

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

**MINUTES**

**April 13, 2010**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on April 13, 2010 at 8:07 p.m. at Borough Hall, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ.

Mayor Heck declared the meeting in Session and 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 Justin A. DiPisa, Councilwoman Sonya Buckman, Councilman David Gonzalez, Councilwoman Pamela J. Link, Councilman John Dingertopadre, Councilman Russell A. Lipari

Absent: None

**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 DiPisa as follows:

“Almighty God, bless our nation and make it true to the ideas of freedom and justice and brotherhood for all who make it great. Guard us from war, from fire and wind, from compromise, fear and confusion. Be close to our President and our statemen, give them vision and courage as they ponder decisions affecting peace and the future of our world. Make me more deeply aware of my heritage realizing not only my rights but also my duties and responsibilities as a citizen. Make this great land and all its people know clearly your will and that they may fulfill the destiny ordained for us in the salvation of the nations and the restoring of all things in Christ, Amen.”

**Public Service Electric & Gas Company - Report on Storm of March 13 and 14:**

Dave Hollenbeck, Regional public affairs manager for Bergen and Hudson counties was present to address issues and questions of the storm. He was aware that Hasbrouck Heights questioned why they did not get service and why it took so long, and he said

**Public Service Electric & Gas Company (cont'd):**

they weren't alone. He noted Mayor Heck was on the phone to him early Saturday morning and crews were dispatched at that point. Guy Vogt, vegetation management person, responded to some trees that fell and to outages that occurred on Saturday morning, the first locations responded to. He noted PSEG incurred 1644 trees around the State falling on utility lines. Seven trees and seven poles fell in Hasbrouck Heights out of 335 county wide. He said they went to Bergen County OEM and dispatch was from that point. A report is being prepared of this event. Mayor Heck said we had no one assessing Hasbrouck Heights. He said 600 people were brought in ranging from tree crews (3 men each crew) and linemen. On Saturday there were eight crews dispatched to Hasbrouck Heights and on Sunday, 19 crews, Monday, 21, Tuesday, 22, Wednesday, 21 and Thursday, 31. United Water was a priority, Valley Hospital was out of service. Issues were looked at from how critical. Mr. Kronyak said that if a resident called, it was required to send someone out. He and Chief Colaneri said it was Wednesday before crews were seen. Chief Colaneri said someone was assessing every single morning but no clear answers were given. Part of the frustration was that we could not touch the trees. Mayor Heck said coordination and communication was poor. It was Thursday before power was begun to be restored. The DPW was not told it was safe to work on trees. In some instances it was only a fuse that restored power, on homes that were out four and five days.

Guy Vogt, forester for PSEG for 20 years, said there was always a great relationship with Hasbrouck Heights. As the storm progressed crews were dispatched to cut clear wires. There were towns affected far worse than Hasbrouck Heights such as Teaneck. He worked 16 hour days the entire week. Crews came from all over. The large scale projects were worked on first. From his perspective he now was trying to look into municipalities for problem trees. When you start to remove roots, sidewalk lifting, tree roots need to be assessed. Mayor Heck asked Mr. Spindler how many trees were affected and he said 24, who also said he expected to get a response from PSEG when he called and this needed working on. Mr. Vogt said they should have someone assessing de-energized sites. Councilwoman Link agreed. Mr. Hollenbeck apologized and on behalf of the company, he said they would have liked to get everyone back and they tried their best. Councilman Lipari received complaints that food was spoiled and could they be reimbursed and was told through their personal insurance. Councilman Gonzalez said the frustrating thing from residents he spoke to was the communication, and questioned why there was three homes on Burton Avenue who had no power and only needed a fuse replaced. Mr. Hollenbeck said there were lots of pockets like this throughout for different reasons. He said there is discussion of holding a meeting with all towns in the near future. Mayor Heck said if something should be done with town trees, which Mr. Hollenbeck said they work with NJ Tree and could do a program planting the right tree in the right location when replacing trees.

**Proclamation Honoring Leisure Club of Hasbrouck Heights, Inc., on its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:**

Councilman DiPisa read the following Proclamation:

WHEREAS, The Leisure Club of Hasbrouck Heights, Inc. celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on April 18, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Leisure Club was started by a group of women in the early 1950's and on April 18, 1950 was reorganized under the auspices of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights Recreation Commission, under the name of The Leisure Club "Senior Citizens" of Hasbrouck Heights, with the object of the Club to promote good fellowship among all Seniors; and

WHEREAS, due to increased membership and participation in social and recreational activities the Club applied for and received a Certificate of Incorporation from the State of New Jersey on July 5, 1984 under the name of "The Leisure Club of Hasbrouck Heights, Inc."; and

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2003, a new Senior Center (including the Municipal Complex and Free Public Library) was dedicated and opened that would now provide a permanent place for meetings of the Leisure Club, and a gathering place for all Seniors to participate in daily activities and programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, do hereby congratulate The Leisure Club of Hasbrouck Heights, Inc. on the occasion of its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with every good wish for many more years of health and fellowship and sincerely thank the many officers who have worked so diligently to insure that the Leisure Club continues to be a thriving organization today.

Current officers including John and Dorothy Fitzin and Peter and Marie Gallo were invited along with the Mayor and Council to take a picture.

- COMMUNICATIONS:**
- 1) Letter from Senator Robert M. Gordon regarding Time of Decision Bill
  - 2) Invitation to Mayor and Council to attend HH Fire Department Annual Inspection on May 8, 2010
  - 3) Invitation to HH Little League Opening Day Ceremonies on April 17 at 9 a.m. and Annual Pancake Breakfast on April 18 from 8 am to 12 noon at VFW

**COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):**

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

**PETITIONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *(November 24, 2009 Executive Session, December 15, 2009 Work Session and Executive Session, December 29, 2009 Executive Session, March 23, 2010 Regular Meeting)*

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

**BILLS:**

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$2,040,659.16 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 Councilman Justin A. DiPisa  
Deputy Commissioner of Finance

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 67. Raffle License for Mickey's Kids Foundation, Inc.
  - 68. Raffle License for VFW Post 4591
  - 69. Raffle License for Friends of the Hasbrouck Heights Public Library

On a motion by Councilman Dingertopadre, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Consent Agenda Resolutions were approved

**RESOLUTIONS:** 70. Dog Licenses - Payment of Fees to State

**RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):**

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

71. Marriage/Civil Union - Payment of Fees to State

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

72. Burial Permits - Payment of Fees to State

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

73. Authorizing Entry into a Right-of-Way Use Agreement with NextG of New York, Inc. To Install, Operate and Maintain its Telecommunications Network for the use of Cellular Telephone

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

74. Authorizing Compliance with IRS Code with Regard to Bond Anticipation Note of April 1, 2010

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

75. Opposing United Water Rate Increase

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

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

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

77. Payroll

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

**RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):**

78. Authorizing Introduction of 2010 Municipal Budget

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

79. Authorizing Self-Examination of Budget Resolution (as required by DCA)

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

**APPOINTMENTS:** Jarrett Cooke as Civilian Parking Enforcement Officer/Dispatcher

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

**RESIGNATIONS:** Edmund Carter, Jr. from Hasbrouck Heights Engine Company One

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

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

**ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2231:**

Mayor Heck asked for a motion open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2231 which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

Eric Mouzon, 101 Terrace Avenue, following up on Ordinance No. 2226, overnight parking, referring to the list of properties. Mr. Mouzon was advised to hold his discussion until the Miscellaneous from Public portion of the meeting.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Heck asked for a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2231 which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman DiPisa and unanimously carried.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an 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**

**ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING (cont'd):**

**AS THE “2010 RENT LEVELING ORDINANCE”** 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 Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilwoman Buckman, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance was adopted.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2232:**

Mayor Heck asked for a motion open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2232 which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

There being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Heck asked for a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2232 which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Lipari and unanimously carried.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled “**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REPAIR AND/OR REPLACEMENT OF CERTAIN FENCING, SIDEWALKS AND LANDSCAPING AT THE GARY DEPKEN ATHLETIC FIELD IN THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AND TO APPROPRIATE THE TOTAL SUM OF \$75,000.00 THEREFOR, BEING A GRANT FROM THE BERGEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE FUND, THE REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS FOR WHICH ARE AVAILABLE FROM HITHERTO ADOPTED ORDINANCE NOS. 2146 AND 2147.**” 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 Lipari, seconded by Councilwoman Buckman, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance was adopted.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2233:**

Mayor Heck asked for a motion open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2233 which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

There being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Heck asked for a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2233 which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link and unanimously carried.

**ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING (cont'd):**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled “**AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$100,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTINUED REHABILITATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AS REQUIRED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND FURTHER TO AUTHORIZE 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 \$85,000.00**” 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.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2234:**

Mayor Heck asked for a motion open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2234 which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

There being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Heck asked for a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2234 Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled “**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CURB AND SIDEWALK RECONSTRUCTION ALONG CERTAIN PORTIONS OF TERRACE AVENUE AND THE BOULEVARD AS PART OF THE BERGEN COUNTY ROAD PROGRAM, TO APPROPRIATE THE TOTAL SUM OF \$100,000.00 THEREFOR OF WHICH \$90,000.00 BEING A GRANT FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, BUREAU OF LOCAL AID FUNDS, GRANTED THROUGH THE COUNTY OF BERGEN AND THE REMAINING \$10,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND**” 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 requested a motion to open the meeting to the public which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

Erik Mouzon, 101 Terrace Avenue, as a follow up to the previous meeting of March 9, he was presented with a list of properties who might be interested in overnight parking. He said out of 15 properties, nine said no outright, 2 were too far away, 2 were defunct, and 2 had limited parking and had no knowledge of this list. He presented the list to the council. He was advised that the list goes back several years, and there was documentation and that letters were again sent out recently for interest. Borough Attorney Chandless said the new rent ordinance does incorporate Ordinance No. 2226 which was recently adopted and that landlords were notified. Mr. Mouzon said that he was a resident for 14 years and was advised about the overnight parking when he signed his lease. He was still interested in overnight parking.

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

**WORK SESSION:**

At 9:28 p.m., Mayor Heck announced that the meeting would continue to Work Session, to which she invited all present to stay. On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried, this motion was approved.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 p.m. on a motion by Councilman DiPisa, 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 Mayor and Council Meeting held on April 13, 2010.

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Rose Marie Sees  
Borough Clerk