

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

October 23, 2007

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, October 23, 2007 at 8:07 p.m. at Borough Hall, 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 2, 2007 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 2, 2007.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Ronald R. Jones, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, 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..

INVOCATION: Rev. Thomas Wisniewski, Parochial Vicar of Corpus Christi R.C. Church

PRESENTATION: Depken Field Commendation Plaques and Certificates

The Mayor and Council presented plaques to those individuals who were commended for their extraordinary efforts in the completion of the Gerhard C. Depken Field Improvements: Job & Job, Consulting Engineers; Supt. William Spindler and DPW Members, Borough Engineer Carl O'Brien, Ronald Kistner, Recreation Director Robert Brady, Brenda Colaneri, CFO/Administrator Michael J. Kronyak, Perry DiPiazza of Field Turf and The Landtek Group Inc.

The Mayor and Council presented certificates to the Special Task Force for Depken Field Improvements: Councilman Leonard Introna, Councilman Anthony DiNanno, Jurgen Hofheinz, Glenn Ruroede, Nicholas DelCalzo, Leslie Valenti and Joseph Fadden thanking them for their assistance in the completion of the improvements to Depken Field.

PRESENTATION (cont'd):

The Mayor and Council presented certificates to Community Awareness Access for All Committee members: Mayor Ronald R. Jones, Anne Ciavaglia, Robert Ciavaglia, Eric Bischoff, Pam Link, John Dingertopadre, Maryann Pisani, Dorothy McCarthy, Patrick McCarthy, Aimee McCarthy and Henry Hof thanking them for their assistance in the completion of the improvements to Depken Field.

PRESENTATION: Senior Housing - Joseph Rutch, Director of B.C. Community Development

Joseph Rutch was invited to discuss senior housing in Bergen County, and said there was a definite need not only for senior citizens but for families with certain income limits, that there were 250,000 people in Bergen County who were considered low to moderate income. The affordability factor for purchasing property is also expensive with the high cost of properties and there is not much open space in south and central Bergen County. In some instances old factories are being knocked down and redeveloped into housing. He talked about the conversion of Franklin School into senior housing which was very successful. He said there are many financing opportunities through the State and County government. The Division of Community Development is the major financing entity in Bergen County using Community Development block grant dollars as well as home investment funds. All dollars come from HUD which brings about \$3.5 million per year. He entertained questions from the council members. One was regarding COAH regulations planning to interface with senior housing. Rutch said you don't get full credit for senior housing units but had no idea what the COAH regulations would be. Another question - was there an established need in Hasbrouck Heights, and was answered that the COAH formula will establish affordable housing needs by community and region, but won't distinguish senior from family or disabled housing. Examples were requested of affordable or senior housing in this area. He said funding was provided for two projects in Cliffside Park, in Fort Lee, a proposed 25 unit in South Hackensack. He was requested to explain the Hasbrouck Heights building which was when used for COAH obligation requires using fair housing requirements. He considered this building one of the best that the County has done. He said the County has assisted about 325 families over seven years in housing and rental programs.

PROCLAMATION: National Family Care Givers Month - November 2007

The following Proclamation was read into the record:

WHEREAS, during the season of Thanksgiving, as we pause to reflect on the many blessings that have been bestowed on us as individuals and as a community, we are especially grateful for the love of our families and friends. One of the most profound

PROCLAMATION (cont'd):

ways in which that love is expressed is through the generous support provided by family care givers to loved ones who are chronically ill, elderly or disabled. Care givers reflect family and community life at its best; and

WHEREAS, the need for family care givers is growing. We are blessed to live in a time when medicine and technology have helped us live longer. As a result, persons with disabilities are living longer and people over 85 are a fast growing segment of our population. Family care givers can be found in every city and town in America. It is likely that we all know at least one family care giver; and

WHEREAS, family caregivers deserve our lasting gratitude and respect. This month, we honor the many contributions that family caregivers make to the quality of family life, let us resolve to work through our community, religious, social, business and other organizations to offer programs and services that will provide caregivers the support and encouragement they need to carry out their vital responsibilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim November 2007 as National Family Caregivers Month in Hasbrouck Heights and call upon government officials, businesses, communities, educators, religious leaders, volunteers and the entire Hasbrouck Heights community to acknowledge the invaluable efforts of family caregivers this month and throughout the year.

/s/ Mayor Ronald R. Jones

COMMUNICATIONS: 1) Letter from Lucia Waters regarding proposed antennas on 174 Boulevard

This was referred to the work session of November 13, 2007.

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Skiba, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Communications were accepted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

PETITIONS: None

BILLS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the claims and accounts amounting to \$2,206,873.70 specified

BILLS (cont'd):

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.

