

From: Mayor
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 10:55 AM
To: robertbergesq@aol.com; Steve Pappalardo
Subject: Re: Not so limited agenda meeting

Dear Mr. Berg -- The Tuesday meeting was public as all our meetings are. The agenda was limited and was completed as noticed. It is unusual for residents to attend the summer 8:30 am meetings although a few residents did so in July, but a somewhat larger number attended yesterday. Since the residents were present and had taken time out of their schedules to be there, rather than simply dismiss them, I invited their comments and discussion ensued. That was not planned, considered or anticipated, but was done as a courtesy to those residents who took the trouble to be present and in the interest in not having them feel they had wasted their time in appearing.

Very truly yours, Jon Mark

From: robertbergesq@aol.com <robertbergesq@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 12:22 AM
To: Mayor; Steve Pappalardo
Subject: Not so limited agenda meeting

Dear Mayor and Village Manager,

I understand that today's "limited agenda" meeting was not so limited. The official agenda published on the Village website suggested that this morning's meeting would not address any substantive issues and would last about 10 minutes or so. Imagine my surprise then when I learned that following the conclusion of the "official" business -- which lasted no more than a couple of minutes -- you and the Trustees spent I'm told about 90 minutes addressing the Ryan revaluation. As you obviously know, the Ryan revaluation is this year's big issue for Scarsdale residents and when such a meeting is properly publicized, Rutherford Hall overflows with residents. Yet, this topic was not on this morning's agenda. This morning's meeting was not televised. No press were in attendance -- because like everyone else, they didn't know you'd be addressing the Ryan revaluation.

I have heard that about 10 residents did attend and participated in that discussion. If the issue had been properly flagged for the public, I would have re-arranged my schedule to be present, and I'm sure dozens more interested residents would have done the same. This is not the first time that poorly or improperly noticed topics have been discussed at Village Board or Committee of the Whole meetings. At the recent July 2016 limited agenda meeting the Ryan revaluation was addressed, despite not being on the agenda. The April 2016 presentation by John Ryan was not adequately publicized, as you both have publicly acknowledged, and it was mere happenstance that Steve Rakoff wandered into Village Hall and found out about Ryan's appearance.

This is simply bad practice. It makes no sense. If you were considering discussing the Ryan revaluation this morning, the topic should have been publicly noticed when the agenda was posted. Since it was not, you should not have held the discussion. Now the public and the press have only hearsay reports of what transpired. Please don't do this again. Thanks. Best regards, Bob.

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