

APPROVED MINUTES of the Strategic
Workshop of the City Council of the City of Rye held
in City Hall on January 12, 2013 at 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT:

DOUGLAS FRENCH Mayor
LAURA BRETT
RICHARD FILIPPI
PETER JOVANOVIĆH
JULIE KILLIAN
CATHERINE F. PARKER
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 Manager to call the roll in the absence of the City Clerk; a quorum was present to conduct official city business.

Prior to the meeting beginning, Councilwoman Killian was sworn in by City Court Judge Joseph Latwin.

3. Discussion of Council suggestions and ideas for 2013 implementation

Some of the suggested topics that were discussed included: the 1037 Boston Post Road property; the Police Department Union Contract; Rye Golf Club issues; Rye Town Park and Playland issues; F.O.I.L. procedures; the future of the Boat Basin and Milton Harbor; parking issues; a Conflict of Interest policy; sustainability issues; a four-year financial plan; possible sale of City assets; traffic and pedestrian safety issues; police presence in the schools; reviewing the concept of Enterprise Funds; health care and pension costs; County tax rates; expanding the Board of Ethics; land use issues that affect the various boards; revising the Sign Law; outsourcing and the impact it may have on the delivery of city services; adding a person with HR responsibilities to the City Manager's Office; creation of separate water districts for taxing purposes; flood mitigation issues; creation of historic districts; adopting a Complete Streets Policy; the lease with the Rye Arts Center; and technology issues. The Mayor will work with the City Manager on specific initiatives.

City Manager Pickup also mentioned the Pavement Management System for city roads; the Citizens Emergency Response Team; a drainage project at the Golf Club; a Nature Center playground project; issues related to the Middle School construction project; and, issues related to the Kirby Lane Sewer Districts.

Mayor French announced that Councilman Sack and Councilwoman Brett would officially be trading liaison positions, with Councilman Sack becoming the liaison to the Boat Basin Commission and Councilwoman Brett becoming a representative to the Rye Town Park Commission

Agenda Item 5 was taken before Agenda Item 4.

4. Review of Pending Legislation for Council action

The list of pending legislative initiatives includes: Historic Property Tax Credit Program; Financial Disclosure form; Implementation of Westchester County Stormwater Management Law; reviewing Chapter 76 “Dogs”; updating Chapter 165 “Signs”; updating the Tree Ordinance; removing window and door regulations from the Board of Architectural Review; changing noticing procedures for projects on public property; proposed zoning change for 120 Old Post Road; adoption of a Complete Streets Policy; prohibition of dwelling units below base flood elevation; and Kirby Lane Sewer Tax Districts.

There was also a discussion about time management and the tenor of public discussions at Council meetings going forward.

5. Review of the 2013 Capital Project Schedule

The list of projects highlighted included: Cedar Place sewer project; Old Milton Road Drain project; Annual Street Resurfacing; Annual Sidewalk Repair; Hewlett Avenue Pump Station; Theodore Fremd Retaining Wall repair; City Hall generator; Peck/Midland Avenue Intersection; Blind Brook Flood Mitigation Study; Locust Avenue Sewer improvements; Central Business District Streetscape Improvements; Boston Post Road Retaining Wall; Sidewalk and Pedestrian improvements around Midland School, the Milton Road Corridor, and Forest Avenue; and the Safe Routes to School Projects.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss Councilwoman Killian made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Parker and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn F. Nodarse
City Clerk