

APPROVED MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Rye held in City Hall on May 9, 2007 at 8:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

STEVEN OTIS, Mayor
ANDREW C. BALL
MACK CUNNINGHAM
MATTHEW FAHEY
DUNCAN HENNES
GEORGE S. PRATT
HOWARD G. SEITZ
Councilmen

ABSENT: None

The Council convened at 7:00 P.M. Councilman Seitz made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hennes and unanimously carried, to adjourn to executive session at 7:01 P.M. to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to the civil service law and attorney/client matters. Councilman Fahey made a motion, seconded by Councilman Cunningham to close the executive session at 8:05 P.M. No decisions were made. The Council reconvened at 8:10 P.M. at the Square House for the annual ceremonial meeting.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Otis called the meeting to order and invited the Council to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Otis asked the City Clerk to call the roll; a quorum was present to conduct official City business.

Mayor Otis welcomed everyone to the annual historic gathering of the City Council at the Square House. He introduced the new Rye Historical Society Director, Ruth Smalt, who in turn welcomed everyone to the Square House Council Room, set up as it was in the 1960's before the Council moved to its new home across the Village Green. She recalled how her dad, then Personnel Director for the City and Treasurer of the Historical Society, used to traverse the Village Green every day to balance the books and noted that the Society's former director had also traversed the Green to now serve as the City Clerk. She thanked the Council and City for its support of the Society. Mayor Otis thanked Ruth and welcomed her to her new position.

The Mayor then introduced City Manager Paul Shew saying he has been doing a phenomenal job, especially on flood recovery efforts. Mr. Shew said he loved being in a room so full of history and democratic tradition and introduced his staff. He said they are a great varsity team at the top of their profession.

William Connors	Police Commissioner
Chantal Detlefs	City Naturalist
Peter Fox	Boat Basin Supervisor
Nicole Levitsky	Rye Cable TV Coordinator
Christian Miller	City Planner
Susan A. Morison	City Clerk
Scott Pickup	Assistant City Manager
Kevin J. Plunkett	Corporation Counsel
Vincenzo Tamburro	Building Inspector
Noreen Whitty	City Assessor
Kristin Wilson	Corporation Counsel's Office

Mayor Otis said it was great to be able to celebrate our history and realize how much we owe the citizens of Rye who came before us, but also to recognize that they too faced challenges. Flooding has always been an issue in our community and we are facing the same challenges today. He said everyone is taking the challenges very seriously; we are here to roll up our sleeves and do everything we can. He thanked everyone for being here and asked the Council for their remarks.

Mack Cunningham thanked the staff for all their efforts saying Rye's citizens were counting on them and the whole staff had gone beyond the call. Councilmen Ball and Pratt echoed those sentiments, noting that in many ways, the staff had had to add the flood recovery efforts to their "day jobs." Councilman Hennes said he was grateful to the people of Rye for allowing him to represent them, saying he had enjoyed the experience; that the volunteers in Rye are wonderful, and the staff is outstanding. Councilman Fahey noted that Mother Nature had presented a financial challenge to Rye, as well as a physical one, and urged everyone to continue the dialogue. Councilman Seitz said it was wonderful to be part of tradition and to be part of working with everyone to make Rye a great place. He noted that individual interests create the mosaic that is Rye and it is the Council's role to balance individual passions with the larger perspective so they can make decisions that are good for all of the City of Rye.

The Mayor welcomed former City Council members. *John Alfano*, now "just plain City Judge" (rather than Acting City Judge) paid homage to the memory of David Gile and said it was always a pleasure to be in the Square House. *George Latimer*, now State Assemblyman, noted the pictures of former Rye Mayors and Presidents, saying they too all worked for the community to try and make it a better place for the next generation. *Ed Collins* provided levity by suggesting the Council intone "Rain, Rain, go away..." before each Council Meeting. He said this worked all the time he was on the Council! *Bob Cypher* said Rye was a great place to live and it had been great to have an opportunity to serve. The sentiments were echoed by *Arthur Stampleman* and *Judge Peter Lane*.

