

**CITY OF RYE
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Scott D. Pickup, City Manager

SUBJECT: Enclosures - Council Packet

DATE: February 8, 2013

Enclosed with this memorandum are the following items:

- 2-3 Notice regarding a Rye City School District Board of Education Meeting to be held on February 12, 2013 beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room.
- 2-4 Notice regarding a League of Women Voters Forum on *Different Perspectives on Fair Property Tax Assessments* to be held on March 20, 2013 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in New Rochelle City Hall Council Chambers.
- 2-5 Legal Department Update from the Corporation Counsel dated February 8, 2013.
- 2-6 Meeting notice for the week of February 11, 2013 is available on the City website www.ryeny.gov under Calendar.



The Rye City School District

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February 4, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 12, 2013 Board of Education Meeting

The Rye City School District Board of Education will meet Tuesday, February 12, 2013 beginning at 8:00 PM in the Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room, 3 Parsons Street, Rye, NY 10580. Prior to the meeting, the Board will meet in Executive Session for the review of the employment history of current and prospective employees, negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law, review of current litigation and litigation strategy.

On the agenda are fiscal, special education, personnel and business items that ordinarily come before the Board, and the Presentation/Discussion of the Superintendent's 2013-14 Recommended School Budget.



League of Women Voters of Westchester
League of Women Voters of New Rochelle

For Immediate Release

Contact: Janet Zagoria, jdz2@earthlink.com, 914-739-6518

LWV Forum Will Present Different Perspectives on Fair Property Tax Assessments

Updating property tax assessments in Westchester County to ensure fair taxes will be the topic of a panel discussion sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Westchester (LWVW) and LWV of New Rochelle on Wednesday, March 20, 2013, at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, 515 North Avenue, New Rochelle.

The program, "Reassessing Property in Westchester: Fair or Foul?" will feature state, county and local perspectives on the issue. About half of the municipalities in Westchester have reassessed, are reassessing or are planning to reassess, most for the first time in decades.

Panelists include the following officials:

- John Wolham, Regional Director, Southern Region, New York State Office of Real Property Tax Services
- George Oros, Chief of Staff to County Executive Rob Astorino
- Michèle Casandra, Pelham Town Assessor
- Harold Porr III, Bronxville Administrator/Clerk
- Mitchell Markowitz, Rye Town Assessor
- Miriam Levitt Flisser, Scarsdale Mayor
- Mark Russell, Yonkers Assessor
- Edey McCarthy, Greenburgh Assessor

Charles B. Strome III, New Rochelle City Manager, will welcome the panelists and audience, and Sharon Lindsay, LWVW president, will moderate. A question and answer period will follow the presentations.

The forum will address questions such as how outdated tax assessments impact property values and taxes, what is involved in the reassessment process, and how to insure fairness in the process.

For further information, go to www.lwvwestchester.org, www.newrochelleny.com, or call Janet Zagoria at 914-739-6518. Free parking is available in the City Hall lot behind the building on Beaufort Place. The building entrance is from the parking lot.

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**CITY OF RYE
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Mayor and Rye City Council
FROM: Kristen K. Wilson, Corporation Counsel
SUBJECT: Litigation Update
DATE: February 8, 2013

SETTLEMENT

In January I notified you that a claim had been filed by Daniel Gallelo in connection with damages to his parked vehicle caused by a city vehicle. Our insurance carrier has settled the claim for the amount of \$2,186.17.

**TAX CERTIORARI
CARROLL v. CITY OF RYE**

Judge LaCava rendered a Decision and Order reducing the value of Petitioners property by approximately 45% for the years 2003 through 2011. A judgment has not been entered yet.

**THE TOWN OF RYE AND THE RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION v. THE ASSESSOR and
Board of Assessment Review of the CITY OF RYE**

The City has served and filed its reply papers in further support of its cross-motion for summary judgment.

WESTCHESTER JOINT WATER WORKS v. CITY OF RYE

Counsel for Westchester Joint Water Works and the City of Rye have both filed a notice of appeal.

LITIGATION

BEAVER SWAMP BROOK – (DEC Administrative proceeding)

The City and its consultants met with the Town/Village of Harrison and its consultants to discuss the discrepancies in the hydrologic analyses performed in 2010. The City is waiting to hear back from Harrison as to whether Harrison will provide certain data to the City for verification of the flood storage capacity at the Project Home Run site.

BASSETT v. CITY OF RYE

The plaintiff has filed a notice of appeal of the decision of Judge Berliner to the Appellate Division, Second Department. The Appeal has been perfected and we are waiting for notice of oral argument.

CASPI v. CITY OF RYE

An expert has been retained on behalf of the defendants. A few remaining depositions have to be scheduled.

DELLI PAOLI V. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board of Appeals reaffirmed the Board of Architectural Review's decision to deny the application at their May meeting.

PANETTA v. PLANNING COMMISSION (appeal)

The City's Brief in Opposition has been filed. The matter is fully submitted before the Appellate Division, Second Department. **The oral argument has been calendared for February 21, 2013.**

PANETTA v. PLANNING COMMISSION (declaratory judgment/42 U.S.C. 1983 claim)

Discovery is complete and the Note of Issue has been filed.

RUNES v. BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW and CITY ASSESSOR

An Article 78 Petition has been filed by Richard Runes of 3 Kirby Lane North seeking to overturn the April 12, 2011 decision of the small claims hearing officer, JHO Luke M. Charde, Jr. who determined that the assessment on Mr. Runes' property was supported by the evidence put forth by the City.

BUTLER v. PLANNING COMMISSION

A notice of appeal has been filed on behalf of the Planning Commission. The City Council has voted to perfect the appeal. The appeal must be perfected by March 11, 2013.

BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE IVES AT RYE v. CITY OF RYE

The City has served its Answer with Affirmative Defenses.

CITY COURT

Routine calendar with no unusual dispositions.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristen K. Wilson
Corporation Counsel

KKW/dfn