Saturday, October 19, 2019. Fire Co. #3 is sponsoring a Uncle Floyd Comedy Night & Beefsteak on Thursday, October 24, 2019 at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. The Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department will hold their second “A Taste of Wyckoff” Fundraiser on Friday, January 31, 2020 at the Wyckoff Family YMCA.
2. On Saturday, October 19, 2019 the Cedar Hill Christian Reformed Church will sponsor a free concert “cedarjam” where the proceeds will benefit the Wyckoff First Responders.
3. A firefighter has passed away in another State during a fire call and fire suppression response. The owners of the house had ammunition in the home which was not placed in a fireproof safe. Hence, the fire ignited the ammunition which killed the firefighter. Mr. Shanley advises the fire department is requesting anyone who has ammunition in the home to keep the ammunition in a fireproof safe.
4. The Wyckoff Education Foundation’s Fall Gala is scheduled for Friday, October 25, 2019 at the Brownstone. This event raises funds for the school children which are otherwise not included in the school budget.

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Melissa Rubenstein:

1. The Wyckoff Board of Health met on Thursday, October 10, 2019 and they discussed a proposed new ordinance which would establish an annual food handlers fee for shared corporate kitchens.
2. The Board of Health is in the process of drafting an ordinance as per the guidance of our Certified Animal Control Officer which will strictly prohibit the feeding of wildlife. Leaving food outdoors for wildlife is one of the primary attractions to coyotes as explained by Ms. Tyler.
3. The Environmental Commission will meet on Monday, October 21, 2019. At that time, two (2) new members, Ben Weiner and Kevin Hanley will be welcomed to the board.
4. The Township Committee will be issuing a social media bulletin which explains in common sense language the new “Real ID” driver’s license. Effective October 1, 2020, if New Jersey residents wish to fly domestically without using their passport, they will need a New Jersey driver’s license with the gold star ablaze on the front of the updated license. Ms. Rubenstein suggested that residents begin the process of obtaining such a driver’s license sooner than later. (FYI – residents may sign up for an e-mail announcement when DMV begins the Real ID process. There are no agencies onboard yet in this area).
5. Last evening, Ms. Rubenstein had the privilege of attending The Barn Original 90th Anniversary. The Barn has been in operation since 1929 and the Township is lucky to have a long-standing business in Wyckoff.

Rudy Boonstra:

1. The historic barn that was located on the Meer Estate was moved to the Wyckoff Community Park. Prior to the start of leaf collection, the DPW plans to have the barn placed on a foundation at the park.
2. On Friday, October 4, 2019 Mr. Boonstra participated with the Wyckoff Police Department at the TD Bank for the program “Have Coffee with a Cop.”
3. On Friday, October 11, 2019 Mr. Boonstra participated in the “Kids and Cops” kick ball game held at the Pulis Soccer Facility. It was a great event to introduce the police department to the Township’s young generation.
4. The sub-divider located at Hillside Avenue has received his price estimates for the sewer extension on Evers Street and Hillside Avenue. The work should begin in the Spring.
5. Mr. Boonstra attended the Zabriskie House Tour and Open House on Saturday, October 5, 2019. It was a very informative program about the Township’s museum for Early American History.
6. The Bergen County United Way conducted their Grand Opening of their facility for individuals with developmental disabilities located at 370 Clinton Avenue. Mr. Boonstra made comment that the house looks beautiful and it fits perfectly in the neighborhood.
7. Later on Saturday, October 5, 2019 Mr. Boonstra attended the Buddy Walk at the Wyckoff Family YMCA.

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8. Two (2) applications at the October Planning Board Meeting were carried to the next meeting.

Mayor Madigan:

1. On Saturday, October 5, 2019 Mayor Madigan attended the United Way Grand Opening at 370 Clinton Avenue. Welcome to the six (6) new residents who will reside at this facility.
2. It was a perfect weather day for the Annual Buddy Walk on Saturday, October 5, 2019 at the Wyckoff Family YMCA. Mayor Madigan informed everyone that the Buddy Walk was named for one of our residents and this is the 15th year for this fundraiser.
3. A proclamation was presented to The Barn Original on the 90th Anniversary in business.
4. Mayor Madigan reminded all that Saturday, October 19, 2019 is the very popular “Shredfest,” the personal document paper shredding event at the DPW Garage, 475 West Main Street. Volunteers are needed for the event.
5. On Friday, October 4, 2019 Mayor Madigan attended the “Kids and Cops” kickball game at the Pulis Soccer Facility. He thanked PBA Local 261 for sponsoring this event.
6. Today at 12:30 p.m. Mayor Madigan attended the Senior Citizens Meeting at the Larkin House. A presentation was conducted by Carol Tyler from Tyco Animal Control Services by providing timely and relevant information regarding coyote awareness and preparations property owners may perform on how to live with wildlife. Two (2) additional education presentations will be provided – Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. in the Shotmeyer Room at the Wyckoff Public Library and the second presentation will be Monday, October 28, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Shotmeyer Room. A two (2) sided bulletin has been provided by the Township that reviews how to prepare your home and property wildlife safe. An F.Y.I., the Spring Meadow Condominium Association has distributed whistles to all its members as a precaution recommended by Tyco Animal Control Service.
7. Mayor Madigan advised that Tyco Animal Control Service has been authorized by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Game as the local Agent to trap following State of New Jersey protocols. Therefore, Tyco is actively monitoring the situation in the area. You may see Tyco employees walking in or near your yard at times and they will be wearing their Tyco uniforms with proper identification.
8. The guidance from Tyco Animal Control to Wyckoff and the Borough of Franklin Lakes include:
 - a. Conduct public information sessions.
 - b. Issue public information.
 - c. Alert the police department for a greater presence in the areas where coyotes have been seen.
 - d. The Board of Health ordinance which prohibits the feeding of wildlife exists and the police are aware of such ordinance.
 - e. Chapter 193 of the Code of the Township of Wyckoff – “Wildlife Feeding” shall be strengthened at the request of Tyco Animal Control Services

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- f. The Tyco Animal Control Services Power Point Presentation posted on the Township's website.
- g. The Township is in the process of posting at the access locations of the leaf composting facility with "No Trespassing" signs.

At this point, Mayor Madigan introduced Carol Tyler to provide an update with regard to the recent coyote sightings. Ms. Tyler explained that entire area of Northwest Bergen County is experiencing an unusual occurrence with wildlife. We live in Northwest Bergen County because it is beautiful. However, New Jersey is home to over 400 species of wildlife. In the Spring, the coyotes were stalking fawns, now that the fawns have grown into full sized deer, the coyotes are feeding off of rodents, rabbits and smaller animals. Coyotes do not know the difference between small animals. This situation is also being experienced with the resurgence of eagles and hawks in the area. A critical precaution is to carry whistles or canned air as those noises are effective in deterring wildlife. The high-density State that we live in does have adequate habitat for animals as well. Another important precaution is never to let your pet or small child outside unattended. Once the young coyotes grow, they will move out of the area. Also, never leave food outside or to not secure your garbage cans if left outside. It is important to have lights on around the exterior of your home and trim back shrubbery.

The Administrator advised that the Township has been working cooperatively with the Borough of Franklin Lakes. The Township is following the instructions of our Animal Control Officer. The public information sessions have been promoted widely and Ms. Tyler's Power Point Presentation has been posted on the municipal website for over three (3) weeks. The Township is posting "No Trespassing" signs at the access points to the wooded portion of the leaf composting facility at the end of Woodbury Drive and Spring Meadow Drive. However, as Ms. Tyler points out, the educational session and the public information is critical for residents to be aware and for residents to take appropriate actions to discourage wildlife from their property.

At this time, Committeeman Shanley reported that the Shade Tree Commission met today to discuss the problem with locust trees specifically, their root system uplifting the asphalt of Hil-Ray Avenue. Committeeman Boonstra reminded all that the subcommittee that met and developed with the Township Attorney and the Planner, the ordinance scheduled for public hearing and further consideration this evening will be carried. Mayor Madigan stated he would prefer to carry those ordinances until Committeeman Scanlan returns as he was a member of the subcommittee.

The Open Work Session Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Thomas J. Madigan
Mayor

Joyce C. Santimauro
Municipal Clerk

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