

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights - 9/28/2010

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

**MINUTES**

**September 28, 2010**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at 8:02 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 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:** Councilwoman Link gave the Invocation which was as follows:

“Coming together here tonight let us acknowledge the courage that it has taken each one of us to take steps towards realizing all the potential that our community has to offer. The strength of Hasbrouck Heights is all its citizens. Let us realize that strength is not in our numbers but in our actions. May we learn from our past, have the patience to try again when things go wrong, the chance to reach out when assistance is needed, the ability to give and receive supportive words so that we may continue to develop and grow our community.”

**Presentation:** Certificates to Recreation UGALS U10 Girls Softball Team on Successful Season

Mayor Heck invited Recreation Commissioner Sonya Buckman, Deputy Recreation Commissioner David Gonzalez and Recreation Director Rob Brady to join her in

**PRESENTATION (cont'd):**

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presenting certificates and congratulating the team on a very successful season with the best Recreation Softball record ever.

Recreation Director Brady noted that he has been Recreation Director for ten years and invited Coach Tony Bonillo to come forward to present him with a plaque from the Recreation Department thanking him for his many years as a dedicated volunteer to our Recreation programs. Mr. Brady said that Mr. Bonillo had come to him ten years ago asking how to improve the softball and basketball programs. The plaque read "A Coach, a Mentor, A Friend on behalf of all the children in our Recreation Program, Thank You." Mr. Bonillo said he was very honored and hoped to continue for years to come. Coach Gasparino thanked the parents for their outstanding support, the coaches and the team members.

Certificates were then presented to Alexis Blanco, Brianna Blanco, Nicole Blanco, Kate Bothe, Gabriella Cruz, Amanda De Julia, Jessica Gasparino, Zoha Khan, Emma Mason, Micah Nollora, Kate Palmieri, Courtney Summers, Victoria Vizzacchero, Rachel Weber, Sheridan Wheeler and Coaches Mike Blanco, Tony Bonillo, Frank Gasparino, Tom Mason and Dave Palmieri. Comments praising their success and good sportsmanship were given by Recreation Director Brady and Coach Gasparino.

**Presentation:** Certificates to HHMS Junior Beta Club Members for Boulevard in Bloom Program Assistance

Mayor Heck invited Councilman Gonzalez as Environmental Commission Liaison to join her in presenting certificates to the Beta Club Members for their assistance to the Garden Club in caring for the 60 planters along the Boulevard. Mayor Heck first read the purpose of the club which was: "A service organization and honor society whose purpose is to promote character and leadership among Hasbrouck Heights Middle School students and to reward meritorious academic achievement. It is a student-centered organization that develops and nurtures students by providing opportunities for them to demonstrate the ideals of character, leadership, achievement and service in a global community." Certificates were presented to Hannah Bailey, Ralph Canarozzi, Jason DiGiacinto, Jillian DiGiacinto, Kyle Ellerson, Jordan Kaiser, Danny Kalmowitz, Mariome LaBarbera, Brian Lee, Bianca Magsino, Andy Martinez, Justin McCann, Thomas McGrath, Megan O'Leary, Stephen Park, Julie Patel, Nitant Patel, Casey Sardo, Lauren Sembrano, Ankit Shengala, Casey Shenloogian, Amanda Todd, Jennifer Varga, Rianna Volpe, Shivam Vyas and Advisors Kirstin Krysz and Jane Gay. Garden Club Member Ann Lustberg added her congratulations and gratitude to the Beta Club members.

**PROCLAMATION:** "Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day® October 10, 2010"

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Councilman and Police Commissioner DiPisa read the following Proclamation:

“October 10, 2010, has been declared Put The Brakes On Fatalities Day® by the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights;

WHEREAS, Across the nation, traffic crashes caused nearly 34,000 fatalities in 2009, and are the leading cause of death for young people ages 15 to 34; and,

WHEREAS, In New Jersey, 583 individuals lost their lives in traffic crashes in 2009; and,

WHEREAS, Alcohol-related crashes accounted for 31 percent of the State’s traffic fatalities, while 16 percent of all fatal crashes involved traveling at unsafe speeds; and,

WHEREAS, Motorcyclists, bicycle riders and pedestrians face increased risks on New Jersey’s roadways, as people opt for alternative modes of transportation; and,

WHEREAS, 65 motorcyclists, 14 bicyclists and 157 pedestrians were killed in New Jersey in traffic-related crashes in 2009; and,

WHEREAS, Safer driving behaviors such as buckling up, every ride; obeying posted speed limits; stopping for pedestrians in crosswalks and using crosswalks when walking; avoiding aggressive driving behaviors; never driving impaired; wearing proper safety gear when riding a motorcycle or bicycle; and, focusing solely on driving by avoiding distractions, can dramatically reduce the number of traffic-related injuries and deaths;

Now, therefore, we, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, do hereby proclaim October 10, 2010, as Put The Brakes On Fatalities Day®, and call upon everyone to put these lifesaving behaviors into practice to improve safety on the roadways in our community and throughout the State.”

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Mayor Heck asked to divert from the agenda to make the following appointment:

Sean Woodbridge as Civilian Parking Enforcement Officer/Dispatcher

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

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- COMMUNICATIONS:**
- 1) Thank you letter to Mayor Heck from Assemblywoman Connie Wagner for participating in public hearing with regard to S2078/A2939, Teterboro
  - 2) Thank you letter from Gilbert A. Hunt
  - 3) Letter from U.S. Census Bureau on completion of Decennial Census 2010
  - 4) B.C. Department of Public Works 2010 Resurfacing list for Bergen County Roads including Hasbrouck Heights Boulevard from Williams Avenue to Wood-Ridge line and Passaic Avenue from Boulevard to Main Street, Lodi

Items #1 and #4 were requested to be read into the record (Copies attached).

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

**PETITIONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *(February 9, 2010 Work Session and Executive Session, August 24, 2010 Regular Meeting and Executive Session, September 14, 2010 Regular Meeting, Work Session and Executive Session)*

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

**BILLS:**

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$73,859.85 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  
Deputy Commissioner of Finance

**BILLS (cont'd):**

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

**REPORTS:**

**POLICE:** Under Police, Commissioner DiPisa with regard to the foregoing Proclamation, made the following comments on safety, i.e., use pedestrian crosswalks and not cross in the middle of the block; headgear for children under 14 when riding bicycles is mandatory; and with regard to cell phones, texting and blue tooth, drivers should pull over as it is very dangerous. He asked that residents show their support and respect for police officers. He read two letters, one from the Sanzari Family who thanked the Police Department for their support during the recent funeral for Heights resident, Rosa Halowen. The other was from Chief Colaneri who noted that enforcement will be in effect for parking areas around schools now that school is in session. Sgt. Rinke will be conducting DARE classes with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class program already begun, that Hasbrouck Heights is continuing this program, although many towns are cutting it from their budget due to budget constraints. It was also noted that accident reports are now available online by logging onto [www.hasbrouckheights.nj.policereports.us](http://www.hasbrouckheights.nj.policereports.us). Accident reports can be searched by report number, date and/or last name. Reports are updated 24/48 hours from time of accident. Chief Colaneri and Lt. Archer held several meetings with the DOT engineers regarding the signage and striping at the newly updated intersections. The DOT expects completion by early October. Summons for the month of August were total parking summonses 155, moving summonses 67, for a total of 222. Total year to date are parking 2,058 moving, 894 for a total of 2,952.

**RECREATION & PARKS:** Under Recreation, Commissioner Buckman reported Town Day was held Saturday, Sept. 25 and thanks to the cooperation of Mother Nature our residents were able to enjoy a terrific day with family and friends. The Recreation Department thanked William Spindler and the DPW who were on hand all day, Fire Department and Ambulance Squad, Police Chief Mike Colaneri for his support and the Mayor and Council for their show of support for this great town event. The residents enjoyed two live bands, a DJ, free food and drinks, lots of community information, inflatable rides for kids and lots more. She also thanked the members of the Recreation Advisory Board, HH Jr. Police and HHHS Key Club volunteers for all their help. Halloween in the Park will be at Woodland Park Oct. 19 with a rain date of Oct. 21. Tickets are available at the Recreation office. There will be two wagon rides every 15 minutes from 6-9:30 p.m. The Recreation center opened last weekend, you can register your child at the center when it is open which will be on Friday and Saturday from 7-10 p.m. The cost is \$30 and available for children in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. The Recreation Cross Country program has been practicing since August for boys and girls in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. They will compete in the middle level cross-country

