

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of the City
Council of the City of Rye held in City Hall on April 3,
1996 at 8:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

EDWARD B. DUNN, Mayor
JAMES K. BURKE
EDWARD J. COLLINS
CAROLYN C. CUNNINGHAM
ROBERT H. HUTCHINGS
KATHLEEN E. WALSH
Councilmen

ABSENT: JOSEPH L. LATWIN

1. Roll Call

Mayor Dunn called the meeting to order; a quorum was present to conduct official City business.

The Mayor apprised the Council that Councilman Latwin was absent because he was observing Passover.

2. Old Business

Mayor Dunn announced that Councilman Latwin, liaison to the Rye Chamber of Commerce, will make a special effort to have a number of merchants attend the next Chamber of Commerce meeting. The purpose of this meeting would be to reconstitute the Chamber in the absence of its former president, Mr. Lewis Birns. The Mayor said the main concern in the Central Business District (CBD) is the number of vacant stores. He said this problem is primarily caused by the Country being "over-stored" and "over-retailed", the presence of "big box" retailers, and the economic pressure of the times. He asked the Council for concrete suggestions to resolve this problem.

Councilwoman Walsh stated that the Planning Commission recognizes that this is a difficult time for retailing. The Planning Commission wants to be very certain, in working on updating the Master Plan, that the City does everything in its limited power to help those merchants in our CBD to maintain its viability.

3. Residents may be heard who have matters to discuss that do not appear on the agenda

There were no residents who wished to be heard at this time.

4. Approval of the recommendation of the Whitby Castle Committee and a supplemental appropriation of \$75,000 within the 1996 Rye Golf Club Enterprise Fund and authorization for the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Peter Gisolfi Associates as consultants for the restoration and renovation of Whitby Castle

City Manager Culross thanked the Whitby Castle Committee for its efforts in selecting a consultant for the Whitby Castle project. He said that the City received twenty-one responses to its request for proposals. Six groups were selected for interviews, two groups were asked for further information, and the final recommendation of Peter Gisolfi Associates was made. This team of consultants, working with the City's staff, Whitby Castle Committee, Golf Club Commission, and the City Council, will develop a master plan by mid-August and assist with preparation of written and graphic information and public presentation during September/October for the anticipated November bond referendum. The group's total fees for professional services to a November bond issue would be \$60,000. Additional reimbursable expenses are estimated at \$3,000 to \$5,000. During this same period, the City will have other expenses for bond counsel and fiscal advisor services in preparation for the referendum. An allowance of \$10,000 is suggested for such services.

City Manager Culross recommended that a project budget of \$75,000 be established for the Whitby Castle Restoration and Renovation within the 1996 Rye Golf Club Enterprise Fund. This requires the Council's approval of a supplemental budget appropriation of \$75,000 which would increase the 1996 Golf Club appropriations to \$2,489,100. The 1996 estimated revenues would remain the same at \$2,512,000. The forecast net income would be reduced to \$22,900. On a cash flow basis, the 1996 budget projected a cash balance of \$316,017 in the Golf Club Enterprise Fund as of December 31, 1996. The recommended supplemental appropriation would reduce this projected cash balance to \$241,017.

Councilwoman Cunningham added that the caliber and level of response to the request for proposals were excellent.

Councilman Burke made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hutchings, to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Rye hereby amends the 1996 Golf Club Enterprise Fund Budget as follows:

Increase Expenditure Appropriation

62.5.07.62.6257.4003	Whitby Castle Restoration: Consultants	\$75,000.00
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and, it is further

RESOLVED, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Peter Gisolfi Associates as consultants for the restoration and renovation of Whitby Castle.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mayor Dunn, Councilmen Burke, Collins, Cunningham,
Hutchings, and Walsh

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Councilman Latwin

The resolution passed.

City Manager Culross said that a community meeting regarding Whitby Castle is tentatively scheduled for April 30, 1996. He said that this would be a major opportunity for public participation. A press release to the Gannett Suburban Newspapers and televising on "Eye on Rye" on April 4, 1996 will also update the public on the progress of Whitby Castle.

5. Proposed resolution requesting the County Executive and County Board of Legislators to assist the City of Rye in complying with the State Mandate regarding sanitary sewer system rehabilitation

City Manager Culross stated that sanitary sewer system rehabilitation should be undertaken and funded on a sewer district basis. He said the work could be done more efficiently as the improvements with the highest cost benefit ratio would be done first regardless of municipal boundaries. Taxpayers would pay less as a result of these efficiencies and also because tax exempt properties are subject to sewer district taxes. Additionally, the County sewer districts will benefit with significantly reduced operating costs by the completion of the Infiltration and Inflow project. In response to an inquiry from Councilman Hutchings, City Manager Culross said that a majority of the work to be done consists of repairing manholes and relining pipes.

