

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS****MINUTES****September 25, 2007**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, September 25, 2007 at 8:14 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.

Before the Invocation, Mayor Jones asked to remember in your prayers the passing of Crossing Guard Jack Mazotas. On a happier note, he acknowledged the 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of former Councilman Bert and Marge Heeren who would be celebrating on September 28, 2007.

**INVOCATION:** A prayer was offered by Councilman DiPisa.

**PROCLAMATION:** A proclamation requested by the Contemporary Club of Hasbrouck Heights declaring October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and signed by Mayor Jones, was read into the record as follows:

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior that a person uses against a partner or family member to control that person; and

**WHEREAS**, one in four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2004, there were 76,109 domestic violence offenses in New Jersey and 1,200 women killed by partners nationally; and

**WHEREAS**, everyone deserves to live a life free from fear of being hurt or killed by people who are supposed to love them; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC has declared domestic violence a Special State Project for its members, and the Contemporary Club of Hasbrouck Heights as a member of the Federation joins with the clubs throughout the State of New Jersey to address the issue of domestic violence;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that we do hereby proclaim the month of October 2007 to be National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in our community, and do hereby join the dedicated volunteers of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC and the Contemporary Club of Hasbrouck Heights to aid victims of domestic violence; to emphasize the need for awareness of domestic violence; to support our local domestic violence shelters; and to promote the National Domestic Hotline, 1-800-799-SAFE.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** 1. Letter from Assemblyman Robert Gordon on Library Levy Cap Resolution

2. Letter from Dianne Donohue-Hand regarding sink hole in her back yard.

Councilwoman Skiba requested Item #2 be read into the record (Copy attached).

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

Mayor Jones asked Borough Attorney Ortiz to meet with the engineers, DPW Supt. Spindler and the homeowner and report back to the council.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** (August 14, 2007 Work Session, September 11, 2007 Regular Meeting, Work Session and Executive Session)

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

None

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the claims and accounts amounting to \$529,541.81 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

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

## REPORTS:

**HEALTH AND PARKS:** Under Health, Commissioner DiPisa reported for the month of August, 17 births, 9 male, 8 female; 378 dog licenses; 7 Hasbrouck Heights deaths; for a total of \$6,695.17 collected in fees. He reported on the completion of the Dog Census. Dog License fees will be discussed at the October 9 work session. A banner will be placed across the Boulevard to announce the Health Fair scheduled for October 20. A new health inspector, Michelle Dillon, has been assigned to Hasbrouck Heights. Flu Shot registration is scheduled for November 1, with flu shots administered November 20, both to take place in the Senior Center. Under Parks, he reported Mr. Kronyak, Mr. Spindler and Mr. O'Brien had met at Miers Park to discuss the possibility of improvements to the park by means of a grant under Community Development. Improvements discussed included new playground equipment, two new half-court basketball courts and sidewalks, as well as a retaining wall that borders DOT State Highway 46 property.

As liaison to the Environmental/Transportation Commission, he read the following report which was submitted by Commission Chair Rose Heck:

"The Expansion of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights Recycling Program has begun. DPW Supt. Bill Spindler and I have been working diligently on this new expanded program since early last spring at the suggestion of Commission Member Jim Dressel. This Saturday, Town Day, we will be launching the Expanded Recycling Program. Gil Hunt, Jack Stavash and I will be manning the Environmental and Transportation Commission's table at Woodland Park. We will be handing out information sheets covering all items to be recycled here in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights. We are working on several levels of Recycle, and reducing tonnage weight of garbage. We have obtained information from Ridgewood that has been quite enlightening as to the considerable monies that can be saved when residents take recycling seriously. In 2007 the Village of Ridgewood reported a 40% reduction in Solid Waste disposal, which avoided \$417,533 in landfill tipping fees, and generated \$187,000 from the sale of recyclable materials. We can do that here in Hasbrouck Heights too. When people look at those recyclables and learn they are throwing thousands of dollars in the garbage, I know they will think twice and stop. Education is key to comply with the REDUCE-REUSE- RECYCLE Program. The Commission is planning to send copies of the new Recycling Instructions to all the organizations, schools, and churches in the community. It is hoped that the Borough's Department of Public Works will also make this new information available to all the businesses in town. When the people of our Borough learn that they can save money on their tax bills by using the three "R " PLAN: REDUCE- REUSE-RECYCLE, we know they will cooperate with the Environmental