The Mayor greeted the following members of Rye City Boards, Commissions and Committees:

- *Doris Blank*, Chair of the Rye Cable Committee, said RCTV has been renamed Rye TV, which continues to serve the community on all three channels. She complimented the Council for their service, and for setting both priorities and a tone. She noted the public does not fund them, but times are changing and Verizon is on the horizon, working hard to overturn laws that require they pay for use of the City's right-of-way. She said our cable charges may be cheaper as a result of new competition, but there will be less money for the City. She described the Committee's job as a labor of love and thanked everyone for their support. *John Carey*, former Mayor and now a member of the Cable Committee, said neither Cablevision or Verizon had responded to draft agreements and are clearly biding their time waiting for the State legislature to overturn home rule. He urged everyone to lobby to beat back the Brodsky Bill to protect the City's cable franchise income.
- *Barbara Cummings*, Chair of the Planning Commission, said her committee has had a wide range of talents, that they all work very hard; that all comments are helpful and they are lucky to have the City Planner to help them. She said the Commission is always willing to do more and has addressed new issues, such as affordable housing over storefronts, steep slopes, and flag lots.
- *Joe Murphy*, Chair of the Conservation Commission/Advisory Committee, said his board is very talented and fortunate that Chantal Detlefs, City Naturalist, is getting certified for Code Enforcement. He said they are trying to do even more now, after the floods. He also reported for *Marion Shea*, Chair of the Rye Senior Advisory Committee, saying the Committee is working on new initiatives which she will soon be bringing to the Council.
- *Joe Sack*, member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, said he was honored to serve with the wise men on his board, including *Tony Piscionere* who was also in the audience. It is always a learning experience and he thanked the City Clerk and Building Inspector for their staff support.
- *Nancy Stampleman*, representing the Rye Landmarks Advisory Committee, said their role is to designate landmarks and protect those that are already designated. They advise the Board of Architectural Review which usually takes their advice, but at times, does not.
- *Arthur Stampleman*, representing the Finance Advisory Committee, said he hoped they would meet soon, especially in light of the financial challenges that Rye is now facing due to the floods.
- *Doug Carey* spoke on behalf of *Doug French*, Chair of the Recreation Commission, which was meeting as he spoke. He said it was a pleasure to serve; that the skateboard park would be ready in June and they had been happy to help the Y.M.C.A. out while they were recovering from the flood.
- Matt Fahey speaking for *Brian Dempsey*, Chair of the Traffic and Transportation Committee, reported the annual Rodeo Fair had been a great success.

The Mayor closed the historical portion of the meeting by thanking everyone and saying it is an important part of the fabric of our lives.

(The City Council walked across the Village Green
to continue the meeting in Council Chambers at 8:45 P.M.)

3. Flood Update

Mayor Otis gave an update on what had been accomplished and/or had transpired since the last Council meeting:

- The City of Rye has also received a disaster declaration (joining the declaration for individuals) meaning that the City is eligible for a 75% reimbursement from FEMA. He said the State had recently declared that they will cover the remaining 25% so that the City will be 100% covered, not only for repairs (the retaining walls, the bridges, etc.) but also for mitigation projects.
- The City has already begun the design stage for the compromised retaining walls and is redesigning the Central Avenue Bridge based on the extra flood damage.
- The City has hired an outside engineering firm (Chas. H. Sells, Inc.) to analyze everyone's mitigation ideas so the City will know what to apply to FEMA for. The company has already met with the Rye Flood Committee.
- The City is working on plans for the floodgate at the keyhole area of the Bowman Dam.
- The City is proposing ways to speed up the City's approval processes as a way of eliminating the red tape. To that end, there will be a Flood Recovery Workshop on Monday, May 14th at 8 P.M. to help people know how to help themselves.
- The City is seeking all possible funding and is hopeful a plan from Nita Lowey's office to secure \$8.6 million for the Hudson Valley area will come to fruition.

