

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF  
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN PUBLIC WORK SESSION  
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015 – 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 Brian D. Scanlan, Rudolf E. Boonstra and John A. Carolan

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

**Absent:** Committeeman Haakon C. Jepsen

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

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 Scanlan, seconded by Committeeman Boonstra.

1. Peter TenKate, 268 Monroe Avenue expressed his opinion that closing the gate at the tennis courts that connects Memorial Field to Demarest Avenue was not a good decision. This results in additional traffic on Monroe Avenue. Mr. TenKate has resided in his home for many years; the Library and the Recreation fields and programs have been expanded, the roller hockey rink constructed and more outdoor sports lighting installed yet no consideration regarding the traffic volume on Monroe Avenue. Often Mr. Ten Kate stated he cannot back out of his driveway due to the cars exiting the Memorial Field Complex.

2. Joy Lengyl, 89 Crescent Avenue stated she attended the Township Committee Meeting when the governing body gave the monarch butterfly adulation. She learned that the municipal budget was completed in February whereby no funding was allotted to resume grass collection in 2015. Ms. Lengyl read a letter she submitted to the Suburban News expressing her disappointment that grass clippings are not collected as in previous years.

Mayor Rooney stated that the hats and T-shirts that were distributed at the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting to the student who won the logo contest for the Mayor's Wellness Program and members of the Wellness Committee were paid for by himself. After that presentation, the Township Committee received a presentation from a Girl Scout Troop from Sicomac School and the Environmental Commission requesting approval to construct a monarch butterfly habitat at the newly opened Russell Farms Community Park.

Mayor Rooney also reminded Ms. Lengyl that he stated at the meeting the Township Committee would survey residents regarding vegetative waste and grass collections.

Committeeman Scanlan added that in 2012 when curbside grass collection was discontinued, the Township was advised by the garbage contractor that less than 15% of the homes were utilizing the curbside grass collection.

Ms. Lengyl advised she was glad to learn that the Township Committee was open to reconsider curbside grass collection in 2016. Mayor Rooney commented that at the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, when a decision was reached to utilize grant funds for vegetative waste collection, he expressed an interest in curbside grass collection as well.

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3. Elizabeth Minerra, 391 Clinton Avenue advised that she is the parent of a daughter with Autism and has learned that the Township Committee is building a facility on Clinton Avenue for individuals with special needs. Ms. Minerra was inquiring how to obtain additional information. Mayor Rooney explained that an announcement was made at the last meeting where a number of residents spoke in favor of the facility. The next step is for the Township to sell the property to the United Way of Bergen County. The United Way would then submit an application to the Planning Board for approvals and receive public input. All necessary applications and occupancy fulfillment will be the sole responsibility of the United Way of Bergen County. The Access for All Committee was hopeful that the United Way could apply to the Wyckoff Planning Board sometime in 2015 and the application would be posted on the Township's website on Planning Board Agendas and reported in the local press.

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

Mayor Rooney advised that the Agenda includes a review of the Best Practice Checklist. The information submitted is very detailed and thorough.

**Township Committee Reports:**

**Brian Scanlan:**

1. Mr. Scanlan thanked Bob Shannon for his expert assistance with two (2) grant applications submitted by the Zabriskie House Trust to the Bergen County Historic Preservation Program to fund an alarm system and a professional study of the property.
2. The Zabriskie House Trustees met on Thursday, September 22, 2015 and discussed the next immediate work requirements. They anticipate coming before the Township Committee to request an appropriation of Open Space monies for use at the Zabriskie House Museum.
3. Mr. Scanlan attended the Eastern Christian Children's Retreat Country Fair on Saturday, September 26, 2015 and described the event as well attended and well organized. A suggestion was made to include at this and other public events to raise awareness and provide education to parents about drug and alcohol abuse in the community.
4. Mr. Scanlan and Committeemen Boonstra and Carolan attended the Buddy Walk on Saturday, October 3, 2015. Even though it rained, the event realized a good turnout.
5. The Annual Wyckoff Board of Health Fair will be conducted on Saturday, October 17, 2015 in conjunction with the Wyckoff Education Foundation's 5K Run & Family Walk Event. Also partnering at the event is the Mayor's Wellness Committee and the Stigma Free Program. The health exhibitors and race begin at 10:00 a.m. Flu vaccines will be administered from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Eisenhower Middle School Cafetorium.
5. Last evening, Mr. Scanlan attended the Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department's Fire Prevention Program at Fire Company #1. It was an effective public awareness event.

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**John Carolan:**

1. Mr. Carolan thanked Bob Shannon, Police Chief Fox and DPW Manager Fisher for the “behind the scenes” work being performed regarding the events that occur in the community. All these events went off flawlessly and enjoyed by the residents in attendance.

**Rudy Boonstra:**

1. Mr. Boonstra also attended the community events as previously described as well as the drug and alcohol awareness event to publicize the drug epidemic in our community at McBride Field in Franklin Lakes. Mr. Boonstra recognized and thanked Mayor Rooney and Mayor Bivona for their leadership efforts in this regard.
2. Currently, there is a vacancy on the Planning Board and Mr. Boonstra suggested that the governing body members look to fill that vacancy.

**Mayor Rooney:**

1. Mayor Rooney agreed that the drug awareness announcement was an effective program. There were many members of the community in attendance including two (2) members of the ambulance corps, the police department and the schools. A number of other individuals offered their assistance.
2. Mayor Rooney had surgery on Tuesday, September 29, 2015 and will follow-up with phone calls tomorrow morning.
3. Mayor Rooney attended the Fire Prevention Open House Program at Fire Company #1 last evening.
4. The Eastern Christian Children’s Retreat Country Fair marked their 50<sup>th</sup> year that the country fair has taken place at the Memorial Field Complex.
5. Last week, the very successful Greek Festival was held at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church located on Grandview Avenue. At the next business meeting, members of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church will visit the governing body to present a donation to the Wyckoff Police Department for purchase and use of bulletproof vests.

**Policy Action Review:**

The Administrator reviewed the following items:

1. A resolution has been prepared which claims October as “Breast Cancer Awareness Month.” A request from Maryellen Tafrate from the Clerk’s Office to place pink ribbons on the decorative lamp posts and trees in Scott Plaza was unanimously approved.
2. A resolution has been prepared which closes the roads to be utilized for the Wyckoff Education Foundation’s Annual 5K Family Fun Run & Walk on Saturday, October 17, 2015.

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3. Police Chief Fox & his staff have researched towing fees and addressed various issues regarding these fees. Certain changes have been recommended to the towing fee schedule for greater clarity and ease of use for the towing contractors and the public.
4. Ordinance #1783 is scheduled for introduction this evening. This ordinance will amend the Code of the Township of Wyckoff, Chapter 54 concerning police department. Essentially, this ordinance allows for an increase in the number of sworn patrol officers. The legislative purpose is to provide flexibility to the Police Chief when he is notified of retirements and needs to hire replacement officers. The legislative intent is not to increase the police force but simply to increase the number of permissible patrolmen for greater department flexibility when addressing retirement situations. The Township Committee approved this ordinance for introduction.
5. A recommendation was received from the Consulting Engineer to submit a grant application to the NJ Department of Transportation Trust Fund for Crescent Avenue, specifically, Franklin Avenue to Brookside Avenue. The application will be enhanced with drainage improvements in the area of Lucas Lane and Frost Court to address drainage issues. The Township Committee approved.
6. The Administrator recommended the Township Committee, again for the third year in a row, fund flu vaccinations for Wyckoff Volunteer Firefighters, Wyckoff Volunteer Ambulance Corps members, CERT members, police department and Town Hall employees. The governing body approved this recommendation however, requested the Administrator obtain a list of eligible members from each organization.
7. Committeeman Scanlan requested the Administrator to review the vegetative waste and curbside grass collection survey to be mailed tomorrow. The Administrator reviewed the survey questions and indicated that approximately 4,500 site registrants have registered their e-mail address on the Township's website. Since the 1990's, the Township has been encouraging residents to register their e-mail addresses so that pertinent, useful and timely information may be communicated via e-mail. This is the primary instrument the Township utilizes to communicate with residents. Residents will then have an opportunity to respond to the survey and re-submit to the municipality. The survey will be available for seven (7) days to respond.
8. Fire Chief Graglia has convened a committee of firefighters who are tasked with providing public education and awareness to residents concerning fire hydrant accessibility. In the event of a significant snowfall, the fire department must be able to access fire hydrants when an alarm of fire is sounded. Residents and neighbors are urged to shovel snow away from fire hydrants near their homes.

**Township Attorney Report:**

1. Mr. Landel has completed an agreement required by the railroad to allow a public crossing at Charles Avenue for access to the Pulis Soccer Facility as well as the YMCA.
2. The Township Attorney is preparing a developer's agreement relating to the Board of Adjustment approval of the Christian Health Care Center application.

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3. Mr. Landel is working closely with the Township Planner and the Administrator on a number of tasks concerning the Affordable Housing litigation due in December. A Closed Session discussion has been requested concerning this litigation with the Township Committee and the Township Planner at the next meeting on October 20, 2015. The governing body agreed.
4. At today's Public Policy Meeting, Mr. Landel was "barraged" with a number of ordinance amendment requests that have been the subject of ongoing discussions.

The Work Session Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

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Kevin J. Rooney  
Mayor

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Joyce C. Santimauro  
Municipal Clerk