

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE SINE DIE MEETING
CONTINUED MEETING OF DECEMBER 18, 2012 – 7:30 P.M.
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2013 – 11:00 A.M.**

1. Announcement by Township Committee Chairman Christopher P. DePhillips that this is a continuation of the December 18, 2012 meeting, and as such, will be conducted according to the "Open Public Meetings Act" statement read at that meeting.
2. Roll call of the Township Committee
3. Approval of the following Township Committee minutes:

Township Committee Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes for December 18, 2012:

MOTION: ROONEY **SECOND** CHRISTIE
BOONSTRA yes **CHRISTIE** yes **ROONEY** yes **SCANLAN** abstain
DePHILLIPS yes

4. Township Attorney Report
5. Administrator's report
6. Mayor Christopher P. DePhillips (outgoing chairman) remarks.
7. Adjournment.

**PAYMENT OF CLAIMS MAY BE PAID AT ALL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORK SESSION MEETINGS AND ALL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETINGS**

FORMAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN DURING THIS MEETING

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Announcement by Township Committee Chairman Christopher P. DePhillips that this is a continuation of the December 18, 2012 meeting and as such, will be conducted according to the "Open Public Meetings Act" statement read at that meeting.

Present: Mayor Christopher P. DePhillips, Committeemen Kevin J. Rooney, Rudolf E. Boonstra, Brian D. Scanlan and Douglas J. Christie
Also Present: Township Administrator Robert J. Shannon, Jr., Township Attorney Robert Landel and Municipal Clerk Joyce C. Santimauro

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Township Committee Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes for December 18, 2012:

MOTION: _____ ROONEY _____ **SECOND** _____ CHRISTIE
BOONSTRA yes **CHRISTIE** yes **ROONEY** yes **SCANLAN** abstain
DePHILLIPS yes

Township Administrator Report:

1. The Administrator wished the Township Committee and those in the audience a Happy New Year.
2. Mr. Shannon will attend the Joint Insurance Fund Reorganization Meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
3. The third and final round of Fall leaf collection for 2012 was completed on December 28, 2012.
4. The Administrator has been requested to speak on Thursday, January 10, 2013 at 7:30 a.m. at the Wyckoff/Midland Park Rotary Club Breakfast Meeting regarding recycling collection, garbage collection and other municipal matters.
5. Since the last meeting of December 18, 2012, Mr. Shannon reported that the DPW has responded to three (3) snow events. On Monday, December 24, 2012 the Township received an accumulation of 1 inch of snow and ice. On Wednesday, December 22, 2012 the Township received three (3) inches of snow requiring plowing and on Saturday, December 29, 2012 the Township received five (5) inches of snow requiring plowing and sanding.
6. The Free Rabies Prevention Program will be conducted on Saturday, January 12, 2013 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the DPW Garage, 475 West Main Street. In the last three (3) years, Township Committee members have volunteered to assist writing rabies certificates. Any members able to volunteer this year would be appreciated. The Administrator will also be volunteering.
7. The WOLF Group Shared Service bid for 246 recreation equipment items is due on Friday, January 11, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.
8. The Township has scheduled its hazardous communication training and bloodborne pathogen training for fire department, ambulance, DPW, Library and Town Hall employees.

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9. The original six (6) municipalities that formed the Northwest Bergen Utilities Authority have adopted the sample resolution regarding the return of debt service reserve funds. After the conclusion of this meeting and Mayor DePhillips becomes the former Mayor, the Township will enlist Mr. DePhillips assistance with the Township Committee's opinion reflected in this resolution.
10. On Wednesday, January 2, 2013 Jackie Denequolo will begin updating the Township's website to reflect the 2013 Township Committee members as well as activating and deactivating e-mail addresses.
11. The governing body has been provided with a number of letters to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Director from the Administrator in the past two (2) weeks regarding the current CDBG- ADA Access Project at Town Hall. The project is back on schedule, it was delayed due to flooding at the supplier's facilities from Hurricane Sandy.
12. The Library Board of Trustees has returned the sum of \$388,000, half of the funds approved to be utilized as tax relief for the municipality.
13. The Administrator has been working with the Administrator of Franklin Lakes to coordinate training for elected officials to satisfy the Best Practice Checklist items in order to receive 100% full funding of State aid. The process continues and various dates will be announced.
14. With regard to the continuing efforts to communicate with residents during emergency and non-emergency times, the Emergency Management Committee will be challenged to develop an icon that can be utilized to obtain the attention of residents to convey to them that they must register their e-mail addresses and phone numbers in three (3) ways; 1) to receive text messaging, 2) to receive e-mail blasts to their home computers and data phones and 3) to receive reverse 911 telephone messages on their cellphones. Communication enhancements continue to move forward.
15. The Administrator requested confirmation that the theme for the 2014 Municipal Calendar will be emergency preparedness suggested by Committeeman Rooney at the debriefing meeting of the OEM Committee after Hurricane Sandy.
16. The Township's emergency management section of its web page has been enhanced to include the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management Hurricane Survival Guide.
17. The Administrator advised that today is the first day of the new five (5) year garbage and recycling contract.
18. The Administrator has presented to the governing body and submits today a report of improvements achieved and activities in 2012.

IMPROVEMENTS ACHIEVED AND ACTIVITIES IN 2012

NEW LAWS ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE IN 2012

1. Police staffing ordinance was amended to reflect current staffing.
2. An ordinance requiring commercial buildings and institutions to install an exterior box known as a "Knox Box" which is accessible to the Wyckoff Police Department and Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department for an emergency situation to gain access to the building after business hours.

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3. An ordinance to regulate the placement of solar panels on homes and businesses for firefighter safety.
4. An ordinance to enforce a State law regarding private snow plow operators plowing snow back into the street.
5. Ordinance #1677 intends to decrease false alarms especially from repeat offenders by establishing a sliding scale of penalties.
6. Ordinance #1678 establishes a fee for impounded vehicles and storage fees.
7. The Township Committee adopted an ordinance providing a reasonable fee for the use of the Larkin House to assist with the cost of upkeep.
8. The Township Committee adopted an ordinance allowing a referendum question on the November ballot for the residents to decide if they will allow Games of Chance in Wyckoff.
9. An ordinance was adopted which amended the Zoning Code to allow properties in the B-1A Zone to utilize the basement space for retail use if adequate onsite parking exists.
10. An ordinance was adopted to charge a fee for photos at the Gardens of Wyckoff to assist with the cost of upkeep.
11. An ordinance was adopted which established a fee for each individual variance application before land use boards.
12. An ordinance was adopted which decreased the speed limit on 9 municipal roads.
13. An ordinance was adopted regarding peace and good order to promote health, safety and welfare of the public in public places.
14. An ordinance was adopted which expanded dog walking on leashes in certain parks to Memorial Town Hall fields, the Wyckoff Community Park and the Larkin House Park.
15. An ordinance was adopted to regulate peddling and soliciting hours and days consistent with court decisions.
16. An ordinance was adopted which further regulates the placement of shade trees in the right-of-way.
17. An ordinance was adopted that requires trees and landscaping plans to be submitted to the Shade Tree Commission as part of a land use application.
18. An ordinance was adopted that adds trees and landscape plans to the completeness requirements of land use applications.
19. An ordinance was adopted which requires a certificate of continuous compliance when ownership of a home changes.
20. An ordinance was adopted that abates visual obstructions within 10 feet of any roadway and/or within 25 feet of any intersection.

GRANTS AND POSITIVE FISCAL OPERATIONS

1. \$2,000 Sustainability Grant was obtained.
2. A 2013 Green Community Grant of \$3,000 was obtained.
3. The Township received a FEMA grant reimbursement of \$93,203.64 for 75% of the cost to respond to the 2011 hurricane. The Township continues to look for additional grants to help fund emergency radio upgrades and emergency generators.
4. In November, the Township received a notice that it will be receiving a Recycling Tonnage Grant in the amount of \$28,150.62 based on the 2010 Tonnage Grant Report prepared by the municipal staff. In 2012, the Township paid the \$3.00 Recycling Tax that funds the Tonnage Grant which amounted to \$20,023.99.
5. The Township received a State notification that the State of New Jersey is increasing the Township's cost in 2013 for police pensions by 19.2% and the State imposed 2.0% tax levy cap remains in place. This means cuts in other appropriations will be required to budget this increase and comply with the cap limitation also imposed by the State.

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6. The Township received notice from the Joint Insurance Fund that it has received a dividend of \$11,650.92. This dividend will be used to decrease the cost of the 2013 insurance assessment and is the result of the Township's successful safety program efforts. since 1995, the Township of Wyckoff has received dividends totaling \$618,288.41 which have been used to decrease the amount paid for insurance coverage.
7. A new shared service agreement was established where the Township pays the Borough of North Haledon for the services of their Electrical Subcode Official allowing the Township to avoid hiring a replacement employee to perform this State required function.
8. The Township of Wyckoff joined the Northern New Jersey Cooperative Pricing System and the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission Cooperative Pricing System.
9. The Township of Wyckoff was awarded a pedestrian safety award for the Police Department's efforts for community traffic safety from the American Automobile Association of New Jersey.
10. The Township of Wyckoff was awarded the highly desirable ISO "3" rating.
The Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department has again earned a Class 3 ISO public protection rating based on findings by the Insurance Services Office (ISO).
The Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department has earned a Class 3 rating based on surveys conducted through the ISO's Public Protection Classification system. A rating of 1 is considered the best, while a 10 indicates no recognized protection. ISO's Public Protection Classification (PPC) plays an important role in the underwriting process at insurance companies. In fact, most U.S. insurers – including the largest ones, use PPC information as part of their decision-making when deciding what business to write; coverages to offer or prices to charge for personal or commercial property insurance.
A Class 3 rating for a fire department staffed by all volunteers is considered excellent. Wyckoff (one of 566 municipalities in New Jersey) is one of only 63 career and/or volunteer fire departments in New Jersey to have earned a Class 3 or better rating. In the U.S., only 1,998 fire departments from 47,648 communities that were evaluated by ISO received a Class 3 rating. Fire agencies are rated once every ten years.
11. Estimated tax bills were again prepared, funded and mailed. When the Bergen County Board of Taxation strikes a tax rate, the regular tax billing will be prepared and mailed. Since the Township of Wyckoff is a mandated collection agency for the County, Schools and Library, the estimated bills allow the Township to pay these other units of local government their tax levy.
The Tax Office mails tax bills 4 times annually: estimated bill, final bill, added/omitted bills and adjusted Homestead Credit.
12. On Wednesday, March 13, 2012 at the JIF Breakfast Awards Ceremony, Wyckoff was presented with the following awards:
Gold Award for Excellent Safety Performance
Best Overall Safety Program
Best Overall Award for the Township and Bob Shannon (as an Administrator who believes in safety), for the Township's achievements for five consecutive years.
The Wyckoff Safety Program is an effort which is intended to provide our facilities and buildings safe for employees and visitors. Secondly, it is a prudent cost effective effort as well. The safety effort is a team approach.
13. A \$1,359,00 Open Space Grant was awarded to the Township Committee for the purchase of the Maple Lake property from the Bergen County Freeholders.
14. The Township of Wyckoff renewed the shared service contract organized through Bergen County for Reverse 911 at no cost.

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15. The Township Committee adopted a resolution and met with the Bergen County Executives staff requesting additional grant funding for a regionalized Municipal Alliance with Franklin Lakes and Oakland.
16. The Wyckoff Uniform Construction Code office achieved a (3) rating from the ISO after reviewing the Township's Uniform Construction Code procedures. The top rating is a (1) and the worst rating is a (10). The Township has maintained a rating of (3) in 2003, 2007 and 2011. The county average is (5.5). The State average is (6.3). The National average is (5.1).
17. The Township Committee was awarded a \$50,000 Bergen County Open Space Park Improvement grant to help with the construction of an artificial turf field at Pulis Field. The Wyckoff Parks & Recreation Foundation applied to the Planning Board and after a full hearing, their plan was approved.
18. The Township Committee attending a Joint Insurance Fund JIF seminar earning \$1,250 deduction on the Township's JIF cost for insurance.
19. The Township submitted the annual Recycling Tonnage Report to the NJDEP.
20. The Annual Debt Statement was prepared and submitted to the NJ Local Finance Board before January 31, 2012. The Township's debt is 0.03% where State law allows municipalities to incur debt up 3.5% of their average assessed valuation of the last three years.
21. The Annual Financial Statement was issued before February 10, 2012.
22. Although the State of New Jersey did not decrease the amount of "State aid" allocated to Wyckoff in 2012. ("State Aid" programs are actually revenue replacement programs. The revenue they replace was formerly generated through taxes and assessed and collected locally.) However, the State did not replace the \$373,363 it took away from Wyckoff in 2010 which was the largest percentage decrease of any of Bergen County's 70 municipalities; 25.5%. Since 2006, the State has taken away from Wyckoff, funding of \$594,911, or a draconian 35% funding reduction. Wyckoff's ability to hold the line on municipal taxes is severely limited by actions out
23. The Township of Wyckoff completed the Governor's Best Practice Checklist and rated a score which resulted in qualification to receive 100% the allotted "State Aid" for Wyckoff.
24. The 2012 sewer usage charge was limited to an increase of \$26.00 to \$462.00.
25. The Township has posted on its website, four (4) years of municipal budgets, the annual financial statement, annual audit and its collective bargaining agreements.
26. A NJDOT Trust Fund Grant application was submitted to pave a part of Newtown Road.
27. Notice that a NJDEP Green Acres grant of \$450,000 was awarded to the Township was received.
28. The DPW completed a construction of brick paver pathway and patio at the Gardens at Wyckoff utilizing a Bergen County Open Space Park improvement grant.

CORE DUTIES AND IMPROVEMENTS:

1. The Fall Leaf Collection program concluded with three rounds of collection on December 28, 2012 even with the impact of Hurricane Sandy.
2. For the first time, the General Election and the School Board Election was conducted on the first Tuesday in November. 65% of Wyckoff's registered voters voted.
3. 285 Added Assessment tax bills were mailed on October 25, 2012 with a ratable value of \$33,466,600.

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4. On August 7, 2012 the Township Committee awarded a contract to Abma Farm market to compost and market the Township's organic leaves collected in the popular Fall and Spring Curbside Leaf Collection Program. the contract was awarded at no cost to the taxpayers in exchange for the leaf mulch which will be created. Based on competitive bids, this contract avoids a taxpayer cost of approximately \$750,000 over five years.
The second contract provides eight supplemental snow plow trucks and operators to assist the DPW staff snow plow 92 miles of municipal roads and municipal facilities which require snow removal from parking lots and recreational facilities. The per hour cost awarded for this winter is \$2.00 per hour less than the current cost.
5. A successful Spring Curbside Leaf Collection Program was conducted.
6. Purchase Order Terms & Conditions were updated and enhanced for the protection of the Township.
7. Professional Service Provider requirement sheet was enhanced for the protection of the Township.
8. In 2011, the Municipal Clerk's Office responded to 390 OPRA requests; in 2012, the Clerk's Office provided 498 records in response to 498 OPRA requests.
9. On Saturday, November 10, 2012 the Township conducted its 4th successful personal paper shredding event. Residents drove to the DPW Garage at 475 West Main Street to deposit their personal papers for free. Approximately 350 residents availed themselves to this service and 5,000 pounds of paper was recycled and shredded.
10. The Township Committee awarded a new 5 year contract award for garbage disposal. There was a specific bidding strategy that was used which captured the significantly lower prices. The bid was authorized by the Township Committee to be a shared service bid which aggregated the garbage disposal volume of Wyckoff, Franklin Lakes and Oakland into one bid package. The timing of this bid was scheduled in such a way that it was due on the same day as the garbage collection bids and one hour later. the result is a cost avoidance of \$208,250 over 5 years for the Township of Wyckoff.
11. A new recyclable was added to the Township's Single Stream Recyclables – wax coated paper cartons.
12. The Tax Assessor completed the unfunded mandate – mailing of 5,803 Chapter 75 notices. This statutory requirement (which is performed each year) informs residents of their assessment and taxes paid in the preceding year.
13. The Township completed its sixth year of posting Township Committee, Planning Board, Board of Adjustment, Environmental Commission and Shade Tree Commission meeting minutes on its official web site.
14. The Township continued its program in 2012 that provides a container at the Recycling Center for residents to deposit their computers, TV's and electronic devices to direct them from their household solid waste stream. The Electronic Waste Management Act which became effective on January 2011 requires the recycling of electronic devices.
15. 2,017 Christmas trees were recycled through the Township's annual curbside collection of Christmas trees.
16. A free rabies clinic was provided and 218 dogs and 40 cats received free rabies vaccinations.
17. The Clerk's Office issued 1,595 dog licenses, 181 cat licenses and 350 commuter parking permits.
18. A budget was developed that limited taxes to a 1% increase or \$37.34 on the average home of \$811,800.
19. A WOLF Group Shared Service bid for 262 recreation items drew 12 different bidders of which 37% of the items were lower than the prices bid in 2011.

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20. A motorist site impediment at Lafayette & Ravine Avenues was abated with the assistance of residents who removed a row of bushes.
21. As way of assisting Partners in Pride and encouraging volunteerism, the Township Committee e-blasts requests for residents to water the PIP's flowering tubs around town.
22. The Township Engineer contacted 147 homes in the section of Wyckoff where the sewer flows into Waldwick's sewer system and verified that homes did not connect sump pumps into the sanitary sewer.
23. A special meeting was conducted on June 12, 2012 with a NJDEP Engineer and adjacent residents regarding Rambault Dam classification.
24. A tragedy was narrowly avoided when a home on Terrace Heights suffered an early morning fire and the family was unharmed; surprisingly the home had no smoke detectors. The Township Committee required a public information campaign for the next 4 months to remind residents to help the Wyckoff Fire Department protect them by installing smoke detectors. Sadly, at a different home, a Wyckoff resident died from exposure to carbon monoxide. The Police Department provided numerous public service announcements encouraging residents to purchase carbon monoxide detectors and check those they may have.
25. The Township's Charles Avenue Leaf and Brush composting facility was inspected by the NJDEP and determined to be in compliance with regulations.
26. The Administrator authored an article for the New Jersey League of Municipalities Magazine regarding an informational bulletin for residents to understand the Planning Board and Zoning Board process. The New Jersey Planning Officials distributes the bulletin the Administrator authored as a Best Practice.
27. The Township Committee authorized drafting, production and mailing to residents of a Spring and Fall Resident Newsletter and an calendar for 2013.
28. The Municipal Clerk filed all ethics disclosure forms required by the New Jersey Ethics Law for volunteer board and commission members, Township Committee and appointed staff as required by the New Jersey Local Finance Board.
29. Two hundred residents attended the Board of Health's Annual Health Fair & Influenza Prevention Program and received a vaccination against the flu.
30. The Township's Construction Code Official issued penalties to nine residential property owners and one owner of commercial businesses found to have constructed improvements without the required building permits. Property owners performing work without construction permits are some of the primary reasons municipalities are ordered by the County to perform revaluations. Over time, the home or the business structure increases greatly than the market appreciation causing greater disparity between assessments and true value. The tax burden is unfairly shifted onto other taxpayers forcing them to incur higher tax payments and in effect, subsidize those illegal improvements. Additionally, all the taxpayers are forced to incur the cost of the mandated revaluation (in 2005, the cost of the revaluation was \$540,000.).
31. The Tax Collector conducted the Annual Tax Sale and only three (3) taxable properties of Wyckoff's 5,803 properties were subject to the Tax Sale for unpaid municipal taxes and sewer service charges.
32. The Township successfully renewed its Tree City USA designation for the third consecutive year.
33. The Township has posted on its website, four (4) years of municipal budgets, the annual financial statement, annual audit and its collective bargaining agreements.

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34. The Environmental Commission provided an opportunity for two Ramapo High School students to participate on the Environmental Commission as student members.
35. The DPW completed its annual painting of school crosswalks, school crossings, stop lines and edge of pavement lines before the September re-opening of schools.
36. NJ Monthly Magazine rated Ramapo High School 17th in the State and Indian Hills High School #43 in the State. Indian Hills student enrollment is 1,240 and Ramapo High School has 1,098 students.
37. Ms. Ashley Garbaccio's Girl Scout Award Project – a coloring book of Wyckoff history – was incorporated into the Wyckoff K-8 school curriculum.
38. Two ADA access improvement projects funded by two Community Development Block Grants were started in 2012 to; 1) replace the west wind ramp, railing and install an ADA automatic opening/closing door and 2) enlarge and replace the ADA landing and install an ADA automatic opening/closing door at the front entrance to Town Hall.
39. Commercial shopping areas with sidewalks on private property were surveyed and were requested to place garbage/recycling containers on their sidewalk and maintain them. 13 out of 13 shopping centers placed garbage and/or recycling containers on their sidewalk to help beautify the shopping areas by providing a container for folks exiting a store to dispose of their garbage or recyclables.
40. The DPW constructed a drainage improvement where Memorial Field meets the railroad right-of-way.
41. The Board of Health adopted an ordinance which requires an additional fee for food handler establishments with grease traps to capture the cost of additional inspection time to verify sanitary compliance.
42. After a month long advertisement period, the Wyckoff Police Department reviewed applications submitted from vendors expressing an interest to tow vehicles in Wyckoff and the Police Department recommended the Township Committee award a one year license to one vendor who satisfied all the criteria required.
43. The Wyckoff Environmental Commission and Township Administrator designed a program with the Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of encouraging sustainability and help the Township earn the Silver Medal for Sustainable NJ achievement. The program known as "Green Wyckoff" establishes a point system which businesses can pursue to earn the Green Wyckoff Business Certification.
44. The Township Committee appointed Administrator Shannon and Fire Chief Rose to serve on a NWB Mayor's Committee to draft uniform fire apparatus bid specifications for the purpose of cost avoidance through standardization to achieve discounted prices. Six meetings were conducted which included interviews with Fire truck manufacturer representatives. The Committee enlisted the assistance of New Jersey Office of Shared Services to capture bulk purchase discounts. The committee concluded that cost avoidance was elusive and the State of New Jersey issued a "national cooperative" contract for fire truck procurement to achieve the same purpose.
45. The Township of Wyckoff awarded a contract to Metro PCS and AT&T amounting to \$60,000 of additional revenue.
46. The Township Committee provides once a week curbside recycling collections starting in 2013 through the artful application of advertised competitive bidding. A new 5 year contract for 2013 through 2017 was awarded. The 52 weeks of curbside garbage collection and the maintenance of twice a week curbside garbage collection in the hottest months of July and August was achieved with a reduction of \$54,650 from 2012 costs. Curbside grass collection for the summer months was eliminated; however, the Recycling Center remains available for residents

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to deposit their cut grass if they choose not to participate in the “Cut It and Leave It” program.

47. In 2012, the Township of Wyckoff Department of Public Works responded to eight events requiring sanding and/or snow plowing. Twenty-two (22) inches of snow fell in 2012 requiring plowing.
48. With economics in mind, the Township Committee purchased a used bucket truck. The DPW staff performed the annual tree presentation work by trimming, elevating and removing dead branches.
49. A used front-end loader was purchased resulting in a considerable cost avoidance compared to the purchase of a new loader.
50. The DPW staff performed the mandated inspections and repairs of stormwater catch basins to comply with the Federal Clean Water Act's Stormwater Management Mandate.

ROADS RESURFACED IN 2012

1. Bottom of Birchwood Drive (#770 Birchwood Drive to Sicomac Avenue)
2. Van Houten Avenue (section between Monroe Avenue and Martom Road)
3. Crankshaw Place
4. Charnwood Drive (section from #731 to #701 Charnwood Drive)
5. Birch Parkway (section from #303 into the cul-de-sac)
6. Farview Avenue (Eder Avenue to Wellington Drive)
 - Julie Court subdivider to pave Farview Avenue from Sicomac Avenue to Timberline Drive.
 - Township will pave small section of Farview Avenue from Timberline Drive to Eder Avenue to “connect the dots.”
7. Farview Court
8. Terhune Terrace (section from #525 to Sicomac Avenue)
9. William Way (Eugene Way to Terhune Terrace)
10. Vennick Place and section of Ridgewood Avenue
11. Princeton Avenue (unimproved section)
12. Baxter Avenue (unimproved section)
13. Lynch Place (unimproved section)
14. In late October, the railroad crossing at Wyckoff Avenue was closed for five days which allowed the railroad crossing to be rebuilt and the area around it resurfaced.
15. In 2012 PSEG constructed new natural gas transmission mains in the following roads requiring the Police Department to plan and manage road detours and alternate traffic patterns:
 - a. Wyckoff Avenue
 - b. Franklin Avenue
 - c. Cedar Hill Avenue
 - d. Newtown Road
 - e. Ravine Avenue (between Grandview & Lafayette Avenues)

SUPER HURRICANE SANDY – October 29, 2012

1. From October 29, 2012 and for a total of 11 days, sections of the Township were without electric service. The Hurricane which brought 90 mph winds, resulted in severe damage which included 30 homes struck by trees, 70 trees that blocked roads and snapped electric lines.
2. Town Hall remained open for all 11 days as an emergency information center. The following municipal employees as well as the entire Township Committee volunteered their time to help residents by staffing the Town Hall on Saturdays and Sundays; Elaine Booth, Joyce Santimauro, Maryellen Tafrate, Anna Coscia, SueEllen Jelttes, Cindy Risseeuw, Jackie Denequolo, Diana McLeod and Bob Shannon.
3. The CHCC and the Power House Christian Church opened their doors as an emergency shelter.

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4. The Township provided a special curbside branch collection from branches that fell from trees in the right-of-way and no larger than 6 inches in diameter. Emergency Management Coordinator Lt. David V. Murphy, Pastor Jeff Boucher and CHCC Executive Director Doug Struyk were recognized by County Executive Kathleen Donovan as Heroes.
5. The emergency service staffs of Public Works, Police, Fire, Ambulance and CERTS all performed at the highest levels and their efforts were critical to the municipal response and recovery.
6. The Township re-doubled its efforts to obtain residents to sign up for eblasts for emergency information. A new campaign called "Be Storm Informed" resulted and over 700 residents signed up after the storm. A new text program for police department information was also initiated and efforts continue to encourage residents to sign up for this important information during emergencies.
7. The Township Committee adopted a resolution urging the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (the government agency that oversees the electric utilities in New Jersey) to investigate the poor performance and lack of preparation from PSEG and Orange & Rockland utilities which the BPU has granted a franchise to provide electric service in the Township.
8. Mayor DePhillips provided testimony to the NJBPU on December 12, 2012 at a Public Hearing conducted at Ramsey High School and challenged the NJBPU to do their job and demand better performance from PSEG and Orange & Rockland Electric.

ENHANCED LIBRARY

1. Library completed its expansion of the Library at 200 Woodland Avenue and conducted a grand opening on May 19, 2012. The Library's \$4.5 million construction project added 11,000 square feet to the Library's space, which brings the total sq. footage in the Wyckoff Free Public Library to 28,000 sq. feet.
2. In December the Library Board of Trustees voted to return \$777,000 back to the Township to be used as tax relief. \$338,000 was received in 2012 for tax relief in 2013. The remainder will be received in 2013 for use in 2014.
3. The Library began posting the Library Board of Trustees meeting minutes on the Library web page this year.
4. The Library obtained a grant of \$7,500 from the National Endowment for the Arts and a matching donation from the Friends of the Library to provide a month long series of events to celebrate the literary works of Edgar Allan Poe called the "Big Read." The events included lectures, treasure hunts, flash mob dancing and poetry readings.

EVENTS

1. On Friday, December 7, 2012 the Wyckoff Chamber of Commerce sponsored 'Santa Comes to Wyckoff' and the Tree Lighting Ceremony beginning at 7:30 pm at Town Hall. On Saturday, December 8, 2012 the Menorah Lighting Ceremony was conducted on the front lawn of Town Hall at 6:00 p.m.
2. The Township participated in the Jersey Cares Coat Drive. Two (2) bins are located in Town Hall until Saturday, December 15, 2012.
3. A successful Wyckoff Day was provided by the Wyckoff Family YMCA on Saturday, June 9, 2012.
4. A successful Memorial Day Parade was provided to honor soldiers from Wyckoff who made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy.
5. The Township of Wyckoff further honored Wyckoff residents who made the ultimate sacrifice by designing and installing street name signs that list the soldiers name and the war they served protecting the USA. These signs were posted immediately under the street name sign.

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE SINE DIE MEETING
CONTINUED MEETING OF DECEMBER 18, 2012 – 7:30 P.M.
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2013 – 11:00 A.M.**

6. On Wednesday, November 14, 2012, the Township Committee, partnering with the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey presented an anti-drug and alcohol message for parents at Eisenhower School. The event was well attended and with the approval of the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey, the Township is utilizing their video clips in the anti-drug and alcohol messages provided in the Friday e-blasts.
7. A successful Team Up to Tidy Up Wyckoff Day (town-wide clean up day of quasi-public areas) and the Fishing Derby were provided with the help of many Township volunteers.
8. A 2012 municipal calendar was published and mailed to each home with the theme of "A Healthier Community". A 2013 municipal calendar was mailed in December 2012 featuring the newly expanded Library - "The New Chapter in the Library".
9. Ridgewood Water again imposed Stage 2 water restrictions in June and did not revoke the restrictions until September 28, 2012.
10. The 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony was conducted at Fire Company #1.
11. Arbor Day was celebrated on April 28, 2012 with the continued re-forestation of Zabriskie Pond Park.
12. Two crime prevention summits were conducted by the Township Committee and the Police Department to assist residents and business owners in crime prevention measures to combat a rash of home burglaries and car thefts.
13. The Township again participated in the New Jersey League of Municipalities Future Leaders Scholarship Program. A Wyckoff student, Blain Bradley was one of three winners in the State of New Jersey.
14. The Midland Park/Wyckoff Rotary donated a new flagpole to replace one that was damaged by winds in front of Town Hall.
15. Sicomac Engine Company #3 won the Annual Fire Department equipment inspection contest conducted on March 9, 2012. A panel of seven inspectors from area municipalities and FDNY conducted the inspection which focused on well maintained and operating fire equipment and the firematic knowledge of our volunteer firefighters.
16. The annual softball/baseball parade which is the start of the new season was successfully conducted on April 21, 2012.
17. The Wyckoff Senior Citizen Club celebrates their 50th anniversary in 2012.
18. The Environmental Commission members provided the "Project Porchlight" program of energy efficient light bulbs at Wyckoff Day.
19. The volunteer Shade Tree Commission members volunteered their time and energy performing the Town Hall beautification project.
20. The Township Committee completed ICS-402 training for Elected Officials.
21. Miller's Pharmacy celebrated being open for business in Wyckoff for 85 years.
22. The Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department conducted its annual Labor Day Weekend Fireworks Fundraiser.
23. The month of April was celebrated as Recycling month with the theme – "Don't Treat Your Recyclables Like Trash."
24. On December 10th, the Police Department participated in a Bergen County Program to pay respect to persons killed by drunk drivers and highlight the dangers of DWI.

19. The public business meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2013 will include the presentation of proclamations to the Ramapo High School State Championship Teams in the following sports: gymnastics, boys soccer and boys football.
20. On January 15, 2013 the Township Committee intends to appoint an Interim Assistant Fire Chief.

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Outgoing Remarks by Mayor Christopher P. DePhillips:

2012 was another eventful year on the Township Committee, with multiple challenges and multiple achievements.

Through it all, the Committee worked well together in a collaborative manner focused, as always, on achieving consensus. Consensus has always been the hallmark of the Township Committee, and that is the very nature of our form of government here in Wyckoff.

Once again, the focus of the Committee in 2012 was serving the best interests of the community as a whole, instead of a particular individual or interest group.

We could not have done any of it without the leadership of Township Administrator Bob Shannon, Township Attorney Rob Landel and all the Department heads—Chief Fox, Chief Rose, OEM Director Dave Murphy, DPW Manager Scott Fisher, All of our volunteers on the Ambulance Corps, CFO Diana McLeod, Municipal Clerk Joyce Santimauro, Township Engineer Mark DiGennaro, Building Inspector Tom Gensheimer, and Rec Director Andy Wingfield.

I believe the entire team at Town Hall did a fantastic job this year—and particularly during the trying days of Hurricane Sandy. A big thank you to Elaine, Jackie, MaryEllen, and all of our hard-working employees at Town Hall.

At the end of each calendar year, the national, state and local media have a habit of printing their favorite “Top Ten” stories. Well, I am going to publish what I believe are the Top Ten achievements of the Committee this year. This is my Top Ten, not in any precise order, but the 10 priorities the Committee did accomplish this year. They are as follows:

- 1) The Township Committee authorized the purchase of Russell Farms and authorized the creation of a Citizen Advisory Committee to guide its future.
- 2) The Township’s new Library opened, and the Library committed to return \$776,000 to the taxpayers. Half of that amount--\$388,000—has already been received by the Township.
- 3) The Township Committee passed the leanest budget in Northwest Bergen limiting the municipal tax increase to less than 1%. But for mandated pension and health costs, the budget would have been completely flat, or perhaps even decreased.
- 4) The Planning Board approved: a) the Wyckoff Parks and Rec Foundation’s plans to upgrade the township’s fields at Pulis; b) the Shop Rite application (which for the record I took no position on and from which I was recused); and c) a draft FAR ordinance which the Township Committee had sent to it and the Zoning Board for comment.
- 5) The Township Committee sent to the voters a referendum, which the voters approved, to allow raffles in Wyckoff to support the fundraising efforts of our non-profit organizations in the township.
- 6) The Township expanded its complement of shared services by entering into agreements with New Milford, with whom we now share our CFO, and with North Haledon, which now shares its Electrical Subcode Officer with us.

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7) The Township Committee approved a) once per week recycling collection; b) limiting twice per week garbage collection to the months of July and August; and c) eliminated grass collection----and in the process saved significant money for the taxpayers of Wyckoff.

8) The Township Committee restructured, streamlined and re-energized the Municipal Alliance and co-sponsored with the Wyckoff schools and the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey a successful program on anti-drug education for the benefit of our residents.

9) In the wake of Hurricane Sandy, the Township improved its already excellent OEM procedures and started a campaign for residents to stay "Storm Informed" by remaining in touch with the Township during a crisis through email, reverse 911's and—most recently—text messaging. We also kept the pressure on the state BPU to strengthen its regulation of O&R and PSE&G, which the BPU allows to operate in our township.

10) Last, but definitely not least, in the area of police safety, the Township a) reduced the speed limit on 9 municipal roads; b) sponsored 2 crime summits to raise awareness and give tips to residents on how to stay safe; and c) in the wake of the Connecticut shootings, partnered with Superintendent Kuder to increase patrols at the Township's schools to keep our kids as safe as possible.

As I conclude my year as Mayor, and my 3 year-term on the Committee, I would like to thank all 4 of my fellow Committeemen for their support and friendship. Rudy—thank you for sharing your wisdom and historical perspective with me as Deputy Mayor this year; I truly appreciate it. Doug—thank you for your friendship; we actually had a lot of fun working together on the Planning Board and the Library Board this year. Brian—I have enjoyed working with you over the last 3 years, and we have gotten some good things accomplished together for the residents. And despite what the media or some residents might think, we rarely disagreed!

And Kevin—I saved you for last, because we started this together now almost 4 years ago when we decided to run. When we ran together, we pledged to make the Township Committee more open, transparent, accessible, responsive, proactive and decisive. And we were decisive, always knowing it was better to make a decision in the best interests of the majority of residents, rather than let a problem linger and make no decision at all. We said we would not sweep problems under the rug. We didn't. Together, I know we kept all of these promises, and I truly believe that together we transformed the Committee and made it a stronger representative democracy for our residents. So, thank you.

That concludes my remarks; Happy New Year to all!

Committeeman Scanaln thanked Mayor DePhillips for the outstanding job he performed during Hurricane Sandy and throughout 2012.

The Sine Die Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Christopher P. DePhillips
Mayor

Joyce C. Santimauro
Municipal Clerk

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