Leonard Introna
Commissioner of Finance

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

REPORTS:

HEALTH AND PARKS: Under Health, Commissioner DiPisa dispensed with the reading of the statistics. He reported on the successful Health Fair Expo held this past Saturday, it being the largest attendants and participants. He thanked Board Secretary Lori French, Board of Health board members, Rob Brady and DPW helpers. Under Parks, he reported the sign to be placed on the new comfort station will be donated. He reported that several sections of the sprinkler system in Woodland Park were repaired, with valves replaced and the system flushed out. At the new comfort station the toilet paper dispensers were repaired because of vandalism and one of the glass block windows was broken. He asked that any suspicious activity be reported to the police department.

As liaison to the Environmental/Transportation Commission, he read a letter from Kris Kolluri, Commissioner of the NJ DOT to Commission Chair Rose Heck (copy attached).

FINANCE AND SANITATION: Under Health, Deputy Commissioner Introna added his thanks to Chief Colaneri, the Police Department and Rob Brady, for their assistance in the Board of Health Wellness Run. Under Finance, he read the following Finance Report: the current fund cash balance as of September 30, 2007 was \$1,319,718.23; on August 31, 2007 was \$3,471,836.88, which represents an decrease of \$2,152,118.65. The entire balance was invested and is earning 5.25%. Cash receipts for September totaled \$907,761.81 of which 180,397.70 was for current taxes, \$40,534.58 was for delinquent taxes, \$15,290.54 was for pre-paid 2008 taxes \$457,687.20 was for state aid and \$213,851.79 was miscellaneous revenues. Cash disbursements for September totaled \$3,059,880.46 of which \$1,663,770.25 was local school taxes, \$571,532.82 was salaries and \$824,576.89 was for other expenses. Under Sanitation, he reported one of the three pumps at the Franklin Pump Station had been rebuilt and a new portable emergency generator was placed at the Woodside Avenue pump station.

FIRE AND LAND USE: Under Fire, Commissioner Skiba reported for the month of September a total of 186 calls, including 106 EMS calls, one of the fire calls was at Lovey's resulting from a short in a fan, with no fire. She thanked the EMS attending the

FIRE AND LAND USE (cont'd):

football games, and for those involved in Fire Prevention Week. The Department participated in a special drill held by NJ Transit following procedures in the event of a train accident at the Malcolm Avenue crossing, in light of the addition of 28 trains on the Pascack Valley line operating seven days a week. Under Land Use, she reported for the month of September, the Building Department collected \$15,462 in permit fees. With regard to Property Maintenance, she reported three complaints of dead trees of which two needed removal; four second summonses to Financial Institutions due to lack of maintenance of homes in foreclosure; five warning slips and three verbal warnings for overgrown lawns; two summonses to owners of vacant properties; two verbal warnings to landscapers dumping grass in leaf piles; and one complaint of bushes blocking visibility. She would be attending the TANAAC meeting on October 24. She reported litigations have been filed against the FAA Airspace Redesign by the B.C. Freeholders, the NJ Coalition Against Aircraft Noise and several communities in northern Bergen County.

POLICE AND STREETS: Under Police, Commissioner Saccomano reported the new patrol car is in service, a new LED light bar was donated saving \$3,000. The South Bergen Detectives Crime Clinic meets monthly. She asked that safety measures be followed during Halloween, a 9:30 p.m. curfew is scheduled for both Mischief Night and Halloween. She read a thank you letter to Chief Colaneri, Lt. Archer, Sgt. Miller and Mrs. Werner and the entire Department. Under Streets, she reported work has begun on the Madison Avenue road reconstruction project with contractors building handicapped accessible curb cuts and DEP required stormwater catch basin retrofits. The DPW cleared the basins and video taped the stormwater system for the Borough engineer. Last week PSE&G sent their tree contractor to address the list of dead trees to be taken down from the power lines, who will work with the DPW. She asked Borough Engineer O'Brien who provided streets to be milled and paved including Madison Avenue from Boulevard to Terrace, Baldwin Avenue from Boulevard to Terrace, Hamilton Avenue from Oak Grove to Woodside, Jefferson Avenue from Burton to Terrace, Miers Avenue from Boulevard to Burton, Walter Avenue from Burton to Terrace and Pasadena Avenue from Boulevard to Terrace. This is scheduled from October 25 through November 2.

TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION: Under Transportation, Commissioner DiNanno reported he had spoken with a supervisor from Bergen County who is working with the NJ DOT on the drainage of Route 17. He also noted the repaving of the list of streets. Under Recreation, he thanked all the residents and organizations who

participated in Town Day, the entertainers and the McCarthy family. He thanked the following for their participation in Halloween in the Park: Mayor and Council, Recreation Advisory Board, Police, Fire and Rescue, DPW, B.C. Parks Department, Heights Flower Shoppe, Junior Woman's Club, High School Key Club, Chief Colaneri, homes of Brunetti, Curran and Zuber families and Al DeAngelo his staff and scary friends and to

TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION (cont'd):

Rob Brady. He gave an update of upcoming events for Recreation and Senior programs. He congratulated the Aviators High School Football Team for an undefeated season thus far and also to the Junior Football Lightweights team for their undefeated season thus far. He attended Soccer games at Depken Field. Under Depken Field update, a proposal is being made to open the gate on Ravine Avenue at 7 a.m. for anyone wishing to walk the track. The handicap accessibility ramp is almost completed, railings will be installed soon, and to continue the black picket fence to the wall on Oldfield Avenue. The Board of Education will be providing funding for the fence. The next phase is the toddler park and exercise station.

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SOCIAL SERVICES: Under Public Facilities, Councilman Altobelli reported routine maintenance continues on borough buildings, including replacing light fixture ballasts in the library. The HVAC blower assembly was replaced in the court room and a proposal to install surge protectors on the same units will be evaluated and addressed. Under Social Services, he reported the Food Bank received an abundance of food to distribute to those in need this month and thanked Corpus Christi Brown Bag Sunday, Ann Hofman, Diane Robertson, Mrs. DeSantis, Lois Carlsson, United Methodist Church, First Reformed Church, Dorothy Petroulis and family, Marion Rolando, Henry's Deli, Tom White, Dawn and Steve Pikowski, Josephine McClean, Ann Jengo, Pat Thomasey, Rich DiPiazza, Bob Durco, Councilwoman Maryetta Saccomano, Joan Turner, Hunter and Liam, Jane and Ronnie. Monetary donations were received from Town Day and Euclid Masonic Lodge which will be used to purchase Shop Rite gift cards. Girl Scouts Junior Troop 469 went shopping and brought the food to the Food Bank and stocked the shelves themselves for their project.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Progress

NEW BUSINESS:

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 154. Objecting to Misleading Manner in which the County Open Space tax rate is explained
 - 155. Authorizing United Water to Install a Fire Hydrant on Washington Place

156. Raffle Licenses for Concerned Parents Association of Corpus Christi School

On a motion by Councilwoman Saccomano, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Consent Agenda resolutions were approved. (Copies attached).

RESOLUTIONS:

157. Authorizing Change Order No. 1 with regard to State Aid Improvement of Oak Grove Avenue
158. Authorizing Professional Services Agreement with the County of Bergen for the 2007-2008 Flu Vaccine Program
159. Authorizing Change Order No. 1 with regard to Improvements to Woodland Park
160. Renewal of Bond Anticipation Note
160. Authorizing B.C. Community Block Grant Agreement with the County of Bergen for a Senior Bus
161. Raffle License for Corpus Christi Church Knights of Columbus

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

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2162:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: "**AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARY AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY, FOR THE YEAR 2007**" was introduced this date be 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 November 13, 2007.

On a motion by Councilwoman Skiba, seconded by Councilwoman Saccomano, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Introduction was approved.

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Jones opened the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2161. There being no one wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2161:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO ADD TO CHAPTER 190 ENTITLED “PARKING LOTS” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AND TO SUPPLEMENT THE SAME WITH ARTICLE III WHICH SHALL BE ENTITLED “PUBLIC PARKING PERMITS AND DAYTIME PARKING AT CENTRAL AVENUE PARKING LOT”** 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 DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Skiba, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Public Hearing was approved.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

Mayor Jones invited anyone from the public wishing to speak to please come forward.

David Gonzalez, 322 Washington Place, had looked at the ordinance regarding Signs and did not see anything regarding political signs, and asked Councilwoman Skiba about the political signssigns with her name on them throughout town. She referred to a law suit brought up last year by a Franklin Avenue resident which resulted in the resident putting his sign back.

Christian Semenezc, 415 Jefferson Avenue, noted that when he ran with James Enright, he took it to court and the judge ruled the ordinance was invalid under the Constitution of the United States which allowed freedom of speech, that the town could regulate size and time, but until that time that ordinance could not be enforced. As far as he knew, this was never done. The Borough Attorney was asked to see if the ordinance was valid.

There being no one else wishing to speak, the public portion was closed.

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE: 163. Personnel

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Saccomano, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution to Close was accepted.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 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 October 23, 2007.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk