

**APPROVED MINUTES** of the Budget  
Workshop of the City Council of the City of Rye held  
in City Hall on November 26, 2012 at 8:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

DOUGLAS FRENCH Mayor  
LAURA BRETT (arrived at 8:05 p.m.)  
RICHARD FILIPPI  
PETER JOVANOVIICH (arrived at 8:05 p.m. and left at 10:30 p.m.)  
JULIE KILLIAN  
CATHERINE F. PARKER (arrived at 8:10 p.m.)  
JOSEPH A. SACK  
Councilmembers

ABSENT: None

1. Pledge of Allegiance

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

2. Roll Call

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

3. Discussion of the FY 2013 Budget.  
● Police Department Budget Review

Police Commissioner William Connors made a presentation providing an overview of the Police Department budget. Commissioner Connors said that his approach to police budgeting is to prepare for the possibilities while budgeting for the probabilities in order to accomplish the mission of the department. He said that 2012 was a highly unusual year for the department in terms of the possibilities. He then gave an overview of various matters that the Police Department handled during the year with a special emphasis on Hurricane Sandy. He said the Department has submitted a basic subsistence budget that maintains the current level of service. The only "big ticket" item is the replacement of the automated fingerprint system because the manufacturer will no longer support the old system. The Commissioner provided information regarding departmental staffing levels; hiring and training procedures; duty charts; the operation of the rotating tours; overtime procedures and numbers; and third quarter enforcement figures. Additionally, Commissioner Connors and City Manager Pickup answered Council questions regarding salary costs; control over staffing; use of police at school crossings; overtime usage; staff turn-over statistics; department headcount; and pension calculations. Interim City

Comptroller Fazzino was asked to provide information regarding pension, health care and retiree costs. He was also asked to provide detailed information regarding salaries.

- Rye Free Reading Room Budget Review

Library Director Kitty Little said that the Library's budget is pivotal for what it will be able to do in 2013. She provided an overview of the Library's 2012 successes, including services provided to the community during the post-Hurricane Sandy period. She said that Library funding in the City's proposed 2013 budget remains flat at \$1,080,000, which will put the Library in a dire situation. Annual fundraising has been impacted by Hurricane Sandy and the 2012 budget was funded with an anticipated deficit of \$55,000. The Library is requesting an additional \$65,500 over last year's City funding. Ms. Little outlined the ramifications for 2013 without the additional requested funding including a reduction in hours of operation to 42 per week and a reduction in the materials budget by 13%. She also provided statistics comparing the Rye Library with other Westchester libraries in terms of population, public funding and operating expenses. Ms. Little also presented some results of a survey done as part of the strategic planning the Library is doing in order to determine what the community wants from the Library. Ms. Little answered questions from the Council regarding the Library's capital projects budget, use of their endowment, employee benefit costs, the branch of the Library at The Osborn, Library hours, and the requirements the Library must meet for inclusion in the City bond referendum. The Council will consider the Library's request for additional funding over the next few weeks.

- Flood Advisory Committee

Councilwoman Brett reported that she had met with members of the Flood Advisory Committee earlier in the evening. They believe that the FEMA grant for \$130,000 recently accepted by the Council, which will be applied toward a hydrology study for upstream retention, is sufficient to allow the City to have a shovel ready project if flood money becomes available from the County or State. She said the second issue the Committee was looking at was gauges for the down stream flows from the Bowman Avenue Dam. The Sluice Gate will have gauges installed as part of the installation and they have spoken with the City Manager about including a gauge in the Locust Avenue Siphon project that was approved in the Bond Referendum. The Committee believes it will be prudent to wait until additional hydrology studies are done before recommending additional gauges.

4. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss Councilman Filippi made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Brett and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn F. Nodarse  
City Clerk