**RECREATION AND PARKS (cont'd):**

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league. The Recreation Department sponsored Senior Halloween Party will be held October 27 from 12 to 3 p.m. in the senior center. All town seniors are invited to enjoy an afternoon of eating, dancing and music free of charge. Costumes are optional but encouraged. The Recreation Department also has a list of senior activities, such as line dancing, movies, fun bingo, aerobics, yoga, Wii Bowling on a monthly senior activities calendar. Recreation wrestling and youth basketball will have registration in mid October. Recreation adult basketball and adult volleyball have resumed at the high school new gym free to all residents 18 and older. Basketball is on Monday nights 7-9 p.m. and volleyball on Wednesday nights 7-9 p.m. Under Parks, Commissioner Buckman reported the Department of Public prepared Woodland Park for Town Day that took place this past Saturday. Besides the usual cleaning of the bathrooms and pavilion, all the picnic tables were moved to the lawn area to allow for activities to take place. All the parking lots were cleaned and swept to provide a safe passage for the various organizations and residents. Extra garbage and recycling receptacles were placed throughout the park and maintained during the event. An extensive clean-up took place immediately after since another picnic was scheduled for early the next day. This past summer, United Water imposed certain water restrictions as to the watering of lawns. The DPW adjusted all of our irrigation systems throughout the borough to coincide with their guideline restrictions. As Library liaison, she reported for the month of July and August, the library circulated 41,075 items, 23,000 walked through the doors, 91 new library cards issued, 71 adults and 20 children, and total library card holders in the borough are 7,732. Total circulation of materials was up 7% from last year's figures. New PC equipment was added to the library, the internet connection was upgraded from a T1 to cable. The BCCLS replaced 24 hard drives, keyboards a mouse for each. Cost was free (estimated at \$14,000) as part of the membership in BCCLS. A time management software to improve quality and service to the public was also installed. Patrons will be required to log on with a library card to book the internet session on the public PC. Everyone is entitled to 40 minutes per visit, and if no one waiting, 20 minute increment sessions from thereon.

**FIRE:** Under Fire, Commissioner Gonzalez reiterated what Councilman DiPisa said about driving and texting, that he observed people texting and holding the wheel with their arms, not hands and how dangerous it was. The following report was submitted by Elizabeth Waring with a total of 21 fire calls, 11 non emergency and 118 EMS calls from Aug. 15 to Sept. 15, 2010. Year to date totals as of Jan. 1 are 207 fire calls, 122 non-emergency calls and 1,022 EMS calls. There were 45 drills, 46 meetings and at 85 special events. Fire Prevention week starts Oct. 3 through Oct. 9. Visit [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org) for more information and safety tips for your home. Some statistics included that every year nearly 3,000 people die in house fires. Forty-percent homes had no smoke alarms, in 23% of those fire deaths the smoke alarms were non-functional. The number one cause of fire calls is cooking, heating the second cause, smoking is a leading factor, electrical malfunctions were the cause of 50,000 fires. In 2008 the U.S.

**FIRE (cont'd):**

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Fire Departments responded to 386,500 home fires, killing 2,755 people and injured 13,160. Someone was injured in a reported home fire every 40 minutes. He reminded residents to replace batteries in their smoke alarms, and in TV remote controls. The Fire Department also provided coverage for Town Day and the Wings and Wheels Expo in Teterboro. The new ambulance was at Town Day for standby and on display for residents. It was also on display at the annual Fire Convention in Atlantic City by the manufacturer, VCI who provided insurance and security. He once again thanked the Port Authority of NY and NJ for their donation toward this new ambulance. As liaison to the Environmental Committee, he was on hand at Town Day where the committee gave out giveaways including shopping bags, T Shirts, rulers, bag clips, coloring books and leaf bags.

**FINANCE & PUBLIC FACILITIES:** Under Finance, Commissioner Link reported the Current Fund cash balance at August 31, 2010 was \$3,495,741.45 and at July 31, 2010 was \$632,798.00 which represents an increase of \$2,862,953.45. The entire balance was invested and earning approximately 0.70%. Cash receipts for the month of August totaled \$7,612,755.32 of which \$6,971,071.97 was for Current Taxes, \$466,663.05 was Grants and State Aid and \$175,020.30 was Miscellaneous Revenues. Cash disbursements for the month of August totaled \$4,749,801.87 of which \$2,199,085.25 was for Local School Taxes, \$974,270.00 was for County Taxes, \$585,808.42 was for Salaries, \$474,095.63 was for Debt Service and \$516,533.57 was for Other Expenses. Final 2010 tax bills were mailed last week. You will notice that the bill has a new look that we hope is easier to read and more informative. There is an explanation of tax rates at the top right corner and a distribution of taxes further down. Included on this final bill is the fourth quarter payment which is due November 1, 2010, as well as the first and second quarter payments due in 2011. In addition to its usual business hours, the Tax Collector's office will be open on Saturday, October 30, 2010 from 9 a.m. to noon for your convenience. Under Public Facilities, she reported some work performed at the Borough Hall this month consisted of installation of a new exhaust fan in the bathroom located on the first floor as well as several ballasts for light fixtures that were replaced in the library. The floors were cleaned and waxed in the Senior Center and Community Room. All bushes and shrubs were trimmed around the Borough Hall, a broken section of the fence was replaced at Central Avenue Park playground, and mums were planted around the circle. The schedule of meetings was as follows: Community Room – 12, Caucus Room – 6, Council Chambers – 4, Senior Center – 1 (other than Senior activities).

**STREETS, SANITATION & TRANSPORTATION:** Commissioner Dingertopadre reported the DPW repaired two stormwater catch basins at Burton and Hamilton Avenues and the other at Columbus Avenue and the Boulevard. Some masonry walls were in need of repair and as a result the basins were sinking. The basins are now functional and safe. Leaf Season will begin on Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> and run until Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Leaves may be raked into the street but not within 10-feet of a

**STREETS, SANITATION & TRANSPORTATION (cont'd):**

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stormwater catch basin. Please leave room between the curb and leaf pile to allow water to run off the street. Do not mix branches in with the leaves. Leaves may be placed in paper bags but will not be collected in plastic bags. Leaves may be brought to the DPW Recycling Depot located at 1 Plant Road. Leaves are collected on a non-scheduled basis during the season.

**HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES & LAND USE:** Under Health, Commissioner Lipari reported The Hasbrouck Heights Health Dept, in conjunction with the Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission, is offering adult influenza vaccine injections to residents over 65 years of age. Adults 65 years and older are required to bring their Medicare card. (Part B). Residents who are covered by Managed Care Plans (HMO) are requested to see their private physicians for the vaccine. Adults under 65 and/or those who do not have a Medicare Part B card will be charged a fee of \$20.00 for the Flu Vaccine. Limited vaccine is available for those under 65 years old. The Annual Flu Vaccine program will be distributing on Friday, October 22<sup>th</sup>, 2010 from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon in the Senior Center. Advance registration is required and will begin on Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 9:00 am in the Senior Center at 320 Boulevard. Those who pre-register must submit proof of residency and their Medicare Card (Part B). For more information please call Laura French at 201-288-1636. Annual Health Fair: The Hasbrouck Heights Board of Health will be sponsoring the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Fair Expo on Saturday, Oct 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in the Hasbrouck Heights Senior Center from 11a.m. to 2 p.m. This year's event will be even more interactive with many of our local physicians and health professionals participating. There will be giveaways, literature, raffle prizes and refreshments. Each year this event grows in interest and participation so we decided to make it interesting to people of all ages. This years following screenings and services are: Chiropractic Therapies, Blood Screening, Prostate Cancer information, Hearing Screening, Allergies, Urology, Massage Therapy, Living Wills, Podiatry, Exercise & Nutrition, Disability Awareness, Blood Pressure Screening, Comprehensive Eye Health and modifying bathrooms to accommodate our seniors. If you have any questions please contact Health Secretary, Laura French at 201-288-



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1636. The Hasbrouck Heights Board of Health will be offering a Blood Screening Program at this years annual Health Fair on Saturday, October 16, 2010 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The program is an excellent opportunity to check on your body's internal wellness. The Cost is \$20 cash only for a Blood Chemistry Profile, which will consist of a Chem 23, Lipid Profile, CBC and T4 (thyroid). A 12-hour fasting period is required prior to your blood test. If you have any questions please contact Medical Laboratory Diagnostics directly at (973) 731-2900. Under Social Services, he reported the food pantry is open on Monday mornings from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. for Hasbrouck Heights residents in need. Anyone in need that has to register can do so with Robert Brady by calling (201) 288-4143. During the month of July the pantry helped over 65 residents in need. Thank you to the generous volunteers that help stock and supervise the food pantry, as well as the following donors: Magda Vanek, Karla Kling, Methodist Church, First Reformed Church, Arlene Carreau, Ann Feltrin, Josephine McClean, Women of the Methodist Church, Corpus Christi, Mion Family, Bertha Spada, Frances Visco, Martin Adamkiewicz, Rick DiPiazza, M/M Kingsley, Kathy Van Jura. 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, jelly, coffee, tea, powdered milk, and snacks. Please call the Recreation office at (201) 288 4143 or the Borough Clerk's office at (201) 288-0195 if you have any questions. Under Land Use, he reported that the Building Department said you are being a good neighbor by reminding residents to call in to determine if they need a permit for work being done. If work is completed and then found to be in violation, it is more costly to the resident to have to remove it and then rebuild. During the month of September the department collected \$14,681 in permit fees. The inspectors performed 169 inspections with the passing rate at 89%. The Property Maintenance Officer went out on 20 calls for enforcement and issued three summonses.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>, Thursday:** 10 am. Traveled to New Brunswick to Rutgers Douglass College Campus to attend the Senator Lautenberg Tribute to Women's Suffrage, the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote. University President was the M.C. and introduced Speaker of the House Sheila Oliver, Sen. Lautenberg and the Mayors in the audience along with the Honoree from the City of Newark. Edith Savage Jennings is a Civil Rights activist who worked and marched with Martin Luther King,

**Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 5 pm,** Attended the Mickey's Kids Foundation Planning event introducing its new recipient of funds Training of Special Dogs to Assist the Physically Challenged. The Foundation headed by Michele and Tom Meli will hold its big fund-raising event on March 18, 2011 to raise money to support the training needed to prepare these dogs to be service companions to those in need.

**Sept. 1, Wednesday, 9:15 a.m., 9:15 am,** Meeting held in the Municipal Building with Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak and John Bruno who gave us a presentation

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on his company and how they worked to obtain grants. We advised him that most of the grants he has obtained for others, we already take care of in house and that the expense of hiring someone to do so was not in our budget. He left us with brochures for the Council. I informed him that if he wished he could seek a grant for a Fire Department Hook and Ladder Truck that runs in the area of 1 million dollars and if he thought he was able to do so I would ask the Council to allow him to do it on a contingency basis. He said that his company required an annual fee and I reiterated I knew his company to be a good one, but since we have done our own grant preparations for many years and have been successful, we could not incur additional expenses to hire someone to help us. Contingency on the Fire Truck would be the only way I believed we would be able to work together. Mike Kronyak who is also our Budget Officer and is the person who prepares most of our grants agreed that we have people in each department who do our grant preparation in numerous areas.

**10 am.** Mike Kronyak, Rob Brady, Senior Citizen Activities Coordinator for the Borough and I met with the Executive Board of the The Leisure Club to go over their current budget and projected budget for 2011. Several areas were covered, including the use of the Community Service Vehicle that runs weekly for Senior and Disabled Persons to various shopping places and is also used for special event transportation.

**7 pm** Attended the Planning Bd. Meeting

**Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, 2 pm.** Attended the Muscular Dystrophy Telethon held at V.F.W. Post 4591 under the leadership of the Ciavaglia Family and Friends. Spoke with Anne, Bob and Anthony Ciavaglia and learned that next year 2011, would be the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the beginning of the Fundraising Event started by the senior and now deceased members of the family, Ralph and Rose Ciavaglia. I asked that a special committee be formed to make this an even more memorable event to include longtime supporters and workers like Jay Lustberg and others and we should do it in memory of Rose and Ralph Ciavaglia and they agreed. All of us along with the DiPisa and Lustberg Families will work with them. I know that Anthony, Bob and Anne will be reaching out to others to join in this work.

Add to that the fact that V.F.W. Post 4591, who has given the use of their facility for many years to the MDA Telethon, will have a celebration of its own. The Post will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Year. Commander Michael Vaughn will also be putting together a special committee that will include the Mayor and Council and numerous others to help in planning a fitting celebration for the Golden Anniversary of V.F.W. Post 4591.

**Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, 8 am.** I attended School Supt. Dr. Mark Porto's Breakfast for teachers and administrators, et al which was held in the H.H.H.S. Cafeteria. I was also invited to speak in the Auditorium as part of their opening day activities. I was able on behalf of the Borough to speak about the needs of the community and especially the children during these trying economic times. I spoke of how important it was for the

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teachers to recognize their major role in the lives of children and their families who are experiencing very difficult times, many of whom had held two to three jobs to support their families and now only have one; there are also many who have homes in foreclosure due to loss of jobs and/or extra income. I expressed that for these reason, not only would the teachers have the mission of teaching but of also helping children through these most challenging times; noting that teachers were such an important part of our community and will have extra pressures on them due to the needs of the children and their families.

**Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, 10 a.m.** Senior Citizens Tax Forum: I had asked our Tax Collector Chita Parker to invite someone from the Division of Taxation to attend a Tax Forum to explain the new changes in the Tax Freeze and the Homestead Rebate Programs since the Legislators and the Governor had made several big changes in both these programs. Approximately 75 people attended and were given overall information by James Gordon and Jacob Foy. The speakers also gave the seniors the opportunity to ask questions during the forum and to remain afterwards in order to ask personal questions about their individual status. Along with Chita, Borough Clerk Rose Sees, Finance Officer Michael Kronyak, Councilman Justin DiPisa and I, the state officials (they told us Hasbrouck Heights was the first municipality to request that they attend an informational meeting and they were pleased to do so, since they too, had much work to do with the changes) were able to explain these complicated new changes. Most important of all is the fact that the Homestead Rebate has been changed to Homestead Benefits Plan. For those who remain eligible, they should expect no check in the mail, but a reduction is to be given to their property quarterly tax, beginning in May 2011. The reason for the delay will not reduce the total dollar amount but since the State is on a Fiscal Year Basis and the Municipality on a Calendar Year, it is necessary for the 2009 dollars in Homestead Benefits to begin in 2011. There is no news as to whether or not the program will continue for the 2010 Calendar Year, since that will be included in the Budget the State must approve by June 30, 2011.

**Met at 9:15 am.** I met with Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees and CFO Mike Kronyak to go over coming events and various matters needing attention.

**7 pm** Spoke in Hackensack at a Women's Club gathering on the Teterboro situation to date and the fact that the bills to dissolve Teterboro are still in existence and that the matter is still alive until either their withdrawal or till the end of this legislative calendar year ends which will be in early 2012. All bills not enacted by that time will be closed and then the new Senate and Assembly will be sworn in for the years of 2012 and 2013, at which time a new list of bills will be introduced in the legislature. Next year's election will include the entire New Jersey Senate and Assembly.

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**Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, 5:15 pm** Fire Committee Meeting called by me and attended by Fire Commissioner David Gonzalez, Borough Administrator, C.F.O., Mike Kronyak and Fire Chief Joseph Taylor. Main topic was the large number of Ambulance Calls made by the Department and the manpower needs thereof.

**Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 10 am:** I officiated at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at the Grand Opening of Spindler's Bakery by the family of the Original Spindler Family. Bob Spindler, his wife and children are all involved in the bakery. The event was attended by a very large crowd of well-wishers and customers who formed a long line to purchase their baked goods. I myself purchased several Crumb Cakes and a dozen delicious assorted buns. I later took them to Borough Hall, where we all enjoyed eating everything.

**Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, 7 p.m.** Participated in the 9-11 Memorial that has already been reported in newspapers in full. I announced that I am forming a special committee to raise funds for a special 9-11 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Memorial Event in 2011.

**Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, 7 a.m.:** I attended the Bergen County League of Mayors Breakfast held at the Arena Diner. Speakers included experts on the status of the Council on Affordable Housing. Joseph Burgis, Planner, noted that the Governor and Legislature had put a hold on C.O.A.H. and that changes are forthcoming. He and another speaker said everything is on hold until the legislature and the Governor come up with a new plan.

**7 pm: Council Meeting**

**Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, 7:30 am:** I attended the Chamber of Commerce Breakfast held at the Holiday Inn. Council Members Justin DiPisa, Sonya Buckman, Russell Lipari and John Dingertopadre also attended with a large turnout of people from the Business Community. President Ray Vorisek and Vice President Jason Cosimano outlined future events such as Thursday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> joint Library and Chamber Dinner to be held at the Hilton Hotel at 6 pm, as well as the Chamber sponsored Halloween Annual Window Painting event and the November Chamber Holiday Parade. Businesses are encouraged to join the Chamber and to work on projects and programs to keep the Heights Business area vital to area residents.

**Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday, 12:30 p.m.,** I was the Guest Speaker at the Garfield A.A.R.P. My talk included my history of having served the City of Garfield as its 38<sup>th</sup> District Assembly Representative for 10 years until the Re-Districting changed it to District 36. I spoke of information given to me by the Garfield Seniors that resulted in the State sponsoring New Jersey Ease and from which Bergen Ease evolved. I gave a brief overview of the changes made in both the Senior Tax Freeze and the Homestead

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Benefits Program and closed with general information as to the importance of women being involved in their communities and in government. President Rose Marie Aloia spoke of joint work we had done when she was the Garfield Chamber of Commerce President and I was in the Assembly and of our friendship since that time. Many Heights residents are members of the Garfield A.A.R.P.

**6 pm:** Attended the first Contemporary Club Dinner Meeting held at Maria's Kitchen for the first time this year. This was a special opening of the new club season event enjoyed by members.

**Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>, Wednesday, 9 am:** Bergen County Prosecutor John Molinelli held a Breakfast meeting at The Hilton Hotel here in Hasbrouck Heights to present his Police Dept. Merger Study Plan to the Mayors, Administrators and Police Chiefs of Bergen County. The Program, he said would be paid for by Confiscated Crime Money. Towns that wished to participate would fill requests and be given the dollars to pay for the study. But if they chose for reasons unacceptable to the Prosecutor to not merge with other towns the money would be withheld. He could not give us examples of how the studies are made and whether or not they included Safety Factors and Response Times (This in answer to my questions). Borough Administrator Mike Kronyak, Police Chief Michael Colaneri and I attended the meeting. Chief Colaneri said he would research the State's Chief Assn. in order to obtain an example of a complete study for an area that merged Police Departments and thus give us (The Mayor and Council) an opportunity to review same and judge whether a merger or a contract with another Municipality would be advantageous both economically and from a safety standpoint.

**Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>, Thursday, 2 pm:** I met with CFO Mike Kronyak to review our most recent agendas for grants, creating of a special 9-11 Committee, various revenue increasing measures under study, and review of a list of meetings pertaining to the new State Mandates such as the 2% CAP while health costs and pension costs from the state continue to increase.

**Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 1 p.m.:** I met with Borough Attorney Ralph W. Chandless and CFO Mike Kronyak on a review of several matters including personnel, Tax Appeals, C.O.A.H. and the updating of the Borough's Master Plan. The latter by State Law must be done periodically.

**Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, Town Day at Woodland Park from 10 am till 3 pm:** After I had concluded my session from 10 am till noon at the Library I proceeded to complete several tasks and then attended Town Day. I was again impressed by the tremendous crowd in attendance and the various clubs, groups, and Borough Departments participating in the event, along with an ongoing concert of performers and the children's recreational rides available that day. The Environmental Committee/DPW gave out Leaf Bags and various information including a paper touting the \$97,000 in

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**MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):**

savings to the Borough from Recycling. This is a wonderful and successful program that we believe can be improved by more families and individuals participating. Even though the dollars obtained from the sale of recyclables has gone down considerably in the last couple of years, the high cost of garbage per ton has become very expensive, so the major portion of our savings comes from taking the recyclables out of the trash/garbage, thus making costs go down. Our thanks to all for helping the Borough save money and a plea to those others who have not been removing newspapers, magazines, plastics and bottles from their garbage, to please do so to help our town save money. If you require information on how to do so, please contact DPW Supt. Bill Spindler and he will make sure you get everything you need to do so. It equates to one half a tax point. A tax point equals \$185,000.

Saturdays: Just a reminder I am in the Library from 10 a.m. till noon on Saturdays so residents may if they wish come to visit me, give me their thoughts, or tell me of their concerns. This has been one of the very useful tools I use to stay abreast of what is happening throughout the Borough. I also receive information through the various departments and the calls made to the Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees at 201-288-0195, or the Borough Administrator Mike Kronyak at 201-288-7209. You may also write to HOT LINE REPORTS, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604.

This concluded the Mayor's Report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 178. Appointing Borough Clerk as the Public Agency Compliance Officer
  - 179. Raffle Licenses for Concerned Parents of Corpus Christi

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

- RESOLUTIONS:**
- 180. Authorizing Redemption of Tax Title Lien #2010-0003 for Block 21, Lot 9

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

- 181. Appointing Borough Clerk as Municipal Housing Liaison

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**RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):**

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

182. Authorizing Remington & Vernick Engineers, the Borough Planner, to Undertake a General Re-Examination of the Master Plan

Councilman DiPisa with relation to the previous planner, questioned what the cost was (six years ago). Borough Attorney Chandless said the contract provides that on each task there has to be specific authorization. It was thought this fee was half.

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

183. Authorizing Endorsement of 2010 Open Space Grant for Improvements to Firemen's Memorial, Veterans Memorial Park and Polifly Park

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

184. Confirming Endorsement of B.C. Community Development Grant for Barrier Free Curb Ramps Along Burton Avenue and Summit Avenue

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

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

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2246:**

Mayor Heck requested a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2246 which was made by Councilman Dingertopadre, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

There being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Heck requested a motion to close the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2246 which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link and unanimously carried.

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**ORDINANCE NO. 2246 (cont'd):**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING BARRIER FREE CURB AND SIDEWALK RECONSTRUCTION ALONG CERTAIN PORTIONS OF THE BOULEVARD AND PASSAIC AVENUE AS THE SECOND PHASE OF THE BERGEN COUNTY ROAD PROGRAM, TO APPROPRIATE THE TOTAL SUM OF \$55,000.00 THEREFOR OF WHICH \$45,000.00 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 DiPisa, 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 Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

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

Chris Santoro, 112 Springfield Avenue, thanked Mr. Spindler and his crew for removal of the tree in front of his home. Regarding the construction next to his house, asked if there was a new tax structure as there was one home and now there would be two. It was explained that a reassessment would be done upon completion. He was concerned about the size of new homes. Mayor Heck noted that if the square footage of the properties was changed, it would become an obstruction for other homeowners, as homes would become nonconforming uses, and a variance would be required for any further construction. Borough Attorney would look at corner properties again. The Building Inspector would be asked to re-inspect. Mr. Santoro said on the border of his property he has pine trees and the builder cut down one of the trees. It was again advised that the Building Inspector review this.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** 185. Real Property

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (cont'd):**



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Mayor Heck asked for a motion to go into Executive Session which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

**MOTION TO RE-OPEN AND ADJOURN:**

Mayor Heck asked for a motion to adjourn at 10:12 p.m. which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez 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 September 28, 2010.

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Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk