

DRAFT UNAPPROVED MINUTES of the
Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of
Rye held in City Hall on September 12, 2018, at 7:30
P.M.

PRESENT:

JOSH COHN, Mayor
SARA GODDARD
EMILY HURD
RICHARD MECCA
JULIE SOUZA
DANIELLE TAGGER-EPSTEIN
Councilmembers

ABSENT:

BENJAMIN STACKS, Councilmember

The Council convened at 6:30 P.M. Councilman Mecca made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Souza, to adjourn immediately into executive session at 6:30 P.M. to discuss personnel and litigation matters. At 7:29 P.M., Councilman Mecca made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Souza, to adjourn the executive session and commence the regular meeting of the City Council. The meeting began at 7:33 P.M.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

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

2. Roll Call.

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

3. Draft unapproved minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held August 8, 2018.

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the City Council.

4. Recognition of the Rye Golf Club Swim.

Tobey Saracino, Head Swim Coach for the Rye Swim Team, thanked the Council for recognizing the swim team. She said that the team has worked so hard for all of their

accomplishments. She explained that the team is made up of children from four to seventeen years old. She was happy to report that the team had a very strong season and described the team's successful season record.

Mayor Cohn thanked the children and coaching staff for attending the meeting and for all of their hard work this season making Rye proud.

5. Interim report on City Council review of Rye TV.

Councilwoman Hurd, on behalf of the City Council subcommittee to study and review Rye TV, made the following statement:

“I am happy to have the opportunity this evening to present an interim report on the City Council's Rye TV subcommittee. The subcommittee is composed of me, Councilwoman Goddard and Councilman Stacks. Tonight, we would like to give you a summary of our review over the last two plus months and outline what will be our next steps in the process of this review.

But before doing that, I would like to underscore the City Council's appreciation for the role that RyeTV plays in our community. Public access to information is critical for the democratic functioning of our local government and RyeTV is one of our local vehicles for providing that access. In addition, I would like to reassure the community that no decisions with respect to Rye TV have been made at this point or will be made without the input of the community.

Let's start at the beginning. If you have been watching RyeTV's Government Access Channel's broadcast of the City Council meetings you know that a newly appointed Finance Committee has been hard at work reviewing every department and organization that receives funds from the City at the request of the City Council. This has been an incredibly time consuming task and the Finance Committee has undertaken it with vigor and expertise.

RyeTV is no exception; the Finance Committee undertook an extensive review of the organization and their finances and flagged several notable things and made one suggestion: 1) RYE TV was on the verge of a new full-time hire and a \$1M spend on a new studio buildout and massive equipment overhaul, 2) a substantial revenue stream flowed through the City directly into Rye TV - a stream which has increased from \$26K in 1988 when first diverted to RyeTV (and at that time from only one cable operator) to \$400k annually today (representing fee payments from Verizon and Altice for their use of the City's right of way). And the recommendation: The Finance Committee suggested a pause in Rye TV's hiring and spending while the City Council take a closer look.

At the June 20 City Council Meeting, the Mayor appointed the City Council Rye TV subcommittee. While the review was underway, the Mayor asked that RyeTV hold off on any capital expenditures and the hiring of a full-time employee. For the sake of clarity, this request does not prohibit RyeTV from hiring temporary/part time people as needed or making necessary equipment maintenance purchases in order to continue its current operations.

On June 26, the subcommittee sat down with the Finance Committee to discuss in more detail their analysis.

On July 5, the subcommittee met with members of the RyeTV Commission and Nicole Levitsky to hear their perspective and discuss their plans for RyeTV.

Shortly thereafter we tasked the City Council's college intern with researching TV facilities across Westchester County. She completed her report at the beginning of August. It summarized in varying detail the public access programs of 22 plus municipalities in Westchester County. That research shows that Rye appears to be one of a very few communities that allocates 100% of its franchise fee income to its television access facility. I would like to make a distinction at this point and hope not to complicate things. Under the City's franchise agreements with cable providers, the City receives two payments: 1) a cable television franchise fee payment. This is an annual fee charged by the City of Rye to a private cable television company as compensation for using the City's right of way for its cable. 2) A PEG grant. PEG stands for public, educational, and governmental. While the cable companies provide us three channels, they also provide us with a set amount annually that is to be used for equipment purchases only. This cannot be used by the City for anything else.

In August, we, the members of the subcommittee spoke to various industry experts and local and regional professionals, reviewed municipal programs in Westchester County and spoke with local organizations interested in possible partnership with RyeTV. The picture that is emerging is one in which public access is at a critical juncture nationwide as the technology of cable is superseded by the technology of media outlets online. This is underscored by the forecast of decreasing franchise fees as a result of fewer cable viewers in the coming years, as well as the movement nationally to transition public access facilities to internet oriented community media centers.

With more questions than answers, the subcommittee concluded it is time to bring in an industry consultant to help guide the council and community as to the best solution for RYE TV. To date the City has reached out to five consultants and interviewed three. This week, additional consultants have been approached at the request of Nicole Levitsky and Stephen Fairchild. A consultant should be hired soon with the goal of identifying options for Rye TV's future and ultimately selecting the best path forward for RyeTV and the Rye community.

In conclusion, we want to stress that no decisions have been made and that we remain committed to ensuring the best outcome for the citizens of Rye."

Councilwoman Goddard, also a member of the City Council subcommittee on Rye TV, made the following statement:

"I too want to underscore our gratitude to RTV commission members and staff, who, through meetings, correspondence and now consultant recommendations, have helped keep an open and engaged dialogue as we undertake this review.

I just want to mention some recent correspondence from a few residents, which has carried with it an underlying concern that this review has somehow morphed into a decision - or even an imminent decision - on where Rye TV is headed ... as if there was already a plan in place or one in the works. This is news to us. I don't know how this concern arose but I'm very grateful for the opportunity tonight to clear up this confusion. As Emily said - absolutely no decision has been made and we are still very much in the review stage.

Lastly, as the representatives of the people of Rye, our job is to take a careful look at all aspects of city government and in this case, determine, with the assistance of stakeholders, experts and the public, how Rye TV can achieve its best by touching the greatest number of Rye citizens."

Councilwoman Hurd reminded the community that the City receives a \$400,000 franchise fee and \$50,000 PEG grant each year.

Councilwoman Tagger-Epstein asked if the PEG grant was stagnant each year. Councilwoman Goddard responded that it varied.

Councilwoman Hurd commented that the City is currently undergoing a franchise contract negotiation with the providers.

Councilwoman Tagger-Epstein asked if the consultant to be possibly hired would study the possibility of an online platform. Councilwoman Hurd responded that Rye TV has begun a major shift already of these different media centers.

Councilwoman Hurd said that the City was still in the process of interviewing a cable consultant. One of the questions to be asked is where the best place is for Rye TV to operate. Currently, the main station is located within Rye High School.

Councilwoman Goddard commented that other communities have set up nonprofits, community partnerships and the like for funding; these are all things that the City is considering.

Councilwoman Hurd discussed the \$12 million in capital/ infrastructure needs; 8% of that is Rye TV with \$1 million of possible needs. However, the Council needed to consider major priorities such as sewers, collapsing infrastructure, etc.

Councilwoman Hurd said that earlier in the day, the City hosted a ceremony for a Prisoner of War from WWII; she emphasized the importance of documenting civic events and government meetings. She said that the Council understands and appreciates the value of that.

Councilwoman Goddard said that the Council recognized that Rye TV was critical. She hoped that this conversation has helped clear up any confusion on whether decisions have been made.

Councilwoman Tagger-Epstein recounted a conversation she had with Councilman Stacks, who commented that he wants to make sure that the City was utilizing Rye TV in the best way.

She was hopeful that the consultant hired will be able to do that. She commented that through some of the letters the Council had received, it was not hard to see the love for Rye TV in the community. She was supportive of a consultant who could bring out the best of Rye TV.

Councilwoman Hurd commented on an email that referred to Rye TV as a 'hidden gem.' She said that it was a gem, but that the Council did not want it to be hidden.

Councilwoman Goddard added that reaching out and broadening the audience is critical as we review and engage the consultant.

Steve Fairchild, Rye Cable Committee, said that the Committee understood what was happening, and that they would like to help. He requested that the Committee be consulted as the want is there to participate. He said that the members had given decades to this cause. He responded to Councilwoman Tagger-Epstein's question about an online presence and said that Rye TV is an online channel. He asked to work with the Council Committee and asked that the Committee keep them informed. He said that the last two months have been scary for the Rye Cable Committee, as there is a fear that the studio will be lost. He lastly asked that they be a part of this process.

Peter Jovanovich, Rye Record, asked how much the City would pay for this consultant.

Councilwoman Goddard responded that one of the possible consultants has been a consultant for the City already and there is money left in the retainer agreement. The scope would take approximately 10 hours of work at a cost roughly between \$2000 and \$6000.

Councilwoman Hurd said that she was hopeful to have a decision on the consultant by mid-October. To clarify, the goal for the City would be to have a consultant paint a total picture of neighboring communities and look at a few options of moving forward with Rye TV.

Councilwoman Goddard responded that a consultant would be only one source of information in the City's review. She said that they have had discussions with industry experts, and they will also consult Rye TV, with public input as well.

Mayor Cohn commented that part of the process will be to examine other Westchester communities, other successes/ models, and what technology and staffing might be appropriate moving forward in Rye. He then thanked the City Council subcommittee for their report.

6. Residents may be heard on matters for Council consideration that do not appear on the agenda.

There was nothing discussed under this agenda item.

7. Continuation of Public Hearing to establish the 2019 budgeted fees and charges.

Greg Usry, Finance Committee Chair, thanked City staff who were extremely helpful in the budget process. He reported that certain fees, permits, and fines had not been increased in a number of years. He said that staff and the committee tried to look closely at the service the City is providing for the cost of the permit or fee. He said that the committee also had to consider ongoing maintenance and infrastructure costs, the inflation impact over time, and not just CPI. Additionally, personnel costs and benefits needed to be considered. Mr. Usry said that the committee thought that proposals being made by the staff were reasonable and appropriate, with good diligence at looking at other communities. He reported that there were certainly instances with some possible limitations. There were cases where there is room for more increases over time, but not something that in the one foul swoop that can doubled, tripled or quadrupled. Moving forward, Mr. Usry recommended sharpening a policy on fees and charges being considered before the adoption of the budget, considering the categories of fees, inflation, employment cost, and cost of services.

Councilwoman Souza asked about the comparative analysis review with other municipalities. Mr. Usry noted that a great deal of comparative study work had been done this year, and that review each year should be taken into account.

Mr. Usry said that there were two exceptions to the Finance Committee conclusions: 1) Downtown parking, and 2) Rye Recreation. Downtown parking has many variables, such as different types of parking permits, Fines, parking costs, number of merchants, and the cost of enforcement. He said that all of those are inter-related. The Finance Committee could not comment on which of those variables was a priority, and recommended that the City hire a parking consultant to look at the way of maximizing the parking that it has available in the downtown. With Rye Recreation, he said that the Committee spent a great deal of time with the Recreation Superintendent and Recreation Commission to understand the operations. It is difficult to ascertain the fees, services, and costs to provide an objective financial result; the service provided cannot be measured fully in dollars.

Mr. Usry presented a slideshow presentation of Recreation revenues and expenses since 2015. He explained that when the Committee started the review process, there had been a soft policy of Rye Recreation covering 40% of its expenses. Even that concept itself, has never been codified. Secondly, there is even some discussion of what their expense line item would include. Even around the idea that 40%, that is not how it has worked historically given the growth of rising personnel costs, even with Rye Recreation raising costs 15% over the last four years. Mr. Usry said that was not to draw a conclusion but at a minimum, he said he recommended program increases to offset costs.

Councilwoman Souza said that what struck her was that the current Rye Recreation model was not sustainable. She said that if you have an expense growth rate and a decline in revenues, it would not match up. Mr. Usry commented that the challenge is that the cost to the City will continue to grow.

Mayor Cohn commented that this was a rich and important conversation to be had.

Bob Zahm, 7 Ridgewood Drive, thanked the Council for considering these after summer vacation. He thanked City Manager Serrano and the City staff for responding to his questions on fees so quickly. He reiterated an earlier statement to the Council, asking about the motivation for the changes in proposed fees. He commented that despite the recommendations, there were still fees that have not been assessed recently. He asked about the cost of an auctioneer's permit, and the enforcement of a meeting of general assembly. He also asked about rock chipping to be raised more meaningfully. He said that applying fees typically hurts most for people who cannot afford them. He then asked about dog licenses, taxis, and leaf blowers.

John Leonard, 1 Apawamis Drive, made a statement about parking fees and fines. He asked that commuter parking rates not be increased to the extent proposed.

8. Presentation of Capital Improvement Program (CIP) by Department of Planning.

Christian Miller, City Planner, said that he coordinated the Capital Improvement Program; the current one before the City's consideration is five years in duration, ranging from 2019 to 2023. He explained that this exercise was required by the City Charter. It identifies major projects and potential priorities for the City. This process is done in early fall/ late summer, so that the capital program is part of the budget. City Planner Miller said that there were 53 miles of sanitary sewer lines, 15 city buildings, old infrastructure, and new needs. There are 70 projects in total, with a cost of \$58 million. This includes both the enterprise and non-enterprise funds.

City Planner Miller explained that the categories of the projects were: transportation projects, building projects drainage/ flooding, sewer infrastructure, recreation, vehicles and equipment, Golf Club and the Boat Basin. He gave an overview of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), with priorities highlighted such as the Fremd/ Purdy/ Purchase Street intersection for pedestrian and traffic safety, the Police Court building, Disbrow Park study, and sewer improvements. Other projects identified were Rye Golf, Rye Boat Basin (dredging), Rye Town Park, and Rye City Schools. Mr. Miller said that funding options were taking from the general revenue (23%), grants and aid (35%), and debt (42%). He explained that taxes alone will not make these items possible.

Various funds that the City has are undesignated fund balance/ designated capital funds, general fund, bundling and vehicle fund, RA-6 district capital fund, Theall/ Osborn Road area fund. Showed a slide on the actual use of fund balance between 2007-17. He discussed debt allowances under the City Charter: 1) Mandatory referendum borrowing up \$520 million; 2) Council vote not to exceed \$11.2 million of debt; 3) \$1.4 million as of right for public safety; 4) disaster rebuilding debt as of right of \$2.5 million.

Mr. Miller also discussed grants and aid, which he said were very competitive, and have strict requirements attached. Often, these grants require a financial match. There can be a high cost of compliance with grants and aid as the source of funding.

Mr. Miller concluded that the CIP continues to grow. There are further opportunities to meeting changing needs, such as parking, flooding, public safety, and pedestrian safety.

9. Presentation on Community Choice Aggregation.

Councilwoman Goddard introduced the topic. She said that Sustainable Westchester is a nonprofit member consortium, including the City of Rye. Westchester County is also a recent member. The board is made up of elected officials and advocates. Councilwoman Goddard introduced Bob Elliot Jasmine Graham of Sustainable Westchester to address the Council.

Mr. Elliot and Ms. Graham explained that Sustainable Westchester administers the Westchester power program. They are tasked with creating programs that help municipalities become more environmentally stable. The Community Choice Aggregation program helps enter the energy market in an easy way and supports increased renewable energy. The consortium structure allows those involved in the program to have a strong buying power, being able to set the criteria. Ms. Graham explained that there are two supply options: basic supply, and green supply. Both were at a low cost fixed rate. The rate generated is lower than the previous 12 month rate for Con Ed. Should the City adopt this program, residents would be educated on this as an option, with a 30-day window to opt out.

Councilwoman Goddard asked about the 30-day window. Ms. Graham explained that the window to opt out would be before an account is created, but even after 30 days, one could opt out with no penalty.

Mayor Cohn asked about the Con Ed rates in 2017 compared to an average year. There was discussion over the rates being set by a 12-month trailing average.

Ms. Graham said that there were 21 municipalities in the program. The City itself would need to go through a renewal process.

Councilwoman Tagger-Epstein asked how one would know that they were receiving green energy.

Ms. Graham responded that you while one cannot see what electricity is coming through the wires, the energy for those who opt for the green source must be “green certified.” For all green kilowatt hours of service, they are matched with wind power.

Ms. Graham explained that to join the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), the City must hold a public hearing and pass enabling legislation. There would be additional outreach by Westchester Power, the City would submit a package to the Public Service Commission, sign an electric service agreement, the opt out letters would be sent to residents, and residents would then be enrolled. Ms. Graham said that 15 of 21 municipalities in the program have gone “green.” There was general discussion about the different types of energy.

Councilwoman Tagger-Epstein discussed those unhappy with their Energy Service Company (ESCO), and how residents could potentially switch to afford themselves of this

program. Ms. Graham responded that those interested would be encouraged to contact their ESCO about termination, which is a relatively easy process.

Councilwoman Souza asked if the City could get period reports on progress of the program. Ms. Graham said that those periodic reports would be provided. She also said that if Rye had been a part of the program, residents would have saved an average of \$70/ year.

Councilwoman Hurd asked how a community could terminate the agreement if it was unhappy. Ms. Graham said that the program would be two years with an optional 8 month extension. Councilwoman Goddard then asked again for clarification on how the community could opt out. Ms. Graham responded that individual residents could opt out.

Councilwoman Souza asked if the storm issues last year get factored into the rates.

Mayor Cohn asked if other municipalities approached have declined to enter the program. Ms. Graham responded that no one has said no outright, but have delayed the process to move forward.

Dan Chorost, Sustainable Westchester, said this is an impressive program. Mamaroneck, Larchmont and New Rochelle have already signed on. He said this was a good opportunity to reach out to the community and engage in a dialogue.

Mayor Cohn asked when the City would have to act on this. Ms. Graham responded that there would need to be a public hearing in the next few meetings. She said she could also provide a draft local law.

10. Consider a request by Christ's Church for use of City streets on Sunday, September 16 2018 from 8:30 a.m. -12:30 a.m. for their semi-annual picnic.

Councilwoman Souza made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hurd and unanimously carried, to approve the request by Christ's Church for use of City streets on Sunday, September 16 2018 from 8:30 a.m. -12:30 a.m. for their semi-annual picnic.

- ~~11. Approval of the elected First Assistant Chief Dan Bochiechio and Second Assistant Chief Anthony Alba.~~
- ~~12. Consider a resolution to extend the timeline required for volunteer fire fighter Michael Billington, who was elected Fire Chief in April, to complete his remaining certification until January 2019.~~
13. Consider a resolution to accept a donation from Daniel and Camilla Lofrese in the amount of \$200.00 to the Rye Fire Department.

Councilwoman Souza made a motion, seconded by Councilman Mecca, to accept a donation from Daniel and Camilla Lofrese in the amount of \$200.00 to the Rye Fire Department.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Councilmembers Goddard, Hurd, Mecca, Souza, Tagger-Epstein, Mayor Cohn
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Councilmember Stacks

14. Consider a resolution for a Declaration of Official Intent to bond for capital projects being discussed by the City Council.

Mayor Cohn explained that this resolution would allow the City to recoup up-front costs from bond proceeds, such as the studies and consultants to start on a project on any funds that the City advances.

Councilman Mecca made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Tagger-Epstein to adopt the following resolution as described in the attached agenda for the City Council meeting of September 12, 2018:

RESOLUTION

Authorizing Declarations of Official Intent Under U.S. Treasury Regulations with Respect to Reimbursements from Note and Bond Proceeds of Temporary Advances Made for Payments Prior to Issuance, and Related Matters.

WHEREAS, United States Treasury Regulations §1.150-2 (the “Reimbursement Regulations”) prescribe conditions under which proceeds of bonds, notes or other obligations (“Bonds”) used to reimburse advances made for capital and certain other expenditures (“Original Expenditures”) paid before the issuance of such Bonds will be deemed to be expended (or properly allocated to expenditures) for purposes of Sections 103 and 141-150 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), upon such reimbursement so that the proceeds so used will no longer be subject to requirements or restrictions under those sections of the Code; and

WHEREAS, certain provisions of the Reimbursement Regulations require that there be a Declaration of Official Intent not later than 60 days following payment of the Original Expenditures expected to be reimbursed from proceeds of Bonds, and that the reimbursement occur within certain prescribed time periods after an Original Expenditure is paid or after the property resulting from that Original Expenditure is placed in service; and

WHEREAS, this City Council wishes to take steps to comply with the Reimbursement Regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Rye, a municipality of the State of New York (the “Borrower”) as follows:

Section 1. Definitions. The following definitions apply to the terms used herein:

“Authorized Officer” means the Director of Finance or any person designated for the purpose by the City Council of the Borrower.

“Declaration of Official Intent” means a declaration of intent, in the form, manner and time contemplated in the Reimbursement Regulations, that the advances for expenditures referred to therein are reasonably expected to be reimbursed from the proceeds of Bonds to be issued after those expenditures are paid.

“Reimbursement” or “reimburse” means the restoration to the Borrower of money temporarily advanced from its own funds and spent for Original Expenditures before the issuance of the Bonds, evidenced in writing by an allocation on the books and records of the Borrower that shows the use of the proceeds of the Bonds to restore the money advanced for the Original Expenditures.

“Reimbursement” or “reimburse” generally does not include the refunding or retiring of Bonds previously issued and sold to, or borrowings from, unrelated entities.

Section 2. Authorization and Requirement of Declarations of Official Intent.

Each Authorized Officer is authorized to prepare and sign Declarations of Official Intent in substantially the form attached with respect to Original Expenditures to which the Reimbursement Regulations apply, to be made from money temporarily advanced and that is reasonably expected to be reimbursed (in accordance with applicable authorizations, policies and practices) from the proceeds of Bonds, to make appropriate reimbursement and timely allocations from the proceeds of the Bonds to reimburse such Original Expenditures, and to take any other actions as may be appropriate, all at the times and in the manner required under the Reimbursement Regulations in order for the reimbursement to be treated as an expenditure of such proceeds for purposes of Sections 103 and 141 to 150 of the Code. No advance from any fund or account or order for payment may be made for Original Expenditures (other than expenditures excepted from such requirement under the Reimbursement Regulations) that are to be reimbursed subsequently from proceeds of Bonds unless a Declaration of Official Intent with respect thereto is made within the time required by the Reimbursement Regulations.

Section 3. Effectiveness.

This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption by a majority of the voting strength of the City Council of the Borrower.

**DECLARATION OF OFFICIAL INTENT
For Reimbursement of Expenditures from Bonds/Notes**

This is a Declaration of Official Intent under U.S. Treasury Regulations for purposes of Sections 103 and 141 to 150 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”).

1. The undersigned, on behalf of the City of Rye, a municipality of the State of New York (The “Borrower”) declares that the Borrower reasonably expects that the capital expenditures described in paragraph 2 (the “Project”) will be reimbursed with the proceeds of “bonds” (as defined in Section 150 of the Code). The maximum principal amount of bond to be issued is **\$12,360,000.**

2. Expenditures to be reimbursed are those appropriated from the Borrower's general fund for various capital projects to be financed by the Borrower under the Local Finance Law.

3. This Declaration of Official Intent will not be effective unless the bonds providing moneys for the reimbursement are issued and the reimbursement for the Project described above is made by an allocation on the books and records identifying the expenditures within 18 months after the later of the date of the expenditure or the date the Project is placed in service, but in no event later than three years after the date of the expenditure.

The undersigned has been authorized by the Borrower to make and sign this Declaration on behalf of the Borrower.

Date of Declaration: City of Rye, New York
September 12, 2018

By:

(Signature)
Director of Finance

ROLL CALL

AYES: Councilmembers Goddard, Hurd, Mecca, Souza, Tagger-Epstein, Mayor Cohn
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Councilmember Stacks

15. Consider a request by the Sole Ryeders & Friends and the Rye High School Breast Cancer Awareness Club to have a TieTheTownPink breast cancer awareness campaign in the City of Rye during the month of October, 2018.

Councilwoman Hurd made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Souza and unanimously carried, to approve the request by the Sole Ryeders & Friends and the Rye High School Breast Cancer Awareness Club to have a TieTheTownPink breast cancer awareness campaign in the City of Rye during the month of October, 2018.

16. Consider a request by the Rye Merchants Association to close a portion of Purchase Street on Sunday, November 25, 2018 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the Mistletoe Magic event.

Councilwoman Hurd made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Souza and unanimously carried, to approve the request by the Rye Merchants Association to close a portion of Purchase Street on Sunday, November 25, 2018 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the Mistletoe Magic event.

17. Consider a request by Christ's Church Nursery School for use of the City streets on Saturday October 20, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for their Touch a Truck/Vehicle Fair event.

Councilman Mecca made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Souza and unanimously carried, to approve the request by Christ's Church Nursery School for use of the City streets on Saturday October 20, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for their Touch a Truck/Vehicle Fair event.

18. Miscellaneous communications and reports

Councilwoman Tagger-Epstein announced that on September 24, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. there will be a film with a panel entitled "Swim Team," about the parents of a boy on the autism spectrum forming a competitive team. The program will be held in the Rye High School Performing Arts Center.

Councilwoman Hurd announced that Rye Town Park will be holding its Fall Festival on October 20, 2018. She encouraged those interested in the New York Rising grant projects to stay tuned, as there will be upcoming discussion about the final list of projects to approve. Lastly, she said that those interested in the Library's Novel Night, to be held November 3, 2018, to purchase tickets as soon as possible.

Councilman Mecca updated the Council and community on the Planning Commission. He said that Rye Presbyterian Church is trying to rework their parking lot. There will likely be changes to the traffic flow pattern in that lot. He also said that the Commission approved the new play structure at Resurrection Church several meetings ago. Councilman Mecca also said that the Landmarks Advisory Committee held a meeting on September 11, 2018 at which time they compiled a list of houses still standing that were built before the Civil War. There were 53 of them. The Committee is working on a concept for this information, to start to discuss the process of land marking certain locations.

Councilwoman Goddard announced that on behalf of the Sustainability Committee, there will be a Healthy Yard, Healthy Pets presentation held Tuesday, October 16, 2018 at 5:30 at the Pet Pantry Warehouse. She also said that the Edith Read Octoberfest will be held Saturday, October 13, 2018. Councilwoman Goddard then announced that Saturday, October 27, 2018 will be designated as National Drug Takeback Day, which will provide a safe location for the drop-off of prescription drugs. The location for drop-off will be the Police Station lobby. There will be more details to come. Lastly, Councilwoman Goddard said that the Rye City Lions Club has nominated Rye Sustainability Committee for the James A. and Marian M. Shea Community Service Award.

Mayor Cohn announced that the Westchester Board of Elections, Westchester Disabled On the Move and the Westchester Disabled Living Center are collaborating to increase the disability vote. Information is available on the City website. There are two parts of this

initiative: to register disabled voters by the October 12th deadline, and to hold a mock election workshop. This is intended to help the disabled vote on their own, and vote privately.

19. Old Business

There was nothing discussed under this agenda item.

20. New Business

There was nothing discussed under this agenda item.

21. Adjournment.

There being no further business to discuss, Councilman Mecca made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Tagger-Epstein and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn D'Andrea
City Clerk