The Mayor reviewed the history of Rye's interest in the Konigsberg Development near the Bowman Dam in an effort to clarify some of the inaccuracies people had heard the previous evening at the Rye Brook Village Meeting. He said as soon as elected he had placed the Bowman Avenue potential development on the Council's agenda because there had been continuous proposals to Rye to develop the property. A presentation to the Council in 1998 made clear the importance of leaving the land in a virgin state and therefore no development offers were to be considered, much less accepted. He said many people had continually worked against any development plans for this property. The Mayor said efforts to get Rye Brook to purchase the land with the help of a State Grant began in 1998-9. Rye Brook applied to the State in 2000, but was not approved. It is clear that the leaders of Rye Brook favor development. Three years ago there was a plan being developed to have Rye Brook and the County buy this land and have Rye pay for flood improvements. The land was appraised and the plan was progressing until the developer modified his plan and the Rye Brook Board changed its mind and decided development would be preferable. He said Rye has always championed the purchase of this land both from a public safety point of view as well as a flooding point of view. He said Rye was again working with the County to try and negotiate with the developer and buy the property. He assured those in attendance that this has always been a priority for the City and for him personally. Councilman Cunningham complimented those who had attended the Rye Brook meeting for an excellent job in presenting the anti-development case.

City Manager Paul Shew said his whole organization has been working hard and, for many, flood mitigation has become a whole second job. He said much progress has been made but he asked for patience as we move forward.

- Safety is essential, not only the day of the flood, but afterwards. The bridges are not safe and he is pleased to have Chas. H. Sells, Inc. on board.
- 500 tons of refuse has been removed from people's homes.
- All overtime will be included in the City's reports to FEMA and hopefully will be reimbursed.
- Priority is being given to fixing the Theodore Fremd walls and Elm Place before more water can compromise these locations further.
- The resolution proposed in the next Agenda Item, to speed up some government processes and be as responsive to people as possible, will be adopted and hopefully will help.
- He reported that Tax Assessment grievances can be filed by June 19 and asked people to check the City's web site for more information.

Members of the public were present to discuss the flood issues and the Rye Brook development situation. *Paul Alimena, 79 Wappanocca*, who also has an office on Blind Brook Lane, said he was flooded at both home and office and urged stopping the developer near the Bowman Ave. Dam. He said maybe development wouldn't make it worse, but not having it will allow Rye to do something to make it better. *Carolina Johnson, 40 Mendota*, said her impression is that that the development project is a done deal, but that the developer is just waiting for a phone call from Rye. We need to own that property and how can the committee help? *Peter Sinnott, 60 Mendota*, said this is the biggest issue facing Rye in 100 years and Rye Brook does not appear to want to negotiate, much less hear from Rye at all. He asked why the City doesn't just call the developer; negotiate a price and buy him out. The Mayor said it is simply not true that there has been no contact with the developer, but the proper (and most fiscally responsible route) is to go through the County so they can raise the funds and save our taxpayers higher taxes. He said the County is aware of the timetable and Rye's position has the support of both Judy Myers and Marty Rogowski. He urged writing both County Executive Spano and Ms. Myers as hardcopy communications are additive. *County Legislator Judy Myers*, agreed with the Mayor; said putting together a "purchase package" is no easy task; having State money available to tie in with FEMA funds would be very helpful; and promised to work as quickly as possible. She said using the right of eminent domain had not been discussed but people were still hoping Rye Brook would do the right thing.

Other suggestions concerning flood mitigation upstream were also made. In answer to a question about Westchester County Airport runoff, the Mayor reported we have asked that they review their plans, created about 15 years ago when the NYS DEC required them to divert water from the lake to the brook so the drinking water would not be contaminated. Are the plans adequate? Can they be better? *John Carey, 860 Forest Avenue* and former Mayor of Rye reported on some of the actions he had spearheaded during the 1970's and suggested taking another look at the possibility of altering how the pond at the former General Foods building retains water (dig it deeper, drain it before the flooding, divert the brook into the pond) and creating an embankment near Interstate 287. He said his plans had fallen on deaf ears with both General Foods and the NYS Department of Transportation. He referred the Council to two documents from the 1970s: the Dolph Rotfeld Report and a 1979 study entitled "Alternatives for Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, Blind Brook Watershed." The Mayor said we were scrutinizing the General Foods pond and there is a concern with the NYS DOT about

undermining the highway. *Doug Carey, Highland Hall*, suggested an easement for the open land on the old Matthews Estate at the corner of Ridge and Purchase Streets to make sure that space remains open. The Mayor said he had spoken to the owner and they have no plans to develop this area.

Andrew Goodenough, 25 Mohawk Street, said the collective energy is exciting and the confluence of ideas is important as they need progress in the areas we can control. He wants a timeline because even a 2 ½" thunderstorm has become a perilously close situation. (The City Manager said "as soon as can be without being half-baked."). *Sean Trainer, 101 Mendota*, having suffered 2 first-floor floods since moving to Rye, wants an action plan. Councilman Seitz said he knows what everyone wants to hear, but government and the City Council cannot totally protect Rye from what happened. They can do little things and maybe raise the dam, but for the most part they can't stop the flooding. *Ms. Johnson* said "inches matter" and *Mr. Trainer* said they want hope, not a defeatist attitude. Councilman Ball said everyone understands the need for an action plan, but it has to be tempered by reality. Councilman Pratt noted the five agenda items all relating to flooding and said everyone was trying to make things easier while working within the existing system. He reminded everyone government is not a business and has more restrictions. Councilman Cunningham pointed out they are looking at all of Rye, including Milton Harbor and Beaver Swamp. The Mayor asserted all ideas and projects were being evaluated and assured everyone he was the most optimistic person ever!

Rich Filippi, 13 Loewen Court, urged everyone to get involved, wanted to know what the engineering firm was looking at (Theodore Fremd, Elm Place, the bridges, the walls in general). He suggested tiered, non hard-surface walls and the creation of culverts. *Greg Mackenzie* wondered why Rye wants to get involved in water management – why not the County so all taxes can be shared? The answer is we have to protect ourselves, but the City is trying to get as much paid for as possible. He, and *Cedric Raines, 32 Orchard Avenue*, urged Rye to look at their own situation, such as restoring all parking lots to gravel, straightening out the brook, etc. *John Tsui, Mead Place* complained about Rye's policies (the inequity in variances) and the refuse collection rules. *Holly Kennedy, 105 Mendota*, said there are families who are homeless or, if still at home, really just camping out and it is a problem.

4. Consideration of resolution to give authority to the City Manager to advance flood damage related repairs through the building and land use approval process in certain cases

The Mayor said the consideration of a resolution to give authority to the City Manager to advance flood damage related repairs through the building and land use approval process in certain cases was the first piece the Council is putting in place to help flood victims. Adoption of the resolution would hopefully ease and quicken the building approval process without compromising safety issues. He said Monday's meeting will be to examine issues in the Code of the City of Rye and see what might need to be changed. He said it was an unusual move, but we will give it a try. *Paul Benowitz*, local architect, said of course the City would have to abide by the FEMA laws already on the books, but maybe the height restrictions could be reversed. *Greg Mackenzie* asked for clarification on whether or not to raise electrical panels. *Alison Martin, 6*

Pine Lane, said she had moved hers up and it had been reimbursed under the “Increased Cost of Compliance” section of the FEMA reimbursement policies.

Councilman Hennes made a motion, seconded by Councilman Seitz, to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, in cases where 2007 flood related damage repair applications are before the City for approvals, the City Manager will have the authority, at his discretion, to advance such applications to board or commission agendas earlier than some deadlines and timetables would allow, where the substantive application material has been provided to the City and that material can be distributed to the relevant board or commission members in time for consideration, for such earlier meeting date; that the City Manager and staff will consult with relevant board and commission chairs regarding such expedited applications; and that applicants can make such request to the City Manager’s office.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mayor Otis, Councilmen Ball, Cunningham, Fahey, Hennes,
Seitz and Pratt

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

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

Carla Eggers, 45 Allendale Drive asked if there was anything she could do to get the netting by the 5th hole of the golf course restored so her children don’t get hit in the head? *Zdena Heller, 9 Allendale Drive*, had the same concern and had been trying to address the issue for several months. She mentioned she had other issues with the Club, such as drainage. Both matters were referred to the City Manager for further review.

6. Consideration of setting a public hearing for June 13, 2007 to amend the Code of the City of Rye Chapter 173 Surface Water, Erosion and Sediment Control

Mayor Otis asked the Council to set a public hearing to amend the Code of the City of Rye Chapter 173 Surface Water, Erosion and Sediment Control in order to comply with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)’s Phase II Municipal Storm Water Management (MSR) regulations that address storm water management and illicit discharges into municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). The Council requested additional background.

Councilman Pratt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Seitz and unanimously carried, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to amend Chapter 173, Surface Water, Erosion and Sediment Control of the City Code of the City of Rye; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to call a public hearing on such proposed amendments to the law, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Rye as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to Section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law and the Charter of the City of Rye, New York, a public hearing will be held by the Council of said City on June 13, 2007 at 8:00 P.M. at City Hall, Boston Post Road, in said City, for the purpose of affording interested persons an opportunity to be heard concerning such proposed local laws.

Section 2. Such notice of public hearing shall be in substantially the following form:

**PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF RYE**

Notice of Public Hearing to amend Chapter 173, Surface Water, Erosion and Sediment Control, of the City Code of the City of Rye

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Rye on the 13th day of June, 2007 at 8:00 P.M. at City Hall, Boston Post Road, in said City, at which interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to be heard concerning a proposal to amend Chapter 173, Surface Water, Erosion and Sediment Control of the City Code of the City of Rye.

Copies of said local law may be obtained from the office of the City Clerk.

Susan A. Morison, City Clerk
Dated: June 4, 2007

7. Consideration of setting a public hearing for June 13, 2007 to amend the Code of the City of Rye by creating a new chapter 162 entitled "Storm Sewer System, Prohibition of Illicit Discharges, Activities and Connections to the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System."

City Manager Shew said it was also necessary to add a chapter to the Code of the City of Rye in order to comply with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Phase II Municipal Storm Water Management (MSR) regulations that address storm water management and illicit discharges into municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s).

Councilman Pratt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Seitz and unanimously carried, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to adopt a new Chapter 162, Storm Sewer System, Prohibition of Illicit Discharges, Activities and Connections to the

City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, of the City Code of the City of Rye; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to call a public hearing on such proposed amendments to the law, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Rye as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to Section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law and the Charter of the City of Rye, New York, a public hearing will be held by the Council of said City on June 13, 2007 at 8:00 P.M. at City Hall, Boston Post Road, in said City, for the purpose of affording interested persons an opportunity to be heard concerning such proposed local laws.

Section 2. Such notice of public hearing shall be in substantially the following form:

**PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF RYE**

**Notice of Public Hearing to adopt a new Chapter 162, Storm Sewer System,
Prohibition of Illicit Discharges, Activities and Connections to the City's
Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems of the City Code of the City of Rye**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Rye on the 13th day of June, 2007 at 8:00 P.M. at City Hall, Boston Post Road, in said City, at which interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to be heard concerning a proposal to adopt a new Chapter 162, Storm Sewer System, Prohibition of Illicit Discharges, Activities and Connections to the City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems of the City Code of the City of Rye.

Copies of said local law may be obtained from the office of the City Clerk.

Susan A. Morison, City Clerk
Dated: June 4, 2007

8. Update by Corporation Counsel on Beaver Swamp issues

Corporation Counsel reported that City of Rye had sent a letter urging the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to deny a permit application made by the Town of Harrison to fill at least 10,000 cubic yards and grade approximately .39 acres of State designated Class II Wetland J-3 and 1.7 acres of the adjacent area. He said the DEC has agreed to hold up the project and the Administrative Court Judge will review the project at a future hearing. In summary, the request asked the DEC to 1) reject the application; 2) require Harrison

to rectify added changes; and 3) require Harrison to revert back to the original planned use for the property – a passive park rather than a playing field.

Henry King, 76 Coolidge Avenue, said he was delighted with this news. He said he has known for three years that this plan wouldn't work and has been ignored by the Council for all that time and basically not given the respect he deserved. He said the Mayor had always said the project would work, and no one listened to him, until Councilman Pratt joined the Board. The Mayor said what Mr. King was saying was not what they were being told but they have been working hard to find out (consultant Laura Tessier was hired, and Kristin Wilson from the Corporation Counsel's office went to New Paltz to examine the records in person) and now we know the facts and will play hardball. The Mayor said, "Henry, you were right, but we had the responsibility to get the facts and now we want improvements to make the situation better. We appreciate your input." *Gwen Hughes, 8 Woods Lane*, also thanked Mr. King and said the neighbors had been remiss in not supporting him enough even as they watched Harrison dump tons and tons of fill onto the site, driving down the water table. She asked if the City could clear some of the debris in the brook and if it could work with Mamaroneck to undo the bottleneck. *Ann Goldsmith, 2 Belmont Avenue*, confirmed that Harrison seemed to be doing whatever they wanted and she also noted that the retaining pond at the Osborn doesn't seem to be working and perhaps it should be bigger. Councilman Cunningham said he thought it was leaking through the foundation. In conclusion, Councilman Seitz acknowledged that everyone should be grateful to Mr. King for keeping the issue alive.

9. Resolution appropriating funds for Highland/Onondaga drainage project

Mayor Otis asked the Council to approve the appropriation of more funds for the long-planned Highland/Onondaga drainage project because there are some utilities underground which need to be moved, adding to the original cost of the project. *Kim Pollard* asked for a timeline for the construction, saying people have been promising this for years. *Julie Predun, 50 Mendota*, asked where the water would drain. It will drain into the brook, which will be fine for most storms. A bigger drain will prevent the water in the winter from backing up and freezing. The Mayor asserted the City had not been delaying the project, but asked for more background about why the project is necessary and what utilities have to be moved.

Councilman Hennes made a motion, seconded by Councilman Pratt, to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby authorizes the appropriation of \$217,000 for the Highland/Onondaga drainage project to be taken from the Undesignated Fund Balance.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mayor Otis, Councilmen Ball, Cunningham, Fahey, Hennes,
Seitz and Pratt

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

10. Authorization for City Manager to enter into Agreement with Ridgewood Drive Association for operation and maintenance of City property as a park.

City Manager Paul Shew said on July 19, 2006 the Council had voted to accept the sale of three parcels of land from the County of Westchester and one of those parcels, known as Parcel "K" is located on Ridgewood Drive. The residents of Ridgewood Drive, led by the late Bob Callagy, negotiated with the City to maintain that parcel as vacant open space in perpetuity for the benefit of the Association and the City without obligation on the part of the City to maintain it. The Association would also maintain a public insurance policy naming the City as additional insured. The last piece is to formalize the agreement.

Councilman Seitz made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hennes to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to enter into an agreement between the City of Rye and the Ridgewood Drive Association in which the Association agrees to maintain and insure a parcel of property, formerly owned by Westchester County and known as Parcel "K."

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mayor Otis, Councilmen Ball, Cunningham, Fahey, Hennes,
Seitz and Pratt

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

11. Authorization for City Manager to enter into Agreement with County of Westchester for Selective Enforcement for Traffic Safety Grant

Councilman Fahey made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hennes, to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to enter into an Agreement with the County of Westchester to accept the 2006-07 Selective Enforcement for Traffic Safety (STEP) Grant.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mayor Otis, Councilmen Ball, Cunningham, Fahey, Hennes,
Seitz and Pratt

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

12. Miscellaneous communications and reports

There were no miscellaneous communications and reports to be discussed.

13. Old Business

City Manager Paul Shew reported back to the Council on the decision concerning crushed stone (see Street Materials bid #2-07). The amount to be expended is so small that it does not have to be approved and, for the record, recycled stone has extraneous materials and is not acceptable.

Councilman Pratt, referring to his prior remarks concerning the Rye Golf Club, offered an apology to the Commission and to the City Staff saying he had been neither complimentary nor effective. He said he had no intention to be insulting; to make people not wish to volunteer; or to indicate that the Council should run the Golf Club, but he has been trying to establish a dialogue between the Commission and the Council and was frustrated with the progress. He hopes that dialogue can be established prior to the next budgeting cycle. *Rich Verille, Chair of the Rye Golf Club Commission* thanked him for the apology. He said his understanding of the chain of communication was: the Commission to the Club Manager to the City Manager and then to the Council and as far as he is aware, he has responded to all overtures. He was told he could also work with the Council liaison, Councilman Fahey. As for the issue about Senior Memberships, he said the Commission is fearful of the financial ramifications but the Commission, which is part of the City, will look at it. Councilman Fahey said the rules of governance are being reviewed not only by the City Manager, as well as by the Commission.

14. New Business

Councilman Seitz suggested that staffing needs of both the Police and Fire Departments should be discussed separately from, and earlier than, the regular budget process. City Manager Shew said he would like to discuss this further at another time.

15. Draft unapproved minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held April 25, 2007

Councilman Hennes made a motion, seconded by Councilman Fahey and unanimously carried, to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held April 25, 2007 as amended.

16. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Councilman Fahey made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hennes and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 12:40 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Morison
City Clerk