

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

January 23, 2007

A Special Meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was called by Councilman Leonard Introna, Councilwoman Maryetta Saccomano, Councilman Anthony DiNanno and Councilman Stephen Altobelli for January 23, 2007 at 8:27 p.m. at Borough Hall, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ. The purpose of this meeting is to adopt a resolution authorizing the use of the "Fair and Open Process" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 and N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 for contracting certain professional services.

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 19, 2007 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 19, 2007.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Ronald R. Jones, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa (arrived at 8:58 p.m.), Councilman Leonard Introna, Councilwoman Carol J. Skiba, Councilwoman Maryetta Saccomano, Councilman Anthony DiNanno, Councilman Stephen Altobelli

Absent: None

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

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Jones stated that Councilman DiPisa would be late and would arrive as soon as he possibly could.

RESOLUTIONS: 21. Authorizing the Use of the "Fair and Open Process" Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 and N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 for Contracting Certain Professional Services

On a motion by Councilman Introna, seconded by Councilwoman Saccomano, with Councilman DiPisa absent, and with Councilwoman Skiba voting Nay, the foregoing Resolution and Legal Notice to be published was approved (Copy attached).

RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Mayor Jones questioned the "Fair and Open Process." A discussion of whether the procedure followed state statute ensued by the various members of the Council present. Mayor Jones wished to go on record that he thought this was a "scam."

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

Linda Bright, 136 Columbus Avenue, referring to a certain website, and that people should be careful what they say, and what is going on at council meetings.

John Fitzin, 234 Columbus Avenue, referring to removal of a "no left turn" at the rear parking lot of the Municipal Building, was asked to come to the January 30 council meeting as this was a special meeting.

Chris Semenech, 415 Jefferson Avenue, questioned Borough Attorney Chandless on the 30 day clause, is it legal to accept anything before the 30 days are up, and the answer was yes. He was told the council cannot take any action before the 30 days are up, but may receive resumes.

Mr. Chandless clarified that once his nomination for Borough Attorney was defeated, he was no longer seeking appointment from the Mayor and Council.

Sonya Buckman, 239 Central Avenue, asked if she could receive a list of the people who would be considered and was told yes.

Juan Hernandez, 415 Springfield Avenue, spoke on the fair and open process, and referred to the appointment of Judge Jones. A discussion on fair process ensued. Mr. Hernandez referred to his taxes going up \$1,800, and was advised to should look into the appeal process.

Mr. Chandless said that the 2006 direct appointments were subject to pay to play law and they could not donate more than \$300. Notices were sent to all appointees.

Eileen Kiick, 261 Cleveland Avenue, was disturbed that the council could not agree.

Councilman DiNanno said the list given to the mayor was a tentative list.

Linda Bright, 136 Columbus Avenue, addressing the list, and referred to the Mayor's Celebrations Committee, that the Republicans would not come. She disagreed with cronyism.

Cindy Schwalb, 167 Field Avenue, referred to last year's "nepotism" and court fees. She thought the new pay to play ordinance was put in to avoid problems in the future.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC (cont'd):

Councilman DiNanno said there would be a vote when all the resumes were in, that there would be more disclosure. Councilwoman Skiba said there are reporting requirements and minimum contributions. Mayor Jones clarified that it was not "nepotism." Councilwoman Saccomano corrected that the "anti-nepotism ordinance" was tabled. The borough attorney clarified that the difference once the so-called open and fair process is used, the limitation on the amount that had to be donated or can be donated no longer applies.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 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 Mayor and Council Meeting held on January 23, 2007.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk