TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OPEN PUBLIC WORK SESSION
SECOND FLOOR MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 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 Douglas J. Christie, Haakon C. Jepsen, Brian D. Scanlan and Rudolf E. Boonstra
Also Present: Township Administrator Robert J. Shannon, Jr., Township Attorney Robert Landel and Municipal Clerk Joyce C. Santimauro

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 Boonstra, seconded by Committeeman Scanlan.

1. Mrs. Athena Nicholas, 378 Van Beekum Place is the co-founder of a children's school for children with autism and is present this evening to express her support for the Township Committee approving a resolution creating an Access for All Committee. However, Mrs. Nicholas suggests that more members of the committee should either be a parent with a child with a disability, a resident with a disability or a caretaker of a family member with a disability.
Mrs. Nicholas invited all present at the meeting to attend the Community Forum on disabilities on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at the Wyckoff Free Public Library.

2. Paul Coppola, 793 Birchwood Drive advised the governing body that he received a water bill from Ridgewood Water for $1,074.00. In the past, Mr. Coppola never had a reason for concern and was very surprised to learn that Ridgewood Water is the sole owner of the water supply. Mr. Coppola called Ridgewood Water last week and did not receive any satisfaction with regard to their explanation of why his water bill was estimated for thirteen (13) quarters. None of their answers met Mr. Coppola's particular situation. Mr. Coppola described the "bill" as deceptive and evasive and felt Ridgewood Water was not helpful. Ridgewood Water has essentially abdicated all responsibility for advising residents and advised Mr. Coppola when a bill is mailed out, that bill is his notice. Mayor Rooney asked Mr. Coppola to leave his phone number with Mrs. Santimauro. When a response is obtained from the Board of Public Utilities regarding the complaints with Ridgewood Water, he will be advised.

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

Mayor Rooney advised that the Finance Committee was reviewing and signing vouchers.

<u>Township Committee Reports:</u>

Haakon Jepsen:

1. Mr. Jepsen reported at the last Environmental Commission Meeting, the Commission opposed the Pilgrim Pipeline Project. Mr. Jepsen would like the governing body to adopt a resolution opposed to the pipeline. Mayor

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Rooney advised that at the time he requested an opinion from the Environmental Commission several months ago, it appeared as though a formal Pilgrim proposal was eminent. However, no formal proposal has been generated, hence, there is no proposal to object to. Committeeman Boonstra noted that PSE&G has stated they will not allow the use of the PSE&G right-of-way for the Pilgrim pipeline.

2. Mr. Jepsen has been working with the Zabriskie Trustees on many of the topics discussed at the previous Township Committee Meeting. Mr. Jepsen has also been in communication with Bob Shannon on how to formalize some municipal assistance for the Zabriskie House Trustees. Mr. Jepsen proposed that the DPW cut the grass, plow snow at the Zabriskie House and the Township provide communication services to the public.

Brian Scanlan:

1. Last evening, Mr. Scanlan attended the Wyckoff Board of Education K-8 School District Meeting where the budget was discussed. The school board budget consists of a 2.37% increase with a tax increase of $142.00 for the average home with an assessed value of $780,000. Mr. Kuder remarked at the meeting that the school district is very pleased with the shared service agreement with the municipality. The Wyckoff DPW maintains the Board of Education vehicles for a fee. The fee is less than the fees the Board of Education was previously paying to Firestone.

2. Bergen County Freeholder and former Franklin Lakes Mayor Maura DiNicola is in attendance this evening and he “welcomed her to Wyckoff.”

3. Mr. Scanlan received a call from a resident stating his neighbor behind him was clearcutting his backyard and recommended the Township adopt an ordinance prohibiting the clearcutting of trees in one’s backyard.

Douglas Christie:

1. The Wyckoff Volunteer Fire Department performed admirably at a recent house fire on Terhune Terrace.

2. The new soccer field under construction at the Pulis Field Soccer Facility looks great.

Rudy Boonstra:

1. The Special Consultant to the Zoning Board of Adjustment appointed to review construction materials on The Christian Health Care Center Vista application completed his report on Friday, April 10, 2015. The continuation of The Vista application will not be heard on Thursday, April 16, 2015 but will be heard at a special meeting on Wednesday, April 29, 2015.

Mayor Rooney:

1. Mayor Rooney requested the governing body review the resolution on this evening’s Agenda pertaining to the establishment of an “Access for All” Committee. This committee would advise the governing body on matters such as physical access to quasi-public buildings (businesses) and

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municipal parks as well as private businesses. The committee would also look to establish a greater awareness for the entire community to ensure all residents have access to both public and private community facilities. The current resolution reflects an eleven (11) member board. Mayor Rooney spoke with Committeeman Scanlan today and Committeeman Scanlan suggested the Township Committee add more members of the public who either have disabilities or a child with a disability. The Township Committee discussed this subject at length and after each member presented their opinions, the Township Committee determined to add four (4) more members of the public to the "Access for All" committee. Freeholder Maura DiNicola was asked for her opinion and she indicated the governing body was "off to go a good start" but the ultimate decision lies with the governing body members. A consensus existed to modify the resolution to allow fifteen (15) members to the committee.

2. Mayor Rooney requested a discussion concerning the ordinance to establish a $750 fee and a $200 refundable litter deposit for a two (2) hour period for individuals wishing to conduct their wedding ceremony at the Gardens of Wyckoff. The impetus of this ordinance is a means to capture revenue to offset the cost of maintenance services for the facility. The wedding ceremony would be limited to twenty-five (25) people and twelve (12) vehicles due to the limited area for parking and no on-street parking. No tables and/or chairs would be provided however, an individual requiring seating assistance may bring their necessary seat. After a thorough governing body member discussion, a determination was reached to remove this ordinance from the Consent Agenda. Committeemen Scanlan and Jepsen said they thought making the Gardens of Wyckoff available for weddings was a good idea but that the $750 fee was too high. Committeeman Scanlan said other similar public sites were under $200.

At 8:22 p.m. the Township Committee recesses the Work Session Meeting to conduct the Public Business Meeting.

At 8:45 p.m. the Township Committee reconvenes the Work Session Meeting voting as follows:

MOTION: _____BOONSTRA_____ SECOND _____SCANLAN_____
BOONSTRA_YES CHRISTIE _YES_ JEPSEN _YES_ SCANLAN_YES_
ROONEY YES

Report from the Administrator:

1. This weekend, a number of exciting municipal events are scheduled as follows: a) beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Town Hall the Annual Team Up to Tidy Up Day, funded by the Clean Communities Grant will proceed through the Township. Volunteers donate their time by cleaning designated public & quasi-public areas throughout the municipality; b) also beginning at 9:00 a.m. is the Annual Shredfest Event at the DPW Building, 475 West Main Street. Wyckoff residents may bring their personal documents to be shredded at no cost; c) finally, at 8:45 a.m. the opening ceremony for the Recreation Baseball/Softball season officially opens at the Wyckoff Community Park.

2. The Township will be performing strategic bidding in an attempt to realize a lower price for road resurfacing.

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3. The Administrator reported that consistent with the direction from the governing body, a $1,500 Environmental Commission Grant Application was submitted for enhancements to the Russell Farms Community Park.

4. A notice was received that an arbitrator has been appointed to hear and decide a PBA initiated grievance regarding transitionary duty.

5. The Construction Code Official issued two penalties to property owners performing work without construction permits at 66 Hurley Avenue and 504 Ivy Lane. It is noted that work performed without a construction permit skews the ratio of assessment to fair market price resulting in a costly mandated revaluation.

6. Police Chief Fox has suspended the license for one of the towers for non-compliance with a requirement of the towing ordinance.

7. Today, a successful audit was conducted with a representative from the State of New Jersey Department of Health regarding the chemical right-to-know compliance. This audit included verifying the availability of chemical inventories at specific locations, master file and chemical right-to-know stations located in each building. The Administrator thanked Scott Fisher and Fran Piskadlo for their diligent work that resulted in a positive audit.

8. The Township was awarded the Silver Award for achieving 100 points in the annual JIF Safety Program. A $1,500 grant was also received recognizing the safety community's efforts to prevent accidents and avoid costs. That grant will be used to purchase safety equipment.

9. The Administrator commented that from a historical perspective, today is the 150th Anniversary of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln at Ford's Theatre in Washington D.C. Mr. Shannon remarked that Committeeman Jepsen recently grown beard looks amazingly "Lincolnesque."

10. Mr. Landel reported he is waiting for the completion from the property owners attorney of the two (2) deeds regarding the property that was obtained at no cost adjacent to the Russell Farms Community Park.

11. Committeeman Jepsen suggested that the Township include in their Friday e-blast a bulletin reminding residents that with the advent of the warm, Spring weather comes the potential for home renovation projects, that residents should check with the Building Department prior to starting a project to verify if a permit is required.

12. Mayor Rooney advised that he and Committeeman Boonstra attended a Public Policy Meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2015 regarding the third round responsibility to submit a Fair Share Plan.
On Saturday, April 18, 2015 Mayor Rooney and the Administrator attended a Northwest Bergen Mayors Association Meeting.

13. Mayor Rooney wished to recognize Police Chief Fox, along with the project team of Mayor Rooney, the DPW Manager and the Administrator to improve court security for the Municipal Court sessions.

The Work Session Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Kevin J. Rooney Mayor	Joyce C. Santimauro Municipal Clerk