

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

**MINUTES**

**August 26, 2003**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, August 26, 2003 at 8:00 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 200 Division Avenue, corner of the Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey.

Mayor Torre stated that the meeting complied with the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting having been made to all members of the Council by personal service on January 1, 2003 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 1, 2003.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor William J. Torre, Councilman Andrew Link III, Councilman Herbert D. Heeren, Councilman DiPisa, Councilwoman Marlene Verrastro, Councilman John Wassberg

Absent: Councilman Pepe

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Torre led in the Salute to the Flag and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Torre appointed Borough Administrator Kronyak Acting Borough Clerk in place of the Borough Clerk who was absent.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** (August 12, 2003)

On a motion by Councilman Heeren, seconded by Councilman Link, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Minutes were approved.

**PETITIONS:** None

**BILLS:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the claims and accounts amounting to \$487,442.06 specified in the schedule hereto annexed, having been examined and approved by the Finance Commissioner, or his Deputy, be paid and that warrants be issued therefore.

Signed Herbert D. Heeren  
Commissioner of Finance

**BILLS (CONT'D):**

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was adopted.

**REPORTS:**

**STREETS & TRANSPORTATION, SANITATION & FIRE:**

Under Streets, Councilman Link reported the NJ Department of Transportation has begun road work on Route 17 on both the north and southbound sides between Moonachie Road and the Lodi border. This work will be done from 8 p.m. until the rush hour in the morning. First they are replacing or repairing the traffic loops in the roadway which should be completed this week. Next week the road will be milled and repaved in stages, starting with one lane heading north and then the remaining two lanes heading north. The same will be done on the southbound side. Under Sanitation, he reported that the DPW is working on the sanitary sewer and layout throughout the entire Borough as per State mandate.

**FINANCE, HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES:**

Under Finance, Commissioner Heeren reported that the Current Fund Balance as of July 31, 2003 was \$1,329,001.52 and at June 30, 2003 was \$1,668,180.46, a decrease of \$339,178.94, with the entire balance invested and earning approximately 1%. Cash receipts for the month of July totaled \$2,023,882.91 of which \$876,460.08 was for Current Taxes, \$6,618.00 was Prepaid Taxes, \$1,000,000.00 was for Interfunds, \$46,119.00 was for Grants and State Aid and \$94,685.83 was Miscellaneous Revenues. Cash disbursements for the month of July totaled \$2,363,061.85 of which \$1,317,122.67 was Local School Taxes, \$425,255.87 for Salaries and \$620,683.31 for other expenses. He continued that the auditor, CFO and Bond Attorney are working on financial statements to be used for the upcoming bond sale for the new Municipal Complex and Public Safety Complex in the amount of \$7,279,000 scheduled for September 18. Under Health, Commissioner Heeren gave the following report for July: 9 male births recorded; burial permits 63; certified transcripts 507; marriage 3; funeral directors requests 501; Fees collected: burial permits, \$62; certified transcripts, \$2,535; food licenses and late fees, \$4,250; marriage licenses, \$224; with total fees collected \$7,427. Dog licenses, \$709, with \$280 of this for late fees. Total deaths recorded 64, residents in town 1, residents out of town 8; non resident 55. Food licenses issued 15, marriage licenses 8, marriages recorded 10; and a total of 132 calls to the office. Under Social Services, Commissioner Heeren reported there were 17 interviews during the month of July, with one homeless client helped with calls to various agencies. Nine families received food and certificates, including clothing certificates.

**FIRE AND PUBLIC FACILITIES:** Under Fire, Councilman DiPisa gave the Fire report for July: Fire Calls: Hasbrouck Heights, 15 calls, year to date 311; Teterboro 5, year to date 79; mutual aid 0, year to date 17; total for the month 20, year to date 407. Ambulance calls for July: Hasbrouck Heights, 87, year to date 794; Teterboro, 9, year to date 110; mutual aid, 5, year to date 109; total 101, year to date 1,013. He congratulated the Police, Fire and Emergency Management during the recent Blackout helping several residents. He also noted that the Senior Center was open as well for any residents needs. He congratulated the two firemen on appointment this evening. He congratulated Anne Ciavaglia, Director of Bergen County Senior Services, who distributed 546 coupons for the Farmer's Market on August 12. Under Public Facilities, he reported that the Municipal Complex is 95% complete, the furnishings have been received in the administrative offices, more is forthcoming, the pavers will be completed next week, curb tree grates and, exterior and interior lighting, heating, air conditioning, and painting is done.

**LAND USE & RECREATION:**

Under Land Use, Commissioner Verrastro welcomed Mary Dugan as Building Department Secretary. She noted the new hours of construction: 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays which will be strictly enforced, with no construction on Sunday. Under Recreation, she congratulated Robert Brady on a successful summer program with registration up 30% from last year. No events had to be canceled due to inclement weather. Fall events include children's arts and crafts, men's flag football, men's basketball, adult coed volleyball and an adult ping pong tournament. A family trip to "Nightmares" haunted house is scheduled in late October. Residents were asked to call the Recreation Department for details. Regarding the Coalition and Teterboro Airport, a question will be placed on the Hasbrouck Heights ballot.

