

APPROVED MINUTES of the Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Rye held in City Hall on November 13, 2017 at 7:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

KIRSTIN BUCCI
EMILY HURD
JULIE KILLIAN
TERRENCE McCARTNEY
RICHARD MECCA
DANIELLE TAGGER-EPSTEIN
Councilmembers

ABSENT:

JOSEPH A. SACK, Mayor
DANIELLE TAGGER-EPSTEIN, Councilmember

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

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

2. Roll Call.

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

3. Discussion of the FY 2018 Budget:

● *Rye Golf Club Budget Review*

Jim Buonaiuto, Rye Golf Club Manager, gave an overview of the Rye Golf Club operations. He explained that the Golf Club has consistently run at an operational surplus under an enterprise fund. He felt that 2017 had been a successful year financially, along with its success in capital improvements. He is hopeful to continue improving the Club with capital improvements in the future. He stated that there are no major revenue increases proposed, but an increase in the fee from Lessings to use the Whitby Castle facility is likely. He thanked his staff and the City for helping make the Golf Club a success.

Mr. Buonaiuto explained that there would not be an increase in fulltime positions for 2018 proposed other than what was budgeted for in 2017.

There was discussion over capital costs for the future and revenue sources.

● *Public Works Department Budget Review / Building and Vehicle Fund Review*

Ryan Coyne, DPW Superintendent and City Engineer, explained that the DPW oversees sanitation, City-owned properties, fleet management, sewer and drain utility maintenance, streetlight maintenance, signs and road markings in town, and recycling, among others.

Mr. Coyne focused on sanitation and recycling for City residents. He explained that for 2018, he is excited to have a new website and app specific to DPW schedules and issues for residents' use. This would allow residents to view their sanitation schedules and receive alerts on important issues.

Mr. Coyne proposed the purchase of six new garbage trucks in hopes that service levels would remain the same. There was lengthy discussion about a possible hybrid system of automated trucks with standardized trucks. Mr. Coyne explained that after studying conditions, automated trucks may not work for this community in terms of cost savings. He said that the number of employees are at a minimum for current service levels.

There was discussion about lack of garage space and preserving the DPW vehicles. There was also discussion over a possible updated City-wide services survey. Mr. Coyne thanked his staff for their hard work.

- *Capital Projects Update*

Christian Miller, City Planner, provided an overview of the capital improvement proposals in the 2018 budget. He discussed funding and prioritizing capital projects, as well as annual programs, such as traffic safety and street resurfacing. These yearly items usually are paid for by fund balance. There was discussion over sewer maintenance for aged infrastructure, specifically on Locust Avenue. Mr. Miller also discussed pedestrian safety projects and priorities within the City, such as the area near Rye High School.

The Council discussed shifting priorities of capital issues, such as pedestrian safety and areas of need. City Planner Miller brought up the Theodore Fremd/ Purdy/ Purchase Street intersection traffic and pedestrian safety improvements. There was also discussion over parking within the downtown and planning for an increase of volume and expanding availability.

City Planner Miller also discussed long-term planning with regarding to SSES and implementation issues with regard to the sewer system, and improvements to Gagliardo Park. He also discussed updating and improving City Hall as a long-term goal.

City Engineer Coyne discussed funding for vehicle replacement for DPW. He stated that there was a plan for purchasing vehicles in alternating years to provide for service levels on a consistent basis. He discussed electric vehicles and charging stations within the budget. There was discussion about bonding for one-time issues instead of annual operations.

City Planner Miller updated the Council on the City Court potential project. A final design and cost estimate would be available in the coming months. Construction would not happen until later in 2018.

4. Adjournment.

There being no further issues to discuss, Councilman Mecca made a motion at 9:33 P.M., seconded by Councilwoman Hurd and unanimously carried, to adjourn the Special Meeting of the City Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn D'Andrea
City Clerk