Councilman Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Cunningham, to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in 1992, the State and County entered into a Consent Decree to eliminate the discharge of pollutants and reduce infiltration and inflow into the sanitary sewers throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, sewer study reports for the Blind Brook and Mamaroneck Valley Sewer Districts completed by the County concluded that the most efficient method would be for individual municipalities to decrease infiltration by specified amounts as determined by the Sewer System Evaluation Survey report; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rye was informed that it was to comply with certain schedules to commence construction to remove infiltration and inflow; and

WHEREAS, this program as set forth in the S.S.E.S. would cost the City of Rye in excess of \$970,000; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rye believes that the least expensive, most equitable, and most efficient method for the City of Rye and all the municipalities within the County of Westchester to implement and fund such a program is through the County Sewer Districts with debt issued by the County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Rye respectfully requests that the County Executive and the County Board of Legislators work in conjunction with the City of Rye and the municipalities in complying with the State Mandate in the most efficient and least expensive manner through the County Sewer Districts with county-issued debt.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mayor Dunn, Councilmen Burke, Collins, Cunningham,
Hutchings, and Walsh

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Councilman Latwin

The resolution passed.

6. Authorization to accept the donation to the City of a Panasonic Dot Matrix Printer

Councilman Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Burke and unanimously carried, to accept the donation to the City of a Panasonic Dot Matrix Printer, Model #KX-P2133, from The Honorable John Alfano.

7. Designation of the official polling places of the City of Rye for all elections and authorization for the City Clerk to request a waiver of accessibility requirements for Milton School Gymnasium which does not meet the accessibility standards for the handicapped

Councilman Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Walsh, to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Rye hereby designates the following locations as the official polling places for all the elections.

- District No. 1 - The Osborn, main lobby
- District No. 2 - The Osborn, main lobby
- District No. 3 - City Hall, Lobby, 1051 Boston Post Road
- District No. 4 - City Hall, Lobby, 1051 Boston Post Road
- District No. 5 - Milton School Gymnasium, Hewlett Avenue
- District No. 6 - Milton Firehouse, Milton Road
- District No. 7 - Damiano Recreation Center, Midland Avenue
- District No. 8 - Damiano Recreation Center, Midland Avenue
- District No. 9 - Disbrow Park, Public Works Building,
(Old Garage) Oakland Beach Avenue
- District No. 10 - Rye Middle School Gymnasium
- District No. 11 - City Hall, Lobby, 1051 Boston Post Road
- District No. 12 - Osborn School Gymnasium, Osborn Road
- District No. 13 - Disbrow Park, Public Works Building,
(Old Garage) Oakland Beach Avenue
- District No. 14 - Milton School Gymnasium, Hewlett Avenue

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mayor Dunn, Councilmen Burke, Collins, Cunningham,
Hutchings, and Walsh

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Councilman Latwin

The resolution passed.

Councilman Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Walsh, to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Rye hereby authorizes the City Clerk to request a waiver of the accessibility requirements for Milton School Gymnasium which does not meet the accessibility standards for the handicapped.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mayor Dunn, Councilmen Burke, Collins, Cunningham,
Hutchings, and Walsh

NAYS:None

ABSENT: Councilman Latwin

The resolution passed.

8. Bids for Natural Gas Generator and Automatic Transfer Switch

The following bids were received for the Natural Gas Generator and Automatic Transfer Switch:

Kinsley Power Systems	\$13,100.00
63 Railroad Avenue	
Albany, New York 12205	

H.O. Penn Power Systems	\$15,750.00
699 Bush Avenue	
Bronx, New York 10465	

Councilwoman Cunningham made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hutchings, to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the bid for a natural gas generator and automatic transfer switch be awarded to Kinsley Power Systems, the low bidder, in the amount of \$13,100.00

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mayor Dunn, Councilmen Burke, Collins, Cunningham,
Hutchings, and Walsh

NAYS:None

ABSENT: Councilman Latwin

The resolution passed.

9. Draft unapproved minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held March 20, 1996

Councilman Collins made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Walsh and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held March 20, 1996 as amended.

12. Adjournment

Councilwoman Cunningham made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hutchings and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice K. Conrad
City Clerk