

**BOROUGH OF WOODCLIFF LAKE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES
February 20, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER.

Notice of this meeting, in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Law, 1975, C. "231", has been posted and two newspapers, The Record and The Ridgewood News, have been notified.

ROLL CALL.

Mayor Goldsmith called for a roll. Council members Abene, Bader, Bae, Bloom, Gadaleta and Rosenblatt were present. Attorney Kaufman, Administrator Albrecht and Borough Clerk Sciara were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Julia Belgiovine who celebrated her 3rd birthday tonight.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

RESOLVED, that the Minutes of a Mayor and Council Meeting on February 11, 2013 copies of which have been received by all Councilperson, are hereby approved as presented.

ROLL CALL:

Introduce: Mr. Rosenblatt
Second: Mrs. Gadaleta
Ayes: Mrs. Abene, Mr. Bader, Mrs. Bae, Mrs. Gadaleta, Mr. Rosenblatt
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
Not eligible: Mr. Bloom

PRESENTATION OF SNOW SCULPTURE AWARD WINNERS

Mayor Goldsmith presented Certificates of Commendation to the 2013 Snow Sculpture Award winners.

The Belgiovine Sisters, Alyssa Alhadeff, The Calderone Family and Isabella and Juliana Dail were presented certificates for their sculptures. The Pascack Press had recently featured these snow sculpture winners on the front page of the paper.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Administration/Finance

Mrs. Abene reported that the Finance Department along with the Borough Administrator has met with several departments in regard to the 2013 budget. The remaining departments have meetings scheduled in the next few days to meet with the Finance Department and the Borough Administrator to discuss their individual 2013 budgets.

DPW & Roads/Sewers & Sanitation, Ecology

Mrs. Abene reported that the Finance Committee has solicited informal quotes as to what it would cost the Borough to outsource garbage pickup. Mrs. Abene stated that bids and specs should be received soon and a spreadsheet will be created to compare the options.

Parks & Recreation

Mr. Bloom reported that the Park and Recreation Committee met on February 7, 2013 along with most of the Sports Team League Commissioners. The main topic was the coach's request to obtain more information on background checks for coaches. Jay Esposito will report on his findings at the next Park and Recreation Committee Meeting.

Mr. Bader reported that there has been outside discussion as to the change in the tennis program. Mr. Bader stated that he received many calls in regard to this change and there is a petition being circulated to maintain the current program and director. Mr. Bader asked that if in the future there is going to be discussions on changes to programs, etc., all councilmembers should be informed of the pending change beforehand. Mr. Bader continued that this change should have been discussed during the January Committee Reports. Mr. Bader stated that he did not want to create a problem where none exists. He would have liked to have known of this change beforehand. He hopes that all committees will report changes to be sure the public perceives the Mayor and Council of being open and transparent.

Administrator Albrecht apologized for not speaking to Mrs. Gadaleta and Mr. Bloom before this meeting. Administration and Park and Recreation are seeking to establish an all sports type of recreation program. This program will build upon the strength and successes of the program already established by Mr. Howley. Jay Esposito will present a comprehensive recreation program to the Pool and Tennis Committee. After presentation to the Mayor and Council, will go solicit bids for vendors to provide these new and exciting services to all members of the community.

Mr. Rosenblatt stated that the decision to revamp the tennis program was made in 2012. New council members Bloom and Gadaleta had no vote on this decision.

Public Safety/Police/OEM/TriBoro

Mr. Rosenblatt reported that a police officer will but out for several months due to an injury sustained during the last storm.

Buildings & Grounds/Building Dept.

Construction Code Official Nick Saluzzi is still recouping from recent surgery and is expected back in the office in the beginning of March.

Board of Health, Mental Health & Welfare

Due to the lack of quorum, the Board of Health meeting scheduled for February was cancelled.

Education (elementary)

Mrs. Bae reported that the school schedule for 2013-2014 is being discussed. September 9th 2013 is the tentative date schools will be reopened after summer vacation

Superintendent Lauren Barbalet will attend the March 4, 2013 Mayor and Council meeting to discuss happenings at the elementary school in more detail.

Mrs. Bae thanked the Technology Committee, Matt Berry and Brian Boffa for their continued hard work on this committee. The website will see improvements over the next month, Mr. Berry's Facebook page continues to gain support, and the meetings are being videotaped. Mrs. Abene's goal is to be entirely paperless by the March 18, 2013 meeting.

Education (high)

Mrs. Gadaleta reported that the Park and Recreation have been working with the Chief of Police to hold classes at the Tice Center to educate girls/women in the art of self-defense.

Mrs. Gadaleta is very excited about the happenings at the high school. Mrs. Gadaleta was introduced to Pascack Coalition liaisons of Hillsdale and Montvale. Eric Gunderson, superintendent of schools has been invited to speak at the Mayor and Council March 18, 2013 meeting to update all on safety procedures currently being worked on at the district. Officer James Foley had suggested hands-on programs such as wearing goggles to feel what it would be like to drive while impaired. Administrator Albrecht suggest that the Pascack Valley Coalition attend one of the Borough's town meetings.

Public Information, Newsletters, Ordinances

Mrs. Bae reported that the first call for submissions to the newsletter was sent to all departments. The newsletter is slated to be mailed to all residents the first week of April. Deadline for all submissions is March 8, 2013.

Several ordinances were given to all council members at the last meeting. Changes/comments were to be given to the administrator or the borough attorney before the March 4, 2013 meeting. The ordinances will be discussed at this meeting.

Fire – Volunteer/Fire Prevention

Mr. Rosenblatt stated that the Borough is very proud of our volunteer fire department. There was recently a fire at Sunrise Assisted Living. They thanked the department for their quick and professional response.

Chief Shapiro will be invited to attend the March 4, 2013 meeting to discuss several ordinances

he would like the Mayor and Council to introduce.

Library

Mr. Bloom stated that he has met with representatives from the Hillsdale library to discuss options for Woodcliff Lake resident memberships. Mr. Bloom hopes to hear back from the Hillsdale representatives to report back to the Mayor and Council by the next committee report.

Senior Citizens' Program

Mrs. Abene stated that she and Mrs. Gadaleta visited the Senior Center to see if there was anything the Mayor and Council could do for the senior programs. Mrs. Abene stated that after seeing the senior's calendar, it was her and Mrs. Gadaleta opinion that Mrs. Clark and the senior's have already thought of everything. The senior program offers cooking lesson, yoga, line dancing, computers, trips, bridge etc. The Senior Citizen members have been invited to attend a performance of the Beauty and the Beast being performed at the Middle School. Councilwoman's Gadaleta daughter has a starring role.

OLD BUSINESS

Road Repaving cost estimates

Engineer Joe Vuich and Heidi Cohen from Neglia Engineering introduced themselves to the Mayor and Council. A power point presentation was given.

The Borough engineers, along with the administrator and acting DPW superintendent went through all road complaints to put together a list of all known potholes and problem roads. Roads were listed in priority order. Mr. Vuich stated that this program is not only about resurfacing roadways, it is about improving the infrastructure of the municipality. The 2013 road program is double that of 2012. However, the roads in Woodcliff Lake can no longer just be patched and spot paved.

West Hill Road will tie in with the 2012 road repaving program. Pictures of existing conditions on West Hill Road, Clair Circle and Fairview Avenue shows alligator cracking and horizontal runs in the roadway created by freeze/thaw conditions and a nightmare situation for the DPW. Pictures on Maria Road show gutter work, utility lay-ins, and repetitive wear down the middle of the roadway.

Overall, the curbing in Woodcliff Lake is not in good condition, with crumbling curbs such as on Amy Court. Issues of curb repairs will be coordinated with homeowners to ascertain whether there is an intention to repair.

Inlet problems exist throughout the Borough as located on Shield Drive, Sophie Court, Fairview Avenue and Claire Circle. The inlet on Shield Drive can be reset; the inlet on Sophie Court is undermined and signals that the manhole has structural problems. This manhole will be reconstructed and the rim and correct drainage slope would be fixed. Bicycle safety grates will help create compliance with NJ requirements.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that during the RFQ interviewing process, Neglia Engineering

understood the needs of Woodcliff Lake. The Mayor stated that that realtors and residents have remarked about road conditions within the Borough. Mayor Goldsmith thanked Neglia Engineers for their presentation and meeting attendance. "We can't keep patching". The Borough of Woodcliff Lake shares the patching equipment with the Borough of Montvale. Therefore our DPW must adhere to a sharing schedule and does not always have access to the machine.

Mr. Rosenblatt asked what the work schedule would be. Administrator Albrecht stated that we need to have cost estimates back to the coop by the end of February or at least a commitment to a dollar amount so the coop will be able to go out to bid in the latter part of March. The work is anticipated to start in May based on the communities that are ready to begin work. Our proposed roadwork is not located near any schools that would hold up work. Woodcliff Lake should be one of the first communities to be paved and be complete by the summer.

Administrator Albrecht stated that the roads identified were for very specific reasons. There was no influence from officials or residents. All streets will be rehabbed in a very deliberate and calculated process. The last road repaving project of any significance was done 15-18 years ago.

Mr. Bader stated that he has no problem with the list. However, last year when this same discussion came up it was stated that the last street on the list (Hunter Ridge) would be the first street to be paved on the new list. Acting DPW Superintendent Antoine stated that subsequent to last year's list, several other roads became more deteriorated than Hunter Ridge. Mr. Bader asked if Woodcliff Lake were still cooperating with the Pascack Valley Coop. Mr. Vuich stated that we were. Mr. Bader stated that what is worrisome to him is the price of fuel. The cost of road repair is a direct correlation to fuel costs. Mr. Bader understands that this is a necessary project and is in total agreement. However, he would like assurance that the cost estimates presented are floated with the price of gas. Mr. Vuich stated that the numbers are correlated to the gas prices Mr. Bader stated that he did not see a cost for the engineer services. He asked if this charge is through the coop or is it a separate fee.

Administrator Albrecht stated that just like in previous years, we have asked our borough engineer to come in with a cost estimate based on the roads identified. The Council will make the decision for the dollar amount. The coop allows for the sitting engineer to take charge of the bidding process. We have gone by alphabetical order. The fee is \$500.00 per town. Mr. Bader clarified that the town itself would not pay more than \$500.00. Administrator Albrecht added that the construction and inspection services are the responsibility of each community. There is a fee schedule in place for these services.

Mr. Bader is 100% for the road repaving program. It is absolutely necessary. Over the past years, we were increasing in 2012-2011-2010; we have always tried to get \$200,000 a year into it. What is really concerning him is that the budget is not finalized yet, we do know what the budget is going to be in 2013. Whether we bond, borrow, either way it will be coming out of the coffers of the taxpayer. He is concerned that 2013 will be a very tough year and that we do not have to make a decision tonight until we have an indication where our budget will be within caps and all that stuff. And then we can move forward. He agrees that we should go ahead with the DOT portion of the program. Mr. Bader's conscious will not allow him to vote on a million

dollars until the Finance Committee gives a financial report.

Administrator Albrecht stated that history has taught us that we should keep the road program separate and apart from the budget. This enables to move ahead with the participation in the coop. Mr. Bader stated that we can gamble and make a million dollar decision tonight. He however, would like to know how much money we have available. Who in business would take an extra shot? The Finance Committee is going to dictate to the Council how much money is available.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that our ability to borrow is 3% of the assessed value. The big challenge brought to our attention by bond counsel, auditor, CFO is that the 800 pound gorilla in the room is the 85 acres owned by BMW. Until that is settled, we do not know what our capability to borrow is. Last year we retired one million dollars in bonds, principal and interest. In 2013 we will be doing the same which represents about 9% of our budget to retired debt. In two years, we will have eliminated 1/3 of our debt. We have to take care of our infrastructure. We are here to make operating budget decisions along with capital decisions. We have been getting complaints from prospective residents about our roads.

Mr. Rosenblatt asked if delaying this vote tonight work toward the detriment to Woodcliff Lake in scheduling within the coop. Administrator Albrecht stated that it would. If we do not commit to a dollar amount, we could stall the coop by two weeks. Attorney Kaufman added that the vote tonight is to take the next step forward. This is an estimate, not a bid. There are many steps that must be taken in order to pass any plan. "It is not irrevocable by any stretch of the imagination". Attorney Kaufman stated that the Borough is not committed to the streets that are currently being discussed. If there is a priority list, if funding should be less than expected, streets can be eliminated from the bottom up in order to stay within the original dollar amount in mind.

Our prior Borough Engineer was asked to prepare a road repaving program for the Borough. The former Engineer stated that he would assess the streets in the summer, using interns to keep down the cost. For whatever reason, this report was never received.

Mr. Bader has seen this happen many times over the past. Once things get going, they get going. If we don't get it done today, we will miss this and that. I am giving my advice and concerns. This Council will vote. Bond Ordinance costs money to prepare the Ordinance; we are going to do this again in a couple of month for capital improvements. Administrator Albrecht stated that if we "married" the two bond ordinance, the Borough would not be able to commit to the coop until May.

Mayor Goldsmith stated to get the ball rolling. The CFO, the auditor, the engineer and the acting DPW superintendent will be invited to the March 4, 2013 meeting to take us through the numbers. "Haste makes waste". Some of us have thought about this for a long period of time, some of us have just gotten the information. The Mayor wants to start the process, not a number.

Motion for (1) the Borough Engineer, Acting DPW Superintendent and the Borough Administrator to come to a consensus between the three of them as to the order of priority for streets to be paved; (2) the bond ordinance can be drafted with the roads and amounts listed in

priority order; (3) the Borough Auditor and the CFO will be at the March 4, 2013 meeting to give their analysis and professional opinions as to what the Borough can afford to bond; and (4) the bond ordinance can be amended before the final adoption if the Mayor and Council feel that a smaller amount of funding is necessary was made by Mrs. Abene, second by Mr. Bloom.

Mr. Bader asked if the auditor could have a preliminary budget document drafted by the March 4, 2013 meeting. Mrs. Abene stated that this is a tight window but it may be possible. Attorney Kaufman added that the auditor does not have to have the budget document, just an analysis for the next meeting.

ROLL CALL:

Introduce: Mrs. Abene
Second: Mr. Bloom
Ayes: Mrs. Gadaleta, Mr. Rosenblatt, Mr. Bader, Mrs. Bae, Mr. Bloom, Mrs. Abene
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Wolfgang Albrecht thanked everyone for ranking goals and objectives and Mrs. Bae for the 2013 Goal and Objectives

The following are the Goals and Objectives identified by the Mayor and Council. They were rated by each council member as to priority. Administrator Albrecht will identify the goals and objectives into three groups, High, Medium and Low priority. Mayor Goldsmith will assign the newly prioritized goals and objectives to council members.

- 1 Achieve Sustainable NJ Status to avail ourselves to grants
- 2 Determine serious uses for Lydecker House
- 3 Have paperless meetings fully functional within the next four meetings
- 4 Continue the goal of reducing Borough expenditures to only essential services
- 5 Continue the goal of shared services for all departments
- 6 Continue the goal for fair high school funding formula
- 7 Guide the technology team in redesigning and streamlining the WCL website page
- 8 Explore and direct approved plan to distribute two to four WCL newsletters to all residents
- 9 Identify and approve purchase plan to replace current system servers at borough and police
- 10 Review all fire equipment

- 11 Review and possible acquisition of flat-bottom boat needed for water rescue
- 12 Supply town seniors with battery operated flashlights
- 13 Increase volunteer membership by presenting programs and possible "Open House" at FD
- 14 Increase pool revenue without raising resident membership costs
- 15 Utilize pool area for more town wide events, i.e., teen nights (DJ and dancing) or Theme nights for adults and families
- 16 Revamp the tennis program for increased participation in tennis classes and overall usage of the courts
- 18 Increase Adult Programs at the Tice Center, i.e., self defense classes for moms and daughters
- 19 Involve Seniors in more town-wide activities, i.e. invitations to MS productions (free admission & snacks)
- 20 Initiate additional classes at the Tice/Senior Center - ex. Self defense, cooking, computers
- 21 Coordinate municipal property with the DPW for a beautification program
- 22 Review the "Lunch and Learn" program with the PHHS administration and Board of Ed
- 23 Review the current PHHS safety procedures and plan for enhance security
- 24 "Become an informed member of the PV Coalition and inform the Council on current activities and how to incorporate "safe houses" in WCL
- 25 Negotiate a contract with the PBA, Captain and Chief of Police that is fair and equitable
- 26 Promote a spirit of team work that every member of the council works together in harmony to do what is best for the residents of Woodcliff Lake
- 27 Reduce library fees for seniors
- 28 Reduce fee for families with young children (non-elementary school ages)
- 29 Investigate if arrangement can be made to join with another library to provide full membership use of BCCLS

- 30 Extend hours for summer camp

Motion to accept the 2013 goals and objectives as presented was made by Mr. Rosenblatt, second by Mr. Bader.

ROLL CALL:

Introduce: Mr. Rosenblatt

Second: Mr. Bader

Ayes: Mrs. Abene, Mrs. Bae, Mr. Bloom, Mrs. Gadaleta, Mrs. Abene, Mr. Rosenblatt

Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent; None

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor stated that he did not have a written report for this meeting. The Mayor thanked the Pascack Press for putting Woodcliff Lake on the front page of their newspaper for the snow sculpture event.

Mayor Goldsmith reported on an article recently in The Record on the declining number of school children moving into NJ towns. The article stated that Woodcliff Lake's enrollment is down to 280 students from 400.

The magazine Best of Bergen 201 rated four (4) Woodcliff Lake establishments as being the best in 2013. The Tice Mall was recognized as the number one (1) shopping center.

The Mayor continued that he would like to expand on the relationship between the Borough of Woodcliff Lake and our corporate neighbors. He would like to greet new corporate residents to our municipality on a continuing basis and integrate them into the municipal environment as soon as possible.

Mr. Rosenblatt added that he attended the Pascack Valley Mayor's meeting last month in the place of the Mayor. He stated that the organization is very non-partisan. The mayors who attended this meeting commented that all municipalities are facing the same issues. The Mayor's Association is a wonderful forum for mayors in the Pascack Valley and beyond to "chat" honestly and openly with their peers.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that there would be new business that was not included on the agenda. The Mayor stated that Borough Attorney would advise.

PUBLIC FORUM

Motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Rosenblatt, second by Mrs. Abene, and approved unanimously by voice call vote.

Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Rosenblatt, second by Mr. Bloom and approved unanimously by voice call vote.

Borough Attorney Kaufman stated that there would be new business after the Consent Agenda vote. This will allow the press and residents to leave the council chambers. The topic of the closed session is to discuss a personnel matter involving the Borough Clerk and the Mayor.

Mr. Bader asked if there were any RICE requirement needed. Attorney Kaufman stated there was no Rice notice requirement necessary. Borough Attorney Kaufman stated he did not think there would be any action taken.

CONSENT AGENDA DISCUSSION.

None

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE.

ROLL CALL:

Introduce: Mr. Bader
Second: Mr. Bloom
Ayes: Mrs. Bae, Mrs. Gadaleta, Mr. Rosenblatt, Mrs. Abene, Mr. Bloom, Mr. Bader
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Resolution to Authorize Entering into Executive Closed Session

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;
and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body wishes to discuss: a personnel matter between the Borough Clerk and the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, this session is anticipated to last approximately five (5) minutes; and

WHEREAS, these Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the aforementioned no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the public be excluded from this portion of the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Introduce: Mrs. Abene
Second: Mrs. Bae
Ayes: Mr. Bloom, Mrs. Gadaleta, Mr. Rosenblatt, Mr. Bader, Mrs. Bae, Mrs. Abene
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Borough Attorney Kaufman asked Administrator Albrecht to tape the minutes of the closed session.

The Borough Clerk and the Mayor were asked to leave council chambers by the Borough

Attorney. Mr. Bader stated that the taping of closed session was never done before. Borough Attorney Kaufman stated that he was made aware of this fact.

ADJOURNMENT

The Borough Clerk was not in council chambers to take a motion or second on the adjournment of the meeting. The time the Borough Clerk was dismissed from Council Chambers was 9:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorinda D. Sciara, RMC/CMC
Borough Clerk