**BOROUGH OF WOODCLIFF LAKE**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL MINUTES**

**January 16, 2013**

**8:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**.

Notice of this meeting, in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Law, l975, C. "23l", has been posted and two newspapers, The Record and The Ridgewood News, have been notified.

**ROLL CALL**.

Mayor Jeffrey R, Goldsmith asked for a roll call. Council members Abene, Bader, Bae, Bloom and Gadaleta were present. Councilman Rosenblatt was absent. Attorney Kaufman, Administrator Albrecht were also present. Borough Clerk Sciara was on a pre-approved vacation. Deputy Debbie Dakin was present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilwoman Jacqueline Gadaleta

**ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS:**

**Position Firm Designee\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Risk Manager Sterling & Sterling, Inc. Brian K. Golick

Mr. Bader stated that he was taken aback at this appointment as he has never heard of the firm of Sterling and Sterling. Mr. Bader commented that he has tried his best to keep an open mind as to why there is even a need to change risk managers. As of this afternoon, Mr. Bader could not find any municipalities who have appointed Sterling and Sterling as their risk mangers. A comment from the dais was made that after tonight, Woodcliff Lake and Closter will be municipal clients. Mr. Bader stated that he would like to defer to the committee as to their reasoning behind the change. Councilman Rosenblatt and Borough Clerk Sciara had both lobbied for Burton Agency, who has been our risk manager for over 10 years. Harvey Young was the risk manager for a one or two year period over the last 15 years also. Mr. Bader continued that the Borough has had many lawsuits over the last ten years and Burton Agency has handled had served the Borough well during these lawsuits. Mr. Bader stated that “we are doing a horrible disservice to our municipality by changing risk managers at this time”.

Mr. Bader continued that appointing a risk manager that is basically a “newbie” in the municipal arena is putting us at risk. “Why are we going outside the box?” Mr. Bader added that Sterling and Sterling seemed to excel in personnel, human resources and health benefits etc. but not risk manager functions. If the Borough wants to hire a firm that specializes in the aforementioned, we should hire them as consultants. He does not feel that Sterling and Sterling have qualifications or the experience as risk managers.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that the risk manager receives a fixed 6%. Mr. Golick and Sterling and Sterling will bring a host of other services to the Borough. Mr. Bader stated that if this company is more qualified in different aspects, hire them as consultants. Knowledge of the players in the system is invaluable. Everyone one of the new council members know that for the first time there is no pending litigation against the Borough.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that the JIF runs itself. Sterling and Sterling can offer a suite of other services that the incumbent could not provide. Mr. Bader reiterated that if we wanted to give Sterling and Sterling other services, he thinks this is a potential tragic mistake.

Mayor Goldsmith met with Ms. Ginetto from Burton Agency and Mr. Geisenheimer. He did not meet with Sterling and Sterling. Mayor Goldsmith was impressed with the amount of time Mr. Bloom put into this appointment and values his opinion.

**RESOLVED,** that this appointments is hereby confirmed and approved at the same rate as 2012 for a term ending December 31, 2013.

**ROLL CALL:**

Introduce: Mrs. Abene

Second: Mrs. Gadaleta

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

Nays: Mr. Bader

Abstain: Mrs. Bae

Absent: Mr. Rosenblatt

**MAYORAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT – (no Council confirmation needed):**

**(MAYOR)** I appoint Mark Seigler to the Advisory Committee to the Mayor for a term of one (1) year, ending December 31, 2013.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes of a Special Mayor and Council Meeting on January 7, 2013, copies of which have been received by all Councilperson, are hereby approved as presented. (former council)

**ROLL CALL:**

Introduce: Mrs. Bae

Second: Mrs. Abene

Ayes: Mrs. Abene, Mrs. Bae

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Not eligible: Mr. Bader

Absent: Mr. Rosenblatt

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes of the **meeting of a closed session meeting of the Mayor and Council on January 7, 2013** copies of which have been received by all Councilpersons, are hereby approved as presented but not yet ready for release to the public.

(former council)

**ROLL CALL:**

Introduce: Mrs. Bae

Second: Mrs. Abene

Ayes: Mrs. Abene, Mrs. Bae

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Not eligible: Mr. Bader

Absent: Mr. Rosenblatt

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes of the Sine Die Mayor and Council on January 7, 2013 copies of which have been received by all Councilpersons, are hereby approved as presented. (former council)

**ROLL CALL:**

Introduce: Mrs. Bae

Second: Mrs. Abene

Ayes: Mrs. Abene, Mrs. Bae

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Not eligible: Mr. Bader

Absent: Mr. Rosenblatt

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes of the 2013 Reorganization Meeting of the Mayor and on January 7, 2013, copies of which have been received by all Councilpersons, are hereby approved as presented.

**ROLL CALL:**  
Introduce: Mrs. Gadaleta

Second: Mrs. Abene

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Not eligible: Mr. Bader

Absent: Mr. Rosenblatt

**ENGINEERS REPORT.**

There has been a transition of a new engineer this year. Mr. Neglia made himself available the day after his appointment to attend a pre-scheduled meeting up at Chestnut Ridge Road to speak with residents over their concerns in regard to the County construction. Mr. Neglia met last week with internal staff and will meet again this week to meet with the administrator and Councilwoman Abene to speak about projects and upcoming

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

**Administration/Finance**

Mrs. Abene stated that there are folders in front of each councilmember at their seat on the dais. Purchase orders will no longer be sent home. They are to be reviewed, signed and left at Borough Hall with the administrator or the clerk. This will streamline the bill paying process.

Mrs. Abene stated that there is a budget advisory committee. The committee members have asked to be assigned to a major department with a back-up. Mrs. Higgins hopes to head up DPW. Meetings are being scheduled with all department heads.

Mr. Bader asked in light of the advisory committee assignments, what will be the council liaisons role? The by-laws clearly state what council liaisons roles are as far as committee assignments. Mayor Goldsmith believes that a resident’s perspective can help with this difficult budget. He feels the committee can help find a 10% surplus that can be cut if the budget is looked over with “a fine tooth comb”. Mr. Bader stated either follow the by-law or change the by-laws. Responsibility by law is the collective Mayor and Council. Mr. Bader stated that all expenditures be approved during this temporary budget period. This week’s bill list contains thousands of dollars owed to Staples, hundreds of dollars in donuts.

Attorney Kaufman stated that the by-laws should be updated. This is not a major undertaking. For future Reorganization meetings, the by-laws should be included in the packet. The adoption of by-laws is always Consent Agenda #3 on the Reorganization Consent Agenda.

**DPW & Roads/Sewers & Sanitation,** **Ecology**

Mrs. Abene stopped at the DPW today to compliment them on the wonderful job they are doing on the roads.

**Parks & Recreation**

Mr. Bloom stated that this evening he and Mrs. Gadaleta met with Jay Esposito to discuss expenditures and revenues. They also listed priorities for 2013...

Mrs. Gadaleta added that the next meeting of the Park and Recreation Committee is February 7. Hopefully all sports commissioners will be able to attend. They are discussing pool improvements and how to make this a top ten pool

**Public Safety/Police/OEM/TriBoro**

No report

**Buildings & Grounds/Building Dept.**

Administrator Albrecht stated that an integral member of the Building Department is undergoing a medical procedure. Administrator Albrecht asked all take a moment to wish this employee a speedy recovery after the surgery. Mayor Goldsmith stated that this employee was working on Saturday and Monday before his surgery to be sure the office is properly covered.

**Board of Health, Mental** **Health & Welfare**

A meeting of the Board of Health meeting was held last night. Elaine Metlitz was elected president, **John** Fry vice president, Kathy Rizza, secretary, Registrar is Lori Sciara, Deputy Registrar is Debbie Dakin.

Dr. Gerhard Haas is retiring from the Board of Health after 30 years. There will be a small retirement party in his honor at Borough Hall.

**Education (elementary)**

Mrs. Bae reported that the K-8 school is continuing their 9th grade intercession. It is an after school program and was initially funded by the school under Peter Lisi’s guidance. The staff is prepping for the Martin Luther King professional day.

**Education (high)**

Mrs. Gadaleta had the privilege of meeting the principal up at Hills during their orientation. Mrs. Gadaleta reached out to Councilwoman Cudequist of Montvale to speak with her about the unarmed security being placed at the high school.

The next meeting of the Hills/Valley Coalition will be held on February 4, 2013.

**Public Information, Newsletters, Ordinances**

The spring edition of My Woodcliff Lake will begin soon as per Borough Clerk Sciara.

Noise Ordinance and Fire Ordinances are being researched. Mr. Bader wants to see a bullet proof of changes, or working draft, of any ordinances before they go to attorney for final. Attorney Kaufman recommended that the Mayor and Council must submit a group consensus as far as ordinance content. Prior to ordinances going to the attorney, they should be distributed internally to the departments that could be affected.

Mr. Bader asked if there is a temporary covering official for Nick Saluzzi. Mr. Bader stated that Debbie Dakin is the perfect person to cover until someone is hired temporarily. The administrator does not want to burden Ms. Dakin with more responsibility. She will assist in the hiring of temporary coverage.

Mr. Bader was told that in 2013, Mr. Saluzzi stated that he did not want to continue with the property maintenance portion of his job. Mayor Goldsmith stated however that he would continue under Councilman Rosenblatt’s tutelage. Mr. Bader stated that it sounds as if Mr. Saluzzi did not want to

Continue under Councilman Bader. Mayor Goldsmith stated that he did not say that so he could not retract the comment.

**Library**

Library Committee will be meeting with the president of the Hillsdale library during the next few weeks. After the meeting, the committee will report back to the Council

**Volunteer Fire Department/ Fire Prevention**

Mrs. Gadaleta and Mr. Bader have an appointment with Chief Shapiro tomorrow at 8:00 a.m. It was reported in the paper that 15 of our firefighters attended classes to learn swift water rescue techniques. These water situations ranged from evacuation of residents from flooded areas and rescuing residents from vehicles in water.

**Senior Citizens' Program**

Mrs. Abene reported that on Thursday January 17, 2013 there will be a Chinese luncheon and also a cake to honor outgoing Councilman John Glaser.

**NEW BUSINESS.**

**Change of polling place – Dorchester Gymnasium to Tice Senior/Community Center**

Deputy Clerk Debbie Dakin informed the Council that the Borough Clerk is in correspondence with the County to arrange a site visitation for the possible move of voting districts to the Tice/Senior Community Center.

Hurricane Sandy forced the Borough to move elections to the Tice/Senior Community Center. Superintendent Barbalet of Woodcliff Lake Schools is in agreement especially due to safety for the children.

Mrs. Abene stated that movement of the voters needs to be addressed. All felt that this was a special circumstance. The configuration of the Tice Senior/Community Center will be set-up the same as it was at Dorchester.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

There was no formal report prepared. However, Mayor Goldsmith stated that he had signed a Mayor’s Against Illegal Guns. He hopes that we do not use the terms partisan or bi-partisan. We are here for the residents.

Mayor Goldsmith and Council President Rosenblatt have discussed 2013 goals and objectives. What are the goals and objectives of each standing committee? The Mayor wants to hear from each committee by the next meeting what are the 2-3 critical few objectives that the committee wants to be accomplished. Mayor Goldsmith wants to see schedules in advance.

Councilman Bloom wants to see if we can begin a children’s program, and try to reduce library membership for seniors.

Mayor Goldsmith wants to inventory the fire equipment in neighboring municipalities to try and ascertain what equipment is available for possible use.

Former DPW Superintendent commented to Mayor Goldsmith that the Borough sold a fire truck 5 years ago for $50,000 to White Plains that is still in use today.

The Borough is looking to reach the residents 6x per year vs. only two large newsletter per year.

Security in our school system is paramount. 74 new kindergarten children have registered. This is a low number. Since the annual school budget was moved to November, as long as the school district stays below the 2% cap, they do not have to go to the voters for approvals. Schools must share the same cost saving measures as the Borough.

All generators in Woodcliff Lake have to be replaced in the Borough. Capital improvements to the Borough Hall will be done. There are too many closed doors in Borough Hall.

PBA contract will expire this year. This is paramount to the Borough.

Adult programming will be implanted this year in the Park and Rec Program.

How much does it cost to pick –up garbage and recycling? Can we save funds? The Borough is looking at all cost savings possibilities.

For the last 5 – 8 years, our road repaving program has been lacking. Infrastructure is a major goal. Communication with our utility companies will be done well in advance so road openings/repaving can be coordinated. Hillsdale is holding up the project on the dam. Since then, the Borough has had serious discussions with United Water about burying all utility lines that come across the dam that was not thought of previously.

The Mayor wants lively discussion. The residents want diverse discussions, not dysfunction. “Last year’s history has nothing to do with going forward. Last year set the direction, this year sets the dream.”

**PUBLIC FORUM**

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

**Mayor Josephine Higgins, 10 Pond Road, Woodcliff Lake** stated that in regard to moving the elections to the Tice Community Center, she agrees whole heartedly. Because of the storm, the living room and dining areas of the Tice Center had to be available to residents. This was an extraordinary event and future elections will not have as many residents milling about. Mayor Higgins commented that is much

easier to control our own building.

Hearing no comment from the public, motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Mr. Bader, second by Mrs. Gadaleta and approved unanimously by voice call vote.

**CONSENT AGENDA VOTE.**

Motion to pull check for the reprinting of the ballots for the 2013 general election for further investigation made by Mrs. Abene, second by Mr. Bader.

Mrs. Abene has never seen a reprinted ballot. Councilman Bloom stated that his son voted by absentee ballot and he never received a new ballot. There has been no proof that new ballots , either absentee or sample ballots were ever mailed out.

Motion to approve the consent agenda as amended was made by Mr. Bader, second by Mrs. Abene.

**ROLL CALL:**  
Introduce: Mr. Bader

Second: Mrs. Abene

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent; Mr. Rosenblatt

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bader, second by Mr. Bloom and approved unanimously by voice call vote. The time is 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lori Sciara, RMC/CMC

Borough Clerk

**CLAIMS AND BILLS**.

**Authority to Pay Claims**. **(Consent Agenda - 1)**

**RESOLVED,** that the following current claims against the Borough for materials and services have been considered and are proper and hereby are approved for payment:

Current Fund: $ 1,090,612.02

Capital Fund: $ 19,250.00

Animal Fund $ 725.00

**Payroll**  **(Consent Agenda-2)**

**RESOLVED,** that the following Payroll Disbursements made by the Treasurer since the last meeting are proper and hereby ratified and approved:

Payroll released $183,476.07

**Resolution Authorizing Bingo License for the Woodcliff Lake Educational Foundation (Consent Agenda – 3)**

**WHEREAS,** application has been made by the Woodcliff Lake Education Foundation for one (1) bingo license on February 8, 2013 to be held at the Woodcliff Lake Middle School, 100 Dorchester Avenue, Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677; and

**WHEREAS**, said application has been submitted to the Woodcliff Lake Police Department for investigation and have been found to be in good order;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the application of the Woodcliff Lake Education Foundation is approved and the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized to issue Raffle License(s) No. R012-422.

**Resolution Authorizing Execution of Contract with the Bergen County Department of Health Services/Blood borne Pathogen Compliance Program 2013 (Consent Agenda -4)**

**WHEREAS,** the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Woodcliff Lake wishes to enter into a contract with the Bergen County Department of Health Services, 327 E. Ridgewood Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey 07652 to provide the mandated health services of a technical and professional nature for the Blood borne Pathogen Compliance Program; and

**WHEREAS,** the 2013 Shared Service Agreement reflects a $15,392.40 savings over last year’s contract cost; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Woodcliff Lake that the professional service agreement for these services is hereby approved.

**Resolution Authorizing Execution of Contract with Tyco Animal Control Services**

**(Consent Agenda 5)**

**WHEREAS,** the Board of Health of the Borough of Woodcliff Lake has received a proposal from Tyco Animal Control Service, 1 Stout Lane, Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey**.**

**WHEREAS,** said proposal has been reviewed and approved by the Board of Health; and

**WHEREAS,** the Board of Health recommends that this contract with Tyco Animal Control Service based upon prior services provided; and

**WHEREAS,** it is the intention of the Mayor and Council to provide funds in the year 2013 Budget for this contract, other Expenses Portion of the Animal Control Services Budget; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Woodcliff Lake that the contract for Animal Control Services for 2013 be and is hereby awarded to Tyco Animal Control Service, 12 Stout Lane, Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ pursuant to the terms and conditions and rates as outlined in the attached contract effective January 1, 2013, copy of which is attached to this resolution for the base amount of $8,700.00 annually payable monthly with additional costs charged per the rates as outlined in the attached proposal.