**POLICE AND PARKS:**

Under Police Commissioner Wassberg reported video cameras have been installed in marked vehicles, received free of charge from the Bergen County Prosecutor's office. The annual training day was provided by the County. Schools will open September 3 and motorists were reminded to drive carefully and parents were reminded to observe the school drop off zones. There were 146 9-1-1 calls in July, 50 traffic accidents, 9 with injuries, 1 unlicensed drivers, 7 with no drivers license, 4 unregistered vehicles, 9 on suspended or revoked list, 6 DWI. Under Parks, he reported that the veterans memorial brick pavers program is ongoing.

**REPORT OF MAYOR:**

**APPOINTMENTS:** John C. Phelan to Fire Department Engine Co. 2

Timothy C. Moots to Fire Department Hook & Ladder Company

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Appointments were approved.

**RESIGNATIONS:** None

Mayor Torre commended the Fire Department, Ambulance Auxiliary and Police Department during the recent Blackout and thanked the residents for remaining calm. He noted that a letter was sent to the FAA by the mayor and council opposing larger airplanes and had attended the meeting relative to opposition of airport expansion held by Assemblywoman Rose Heck at the VFW at which time many complaints were heard. Mayor Torre encouraged everyone to band together and keep fighting. With regard to the Municipal Complex, the CO should be issued very soon and that this should be the last meeting in the Masonic Hall, and that the meeting of Sept. 9 should be in the new Complex. He thanked all members of the governing body for persevering these last four years. Regarding the Public Safety Building, progress is much faster than started, with foul weather and rocks holding back the project. The date of completion is anticipated the end of the year. He asked residents of Hamilton Avenue for their patience. Paving of streets this summer has included Henry Street from Terrace to Route 17, Harrison Avenue from Boulevard to Wood Street, MacArthur Avenue from Boulevard to Lodi border, and starting Baldwin Avenue with street grant monies. He allayed rumors of his moving from Hasbrouck Heights. He thanked everyone for their sympathy in the passing of his father, noting that his father loved Hasbrouck Heights and left his mark in a positive way, and will be missed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** 142. Raffle License for Hasbrouck Heights Music Parents Association

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Consent Agenda was approved (Copy attached).

**RESOLUTIONS:** 143. Prescribing Details and Form of Bonds for Sale of General Improvement Bonds

144. Authorizing Publication of Notice of Sale, Prescribing

**RESOLUTIONS (CONT'D):**

- 145. Approving Place-to-Place Transfer for Redford's
- 146. Authorizing Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate
- 147. Interfund Transfer

After the reading of Resolutions No. 143 and No. 144, an explanation of bonding ordinances and pay outs was given.

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolutions were approved (Copies attached).

**ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:** None

**ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mayor Torre opened the public hearing for anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2016. There being no one wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2016:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 206 ENTITLED “PROPERTY MAINTENANCE” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS”**

be now passed on second and final reading and the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to publish said Ordinance, same to be published in The Observer, a newspaper circulating and published in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

On a motion by Councilman Heeren, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Public Hearing was approved.

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:**

Gilbert Hunt, 117 Henry Street, asked if any ceremonies were planned for September 11. He was advised that there was a similar event planned as was held last year and that the announcement would appear in The Observer.

Rose Mulle, 321 Kipp Avenue, was interested in the Senior Center, and had been there recently and felt it was far from ready. She was concerned that no Senior Advisory Committee Meeting had been held since April, that no one has been advised as to

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC (CONT'D):**

furnishings, etc. and felt the Center should be manned daily when open with various activities for all seniors. Mayor Torre explained that the Building Committee has been working to get the building complete in accordance with construction codes. Councilman DiPisa explained that meetings were held from November 2002 to April 2003, that Seniors were invited to building meetings (the third meeting of the month), and had attended only one. The seating and kitchen appliances were being addressed and should be completed upon opening. Further explanation was given regarding staff and that all senior groups are invited to use the facility, that there will be someone to help coordinate events, but that senior groups can also coordinate their own events as they have done in the past using the new facility. The recreation director has proposed a program list as well. Maintenance personnel and hours were briefly discussed. Mrs. Mulle continued to question staffing as well as volunteers.

Carol Skiba, 191 Field Avenue, questioned when the noise monitor for Roosevelt Avenue would be received. She was advised that Rudy Steinthal has been contacted several times and no word has been received as yet. She referred to the sanitary sewer line replacement for Field Avenue, noting that Route 17 was to be repaved and if the borough could ask for removal of the line in the center of the highway at the same time. She was advised that word had only been received the previous night of the paving work to be done. She referred to past correspondence with regard to this sewer line and the Department of Transportation. The engineer would be requested to send a copy of the proposal to relocate the sewer line to Congressman Scott Garrett and request any assistance he could provide. She asked if the Coalition for Public Health and Safety could have a table at Town Day and she was referred to Robert Brady. She reminded residents of a meeting of the Coalition on Sept. 3 in Carlstadt.

**CLOSE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Resolution No. 148: For any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting safety and property of the public and any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation.

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

I, ROSE MARIE SEES, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, do hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are to the best of my knowledge a true account of the Regular Meeting held on August 26, 2003.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC  
Borough Clerk