

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**MINUTES****May 22, 2007**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, May 22, 2007 at 8:39 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: A prayer was offered by Rev. Edward Glasser, Community United Church of Christ

COMMUNICATIONS: 1) Letter from Drew Lillis of English Paving Company Inc. announcing that Terrace Avenue from Henry Street to Pasadena Avenue resurfacing program to begin May 29, 2007.

2) Public Notice of hearing on June 6, 2007 at 10 a.m. of Bergen County Utilities Authority relating to a proposed amendment to the B.C. District Solid Waste Management Plan.

3) Bus Stop Notice from Chief Colaneri of the Police Department with bus stop changes on Boulevard

COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):

- 4) Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority offering of Television Inspection Services for Municipal sewer systems
- 5) Letter from Lanny Rider, Manager of Teterboro Airport, with copy of the new wetlands delineation map showing the area of the proposed soccer field at the airport.
- 6) Thank you letter to DPW Supt. Spindler from Daisy Troop 438.
- 7) Letter from Assemblyman Robert M. Gordon regarding procuring aid to repair a portion of Route 17.
- 8) Letter from Senator Robert Menendez regarding mitigation grant funding
- 9) Notice of Hearing on proposed change in ownership and control for United Water to be held May 31 at 7 p.m. in the B.C. Freeholders' Public Meeting Room.

Requests to read into the record Item #6, Item #3, Item #5 and Item #2 were made.
(Copies attached)

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 \$174,727.75 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.

Leonard Introna
Commissioner of Finance

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

REPORTS:

HEALTH AND PARKS: Under Health, Commissioner DiPisa reported the annual dog census will begin soon by the crossing guards. Under Parks, he thanked the DPW for

removal of the cannon in front of the American Legion home to the Veterans Memorial Park after procuring proper permission. As liaison to the Environmental Commission, he read a report from the chairman, Rose Heck. It stated the cleaning of Riser Ditch would commence on May 23. As chairman, Ms. Heck had met with N.J. Meadowlands Commission Executive Director Robert Seberio and project engineer Nicholas Angoli on various subjects, among them East and West Riser Ditches. A detailed report will be forthcoming. She spoke with Kris Kolluri of the NJ Department of Transportation with regard to the railroad station at Teterboro and flooding problems along Route 17. A report from the Environmental Commission was also read regarding the expansion of the recycling program. An educational program will take place in the schools. Leaf bags and stickers will be distributed at Town Day. He reported the Woodland Park Comfort Station, water was shut off at the Pavilion. However, the DPW installed a water line for those residents holding picnics as well as to the contractor.

FINANCE AND SANITATION: Under Finance, Commissioner Introna read the following Finance Report: the current fund cash balance as of April 30, 2007 was \$793,121.73; on March 31, 2007 was \$717,163.67, which represents an increase of \$75,958.06. The entire balance was invested and is earning 5.25%. Cash receipts for April totaled \$2,839,618.54 of which \$2,680,973.53 was for current taxes, \$36,092.75 was for delinquent taxes, and \$122,552.26 was miscellaneous revenues. Cash disbursements for April totaled \$2,763,660.48 of which \$1,563,704.25 was local school taxes, \$568,171.75 was salaries and \$631,784.48 was for other expenses. Under Sanitation, he reported the DPW dispatched extra trucks and men to collect additional garbage due to recent Nor'easter for two weeks following the storm. Rain on the Friday following the storm dropped another 3.26 inches of rain which caused the sanitary sewer system to become fully charged because of sump pumps connected into that system. The Superintendent published the following statement in The Observer:

"I would like to appeal to all residents who have sump pumps connected into the waste water system, please inspect your system and re-direct any outfall pipe that drains into the sanitary system. Pumping storm water into the sanitary system overloads the infrastructure causing major problems throughout our town."

FIRE AND LAND USE: Under Fire, Commissioner Skiba reported in April there were 219 calls, including 119 EMS calls and involved 2,072 man hours. Former Fire Chief Joseph Taylor and Tom Rubino were honored by the Elks Lodge this month. She commended the Fire Department members for their dedication and efforts at the recent Inspection. She listed the Department's attendance and help at the Bicycle Marathon,

FIRE AND LAND USE (cont'd):

Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony. Under Land Use, she reported for the month of May \$13,338.50 were collected in fees. She reminded residents of construction hours

of contractors, Monday - Friday, 7:30 - 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The fee schedule is to be reviewed as well as dumpster placement and lighting. Regarding the Wood-Ridge Wesmont Station project, she was concerned about the remediation issues and asked it be placed on the next work session. Under Property Maintenance, 17 written warnings for overgrown lawns, two violation notices, one for pavers in a rear yard and one for a vehicles, nine complaints for property maintenance issues, one to a Boulevard building for backyard cleanup. Under Teterboro Airport, she reported she received an e-mail with regard to the airspace redesign from Senator Lautenberg who is introducing two amendments to the FAA one regarding the reauthorization bill to reduce aircraft noise in Phase 2 business jets and the other to change Teterboro weight limits, which prohibit the FAA from changing aircraft weight limits at Teterboro over 100,000 lbs. She attended a TANAAC meeting on May 2 and learned of Airport Manager Lanny Rider and Rudy Steinhall of the noise abatement office retirements.

POLICE AND STREETS: Under Police, Commissioner Saccomano she reported their busy schedule including Click it or Ticket it campaign regarding seat belt laws, Bike-athon will be May 26-27, the selection of Chief Colaneri to attend the West Point Leadership and Command training program, and the Torch Run on June 1. Under Streets, she reported the barricade at Henry Street and Oldfield Avenue had been replaced which was damaged by a stolen vehicle involved in a police chase. The Borough is waiting reimbursement for the cost of the replacement. Borough Engineer Carl O'Brien and DPW Supt. Bill Spindler are putting together estimates for road repairing damaged by the flooding caused by the Nor'easter which will be submitted to FEMA. The DPW planted 52 trees in its ongoing tree replacement program. The planters have been placed along the Boulevard. The paving of Terrace Avenue by the County from Springfield to Pasadena Avenues will begin on May 29.

