

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF  
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING  
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Brian D. Scanlan 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 Brian D. Scanlan, Committeemen Thomas J. Madigan, Rudolf E. Boonstra, Timothy E. Shanley and Committeewoman Melissa D. Rubenstein

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

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

Mayor Scanlan congratulated Clerk Santimauro for thirty (30) years of service to the Township of Wyckoff.

Mayor Scanlan 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 Boonstra.

1. Dave Connolly, 298 Sunset Boulevard stated that the Township Committee had an unwritten rule for many years that he abided by as a former mayor where lawn signs were posted only thirty (30) days prior to an election. The volume of lawn signs posted this year is excessive and detracts from the character of our beautiful community. Mr. Connolly then asked Committeeman Boonstra to speak to Assemblyman Rooney, a member of the State Environmental Committee regarding the removal of trees specifically, the tree removal that is primarily due to the new NJDEP Septic System regulations. There has to be a better alternative in this regard. Additionally, Mr. Connolly requested Assemblyman Rooney address environmental plastic wrap that is not biodegradable as silt fencing material should resort back to burlap. Mr. Connolly asked Mayor Scanlan about the political bulletins that were mailed "bashing" Committeeman Madigan. Mayor Scanlan responded that this issue is not a government matter before the governing body. It is a political discussion and in keeping with the precedent established last year by then Mayor Boonstra, political campaign questions are not governmental matters. However, Mayor Scanlan offered to speak to Mr. Connolly after the meeting. Mr. Connolly described the political flyers as a character assassination of Committeeman Madigan.
2. Sara Derico, 190 Wyckoff Avenue stated that she did not understand the outcry with regard to the bulletin regarding Committeeman Madigan. Last year, a bulletin was mailed attacking Mayor Scanlan's character and it was deceitful. Ms. Derico does not understand the objection when a bulletin is sent from the opposing campaign.

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3. Louis Cicerchia, 746 Mountain Avenue asserted his rebuttal to Ms. Derico – negative campaigns occur frequently. Last year’s campaign was based on the fact that the mayor was taking credit for something that the Township Committee executed. That is completely different and distinct from alleging a member of the governing body is a racist. This type of campaigning is the lowest form of life and is despicable. It is hard to believe that that bulletin was mailed without the “blessing” of Mayor Scanlan. Before Carla Pappalardo ran for Township Committee and other county organizations entered Wyckoff, this did not occur. Mr. Cicerchia opined that he hoped the result of this election reflects a rejection of this type of campaigning. He also sent a message on Mayor Scanlan’s Facebook Page which was not responded to but deleted. Mayor Scanlan offered to speak with Mr. Cicerchia after the meeting.
4. Peter Melchione, 334 West Shore Drive asserted that there is a significant difference between last year’s political bulletin and this year’s political bulletin. The campaign contribution records indicate the \$3,700 was given to the Wyckoff Democrats from the Bergen County Democratic Club and \$2,600 from Mayor Scanlan to Carla Pappalardo.
5. Dorothy Blakesly, 21 Lyons Street advised that she does not see a difference in the political flyers – both expose a candidate’s character and access their credentials. If you start the smear campaign, you should expect it to continue. Committeeman Shanley’s name was on the political flyer last year. Mr. Shanley stated he ran against Ms. Pappalardo last year and he has made no comments with regard to Ms. Pappalardo. Committeewoman Rubenstein commented that we are all volunteers and not professional politicians. We serve the public and if this continues, it will be difficult to find good people to run for political office in the future.
6. Gerry Weston, 249 Meadowbrook Road stated he agreed with Committeewoman Rubenstein. There is no difference between the political flyers last year and this year. Mr. Weston also does not understand the outcry and why the Republicans are rather upset. It is hypocritical. Committeeman Madigan stated: “Gerry, you know me for twenty-five (25) years. My wife does not appreciate my family and I being described as racists. Do you agree with the political flyer”? Mr. Weston stated he was not aware of the facts.
7. Ed Kalpagian, 488 Fairfield Road congratulated Joyce Santimauro, Municipal Clerk on her thirty (30) years of service to the municipality. Mr. Kalpagian stated that there is an enormous difference between calling someone a racist as compared to taking credit where credit was not due. Dirty politics have been introduced into this community. Local politics should not be “dirty.” Mr. Kalpagian addressed Mayor Scanlan and reminded him he is the Mayor of Wyckoff and now a party to this “dirty” campaign. This is occurring under your watch where there should be civility. Ms. Pappalardo has her signs placed on properties without permission and she has been endorsed by Mayor Scanlan. The Mayor sets the tone and this tone needs to change. Committeewoman Rubenstein posted a request for civility – she appears more independent and has the courage to speak up. Next year’s Mayor should be aware of this.

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

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Committeeman Madigan stated: “This is unfortunate before the eve of an election – what is sad is, we shop together, we worship together, we volunteer together and I hope this negative campaigning stops.”

**Additions to this evening’s Agenda:**

The Administrator stated there were no additions to this evening’s Agenda.

**Policy Action Items:**

1. The letter was mailed to New Jersey Transit regarding a request for Coach USA, the franchise carrier to provide additional morning buses to transport commuters to New York City from the Wyckoff commuter lot.
2. The ordinances referenced on the agenda this evening are not associated with zoning requirements and the Administrator has requested Planner McKenzie provide the ordinances that address zoning requirements and overlay zones to him for governing body study and review. Mayor Scanlan asked for a timeline for Ms. McKenzie to submit those ordinances. Mr. Shannon advised there is no timeframe but he will contact Ms. McKenzie to secure an estimated delivery date.
3. The Administrator reminded the governing body at last meeting they decided to carry the draft resolution submitted by former Environmental Commission Chair Harriet Shugarman to this evening’s meeting. The governing body discussed the resolution and a consensus appeared that the resolution is too lengthy. Committeeman Shanley suggested the resolution also reference the Hudson Riverkeepers Association as well as the Hackensack Riverkeepers Association. Mayor Scanlan will speak with Ms. Shugarman and ask her to modify and condense the resolution from nine (9) pages to approximately two (2) pages for discussion at the next meeting.

**Administrator Report:**

1. The upcoming Township events are listed in the Township Committee Newsletter.
2. With regard to the meeting scheduled for November 19, 2018 with the owners of historic homes, only two (2) responses have been received as of today. Five (5) letters were returned and have been resent to “Owner of Historic Home” at their legal addresses.
3. The Administrator recognized and thanked Robert Landel for conducting three (3) land use liability seminars.
4. Last week, the Township received notice from ISO, the company that rates municipalities that most insurance companies use to price insurance policies. The Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department has retained a #3 rating where #1 is the highest and #10 is the lowest. The Township has maintained this #3 rating for over thirty (30) years. The Administrator extended congratulations to Fire Chief Brock and his team. A rating of #3 for a volunteer fire department is considered outstanding.

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5. On Tuesday, October 30, 2018 Police Chief Murphy received the American Automobile Association's Award of Excellence for community traffic safety. This is the 13<sup>th</sup> time in fifteen (15) years that the Wyckoff Police Department has achieved this top award.
6. Mother Nature has decided that the leaves are falling later this year. The Leaf Collection Crews are currently in District 7 of the second round of leaf collection. The DPW is working diligently and each year Wyckoff collects forty thousand (40,000) cubic yards of leaves, enough to cover Giants Stadium, end zone to end zone sideline to sideline and sixteen (16) feet tall.
7. The four (4) ordinances that are listed on the Agenda this evening are all published in full in the newspaper as part of a transparency enhancement. A law was passed a number of years ago that allows municipalities to publish ordinances in summary form. However, that summary form makes it difficult to impossible for the public to understand the interpretation of what the ordinances mean. Wyckoff is one of the few municipalities that publishes its ordinances in full and the Township has established a section of its website entitled "Legal Notices from the Clerk" where all ordinances are posted for further enhancement and transparency for the public.
8. Today, the Township received a dividend from the Joint Insurance Fund of \$15,582.41 based on the safety efforts of the past three (3) years. The Township of Wyckoff views safety as a positive fiscal indicator. The dividend check will be used to decrease next year's insurance premiums.

**Township Committee Reports:**

**Rudy Boonstra:**

No report this evening.

**Melissa Rubenstein:**

No Report this evening

**Timothy Shanley:**

1. Mr. Shanley, Committeemen Madigan and Boonstra and Mr. Shannon attended the Wyckoff Family YMCA Veterans Luncheon today. The theme of the event was the recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ending of World War 1.

**Thomas Madigan :**

No Report this evening.

**Mayor Scanlan:**

1. Mayor Scanlan attended the Library Board Meeting on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 where the BCCLS Library System has determined to fund and provide their own delivery service. The library consortium delivers 8,000 library items per day. The payment from the Wyckoff Library in 2019 will be \$9,000.
2. On Thursday, October 18, 2018 Mayor Scanlan and Committeewoman Rubenstein attended an Access for All Meeting. Mayor Scanlan was

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pleased to report the Torpedoes Soccer Club is considering a program for children with special needs.

3. Mayor Scanlan, Committeeman Boonstra and the Administrator have conducted two (2) rounds of interviews for the purpose of selecting a successor to Planner Elizabeth McKenzie, who is retiring at the end of this year.
4. Mayor Scanlan had the pleasure of speaking to Wolf Den 309 where the scouts displayed their enthusiasm towards the new recycling program.
5. Each year, the Christian Health Care Center celebrates their residents who have reached their 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday. This year, eight (8) individuals were recognized for reaching this milestone ranging in ages from 100 to 106. Mayor Scanlan described the celebration as remarkable.
6. Mayor Scanlan advised he received a complaint from Karen Madigan, a resident of Hurley Avenue that landscaping crews purchase lunch at the adjacent Shopping Center and park their vehicles on Hurley Avenue. This makes it difficult for Ms. Madigan to exit her driveway and asked if these vehicles could be relocated off of the public roadway. Committeeman Madigan advised that Karen Madigan is no relation to himself.

**Township Attorney Report:**

1. The Township may request an extension from the Court for the completion of the ordinance adoption process as part of the Affordable Housing judgement of repose. The Planner is preparing the zoning ordinances for the zoning requirements and the overlay zoning. It is anticipated these ordinances will be received as soon as possible for governing body review. Mr. Landel is confident an extension would be granted by the Court. Mayor Scanlan inquired who would be the Superior Court Judge as Judge Toskos has retired. Mr. Landel responded that Judge Padavino would preside. Mayor Scanlan asked if it would be valuable to have the Township Engineer review the overlay zonings as well. Mr. Landel replied that could be beneficial.

The Open Work Session Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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Brian D. Scanlan  
Mayor

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Joyce C. Santimauro  
Municipal Clerk