

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights - 1/27/2009

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

January 27, 2009

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, January 27, 2009 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 5, 2009 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 5, 2009.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Rose Heck, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilman Anthony DiNanno, Councilman Stephen Altobelli, Councilwoman Sonya Buckman, Councilman David Gonzalez, Councilwoman Pamela J. Link

Absent:

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

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Altobelli

“Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they shall be known as the Children of God. But I say to you that hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To those who strike you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from those who take away your cloak, do not withhold your coat as well. Give to everyone who begs from you, and of those who take away your goods, do not ask them again. And as you wish that others would do to you, so do to them.”

PRESENTATION: Certificates to Jr. Football Lightweight Cheerleaders as 2008 Super Bowl Champs

Mayor Heck, Councilwoman Buckman and Councilman DiPisa, assisted by Police Chief and Head Coach Michael Colaneri presented Certificates of Achievement to the following: Captains: Katherine Campbell, Emma Frazee, Kristen Inglesby, Juliana Quatrone, Amanda Todd. Co-Captains: Diana Battaglia, Summer Culkin, Alessandra

PRESENTATION (cont'd):

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Pasqualone, Regina Pellegrino, Jamie Sudol, Rebecca Weber. Cheerleaders: Desiree Balboa, Ornelia Borsani, Ashley Cutruzzula, Danielle Dallara, Rachael Dallara, Jillian Di Giacinto, Grace Garcia, Youstina Gerges, Jenna Giaquinto, Wasfieh Hammad, Alyson Harden, Amalia Joy, Meghan Incantalupto, Lisa Kashuba, Allison Lallo, Sarena Latona, Amanda Magno, Brooke McKnight, Vasi Motsius, Shelli Nielsen, Megan O'Leary, Melanie Parisi, Stacey Porzl, Megan Rinke, Hailey Ross, Daniella Rotella, Jillian Sears, Jessica Stinson, Gabriella Tuzzo, Jennifer Varga, Bethany Ventola, Alyssa Verdi. Coaches: Linda Condal, Kathy Iappelli and Francine Salerno.

- COMMUNICATIONS:**
- 1) Letter of Resignation from Catrina Valente, Mayor's Youth Committee
 - 2) Letter from Euclid School thanking Mayor Heck for attending the Drug Rally on January 16
 - 3) Request for Girl Scout Sleepover for February 13, 2009

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

The clerk asked if anyone had an objection to the Girl Scout request, with none being noted.

PETITIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *(November 25, 2008 Regular Meeting)*

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Gonzales, with Councilman DiNanno and Councilwoman Link abstaining, and the other council members voting yes, the foregoing Minutes were approved.

BILLS:

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$335,118.23 specified in the schedule hereto annexed, have been examined and approved by the Finance Commissioner, or his Deputy; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in the accounts listed for payment of the claims;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the claims be paid and checks be issued on the funds and accounts indicated on the attached schedule.

BILLS (cont'd):

Signed Justin A. DiPisa

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Commissioner of Finance

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

REPORTS:

POLICE: Under Police, Mayor/Commissioner Heck reported as follows: Under Department News, she reported the 5th Grade DARE Graduation was held on January 15 at the Hasbrouck Heights High School with a party sponsored by the Anti Drug Council and PTA. On January 16, Chief Colaneri along with Capt. DeLorenzo and Capt. Cronin and the BADGE Officers participated in the Anti-Drug rallies at Euclid and Lincoln Schools. On that day, the Police Department Annual Beefsteak Dinner was held with over 350 attendees and \$13,000 raised for Special Olympics. Chief Colaneri and Capt. DeLorenzo attended the B.C. Juvenile Officers meeting to congratulate D/Sgt. Rinke who was elected treasurer of that group. Under Summonses, for the month of December included 413 Parking violations versus 304 in December 2007, with year to date totals for 2008 - 4,661 and in 2007 - 4,644. Moving violations were 101 versus 59 in 2007, with a year to date of 2,024 in 2008 and 2,009 in 2007. Total Violations were 514 in December 2008 and 363 in November 2007, with a year to date of 6,685 in 2008 and 6,653 in 2007. Under the General Complaints report, she noted there were 42 abandoned 911 calls, 78 ambulance requests, 6 Teterboro ambulance requests, 11 ambulance w/paramedics, 2 animal bites, 13 animal complaints, 23 assisting other agencies, 16 ordinance violations, 26 commercial burglar alarm complaints, 31 residential burglar alarm complaints, 1 burglary auto, 1 burglary commercial, 1 burglary residence, 5 criminal mischief mv, 4 customer disputes, 1 death natural causes, 23 disabled vehicles, 7 disorderly conduct, 1 disorderly conduct fight, 11 domestic violence calls, 9 domestic violence orders, 6 DUI, 4 erratic driver, 5 found property, 1 fraud, 1 fraud bad checks, 1 gas leak, 49 general, 5 general disputes, 5 harassment, 5 hold up alarm, 2 identity theft, 2 juvenile delinquency, 6 juvenile incidents, 18 lock out of motor vehicle, 3 lock out residence, 5 neighbor disputes, 9 noise complaints, 1 possession marijuana, 8 property damage, 31 summonses, 22 suspicious incidents, 21 suspicious persons, 11 suspicious vehicles, 4 theft, 32 traffic accidents county roads, 14 borough roads traffic accidents, 9 traffic accidents-private, 53 traffic accidents state roads, 60 traffic enforcement, 34 traffic related services, 39 Wood-Ridge 911 calls, for a total of 984 complaints. She read the following statistics for 2008: Total Summons: Ptl. D. Kroncke, 529, the highest in the Department; Ptl. Donohue, 359; Ptl. Ciccarelli, 332; Sgt. Corbliss, 304; Pt. Robertson, 302; Ptl. Behr, (Aug.-Dec.) 110. Traffic Enforcement: Ptl. Donohue, 394, the highest in the Department; Ptl. Robertson, 296. DWI Arrests: Ptl. Donohue, 11, the highest in the Department; Ptl. Bassett, 9; Ptl. Kroncke, 8. Attendance: Ptl. Behr, 1 day; Ptl. Werner, 2 days; Sgt. Corbliss, 5 days; Lt. Lesho, 5 days; Lt. Archer, 2 days; Capt. Cronin, 2 **POLICE (cont'd):** days; D/Sgt. Adamo, Det. Baker, Det. Colaneri, Sgt. Rinke, Capt. DeLorenzo, all perfect attendance.

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FINANCE & PUBLIC FACILITIES: Under Finance, Commissioner Di Pisa read the following Finance Report: the current fund cash balance as of December 31, 2008 was \$2,478,053.87; on November 30, 2008 was \$4,460,563.18, which represents a decrease of \$1,982,509.31. The entire balance was invested and is earning 2.00%. Cash receipts for December totaled \$918,876.55 of which \$349,833.78 was for current taxes, \$63,592.15 was for prepaid 2009 taxes, \$63,519.40 was State Aid, \$218,432.13 was Interfunds and \$223,499.09 was miscellaneous revenues. Cash disbursements for December totaled \$2,895,057.68 of which \$1,697,323.85 was local school taxes, \$707,067.39 was salaries, \$150,000.00 was Interfunds and \$340,666.44 was for other expenses. He continued that the financial records for the year ended 12/31/2008 have been closed out and the process of formulating the 2009 Municipal Budget is underway. The CFO completed the Annual Debt Statement by the Statutory deadline of 1/1/2009 and he is working on the Annual Financial Statement which is due 2/10/2009. The deadline for introduction of the 2009 Municipal Budget was extended from 2/10/2009 to 3/17/2009. Under Public Facilities, he reported all holiday decorations were removed and put in storage. All roof drains on all buildings were cleaned of leaves. The DPW has started to paint inside Borough Hall with the first floor hallway, kitchen, DARE office and waiting area completed. During and after each snow storm the DPW cleans the Borough sidewalks and parking lots. The Community Room held 19 events thus far this year, Caucus Room 8, Council Chambers 7 and Senior Center 4 (not including senior activities).

PARKS: Under Parks, Commissioner DiNanno reported the only reportable activity concerning our parks is that the snow is cleared and de-iced after every snow event. The Department of Public Works often checks to see if ice reappears during below freezing temperatures and takes the proper measures to keep the sidewalks safe. He had asked DPW Supt. Spindler about the rock salt situation and was assured there is an adequate supply.

TRANSPORTATION: Under Transportation, Commissioner Altobelli reported the NJ DOT Division of Highway Traffic Safety has released statistics involving bicycle accidents for the past year. Bicycle fatalities throughout the state almost doubled in 2008 versus 2007, from 12 to 22. This is the highest number in six years. In Bergen County there were 263 accidents involving bicycles in 2007. There are several factors causing this increase including that there are more bicyclists on the road now because of skyrocketing gasoline prices experienced this past summer, many immigrants lacking sufficient identification for a driver's license rely upon bicycles to get to work and neither motorists nor cyclists have a solid understanding of the rules of the road. According to New Jersey law, bicycles are defined as vehicles and have the same rights and responsibilities as cars on the road. Bicycles must travel with traffic and stay close to the shoulder except when making a left turn. Vehicles are lawfully required to **TRANSPORTATION (cont'd):** acknowledge and make room for cyclists. Keeping these rules in mind will help ensure the safety of both cyclists and motorists.

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LAND USE, RECREATION & SOCIAL SERVICES: Under Land Use, Commissioner Buckman reported the Construction office in the month of December collected fees in the amount of \$6,831.00. For the month of January to date, \$114,640.00 of which \$104,000 is from Touro college. She was requested by Zoning Official Nick Melfi, regarding banners on businesses, reminded business owners that according to Chapter 275 banners, streamers, flags or pennants upon the exterior premises located in either the B1 Central Business District or the B2 Highway Commercial District shall bear no writing other than the words "Grand Opening" and which may so used and displayed for a period no longer than 14 days from the date a new commercial enterprise has opened up for business and nevertheless no more frequently for that premises than one such 14 day period in any two years. He will be visiting those retailers that have banners that do not say "Grand Opening" and have been up for a long time. They were advised to remove them as soon as possible. Under Recreation, she reported the Recreation Center is open on Friday and Saturday evenings. To find out if it is open, call 201-288-4143 and hit #4 key. Recreation youth basketball has begun for 3rd through 8th grades. The 1st and 2nd grade clinic started this month at 24Hour Fitness. Recreation wrestling has over 60 boys registered. The Recreation Department hosted the Heights Open Tournament last Sunday. A calendar listing Senior Center activities is available monthly. Under Social Services, Commissioner Buckman reported the Food Pantry is open Monday mornings from 9 to 11 a.m. for Hasbrouck Heights residents in need. Anyone in need that would like to register can do so by calling Rob Brady by calling (201) 288-4143. During the month of January the pantry served over 50 individuals in need. Thank you to the generous volunteers who help stock and supervise the food pantry, as well as the following donors: Madeline Sandner, The Masonic Lodge, Carol Surachi, The National Honor Society, Mrs. Calley, Lincoln School, Manigeh Saadatian, Joe Manginelli and Family, Karly Kling-Baez, Elisa DePalma, The Brady Family, Kathleen Hoffman, The Kinzley Family, St. John the Divine, Corpus Christi Parish, Karen McDowell, Marie Reiner, Josephine McClean, Tom White and Family, Aimee McCarthy, Barbara Bosch, Joan Turner and Phyllis Berman. She continued that if anyone wishes to donate food items here are some ideas: canned fruit, juices, paper products, all kinds of soaps and cleaning products, shampoo, toiletries, jelly, coffee, tea, powdered milk and snacks. As Library liaison, she reported that at a recent Trustee meeting, it was noted that library circulation is up 13% from last year. She asked residents for their continued support of the Library, including sponsorship of fundraisers, one being a Chinese New Year's Luncheon on Sunday, February 8 at the Asian Grill, 20 Route 17 North, Lowe's Plaza, Rutherford.

FIRE, STREETS & SANITATION: Under Fire, Commissioner Gonzalez reported from January 1 through 25 there were 32 fire calls, 8 non fire emergency calls and 116 EMS calls. He thanked Ron Phillips for joining the Fire Department, who had been a Wood-Ridge volunteer for over 10 years. He thanked the new Junior Firefighters Michael

FIRE, STREETS & SANITATION (cont'd): Eccleston, Joseph Borrmann, Nicholas

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Coviello, Chris Van Saders. He reminded residents who have wood burning fireplaces to have them cleaned by a professional. In 2008 total fire calls came in over 2,400, with one of the busiest days Christmas Day. Under Streets & Sanitation, he reported so far this year the Department of Public Works responded to five snow and/or ice storms. Starting on New Year's Eve the salt trucks were dispatched as freezing rain made road conditions dangerous. The trucks were also sent back out that night as temperatures fell into single digits. Then snow and freezing rain hit us on January 10 at 1pm and did not stop until 10pm. Another dusting of snow fell on January 15 which brought out the salt trucks out to blanket the town with salt. On January 18, three (3) inches of snow fell. The DPW salted and plowed and returned to re-salt at night due to freezing temperatures. Lastly, another snow storm arrived the next day on January 19 with the usual response. The DPW plows five (5) miles of Bergen County roads that are within our border. A voucher is sent to the County for services rendered. Total amount that our Borough has received from the County for snow plowing is \$6,060.00. He then read the flyer regarding parking during snowstorms which is being sent to all residents.

HEALTH: Under Health, Commissioner Link reported on January 29 attended the Board of Health 2009 Reorganization Meeting where the following members were unanimously elected: President, Connie Doheny; Vice President, Tina Dowd; Financial Secretary, Coleen Jarvis; and Board Secretary Laura French. The regular monthly meeting followed, where the new sanitary inspector was introduced to the members from Mid Bergen Regional Health Commission. The 2009 Dog License applications were mailed out on January 3rd with over 1,100 applications being sent to town residents. To date, the Health Dept has issued over 400 dog licenses. A notice has been sent to the Observer informing residents that the Teterboro Animal Shelter will be giving out free rabies vaccines to dogs and cat for all New Jersey residents on Thursday, January 29th. On January 16, notification was received of human infections due to Salmonella Typhimurium in connection with peanut butter based products. The FDA is asking local health departments to investigate food establishments in their jurisdiction to ensure that these products have been removed from sale. As of January 16, 2009, 474 persons have been infected throughout 43 states. The infection may have contributed to 6 deaths and the most severe cases occurred among young children, the elderly and people with impaired immune systems. The State of New Jersey has identified 19 cases. On January 23, Last year the New Jersey Public Health Council requires any licensed child-care center or pre-school facility on or after September 1, 2008, shall annually receive one dose of influenza vaccine between September 1 and December 31, 2008. The Health Dept has been receiving calls because parents cannot find the flu vaccine at this late date. Working together with Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission is offering a flu vaccine program for Pre-School children on Thursday, January 29th 2009 at the New Milford Courtroom, 930 River Road, New Milford, NJ. Hasbrouck Heights six pre-schools including Corpus Christi, Kathy Dunn Center, Methodist Nursery School, New World Montessori, Euclid and Lincoln Schools were notified.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Heck gave her Mayor's Report as follows:

January 7, Attended County Supt. Aaron Graham's Meeting held in Hackensack with Supt. of Schools Joseph Luongo, School Board President Connie Dohoney, Business Administrator Ms. Messery, Reps from Teterboro and South Hackensack to discuss future plans for Hasbrouck Heights to include Teterboro Students in the Hasbrouck Heights School District beginning September 2009 School Year, with the exception of one student who will remain in the South Hackensack Schools until that student completes 8th grade. This is part of the State Plan to make all School Districts K through 12.

7 pm Attended the Planning Board Reorganization Meeting at which time Henry Dobbelaar was again elected Chair and Gilbert Hunt Vice Chair.

After that attended the Reorganization of the Board of Health at which time Constance Doheny was elected Chair and Tina Louise Dowd Vice Chair.

January 8th Attended Special Meeting with Deputy Chief Robert Kroncke and Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak.

January 12th Met with the Mayor's Business Community Committee and CliffHangers to discuss the arrangements and plans for a Street Fair

January 13th Attended the Bergen County League of Mayor's Breakfast Meeting at which time the President of Commerce and Industry spoke of the economic climate of the State and Bergen County. Spoke about the County's transportation needs, the extension of the Hudson Bergen Light Rail into Bergen County and the revisiting of the Community Development Blocks Grants to ask that our Senators and Congressional Delegation to request that HUD expands the grants to include infrastructure projects, etc.

Met with Chief Colaneri and Michael Kronyak on several Police Matters.

11 am Attended the Finance Committee Meeting Chaired by Council Justin DiPisa, Vice Chair Pam Link and Finance Officer Mike K.

January 14th, Met with Chief Colaneri, Capt DeLorenzo, Building Inspector Nick Melfi, Borough Attorney Ralph Chandless, Borough Clerk Rose Sees, Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak to discuss possible additions to Borough Ordinances.

Attended the DARE Graduation of Euclid and Lincoln Schools 5th graders with Dep. Police Commissioner Justin DiPisa

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January 16th, Spoke at Euclid School at 9 am and Lincoln School at 10 am as part of the Drug Awareness and Prevention Week activities held at both schools.

January 17th, Spoke at the Annual Firemen's Dinner

January 21st Attended the weekly Finance Committee Meeting working to prepare the new budget.

1:45 p.m. Attended the Anti Drug Council Meeting.

7 pm Attended the Library Reorganization meeting.

January 24th I continue to meet with residents from 10 am till noon on Saturdays. I prefer meeting people in person. Trying to return phone calls is very difficult in that people aren't always there and some people do not have voice mail. So I ask residents again to come visit with any comments or suggestions. That concludes my report.

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENTS: Michael A. Sinatra to Fire Department Engine Co. 2
Angelo Roccamo Transfer from Fire Department Hook and Ladder Company to Engine Company One
Juana DiBlisceglie to Mayor's Committee on Community Celebrations

On a motion by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Altobelli, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Appointments were approved.

RESIGNATIONS: Catrina Valente from Mayor's Youth Committee

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resignation was accepted with regret.

CONSENT AGENDA: None

RESOLUTIONS: 28. Authorizing Mutual Aid Agreement with South Bergen Fire Chiefs Association for 2009

On a motion by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Altobelli, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was approved. (Copy attached)

RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

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29. Authorizing Professional Contract with Joseph J. Rotolo, Esq. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

On a motion by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was approved. (Copy attached)

30. Authorizing Professional Contract with James Fordham Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was approved. (Copy attached)

31. Authorizing Participation in the New Jersey Intergovernmental Insurance Fund for the years 2009 through 2011

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Buckman, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was approved. (Copy attached)

32. Raffle License for Corpus Christi Knights of Columbus Council No. 7041

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was approved. (Copy attached)

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2201:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled : **“AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS BY PROVIDING A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED “CHAPTER 204, PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF GENERAL LEGISLATION”** 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 February 10, 2009.

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

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

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ORDINANCE NO. 2200:

Mayor Heck asked for a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2200 which was made by Councilwoman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried. There being no one wishing to speak on this ordinance, the public hearing was closed on a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman DiNanno and unanimously carried.

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: “**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND §275-21E(1)(f) WHICH IS ONE OF SEVERAL EXCEPTIONS TO THE GENERAL REGULATIONS IMPOSED UPON SIGNS IN THE ZONING CHAPTER OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**” 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 Record , a newspaper circulating in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

Mayor Heck asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2200 which was made by Councilman DiNanno, seconded by Councilman DiPisa and unanimously carried.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

Mayor Heck asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried, Mayor Heck invited anyone from the public wishing to speak to please come forward.

James DiDonato, 221 Pasadena Avenue, with regard to snow plowing during the recent storms, that the DPW continued to plow streets that were plowed but he thought it unnecessary. He was advised to call the DPW noting date and time if he was concerned. He was also concerned about parked cars blocking sidewalks and into the street. He was advised to call the Police Department to make a report. He inquired who took care of snow at abandoned homes. Chief Colaneri said during the recent storms, 95 summonses were issued. He would investigate the home in question. It was said if the town could do the clean up and a lien placed on the property. DiDonato questioned recycling procedures.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Heck asked for a motion to close the public portion which was made by Councilman DiNanno, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, Mayor Heck asked for a motion to adjourn, which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded

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by Councilman DiNanno and unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 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 January 27, 2009.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk