

MINUTES of the Special Meeting of the
City Council of the City of Rye held in City Hall on
August 14, 2000 at 8:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

STEVEN OTIS, Mayor
CAROLYN CUNNINGHAM
ROBERTA DOWNING
ROBERT H. HUTCHINGS
ROSAMOND LARR
DOUGLAS MCKEAN
ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN
Councilmen

ABSENT:

NONE

1A. Roll Call

Mayor Otis called the meeting to order; a quorum was present to conduct official city business.

1B. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Otis invited the audience to join the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Presentation on the Geographic Information System

City Manager Novak introduced City Comptroller Genito who summarized the City of Rye's implementation of the Geographic Information System (GIS).

Mr. Genito gave a detailed description of the following topics:

- The city's current status and future plans for GIS,
- the upgrades on GIS software,
- the development, function, and benefits of an on-line GIS viewer, and
- practical uses of GIS.

A video, created by the Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI), traced the history of geographic breakthroughs and their impact in the future.

Mr. Genito emphasized that in 1999, the city was awarded a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and ESRI to become a model community using GIS software as part of an integrated *Project Impact* study.

A video presentation, produced by the City of Rye staff members, demonstrated common uses of GIS in the City of Rye. This video was also presented at the ESRI Users Conference in San Diego, California in June.

Mr. Richard Slutzak and Ms. Kristine Blanco, city consultants from Bowne Management Systems, Inc., explained the function, current and future uses, benefits, and availability of the GIS viewer.

A council discussion focused on the cost of the GIS system, privacy issues and concerns when the GIS is on the internet, and uses for the residents of Rye, i.e., mailings for the Zoning Board of Appeals.

3. Presentation of the 1999 Financial Trends Report

City Comptroller Michael Genito presented the highlights of the City of Rye 1999 Financial Trends Report, selecting representative indicators and graphs from the 70-page document delivered to the city council.

Comptroller Genito explained that the report illustrates the trends in key financial indicators from 1992 through 1999. He noted that the indicators should be considered in light of all other indicators in the report, in order to get a complete picture of the trends and their meaning. Comptroller Genito noted that the city has adequate reserves to meet current expenditures, is financially stable, continues to operate in a conservative manner, has low debt, and has exhibited sound fiscal planning and management over the course of time represented in the report.

Councilman Stampleman noted that since 1993, the unreserved and undesignated fund balance (the fund balance available for any proper purpose) has consistently exceeded the city's targets.

4. Presentation of the 2001-2005 Capital Improvements Program

City Manager Novak summarized the Capital Improvement Plan for the years 2001-2005 and emphasized the following points:

- The 2001-2005 Capital Improvements Program is a plan, not a budget.
- The Capital Improvements Program strives to present for discussion an accurate assessment of Rye's known capital improvement needs. This analysis includes a

review of building maintenance projects and capital infrastructure improvements estimated to cost over \$15,000 or more.

- The presentation does not include projects associated with the Rye Free Reading Room or Rye Town Park for which the city has a partial indirect obligation.
- This presentation does not include the city's ongoing investment in information technology or motorized equipment, both of which represent significant needs.

The 2001 Capital Improvements Plan includes the following categories:

Building Improvement
Streets, Sidewalks, Parking, and Traffic Signals
Land Acquisition - Flood Control
Sanitary Sewers, Storm Drains, and Flood Control Projects
Drainage Projects
Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Projects

Unfunded major initiatives not in the five-year plan include:

Acquisition of Rye Nursery, Friends Meeting House and miscellaneous lots,
New field space at Disbrow,
New/Expanded Police Headquarters and Court Facility,
Renovation of Damiano Center,
Construction of trailways,
Renovation of Nature Center, and
Re-Valuation of real property.

Golf Club projects include:

2001

Golf Course Improvements
Pool Parking Improvements
Auxiliary Pool Gatehouse
Landscape Renovations
Maintenance Barn Improvements

2002

Modification of the Recreational Pool Depth

2004

New Pool Bottom

Summary of cost:

Capital Improvements Program	\$5.5 million
Unfunded Major Initiatives	\$34 million

A general discussion focused on the need for better lighting and sound proofing at Damiano Center, the question of placing the capital improvement for the Duck Pond at the Rye Town Park in the city's Capital Improvement Program rather than the operating budget, sidewalk repair, prioritizing traffic signals, appraisals for land acquisition, the possibility of long-term funding/bonding for specific projects, the need to improve the flow of traffic near the Firemen's monument, and scheduling a work session on the unfunded major initiatives and then inviting the public for comments.

Mayor Otis expressed his appreciation to the City Manager and the City Comptroller for their informative reports. He complimented them on their excellent presentations.

5. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Addendum to Agreement between the Mayor and Council of Rye, New York and Julia Dyson Novak, City Manager

Discussion of this matter was deferred to the August 16, 2000 council meeting.

6. Other Business

There was no old business discussed.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Councilman McKean made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Cunningham and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice K. Conrad
City Clerk