Commission and the Department of Public Works to achieve our initial goal of saving at least one tax point by October, 2008, a year from the start of this program. We have worked very hard to research and draft our own plan of action, which includes a special program for all of the local schools. The Bergen County Utility Authority that will be given by Lori Russo, BCUA Solid Waste Education/Technical Advisor beginning next month. A special Recycling Bin is located at the Entrance of the Library. (This was changed Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> to the Parking Lot entrance.) Residents may bring shredded paper to that location or down to the DPW Recycling Center located at 1 Plant Road. We thank Supt. of School Joseph Luongo and Bill Spindler for agreeing and taking the necessary steps to participate in the BCUA educational program. On Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> The Middle School program will be "What's in My Trash?" There will be three programs each day. At Lincoln School Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Russo will be visiting the Kindergarten classes and possibly Pre-K with the program "Roxy the Recycling Raccoon." At Euclid School Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Russo will visit Pre-K, Kindergarten and Grade 1. Pre-K and first grade will receive "Roxy the Recycling Raccoon" and the Kindergarten program will be "Michael Learns to Recycle." I will be contacting Corpus Christi School since Mrs. Russo said the BCUA would make the program available there as well. The Environmental Commission will also sponsor an Essay Contest which will include the Sixth thru Eighth Graders in October. By Town Day, The Commission will have in conjunction with the DPW a table where educational materials will be given explaining the more expansive recycling program in conjunction with the town's DPW Supt. to encourage recycling, that will in turn save us tax dollars. There will also be promotional items such as rulers, pencils, refrigerator magnets and recycling stickers available for town residents while supplies last. The schools have been equipped with receptacles to better recycle all acceptable recyclable materials.

Residents may also bring computer equipment to the Recycling Center at 1 Plant Road. "

**FINANCE AND SANITATION:** Under Health, Deputy Commissioner Introna announced that a 5K Run will be held in conjunction with the Health Fair in line with the new Health and Wellness Program. Registration is scheduled at Town Day, and the Run will be held at 9 a.m. on October 20. Under Finance, he had no report available. Under Sanitation, Commissioner Introna reported an increase in collection of recycling materials in schools as the DPW has provided collection receptacles for separation of paper, cardboard and co-mingled bottles and cans. The mechanics were preparing spare garbage trucks for leaf collection. Leaf bags will be distributed at Town Day, for those wishing to bag their leaves.

**FIRE AND LAND USE:** Under Police, Deputy Commissioner Skiba congratulated Chief Colaneri for graduating at the top of his class from the West Point Leadership Program. Under Land Use, Commissioner Skiba reported for the month of August, the Building Department collected \$15,153 in permit fees. With regard to property maintenance, 12 warning slips were issued for overgrown lawns, with three given summons; 14 summonses will be heard on September 26 for various violations; two warnings to landscapers for working without permits who complied; two complaints of non-maintenance of pools by neighbors, which were resolved; three warnings to contracts

for displaying their signs on lawns, who complied; three complaints of neighbors overgrown shrubbery; one complaint of a junk car parked in the neighbor's driveway, which was removed. A report was received from Joseph Burgis, of Burgis and Associates regarding the status of the preparation Element and Fair Share Plan, which is in the process of being completed and forwarded to the municipality for distribution to the Planning Board. He will ask for a presentation to that Board. Under Fire, she reported a total of 164 calls, including 95 EMS calls. She reported on an accident at the corner of Oldfield and Franklin Avenues, a result of egg throwing. She commended Jennifer Bishop who assisted with a CPR resuscitation which was successful. She commended the members of the Fire Department who built a great demonstrative for Town Day, a house with flames in the windows that spew smoke which will allow children to participate in putting out the fire. Under Teterboro Airport, the air quality study will be available in late November. She attended a Coalition for Public Health and Safety meeting and a Freeholders meeting on the airspace redesign. She reported there would be a shift in normal airspace east of Teterboro due to the events at the United Nations General Assembly. There is a meeting scheduled for TANAAC on October 24 at 7 p.m.

**POLICE AND STREETS:** Under Police, Commissioner Saccomano reported on announcements that schools are open and parents should use the drop off zones and comply with crossing guard directions. The Detective Bureau spend numerous hours tracking down a missing person who was found and reunited with his mother. Gypsy suspects were arrested while committing a residential burglary in progress. She read some thank you notes, one from the missing person's mother, one congratulating the Police, Fire, Emergency Response Unit, Hackensack Hospital and its mobile intensive care unit, especially the 9-1-1 operator, Police Officers Ciccarella, Corbliss, Kroncke, EMT Kathy Nigro, Firefighter and EMT Derek Hernandez, EMT J. Bishop and J. Riordan, Firefighter J. Armeli and Captain R. Botelho from Robert Siconolfi. Under Streets, she reported the Shade Tree Department completed their work at Depken Field, removing the tree stumps from the area where the handicapped accessible area will be located at the Oldfield Avenue entrance. Six tons of asphalt were used to patch potholes this month. On September 24 a pre-construction meeting was held to discuss the 2007 road resurfacing program. Leaf season will run from October 17 through December 1. Residents were reminded to not place branches or bushes in leaf piles, and to not place leaves within ten feet of a storm drain. Leaf bags will be distributed at Town Day.

**TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION:** Under Transportation, Commissioner DiNanno reported the DOT approved a grant for \$75,000 and the contract awarded for repaving of Madison Avenue, which will begin in November.. Under Recreation, he reported the Recreation Center registration is scheduled for September 25. He reported on Town Day which will include free food, inflatable rides, a free concert by "Double Tap", a chance to donate blood sponsored by the Junior Woman's Club and a chance to vote in the Beautiful Baby Contest. Halloween in the Park tickets will be sold at the Recreation table, free twine and leaf bags at the Leaf Committee table, and to check out

the organizations in town. Halloween in the Park will be held October 18, with a rain date of October 23, subject to the availability of the B.C. hay wagons. Fall Recreation programs have begun. A 2007/2008 Program Guide has been sent to all homes in Hasbrouck Heights. Under Depken Field, he gave an update., firstly, saying that the field is done and looks great. The next phase has begun which is spraying and striping the track, a fence has been installed around the perimeter of the field, a platform is being installed for additional accessible seating, with two entrances available on Ravine and Oldfield Avenue. He thanked the engineers, Mr. Kronyak, Supt. Luongo, Rob Brady and Mayor and Council. He congratulated the Junior Football coaches on their first win. He thanked Mr. Spindler for taking care of some problems, Chief Colaneri for placing a patrolman on the corner of Paterson Avenue and the Boulevard in the morning. Under Oldfield Avenue Homes, he reported the developer has begun to clear up the area. Some adjustments are being made to the striping of the Swim Club parking lot before it can be done.

**PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SOCIAL SERVICES:** Under Public Facilities, Councilman Altobelli reported the DPW logged 24 man-hours for the cleaning of NJ DOT properties. Areas of concern were the Route 46 overpass and Boulevard intersection and the Railroad Avenue area bordering Hasbrouck Heights, Wood-Ridge, Teterboro Airport and NJ Transit properties. DPW Supt. Spindler attended a meeting with all respective owners with regard to illegal dumping and a verbal agreement reached that NJ Transit would clean up the area and Port Authority police would patrol more often near the airport. The possibility of installing surveillance cameras along Railroad Avenue as part of the Homeland Security Program was discussed. Under Social Services, he reported the Hasbrouck Heights Food Bank hit an all time low in the past few weeks. He thanked the following for donations from Corpus Christi Brown Bag Sunday, First Reformed Church, St John's Episcopal Church, Pat Thomasey, Holy Trinity Vacation Bible School, Connie Margagliano, Councilwoman Maryetta Saccomano, Rick DiPiazza, Martha Pertuz, Nancy Halloran, Girl Scout Troop 524, Paul Fitzpatrick, Karen McDowell, Aimee McCarthy and Ginny Santano.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Jones noted he had visited the Depken Field project and on several occasions observed a gathering of 25-30 people watching the construction in the evening hours. He announced that there will be a dedication of the field improvements on October 19. He congratulated Chief Colaneri on his achievement of graduating at the top of his class at the West Point Leadership Program.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. Parking Lot Regulations**

Borough Attorney Ortiz reported a meeting had been held with Chief Colaneri, Mr. Kronyak, himself and Mrs. Sees and presented recommendations to draft an ordinance for overnight parking in the Central Avenue parking lot. They were as follows: to include ten designated numbered spaces for overnight parking, allowing no commuter parking,

must be registered to a Hasbrouck Heights address, no commercial vehicles, hours from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m., a four hour parking limit in the entire lot during the daytime, a fee of \$600, and on a first come-first serve basis. Questions asked were why the four hour limit, which he replied it was felt this was sufficient for those conducting Borough Hall business and shoppers; no stickers would be used, registration would be made through the Borough Clerk's office; only ten spots being used as a test program. Employee parking was questioned, and it was thought four hours was sufficient, allowing for lunch breaks. Some additional suggestions included making the employees exempt, require a hold harmless insurance certificate, maintenance of lot especially during snow storms and annual rotation of registrants. A motion was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Saccomano, to have Borough Attorney Ortiz move forward with this ordinance, which was unanimously approved.

#### B. Depken Field Dedication Plaque

A motion was made by Councilman DiNanno, seconded by Councilwoman Saccomano to expend funds for the Depken Field Dedication Plaque, and unanimously approved.

**TRANSFER:** Michael Cribben from Fire Department Engine Company One to Fire Department Truck Company

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

**RESIGNATIONS:** Laura French from Mayor's Committee of Community Celebrations

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Skiba, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resignation was approved with regret.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** 141. Raffle License for H. H. Junior Woman's Club

142. Raffle Licenses for Kiwanis Club of Hasbrouck Heights and Teterboro

On a motion by Councilwoman Saccomano, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, with Councilwoman Saccomano abstaining from Resolution #142 as she is a member of the Kiwanis Club, the foregoing Consent Agenda resolutions were approved.  
(Copies attached).

**RESOLUTIONS:** 143. Opposing New York/New Jersey/Philadelphia Metropolitan Area Airspace Redesign as Proposed by the FAA

144. Award of Bid for 2007 Four Wheel Drive Vehicle for Police Department
144. Authorizing Labor Contract with DPW Local 911
144. Authorizing Endorsement of Application to B.C. Community Development for Jefferson Avenue Roadway Improvements
144. Authorizing Endorsement of Application to B.C. Community Development for Miers Park Renovations

Councilwoman Saccomano questioned #144, if consideration was given to purchase a hybrid vehicle.

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

**ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:** None

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

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:**

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

Pam Link, 221 Harrison Avenue, regarding the proposed overnight parking in the Central Avenue lot questioned how she would know which spots not to park in. She was told the spaces would be numbered. She questioned if it was seven days a week, and was told yes.

Jean Sommers, 100 Woodside Avenue, regarding the flooding issue at this location, had appeared a few weeks ago to the council. A letter was received from the engineer, which she found disturbing, that it suggested it was her problem. She asked for help. She had received estimates on grading, changing the pitch of the driveway, sidewalk pitch, with no guarantees. Mrs. Sommers asked the council if they agreed that it was totally a residential issue. A suggestion was made to have the engineer contact the Borough of Lodi to see what kind of agreement was made in the past and what their drainage could or could not hold. This was carried to the next work session when the engineer would be present.

Christian Semencz, 415 Jefferson Avenue, asked what was done regarding his previous question of the contractor violating the laws on construction hours at Depken Field. He was told it was allowed according to contract provisions. Mr. Semencz was still questioning it.

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

**ADJOURN:**

A motion was made to adjourn by Councilwoman Saccomano, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried.

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 9:42 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 September 25, 2007.

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Rose Marie Sees, RMC  
Borough Clerk