Mayor Jones reported former policeman Gerry Delamater would be honored at the Bergen County Police Memorial scheduled for the next day.

TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION: Under Transportation, Commissioner DiNanno reported funding was being requested for the repaving of streets damaged by the Nor'easter. Under Recreation, he reported the softball program has seven teams with 3rd through 4th grades playing interlocal and 5th through 8th grades playing other towns. There are a 5th-6th and 7th-8th traveling teams that will begin playing in June. Recreation Track and Field has 117 boys and girls enrolled. The adult volleyball program will be held at Woodland Park during July and August on Wednesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Senior Olympics is scheduled for June 7 in

TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION (cont'd):

Rutherford. Summer Camp registration is May 3rd and May 17. The High School Track Teams won their league championship. Under Depken Field, he reported the bid openings are scheduled for May 30.

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SOCIAL SERVICES: Under Social Services, he reported the Food Bank received donations from Ethel Ball, Dorothy Petroulis, Bertha Spada, Joan Turner, Marion Rolando, Lynn Taylor, Mary DeSantis, Harry Maisch and First Reformed Church which was much appreciated as were the volunteers who man the Food Bank. Under Public Facilities, Commissioner Altobelli reported the DPW painted over the graffiti on DOT bridges at Route 46 and Boulevard and Terrace Avenue and Route 46 and Route 17. The NJ DOT was sent a letter advising them of property in need of maintenance. The HVAC systems at Borough Hall and the Public Safety Building received maintenance, with a compressor needing to be replaced under warranty in Borough Hall. Under Library, the Book and Bake Sale held this past Saturday was very successful.

REPORT OF MAYOR: Mayor Jones, with regard to the graffiti, asked the public to report any seen to the Police Department immediately who would investigate.

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENTS: Joseph Armeli to Fire Department Hook and Ladder Company

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

TERMINATIONS: Gary Vander Werf from Engine Company 1 for non-performance of duties

On a motion by Councilwoman Skiba, seconded by Councilman Introna, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Termination was accepted with regret.

CONSENT AGENDA: 79. Authorizing Application for Grant Agreement with the NJ DEP to Fund Stormwater Activities

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

RESOLUTIONS: None

Councilwoman Saccomano requested that permit fees be alleviated for those residents who suffered damage from the Nor'easter and went to FEMA and asked that this be a Resolution to that effect. It was asked to hold this for additional discussion in Closed Session.

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION: None

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING: None

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

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

Rose Heck, 501 Collins Avenue, asked to go on record that it is her opinion that the Borough Attorney should handle the case Heck vs. Hasbrouck Heights on the clarification of the pay to play appointments of the four individuals. She did not wish the borough to waste money on private counsel. She was advised that the council had voted to hire a private attorney. She again wished to go on record complaining about the waste of borough money on behalf of those who voted to hire another attorney.

Ron Ellis, 107 Paterson Avenue, regarding bus stops, said he was very surprised to learn that his bus stop was moved again. He requested to meet with Chief Colaneri to discuss this further and come up with other options. He had calculated that there are 32 intersections along the Boulevard with eight assigned bus stops, compared to Wood-Ridge which has 12 intersections along the Boulevard and seven bus stops.

Robert Searle, 51 Henry Street, commended the DPW for picking up the debris from his front yard from the recent storm and flooding. He also asked if the American Legion property could have the lawn mowed before the Memorial Day weekend. He was advised the building inspector will be asked to notify the owner, that there could be a liability issue if the town were to do it.

Rose Heck, 501 Collins Avenue, said it was her understanding that there was a law in the books to make the necessary clean up. It was noted there is a notice requirement.

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

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE: 80. Personnel

On a motion by Councilwoman Saccomano, seconded by Councilman Introna, 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 9:36 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING REOPENED:

The meeting was reopened at 10:31 p.m. to conduct the following business:

APPOINTMENTS: Jack Carbone as Special Counsel for Litigation of Heck vs Borough of Hasbrouck Heights

Mayor Jones went on record that he didn't believe there was a need for special counsel and second that both individuals, Mr. Oury and Mr. Carbone are excellent attorneys, and that Mr. Oury is at a rate of \$150 and Mr. Carbone a higher rate, that if this is passed, that the administrator and borough attorney contact Mr. Carbone and ask him to reduce it to \$150. All agreed.

On a motion by Councilwoman Saccomano, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, with Councilman DiPisa and Councilwoman Skiba voting Nay, the foregoing Appointment was approved.

APPOINTMENTS: Richard Conte as Prosecutor

On a motion by Councilman Introna, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Appointment was approved.

Before the vote was taken, Councilman DiPisa asked for a motion to appoint Rosario Presti and postpone this appointment.

APPOINTMENTS: Alternate Prosecutor

A motion was made by Councilman DiPisa to appoint Rosario Presti as Alternate Prosecutor. There was no second.

A motion was made by Councilman Introna to appoint Ron Dario as Alternate Prosecutor, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, with Councilman DiPisa voting Nay, and Councilwoman Skiba voting Nay due to the fact that there were no names submitted for Alternate Prosecutor and did not believe that you can just move them over, the Appointment was approved.

RESOLUTION: 81. Due to Nor'easter on April 16, permit fees be eliminated for those that applied to FEMA and received damage from the storm and received aid

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

MOTION TO CLOSE:

On a motion by Councilwoman Skiba, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried, the meeting was closed.

ADJOURNED:

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 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 May 22, 2007.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk