

APPROVED MINUTES of the Budget
Workshop/Special Meeting of the City Council of the
City of Rye held in City Hall on November 13, 2013
at 8:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

LAURA BRETT
RICHARD FILIPPI
PETER JOVANOVICH
CATHERINE F. PARKER
JOSEPH A. SACK
Councilmembers

ABSENT: DOUGLAS FRENCH Mayor
JULIE KILLIAN Councilmember

1. Pledge of Allegiance

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

2. Roll Call

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

3. Discussion of the FY 2014 Budget.
● Fire Department Budget Review

Fire Chiefs Mike Taylor and Peter Cotter and Fire Lieutenant Kurt Tietjen presented on behalf of the Fire Department. They said that the Fire Department budget was flat from last year. They expressed concerns regarding large equipment that needs to be replaced, specifically the 19-year old Pumper Truck and 27-year old spare truck and outlined the process that is usually followed when the Department is considering replacing a truck. The cost of replacing a vehicle, chassis and equipment is over \$600,000. There was also discussion of equipping a donated boat as a fire boat and concerns about adequate manpower and getting people out to fires. City Manager Pickup said that this year's budget process focused on protective issues and updating safety equipment. An upgrade of a chief's vehicle is included in the budget because it serves as a mobile command center at the scene of a fire. Mr. Pickup added that outfitting a fire boat was not deemed the best use of money because there are other options available on the water. The City Manager was asked to provide a list outlining the pros and cons of having a fire boat. In discussing the numbers of volunteers in the Department, the Chiefs said that the demographics in

Rye can be a deterrent because of the time commitment required of volunteers but noted the various ways the Department utilizes to try to recruit new members.

- Public Works Department Budget Review

City Engineer Ryan Coyne reported that the Operating Budget for the Department of Public Works was basically flat with some minor increases for staffing but the City is looking to reallocate money to create a new position for a Facilities and Project Management person. The idea is to deal with facilities and capital projects before they fail. This person would concentrate on capital project coordination, some design and project management, and more intensive dealings with the City's facilities. The person could address issues before they become drastic problems. The City Manager said the City is looking into efficiency grant opportunities to deal with issues and the new person could coordinate this effort. Money was also added to the operating budget to cover maintenance of the Bowman Avenue Sluice Gate. The Capital Project Budget includes increases in the street resurfacing program to bring it back to a combined funding from the City and State of \$500,000; the sidewalk and curb replacement program is reestablished and upped to \$100,000; and there is also an increase in the annual sewer and drain program. The Pavement Management System is used to determine which roads will be resurfaced. Additional capital projects funded in the 2014 Budget involve fixing sewers and upgrading pump systems and monitoring systems. There is also money to fund studies for the realignment of the Boston Post Road and Nature Center Bridge and a redesign of the Boston Post Road through the "snow dump"; and a Disbrow Park Study Master Plan study.

4. ~~Authorization for the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) for an amount not to exceed \$40,000 for professional consulting services to conduct an Executive Search for a Police Commissioner for the City of Rye.~~

~~Roll Call.~~

This agenda item was withdrawn from this meeting.

5. One appointment to the Board of Architectural Review for a three-year term, by the Mayor with Council approval.

Councilman Filippi made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Brett and unanimously carried to appoint Holly Kennedy to the Board of Architectural Review for a three-year term expiring on January 1, 2016.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss Deputy Mayor Jovanovich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Filippi and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn F. Nodarse
City Clerk