

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights - 6/12/2007
BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

June 12, 2007

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on June 12, 2007 at 8:06 p.m. at Borough Hall, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ.

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

Absent: Councilman Stephen Altobelli

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

INVOCATION: The Rev. Dr. Karyn L. Wiseman, Pastor of First United Methodist Church

Mayor Jones wished Rev. Wiseman Godspeed as she will be leaving Hasbrouck Heights the end of June to accept the position of Associate Professor of Ministerial Studies at Hood Theological Seminary in Salisbury, North Carolina. He also asked her to remember Max Feintuch, who passed away this week. He was the father of Andrew Feintuch, Recreation Director who passed away in 2000.

Rev. Wiseman said the five years she spent in Hasbrouck Heights were most enjoyable.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) Letter from County Executive Dennis McNerney announcing applications for 2007 funding for B.C. Open Space Trust fund
- 2) Hackensack Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing of Determination of Redevelopment Area on June 18, 2007 at 7 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):

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3) Invitation to Mayor and Council to Flag Ceremony at H.H. Elks Lodge No. 1962 on June 14.

4) Letter from County Executive Dennis McNerney announcing 2007 Community Development Award in the Amount of \$14,194.00.

5) Letter from Kris Kolluri Commissioner of NJ DOT announcing applications for Fiscal Year 2008 Municipal Aid Program.

6) Letter from Mayor of Rutherford Bernadette P. McPherson regarding Route 17 Traffic Signal Preemption System.

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

Regarding Item #6, Councilwoman Skiba reported that at the request of Chief Roccamo she had contacted the N.J. DOT projects manager for the Route 17 renovation, and as soon as she gathers information with the traffic light transponders, she would bring to the council.

Mayor Jones said he was disappointed in this letter, as he was hoping that they would do away with traffic lights on Route 17 as they cause congestion and that preemption may cause more problems, that all the towns affected by Route 17 in the south Bergen area should ban together on the problems of traffic.

Councilman DiNanno in reference to Item #5, a walking path in Woodland Park would be a program to apply for aid.

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

PETITIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (March 27, 2007 Regular Meeting, March 27, 2007 Executive Session, May 8, 2007 Regular Meeting, June 5, 2007 Special Meeting)

On a motion by Councilwoman Saccomano, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, with Councilwoman Skiba voting Nay on the Minutes of March 27, 2007, the foregoing Minutes were approved.

BILLS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the claims and accounts amounting to \$1,879,435.34 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 Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman DiNanno and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA: None

- RESOLUTIONS:**
- 84. Payroll
 - 85. Authorizing Checks for Mary B. Quigg Scholarship Awards
 - 85. Authorizing Check for Andrew Feintuch Memorial Scholarship Award
 - 85. Authorizing Check for Mayor’s Scholarship Award
 - 85. Authorizing Snow Plow Agreement with the County of Bergen for 2007-2008
 - 85. Authorizing United Water New Jersey to Erect a Fire Hydrant on the West Side of Oldfield Avenue
 - 85. Authorizing Tax Collector to Prepare and Issue Estimated Tax Bills
 - 85. Authorizing Advertisement of Bids for the Renovation of the Bleachers at Depken Field

Councilman DiPisa questioned Item #89 on payment methods, and was advised that United Water installs the hydrant, and the borough pays for the use.

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

APPOINTMENTS: Ryan Raney to Fire Department Hook and Ladder Company

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

RESIGNATIONS: None

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2157:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **"AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$250,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR THE 2007 ROAD RESURFACING PROGRAM AND FURTHER TO AUTHORIZING THE FINANCING OF THE COST THEREOF IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL BOND LAW BY THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OR NOTES NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF \$235,000.00"** 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 June 26, 2007.

ORDINANCE NO. 2158:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **"AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$100,000.00 FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF MADISON AVENUE"** 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 June 26, 2007.

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

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING: None

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

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

Martin Saccomano, 57 Ottawa Avenue, questioned if the skate park was being dropped from the field proposal and if it was part of the total package. He was in favor of it, and was told it was not being dropped.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC (cont'd):

David Gonzalez, 322 Washington Place, thanked the EMS, Fire Department, and Police Department for their assistance when he was involved in a recent automobile accident.

Robert Thomasey, 307 Franklin Avenue, questioned if there was any status of the pay to play investigation. He was told it is being investigated by the State Attorney General, ELEC and the Division of Local Government Services who received letters from Mayor Jones and Councilwoman Skiba. He questioned the hiring of a defense attorney for this lawsuit and if the Borough Attorney were defending the Borough he could also be called in as a defense witness. He questioned the DPW taking down trees at Depken Field and was told the Task Force had determined that three trees needed removal and this was done the past weekend by the DPW, that the funds came from the ordinance provisions. A question of authorizing expenses was asked. It was determined that this was not part of the contract and done in house. A request of providing Task Force meeting minutes to the council was made by a councilperson. He questioned health benefits for council members and the council was polled. He agreed with Mayor Jones on eliminating the traffic lights on Route 17.

Martin Saccomano, 57 Ottawa Avenue, on the tree removal at Depken Field. He questioned if the pay to play ordinance had been registered with the State. The council was polled by Mayor Jones if they were aware it had to be registered and when it was learned, what did they do. Mayor Jones noted upon learning, asked the borough clerk to register the ordinance with the State, which she did and received confirmation of receipt within three days.

Chris Semencz, 415 Jefferson Avenue, questioned what the scope of the Depken Field project included.

John Baratta, 269 Walter Avenue, on registering the pay to play ordinance with the State.

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 meeting was adjourned at 9:39 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 June 12, 2007.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk