

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS****MINUTES****October 9, 2007**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on October 9, 2007 at 8:08 p.m. at Borough Hall, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ.

Mayor Jones declared the meeting in Session and 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:** Mayor Jones asked for a moment of silence for Mrs. Etta Deppert who passed away this week. Councilman DiPisa offered a prayer.

**PRESENTATION:** Mayor Jones and Councilman DiPisa, liaison to the Garden Club, presented a certificate to the Hasbrouck Heights Garden Club President Marie Morales, Members Ann Lustberg and Elizabeth Moser, and certificates to National Junior Beta Club Members Raquel Cannarozzi, Julienne Cham, Stefanie Grossano, Christopher Piazza, Jorge Rivera and Brianna Walsh. Club Moderator Jane Gay was also commended.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** 1) Invitation to the Annual Ragamuffin Parade on Saturday, October 27, 2007 at 1 p.m.

2) Letter from G. Jeremiah Ryan, President of Bergen Community College announcing a legislative debate featuring candidates for District 38 on October 22 at 7 p.m.

**COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):**

3) Copy of Resolution adopted by the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders designating October 1 through October 5 as "Bergen County School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week."

4) Letter from Robert M. Gordon thanking the Mayor and Council for sending a copy of the Resolution on the FAA's airspace redesign and his position on this subject.

Mayor Jones asked to add to communications a phone call he had received from Steven Pikowski, who donated boxes of candy from Little League to be distributed to Food Pantry recipients.

The next two items were then brought forward by Councilwoman Skiba who requested they be read into the record:

5) Announcement of Fire Department Open House

6) Councilwoman Skiba's letter to the Mayor and Council regarding an Ethics Complaint - Rose Heck

Items #3, 4, 5 and 6 were requested to be read into the record. (Copies attached)

Comments were made regarding Item #6. It was recommended that the Borough Attorney contact the Department of Community Affairs the next day for clarification.

Comments were made regarding Item #4, and airspace redesign.

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

**PETITIONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *(September 25, 2007 Regular Meeting)*

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

**BILLS:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the claims and accounts amounting to \$2,635,139.00 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 therefor.

Signed Leonard Introna  
Commissioner of Finance

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** None

**RESOLUTIONS:**

- 148. Payroll
- 149. Dog Licenses - Payment of Fees to State
- 150. Construction Fees - Payment of Fees to State
- 151. Marriage Fees - Payment of Fees to State
- 152. Burial Permits - Payment of Fees to State

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

**ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:**

**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"** 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 October 23, 2007.

A question of insurance was answered that it would be provided for in the application.

**ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION (cont'd):**

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

**ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:**

Mayor Jones invited anyone wishing to speak, to please come forward.

Garrett Pepe, 187 Burton Avenue, commended Job & Job on the Depken Field project, read a prepared statement which questioned some members of the council on various issues including the Central Avenue cul de sac. A lengthy and animated discussion ensued. Mayor Jones asked to include in the Minutes that several council members and the Borough Attorney left the meeting during that discussion and returned later.

Robert Thomasey, 307 Franklin Avenue, former Fire Chief, commented on the precedent of using public facilities for partisan political candidates. He also noted he had objected to the Central Avenue cul de sac.

Sonya Buckman, 239 Central Avenue, also referred to the Central Avenue cul de sac, and said she resented the council now looking into the purchase of pedestrian safety crosswalks for Central Avenue instead. She also commented on the empty lot next to the parking lot.

Dr. Frank Zaccaria, 429 Springfield Avenue, was concerned about a situation of flooding on that street.

Marie Kenney, 421 Springfield Avenue, was also concerned with Springfield Avenue and the curb in front of her home that was damaged and dangerous. She had contacted the Department of Public Works who performed a temporary fixing. She has since sent a letter to the governing body.

Doris Jones, 430 Springfield Avenue, said the last time (this portion of) Springfield Avenue was paved was in 1981. There was flooding problems to properties and the drain continually backed up.

Dr. Zaccaria, 429 Springfield Avenue, his being the last house on the block, was concerned about the rain slide east of his property. He said Springfield Avenue has no storm drains and the water comes from Terrace Avenue uncontrolled and due to the pitch of the street the catch basin in the front of his garage overflows and water goes into his garage and down the side of his house under his deck. He noted Mr. Bonaventuro who

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC (cont'd):**

lived at the bottom of the hill below his home, came to him as he was trying to recapture his home which had suffered damage recently from a landslide. He was advised that the engineers would be looking into this area. Pictures of the area were presented.

Dan Kookogey, 425 Springfield Avenue, said the road is eroding away as he noted in the pictures.

Rose Heck, 501 Collins Avenue, recommended going to the County and meet with their engineers for drainage needs along Terrace Avenue and side streets and that they take part of the responsibility.

John Fitzin, 234 Columbus Avenue, commented that the seniors voted 99% against the cul de sac. He also commented the town should hold onto the property (empty lot), that if the lot were sold and one child lived there, it would cost the town tax dollars to educate that child.

Pam Link, 221 Harrison Avenue, referring to the use of the Council Chambers for a political function, said she had reserved the room as president, in the name of the Republican Club, and asked how was it any different from Congressman Rothman's open forum recently held in that room.

John Baratta, 269 Walter Avenue, regarding safety, recommended a left turn signal at Franklin Avenue and Route 17. This would be brought to the attention of the NJ DOT. He also encouraged open forums in light of how expensive it is to run for office.

Garrett Pepe, 187 Burton Avenue, regarding Springfield Avenue, suggested a trench drain brought under the entire road to prohibit the water from Terrace Avenue going down to Springfield, as an option. He again referred to the cul de sac and its original plan.

Juan Hernandez, 415 Springfield Avenue, recommended solar panels. He was advised this would be on the work session agenda to which he was invited to stay.

Councilman DiNanno commended Rob Brady and Dorothy McCarthy on a very successful Town Day.

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

#### **WORK SESSION:**

Mayor Jones announced that the meeting would continue to Work Session, to which he invited all present to stay.

#### **ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the regular meeting was adjourned at 10:15 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 Mayor and Council Meeting held on October 9, 2007.

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Rose Marie Sees, RMC  
Borough Clerk