

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

March 23, 2004

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, March 23, 2004 at 8:10 p.m. at the Municipal Complex, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey.

Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees 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 5, 2004 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 5, 2004.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Ronald R. Jones, Councilman Andrew Link III, Councilman Garrett R. Pepe, Councilman Ronald F. Kistner, Councilman Thomas E. Meli

Absent: Councilman Justin A. DiPisa,
Councilwoman Marlene Verrastro

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

INVOCATION: Reverend Katherine Ellison

A moment of silence was requested for the passing of former Police Chief Howard Baker.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (Reorganization Meeting, January 3, 2004)

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

PETITIONS: None

BILLS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the claims and accounts amounting to \$261,094.58 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 Andrew Link III
Commissioner of Finance

On a motion by Councilman Link, seconded by Councilman Kistner, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was adopted.

REPORTS:

FINANCE AND LAND USE:

Under Finance, Commissioner Link reported that the Current Fund cash balance at February 29, 2004 was \$3,500,303.81 and at January 31, 2004 was \$2,973,735.25 which represents an increase of \$526,568.50. The entire balance was invested and earning approximately 1%. Cash receipts for February totaled \$3,499,732.64 of which \$3,369,063.06 was for Current Taxes, \$17,578.67 was for Prior Year Taxes, and \$113,090.91 was Miscellaneous Revenues. Cash disbursements for February totaled \$2,971,732.64 of which \$1,567,599.94 was Local School Taxes, \$585,412.80 was County Taxes, \$489,088.80 was for Salaries, and \$329,596.54 was for Other Expenses. He continued that the 2004 Municipal Budget was introduced March 9, 2004 and sent to Trenton. Public hearing is scheduled for April 13, 2004; as an application for Extraordinary Aid will be filed, budget adoption will be pending.

HEALTH AND RECREATION:

Under Health, in Councilman DiPisa's absence, Councilman Pepe gave the following report for February: 7 births recorded, 4 male and 3 female; burial permits 64; certified transcripts 551; marriage 14; funeral directors requests 528. Fees collected: burial permits, \$61; certified transcripts, \$2,755; food licenses and late fees, \$25; marriage licenses, \$84; vending machines, \$225; with total fees collected \$4,833. Total deaths recorded 67, residents in town 3, residents out of town 8; non resident 56. Food licenses issued 1; marriage licenses 3, marriages recorded 5; and a total of 98 calls to the office. He continued that a new Baby Keep Well Program location is being sought. The first Health Fair Expo is scheduled for April 16 from 9 a .m. to 5 p.m. in the Senior Center.

Handicap Advisory Committee:

In Councilman DiPisa's absence, Mayor Jones read the following report: The Mayor's Handicap Advisory Committee held its first meeting on March 3 with the election of the following: President, Anne Ciavaglia; Vice President, Eric Bischoff; Secretary, Brenda Colaneri; and Parliamentarian, Robert Ciavaglia. The new 14 person committee unanimously voted on a new name: The Community Awareness Access for All Committee. At the next meeting on April 7, Edward Arcari, of Arcari and Iovino, architects will present rules and regulations on handicap accessible facilities and Police Chief Colaneri will make recommendations for business district handicapped parking spaces.

Under Recreation, Deputy Commissioner Kistner reported that a Cultural Committee will be started which deal with the arts, music, crafts and with a comeback of the flower show. The Senior Center has been a busy hub. Progress is being made with the new Recreation Center. Donations of a TV and air hockey game, high school students will be painting and adult volunteers have signed up to chaperone.

POLICE AND PUBLIC FACILITIES:

Under Public Facilities, Commissioner Pepe commended the DPW for their expedient work on the Recreation Center and Kubler Electric for donating the electrical work for that room. He continued that work is progressing on the Public Safety Building with permanent power available within a few days. Motorola has begun to install the new communications system and a meeting had been held with surrounding residents with regard to fencing and trees. Under Police, Commissioner Pepe noted he had attended the DARE graduations and commended Sgt. Mullins on a successful program. An Anti Drug Rally was held on March 5 in the public schools sponsored by the PTAs. He reminded residents to be cautious with the increased pedestrian traffic and bicyclists. A plaque honoring Patrolman Delamater was received by the PBA which will be hung in the new Police headquarters. Letters commending members of the Police Department were noted.

SOCIAL SERVICES:

Under Social Services, Commissioner Verrastro was absent.

STREETS & TRANSPORTATION AND PARKS:

Under Parks, Commissioner Kistner noted he had walked the Woodland Park with the mayor and DPW Superintendent. A landscaping contractor who is donating his services will begin to repair the soccer field soon with soccer parents assisting. Concerts, an overnight camp out and the Haunted Hayride are some of the events proposed. Wood chips had been ordered and will be added to Woodland Park and

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STREETS & TRANSPORTATION AND PARKS (cont=d):

Polify Park play areas. Under Streets & Transportation, Commissioner Kistner reported he had heard from Mr. Garcia that the ditch by Route 17 will begin to be cleaned out. Under Streets and Transportation, he commended the Police on safety of streets regarding DWI stops. He will continue to follow up on replacing light bulbs in street lights. Pot hole repair will begin soon.

FIRE:

Under Fire, Commissioner Meli gave the Fire Report for the month of February: Fire Calls: Hasbrouck Heights, 25 calls, year to date 66; Teterboro 6, year to date 21; mutual aid 4, year to date 8; total for the month 35, year to date 95. Ambulance calls for February: Hasbrouck Heights, 84, year to date 281; Teterboro, 7, year to date 30; mutual aid, 4, year to date 12; total 95, year to date 323. He read a letter of commendation from the NY/NJ Port of Authority for the department=s response to a Teterboro building on March 3, 2004. Councilman Meli commended the department with regard to the fire that occurred at Lovey=s Restaurant. Grant monies are being sought in particular for children=s equipment. Under Sanitation, he reported on the new leaf collection reading from a report that the NJ DEP is committed to protect our water resources by controlling pollutants entering our water from storm drain inlets, which threaten our drinking water and quality of life in our community. To that end the State has adopted storm water regulations to address non-point source pollution, the largest threat to our drinking water supplies statewide . Under the new regulations the borough will be required to comply with certain mandatory requirements of the State as outlined in the documents sent. Regulations restricting where leaves can be stockpiled curbside in the street and new restrictive storm drain inlets which will be installed will stop leaves and other debris from entering the drain inlets. During rain storms leaves that have fallen into the street will be washed to the nearest inlet and clog it causing flooding. If leaves are rakes in the street and stockpiled curbside this will only add to the flooding problems. In order to comply with the new regulations not only the inlets but also all the streets must be swept as often as possible. The stock piling of leaves will make it impossible to sweep the streets. Leaves will have to be bagged or placed in barrels for pick up by the DPW. A schedule has been prepared, which will give each resident one pickup per week on a designated day.

As Library liaison he reported on several fund raisers and programs.

REPORT OF MAYOR:

Mayor Jones commended the departments on the previous reports. He continued he had met with Senator Coniglio who offered to assist with extraordinary aid. Passenger service may be proposed with the Pascack Valley line. He had recommended to the senator closing the Riser Ditch with a culvert and using it for railroad lines. Shared services with neighboring towns was also commended. Route 17 widening was

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REPORT OF MAYOR (cont=d):

discussed with the senator as well. He also commended the DARE program and its benefits, the DPW=s help with Woodland Park and Recreation Center and the Library programs. The Town Hall meeting was on the business district, with the next meeting=s topic AEmergency Preparedness.@

APPOINTMENTS: Laura French to Committee of Community Celebrations

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

RESIGNATIONS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 49. Authorizing Tonnage Grant Application for 2003
 - 50. Raffle License for Corpus Christi Rosary Society
 - 51. Authorizing Borough Clerk to Advertise for Bids for Radio Maintenance

On a motion by Councilman Link, seconded by Councilman Meli, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Consent Agenda Resolutions were approved (Copies attached).

- RESOLUTIONS:**
- 52. Authorizing Change Order No. 1 for State Aid Improvement of Kipp Avenue
 - 53. Authorizing Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate
 - 54. 2003 Appropriation Reserve Budget Transfers
 - 55. Canceling the 7:30 p.m. Portion of Council
 - 56. Corrections to Appointments List
 - 57. Renewal of Bond Anticipation Note
 - 58. Authorizing Checks be Drawn With Regard to Borough of Hasbrouck Heights - 3/23/04 - page 6

RESOLUTIONS (cont=d):

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

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2037:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled **AAN ORDINANCE TO STABILIZE AND REGULATE RENTS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AND TO ESTABLISH A RENT BOARD, WHICH ORDINANCE IS TO BE COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE "2004" RENT LEVELING ORDINANCE** was introduced this date and the same is hereby passed on first reading and the Borough Clerk be directed to advertise notice of public hearing on said Ordinance to be held at the regular meeting of the Borough Council on April 13, 2004.

On a motion by Councilwoman Verrastro, seconded by Councilman Pepe, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Introduction was approved.

ORDINANCE ON CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING:

The public hearing was opened on Ordinance Nos. 2034, 2035 and 2036. There being no one wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2035:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled **AAN ORDINANCE REPEALING ARTICLE XII ENTITLED "DESIGN DISTRICT" OF CHAPTER 275 ENTITLED "ZONING" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS WHICH WAS ADOPTED ON JUNE 11, 1996 BY ORDINANCE NO. 1748 AND REPLACING THE SAME WITH A NEW ARTICLE ALSO TO BE DESIGNATED ARTICLE XII AND TO BE ENTITLED "CENTRAL BUSINESS DESIGN DISTRICT"** was continued on public hearing to allow the Planning Board sufficient time to review.

On a motion by Councilman Pepe, seconded by Councilman Link, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance was continued on public hearing.

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

ORDINANCE NO. 2034:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled **"2004 CAP" ORDINANCE TO EXCEED INDEX RATE; INDEX RATE LESS THAN 5% LIMITATION FOR THE YEAR 2004**

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ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING (cont=d):

(N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14) 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 published and circulating in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

ORDINANCE NO. 2036:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled **AAN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 20-6 ENTITLED AOFFICE OF BOROUGH PROSECUTOR@ OF CHAPTER 20 ENTITLED AMUNICIPAL COURT@ OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO ELIMINATE THEREFROM THE OFFICE OF CO-PROSECUTOR@** 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 published and circulating in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

On a motion by Councilman Link, seconded by Councilman Meli, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinances on Public Hearing were approved.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

Jerry McGill, 139 Field Avenue, gave a brief message for Carol Skiba, that no representative was present at the past Coalition meeting. She asked that a representative be present at the April 20 meeting, and that it be given back to Marlene Verrastro, and he was told that she still holds that position.

Madeleine Leddy, 66 Central Avenue, regarding a pot hole in front of her home. She asked if it please be repaired. She commended the Police Department and Mayor Jones on a recent occurrence.

CLOSE FOR CLOSED SESSION:

RESOLUTION: 59. Close for Closed Session for any matter involving litigation or employment or appointment of personnel

On a motion by Councilman Link, seconded by Councilman Kistner, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was approved.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

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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 March 23, 2004.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk

