

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights - 2/23/2010

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

February 23, 2010

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 8:03 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 4, 2010 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 4, 2010.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Rose Heck, Councilman David Gonzalez, Councilwoman Pamela J. Link, Councilman John Dingertopadre, Councilman Russell A. Lipari

Absent: Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilwoman Sonya Buckman

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

INVOCATION: Councilman Dingertopadre gave the Invocation which was as follows:

“Jesus, help my eyes to see all the good Thou sendest me. Jesus, help my ears to hear calls for help from far and near. Jesus, help my feet to go in the way that Thou wilt show. Jesus, help my hands to do all things loving, kind and true. Jesus, may I helpful be, growing every day like Thee. Amen.”

COMMUNICATIONS: 1) Letter from Senator Robert Gordon regarding pilot program in Gloucester County where County will take over municipal tax assessment functions

This letter was requested to be read into the record (Copy attached).

On a motion by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre and unanimously carried, the foregoing request was approved.

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PETITIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *(January 26, 2010 Regular Meeting)*

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

BILLS:

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$242,674.52 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.

Signed Justin A. DiPisa
Commissioner of Finance

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

REPORTS:

POLICE: Under Police, Deputy Commissioner Mayor Heck noted that Councilman DiPisa extends his apologies but was at home ill. She read the following report from Chief Colaneri:

On Saturday, February 20, 2010 an incident occurred in the City of Paterson where a Paterson Detective attempted to stop a suspect operating a stolen motor vehicle. The operator attempted to elude the Detective. Other Officers and departments pursued the suspect. The suspect in an attempt to get away also fired shots at the pursuing Officers. The suspect fled onto Route 17 East, then Route 17 South to Henry Street in Hasbrouck Heights. After encountering the dead end of Henry Street the suspect fled on foot. Numerous Police agencies including HHPD Officers and Detectives, Paterson PD, Wood-Ridge, Lodi, Garfield Police as well as Passaic County Sheriff's K-9 Unit, Bergen County K-9 and N.J. State Police and Helicopter. The suspect was located hiding in the wood area of Curtis Wright's property. The suspect and investigation was turned over to the Paterson Police Department.

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POLICE (cont'd):

The Police Department would like to advise our residents that in these types of occurrences they should: (1) Remain in their homes (this will ensure that you do not get confused with a suspect or become a hostage). (2) Lock all doors and windows. (3) Turn exterior lights on. (4) Call 911 to report anyone of anything suspicious. (5) Residents should not come outside, call Police Department for non-emergencies (the desk sergeant officer is busy coordinating all departments and patrols) or respond to the scene to see what is going on.

RECREATION & PARKS: Mayor Heck noted that Commissioner Buckman was absent to attend a State Competition at which her son was competing. She asked Deputy Commissioner Gonzalez to give her reports. Under Recreation, Deputy Commissioner Gonzalez reported the Rec Center continues to be open on Friday and Saturday evenings from 7-10 p.m. To find out if the center is open each weekend call 201-288-4143 and hit the #4 key. The Wrestling Team hosted the Andy Feintuch Twin County District 5 Championship on Feb. 21 with 10 towns attending. Those wrestlers who placed 1st or 2nd will advance to the Twin County Regional Championship on Feb. 27 in Hackensack. Softball registration netted 80 girls. There will be three teams in each division, 3rd & 4th grade, 5th & 6th grade and 7th & 8th grade. Adult Volleyball and Basketball programs are ongoing. Under Parks, Deputy Commissioner Gonzalez reported Boro Engineer Ken Job has contacted DPW Sut. Bill Spindler on the progress of the improvements to our parks through the use of revenue from grants received. All proper permits are in place and playground equipment has been delivered and is being stored at the DPW facility. Work has been scheduled to begin this week, weather permitting. Some improvements are a new walkway path throughout Woodland Park and a Strata Stone use for climbing will be installed in the playground area. At Miers Park, a new multi-task piece of playground equipment will be installed as well as new basketball courts along with a new shade canopy. A new set of swings and a shade canopy are already in place at the Central Avenue Park. Under Library, he reported statistics prepared by Library Director Mimi Hui. At the end of January there was an 11% increase in circulation compared to last year. Adult circulation was up 12%, Juvenile up 10%, Young Adult up 47% and Media up 18%. Twenty-three new patrons were registered. Popular Library programs include Tiny Tots Playgroup, Mom and Me Storytime, Booklovers Storytime for Grades K-1, Best Book discussion groups for Grades 2-3, Adult Book Discussion Group the last Thursday of each month, Crafts to Share the first Tuesday of the month, and Computer Basics and Job Search.

FIRE: Under Fire, Commissioner Gonzalez read the following activity report submitted by EMS Coordinator Elizabeth Waring: January 15 through February 15 there were 19 fire calls, 15 non-emergency calls and 143 EMS calls. Last Friday evening the Fire Department covered for Wood-Ridge from 6 p.m. to 12 midnight. As Liaison for Recycling, he reported the BCUA announced their events for Household Hazardous Waste March 13, July 17 at the BCUA, foot of Empire Boulevard, Moonachie; April 11, June 13 and October

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FIRE (cont'd):

17 at Bergen Community College, 400 Paramus Road, Paramus; May 15, September 11 and November 20 at Campgaw Mountain Reservation, 200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah. All events are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For further information refer to website www.bcua.org or call 201-807-5825. The 2010 Computer and Recycling Collection Dates are April 25, August 21 at Bergen Community Service Building, 327 East Ridgewood Avenue, Paramus; June 26 and November 6 at Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation.

FINANCE & PUBLIC FACILITIES: Under Finance, Commissioner Link reported the Current Fund cash balance at January 31, 2010 was \$2,465,785.82 and at December 31, 2009 was \$2,361,652.53 which represents an increase of \$104,133.29. The entire balance was invested and earning approximately 0.90%. Cash receipts for the month of January totaled \$3,169,286.69 of which \$2,887,973.89 was for Current Taxes, \$56,530.03 was for Delinquent Taxes and \$224,782.77 was Miscellaneous Revenues. Cash disbursements for the month of January totaled \$3,065,153.40 of which \$1,849,971.58 was for Local School Taxes, \$591,802.69 was for Salaries and \$623,379.13 was for Other Expenses. The process of formulating the 2010 Municipal Budget is under way. The Chief Financial Officer has completed and submitted the Annual Debt Statement which was due by January 31, 2010 and the Annual Financial Statement which was due by February 10, 2010. These statements are important documents and present the financial position as of December 31, 2009. The date for introduction of the 2010 budget has been extended from February 10th until March 31st in order to accommodate the planned March 16th presentation of the Governor's budget. The Finance Committee continues to work on the 2010 Municipal Budget with regularly scheduled meetings every Tuesday in the Municipal Building. Under Public Facilities, Commissioner Link reported the Department of Public Works has installed a new sump pump in the basement of Borough Hall. After repairing a leaking drain pipe, it was discovered that the sump pump was not operational and was replaced. Also, a repair was completed on the exhaust vent motor of the hot water heater. A circulating pump was repaired on the hot water system and a new exhaust fan was installed in the bathroom located in the Caucus Room. The schedule of meetings was as follows: Community Room – 25, Caucus Room – 7, Council Chambers – 5, Senior Center – 2 (not including senior activities), Lobby – 1.

STREETS, SANITATION & TRANSPORTATION: Commissioner Dingertopadre gave the following report: The Department of Public Works was active in responding to several storms related events. On January 25, heavy rain and severe winds brought down tree limbs on electrical lines causing a power outage that affected several homes and the Borough's sanitary sewer pumping station. The Pump Station, located on Woodside Avenue, was powered up by a portable emergency generator during the outage. A snow storm that coincided with morning rush-hour traffic on January 27 brought out our salt trucks and again on February 3, salt trucks and spreaders. On February 10, blizzard conditions brought out the entire snow plowing fleet and worked for 16 hours before

STREETS, SANITATION & TRANSPORTATION (cont'd):

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clearing the roads of 12 inches of snow and ice. The following night, the DPW removed snow from the Boulevard business district, schools, and churches. Again on February 16 snow brought out our plowing equipment and salt spreading trucks.

HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES & LAND USE: Under Health, Commissioner Lipari reported he had met with Laura French who told him the Health Board Meeting was cancelled due to weather. She issued the following report: in January there were over 750 dog licenses issued. Reminder letters will be sent out the end of February. Teterboro Animal Shelter will be giving free rabies vaccinations on February 18 and February 24. H1N1 Clinic was scheduled January 18 from 5-9 p.m. for anyone six months and older. Nurses from H.A.R.P. vaccinated over 150 people of all ages. Active participants were children under 9 years old or younger who required a second vaccination. Another clinic scheduled for February 10 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for anyone six months or older along with a special invitation for all school teachers. Due to the weather this clinic was cancelled. The AARP Safe Driving Course has been scheduled a second course for May 11 and May 13. This refresher course is open to all ages. Completion allows for a 2 point reduction from your driver's license and 5% reduction on car insurance. Cost is \$5 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. Mid Bergen Regional Health Commission issued the following report: regarding H1N1 Influenza, they plan to reach out to local senior citizens on a monthly basis. Beginning Feb. 25, vaccinations will be given without an appointment at the Leonia Health Department on Mondays from 4 to 7 p.m. Senate Bill S458 calls for a statewide referendum if certain municipal functions including local health services be assumed by County government. While the intention is help New Jersey taxpayers, the average cost per capital among all local health departments in New Jersey was lowest for the regional health commission, and cited several figures to substantiate this. Under Social Services he reported The food pantry is open on Monday mornings from 9-11 am for Hasbrouck Heights residents in need. During the month of January the pantry assisted over 65 residents in need and in February the pantry helped over 75 residents in need. Thank you to the generous volunteers that help stock and supervise the food pantry, as well as the following donors: Ron Ellis, St. John the Divine, Marie Morales, Caroline Stevens, First Reformed Church, Kathy Van Jura, The Carreau Family, Theresa Call, The Mion Family, Rick DiPiazza, Karen McDowell, Jeanine Dattalico, Phyllis Burman, Kim Quatrone, Elaine Adamkiewicz, Martin Adamkiewicz, Terry Castellito, Josephine McClean, Gloria Cotter, Kathleen Dates, Joanne Trippodo, Michael Corcoran, Chelsea Emory, Pat Thomasey, Joseph DeSantos, Louise Davenport, Al Kingsley, Mrs. Riordan, Methodist Nursery School, Rico Ventola, Mr. Hershberger, Tom White, Methodist Church, & Mary & Al Carney. The Pantry was able to help many residents in need during this holiday season by providing some families with gifts for children, Christmas trees and decorations, special gift cards for presents, and gift cards for food. This could not have been accomplished without the many people and town organizations that donate, and the efforts of Borough Clerk Ro Sees. If anyone is interested in donating food items here are some ideas: canned fruit, juices, paper products, all kinds of soaps and cleaning products, shampoo, toiletries,

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HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES & LAND USE (cont'd):

jelly, coffee, tea, powdered milk, and snacks. Under Land Use, Commissioner Lipari reported Construction permit fees were \$6,851, CO's resale residents \$351; CO's resale business, \$400, copies \$8.00; fence permits \$72; walkway permits \$151 totaling \$7, 831. Inspections scheduled 105, passed 87, not ready 7, failed 3, cancelled 8. Due to no new applications, the Planning Board meeting was canceled.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Heck reported as follows:

Feb. 1st, Monday: Attended the Hook and Ladder Meeting at 8:15 pm in the Fire Dept. Meeting Room with Commissioner Dave Gonzalez.

Feb. 2nd: Tuesday: Attended the Finance Committee meeting with Chair Pam Link and Vice Chair Justin DiPisa and Finance Officer Michael Kronyak. Discussions on possible cuts coming from the State along with the general finance information.

Feb. 3rd, Wednesday: Attended the Freeholders meeting with Finance Commissioner Pam Link.

Feb.4th Thursday 7 pm Attended the Southwest Community Development Committee meeting. Was re-elected Chair. Joseph Crifasi of Carlstadt was elected Vice Chair. Michael Kronyak presented the application for Hasbrouck Heights.

Feb. 5th: Friday, 6 pm, attended the Care on the Corner Event and wish to again thank the entire Council who attended the event and presented me with a Resolution of Recognition naming 2010 Rose Heck Year. My thanks to the Committee and to all who support their wonderful volunteer efforts.

Feb. 9th, Tuesday Attended the 7:30 am Breakfast Meeting with the Bergen County League of Mayors. County Executive Dennis McNerney was guest speaker. Many subjects were discussed including the possibility of joining with other towns at the bargaining table and joint purchases of large money items such as Fire Dept. Equipment.

Snowstorm of the 10th caused the cancellation of a number meetings

Feb. 16th, Tuesday 11:30 am Attended the Finance Committee Meeting with Commissioner Pam Link, and Finance Officers Michael Kronyak. Labor Attorney Mark Ruderman met with us to discuss a variety of matters including the fact that the Police Contract has now been sent to the Arbitrator by the local P.B.A.

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MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):

Feb. 17th, Wednesday, Attended the Environmental and Transportation Commission which met at 7 pm. Discussion of an anti-litter campaign was discussed by the Committee: Chairman Jack Stavash recognized Members Liz Moser, Ann Lustberg, Gilbert Hunt, Robert Maher, John Fargo and I. DPW Supt. Bill Spindler had agreed to hold a Spring Clean Up and a Fall Clean Up. Robert Maher has been instrumental in asking that we seek more ways of encouraging businesses and residents to help keep our streets and roads clear of litter.

It was agreed that the Campaign include a Contest to include High School Students. More information will be forthcoming as the particulars are completed.

The Sixth Annual Poster Contest that includes pre-School to 5th grades in all local schools will take place and winners announced in April. Applications will be sent to all the Schools. Chairman Jack Stavash will be in touch with Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees who will update the forms and send them to all the schools. Gil Hunt will arrange for the winning posters to be displayed in several of the local banks and the Free Public Library as in years past. Bill O'Shea's Florist will again donate flowering plants to all of the participants.

Feb. 18th, Thursday, 8:30 am Met with the Mayor's Business Community Committee that included , Joseph Costa of IHOP, Ray Vorisek of Heights Florist, Jennifer/BeJay=s Drugs, Vickie Oller of TD Bank, Mary Ellen Courtney of Gateway Realty, Al Hamdi of the Hilton Hotel, Jason Cosimano of Otterstedt Insurance, Fritz Rethage of the Gazette, Peter Gallo III, Bill Lenox of Lenox Autobody and Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees, Borough Administrator Mike Kronyak, along with Cliff Witmyer, his aide Jim of Cliffhanger Productions. \$19,000 in Sponsor Commitments has already been made and we are working on getting the remaining \$11,000 needed. There are 47 vendors already committed to the event and the Street Fair set for Sunday, May, 16th looks to be moving along very nicely.

Feb. 22nd Monday at 5:30 pm Attended the Countywide Community Development Block Grant Committee where I was re-elected Vice Chair.

Saturday mornings I have been meeting with residents from 10 am till noon at the Library. That concludes my report.

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENTS: None

RESIGNATIONS: Catherine Nigro from Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department Ambulance Squad

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

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 38. Raffle License for Hasbrouck Heights Junior Woman's Club
 - 39. Raffle License for Friends of the Hasbrouck Heights Library
 - 40. Raffle Licenses for Lincoln School PTA
 - 41. Raffle License for Msgr. Robert Fitzpatrick Council 7041 K of C

On a motion by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Consent Agenda resolutions were approved.

- RESOLUTIONS:**
- 42. Authorizing Certain Professional Contracts Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 Et Seq. And 19:44A-20.5 Et Seq. Naming Joseph J. Rotolo Esq. As Board of Adjustment Attorney and James Fordham as Consulting Engineer

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

- 43. Authorizing Certain Professional Contract Pursuant to N.J.S.A.40A:11-1Et Seq. And 19:44A-20.5 Et Seq. For Cliffhanger Productions

On a motion by Councilman Dingertopadre, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was approved.

- 44. Approval of 2010/2011 Licenses for Commercial Sale of Certain Motor Vehicles

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

- 45. Authorizing Redemption of Tax Title Lien #2009-0009 for Block 45, Lot 36.03

RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

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

46. Authorizing Redemption of Tax Title Lien #2009-0008 for Block 45, Lot 36.01

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

47. Authorizing Contract with Atlantic Coast Fibers, LLC for Sale to It of Certain Paper Products Recovered Through the Borough's Recycling Program

On a motion by Councilman Dingertopadre, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was approved.

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2227:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **"AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT SECTION 133.21.3 ENTITLED "FEES UNDER CHAPTER 194, ENTITLED PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS," OF CHAPTER 133 ENTITLED "FEES," OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR AN ADDITIONAL CLASS OF LICENSEE IN RESPECT TO THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT FOR THE USE OF WOODLAND PARK AS THE SAME IS SET FORTH IN SECTION 194-2 OF BOROUGH CODE"** as 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 March 9, 2010.

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

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

ORDINANCE NO. 2226:

Mayor Heck asked for a motion open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2226 which was made by Councilman Dingertopadre, seconded by Councilman Lipari, and unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

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ORDINANCE NO. 2226:

There being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Heck asked for a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2226 which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre and unanimously carried.

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT THE ORDINANCE ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO STABILIZE AND REGULATE RENTS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AND TO ESTABLISH A RENT BOARD, WHICH ORDINANCE IS TO BE COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE ‘2009 RENT LEVELING ORDINANCE’”** BEING ORDINANCE NO. 2206 ADOPTED ON APRIL 14, 2009, SO AS TO INCLUDE THE FAILURE OF THE LANDLORD TO NOTIFY NEW TENANTS OF THE OVERNIGHT PARKING PROHIBITION AS REQUIRED BY §219.9 OF BOROUGH CODE AS A BASIS UPON WHICH A TENANT MAY SEEK A DECREASE IN RENT” 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 Observer, a newspaper circulating and published in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

On a motion by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance was adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

Mayor Heck asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre, and unanimously carried.

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

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

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE: 48. Litigation and Personnel

On a motion by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Lipari, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution to Close was approved.

MOTION TO RE-OPEN AND ADJOURN:

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Mayor Heck asked for a motion to adjourn at 9:44 p.m. which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilwoman Link and unanimously carried.

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 February 23, 2010.

Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk