

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 11/29/2011

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

November 29, 2011

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at 8:01 p.m. at Borough Hall, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey.

Acting Borough Clerk Michael Kronyak 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 3, 2011 and October 13, 2011 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 3, 2011 and October 13, 2011.

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: Councilman Dingertopadre gave the Invocation as follows:

“Into our hands O Father, O Lord, we commend the souls in our body, for our parents and our homes and our friends and neighbors in the community, and our benefactors, and the faithfully departed, and all the needs to be protected, let us all offer holy grace and never be separated from thee Amen.”

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) Letter to Dr. Roger Szanto as Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator from the National Weather Service informing the Borough that the StormReady Recognition status has been extended until October 5, 2014.
- 2) Public Notice Letter regarding proposed activities near The East Riser Ditch and submission of a Floor Hazard Area Individual Permit for 10 Ceasar Place, Moonachie, NJ

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COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):

Mayor Heck asked for a motion to approve the correspondence which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Lipari and unanimously carried.

PETITIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *(November 15, 2011 Regular Meeting)*

On a motion by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Lipari, with Councilman Gonzalez and Councilman Dingertopadre abstaining as they were absent, and otherwise unanimously carried, the Foregoing Minutes were approved

BILLS:

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$228,917.44 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 Pamela J. Link
Commissioner of Finance

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

REPORTS:

POLICE AND LAND USE: Under Police, Commissioner DiPisa as reported by Chief Colaneri said the South Bergen Detectives Group met at the Hasbrouck Heights Public Safety Building on the November 15 comparing incidents that had been occurring in Bergen County and the trends noted under commercial store burglaries there was a concurrent of times from 3 a.m. to 5 a.m. on weekends and on residential burglaries early in the evening. Residents were reminded to lock their doors and windows, leave lights on timers and report any suspicious activity or persons. A reason for burglaries could be a depressed economy. Persons shopping in malls were advised to place purchased gifts in their trunks. Seniors were reminded to call the police department is

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POLICE AND LAND USE (cont'd):

there is a stranger at their door. The equipment installation is complete with the two new patrol cars now in service. The two old patrol cars were sent to the DPW auction scheduled for December. In addition to the cars, old equipment no longer in use will be auction along with unclaimed property. During the holiday season everyone was reminded of the dangers of drinking and driving. The HHPD will be participating in the statewide crackdown on impaired driving program "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" from December 5 through January 2. The NJ Division of Criminal Justice is pleased to announce that the HHPD will receive \$2,885.81 under the State Fiscal Year 2011 State Body Armour Replacement Fund Program.

RECREATION & PARKS: Under Recreation, Commissioner Buckman referring to the October report as supplied by Recreation Director Rob Brady stated the Mens Over 30 Basketball will continue to use the new gym during the winter months on Monday nights 8:30 – 10 p.m. Adult Volleyball will be on Wednesday nights from 8:30 – 10 p.m. The Youth Basketball League has over 264 children ranging from grades one through eight. All the teams will be practicing in December with games beginning in January. Recreation Wrestling registration with over 44 boys signing up. Season opens in January. The program also hosts our Select Team who wrestle a high school type line up against some of the toughest team competition available in the Passaic County Youth Wrestling League. Wrestlastics program entering its 5th season is an introduction for first grade boys, with Craig Messery coaching. The Recreation Dept. will be sponsoring five traveling basketball teams this season with 5th & 6th boys, 5th & 6th girls, 7th grade boys, 8th grade boys, 7th & 8th grade girls. They will be playing in the South Bergen Basketball League. Senior Activities are ongoing in the Senior Center. The Recreation Youth Center will continue to be open on most Friday evenings from 7-10 p.m. Under Parks, Commissioner Buckman reported the DPW along with the Police Department temporarily closed Woodland Park due to the tremendous amount of tree limbs that fell as a result of the October snow storm. The primary focus was to clear our Borough streets and then attend to all the parks and borough properties. Woodland Park has been cleared of tree limbs but will be last on the list to remove leaves as is always the general procedure during leaf season. The comfort station at the park is closed for the winter. The facility has no heat and the water is drained and winterized each year. The irrigation system has also been winterized for the season. The Veterans Day Ceremony went on as scheduled even though the Veterans Memorial Park suffered heavy damage from the snow storm. A large tree had to be removed as the top half was brought down by the wet snow. Many other limbs were moved from surrounding trees and 12 new inscribed memorial bricks were installed. Tree limbs were also removed from Polifly Park and the Firemen's Memorial Park. As Library Liaison, Commissioner Buckman reported for the month of October 9,229 items were circulated, a 2% increase over last year. There were 10,053 people who worked through the doors, 47 new cards were issued, 37 adults and 10 children with total

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RECREATION AND PARKS (cont'd):

library card holders at 5,369. The Book & Bake Sale was very successful. Donations for the Spring Book & Bake Sale are being accepted. Office 2010 is loaded on Library computers.

STREETS, SANITATION & TRANSPORTATION: Commissioner Gonzalez reported on Sunday, October 22, the DPW sent out its salt trucks as snow began to cover the Borough streets. As the snow became wet and heavy, tree limbs with full foliage began to break. The DPW salt trucks were called back to the facility so that equipment needed for tree and limb removal could begin. Twelve streets were closed off due to broken limbs intertwined in wires. All DPW personnel removed limbs until late in the evening. The DPW trucks returned to be outfitted with plows to continue clearing the streets. The streets were plowed with the exception of those that were closed off. The next morning the trucks were again changed over to continue tree and limb removal which continued until November 23 with a total in excess of 3,640 cubic yards which is being stored at the DPW facility. The huge pile of tree debris will be chipped, removed and recycled within the next few weeks. During the removal period the tree truck was in operation every day taking hazardous tree limbs that were broken and hanging out of trees, with still a continuing list of hanging limbs to address. All work relating to this storm is being documented and will be filed with FEMA as was the work related to Hurricane Irene. Bergen County was billed for snow plowing of all county roads within the borough boundaries. Other DPW tasks had to be completed while this storm emergency was in effect including garbage collection which was uninterrupted. A sewer extension at 155 Hasbrouck Avenue involved removed two fences and a shed to properly access the manhole. This project began before the snow storm and had to be finished in a timely manner. One of the three pumps at Franklin Pump Station was damaged due to the constant operation resulting from Hurricane Irene. That pump was removed and replaced and then sent to be rebuilt. At Woodside Pump Station, a pump had to be replaced along with some electrical wiring. The DPW responded to six complaints of sewer backups, however, the result was internal problems for the homeowners and not the borough's sewer system. The Boulevard was swept and leaves were blown off in preparation of the Tree Lighting Ceremony and Holiday Parade. Ropes were hung along the parade route as well as barricades and cones to close off the streets to insure the safety of all those in attendance. As Environmental/ Transportation liaison, Commissioner Gonzalez reported the shredding event held at Central Avenue parking lot produced 9,180 lbs. of paper. We received a certificate of Destruction/Recycling from Information Destruction Systems, a subsidiary of Atlantic Coast Fibers, our recycling vendor. Saturday, December 3, the Satellite Container will be at the Central Avenue Parking Lot from 7 a.m. to noon.

FINANCE, SOCIAL SERVICES & PUBLIC FACILITIES: Under Finance, Commissioner Link reported the Current Fund cash balance at October 31 was

FINANCE, SOCIAL SERVICES & PUBLIC FACILITIES (cont'd):

\$4,195,014.58 and at September 30 was \$916,408.85 which represents an increase of \$3,278,605.73. The entire balance was invested and earning approximately 0.35%. Cash receipts for the month of October totaled \$6,533,445.05 of which \$6,217,905.71 was for Current Taxes, \$34,278.34 was Delinquent Taxes, \$13,816.97 was Prepaid 2012 Taxes, \$161,011.35 was State Aid and \$106,432.68 was Miscellaneous Revenues. Cash disbursements for the month of October totaled \$3,254,839.32 of which \$1,944,378.58 was for Local School Taxes, \$592,124.85 was for Salaries and \$718,335.89 was for Other Expenses. She continued the 2012 budget process has begun with the Finance Committee holding their first budget meeting on November 9.

Under **Social Services**, Commissioner Link thanked everyone who has donated for their generosity with the Food Pantry receiving an overwhelming amount of food, groceries and gift cards to make this Thanksgiving a very special one for the more than 40 families who come on a regular basis to supplement their income. Everyone was offered a turkey along with all the trimmings as well as being able to choose items from over-packed shelves. The list for donations could fill this entire page, naming all the churches, organizations, schools, Cub Scout 17 Food Drive and individual donations dropped off at the Borough Clerk's office. Collections of toys and gifts are already being received for the Christmas holiday. 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 **Public Facilities**, Commissioner Link reported the Tree Lighting at the Circle was well attended this past Friday evening. Along with the storm debris removal holiday lights were placed on the three large evergreens and 10 small bushes that surround the Circle as well as decorative snowmen, angels, and reindeer pulling sleds were wired for lighting. The Borough Tree Truck with its boom is always used to hang the lights at the Circle making for a difficult situation while still addressing the tree concerns from the snow storm. All holiday light fixtures were placed on the poles on the Boulevard and a list of electrical problems was forwarded to PSEG for their attention. At Borough Hall the setting up and cleaning the Senior Center was done in anticipation of the visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus after the parade. The flower beds at the Circle also had to be cut back as they are perennials and regenerate every year. The irrigation system was winterized as well as all the other systems on Borough properties. Also the Police Trailer located at the Police Pistol Range was winterized. . The schedule of meetings was as follows: Community Room - 22; Caucus Room - 10; Council Chambers - 7 and Senior Center - 5 (other than senior activities) and Lobby – 2 (Recreation Dept.).

FIRE: Commissioner Dingertopadre had no report.

HEALTH: Under Health, Commissioner Lipari reported:

Dog Licenses

The Board of Health would like to remind all dog owners that their 2011 dog license will expire on January 31, 2012. Annual renewal notices will be mailed on December 31, 2011. To renew your dog license, proof of a valid rabies vaccine must be submitted along with your application and payment. Dogs with immunizations, which will expire during 2012, will require a booster prior to obtaining a license. Please call the Health Dept. at (201) 288-1636 if you no longer have your dog. The Teterboro Animal Shelter will be offering free rabies vaccines to all Bergen County residents on Thursday, December 1st and 15th between the hours of 3:30 and 5:00 pm. Residents must bring your dog's current rabies certificate that shows the expiration date of the rabies vaccine.

Child Health Conference

This year the Child Health Conference has been very busy. Our Health Clinic facility is located in River Edge, contracted through Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission. The pediatrician and nurses with River-Edge provides a complete health screening and immunization program for all residents with children 18 and younger. With more and more families in Hasbrouck Heights without any health insurance it is essential to provide this health service to protect them and the children in the classrooms. For further information please contact the Hasbrouck Heights Board of Health at 201-288-1636.

Marriage Licenses

The Dept. of Vital Statistics issued many applications for Marriage Licenses during months of September and October to Borough Residents. The Registrar would like to remind residents that the date of the ceremony must first be established before an appointment can be made to begin the process of the marriage application. One applicant must live in Hasbrouck Heights to apply for a Marriage License. A fee of \$28.00 is required, cash or check only. A mandatory 72-hour waiting period is required from application to the issuance of license. Other requirements exist and applicants must call the Registrar at (201) 288-1636 for an appointment and details.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Heck began by asking for a moment's silence for Msgr. John O'Brien who passed away last month. He was a wonderful friend and priest, who grew up in Hoboken and spent years as a special member of Corpus Christi Parish.

Oct. 26, Wednesday, 7 p.m., Attended the Teterboro Airport Meeting. The new Manager of the Airport was introduced to us. She is Gabriel and gave her experience

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):

and expressed her plans to be responsive to TANAAC. I spoke of my continued concern about the new site for Customs Control of International Flights to be at the Northern end of the airport close to Route 46. The FAA Representative told of the progress of the new approach to Teterboro, taking it away from HUMC. This is in response to years of requests by TANAAC. It will be moved a mile east of the hospital.

Oct. 28, Friday, 1 p.m. Attended a special event hosted by Corpus Christi Eighth Grade Class. I sat with an interesting group of students. We spoke of their future plans and ambitions and I shared with them some of the wonderful lessons I had learned from others in my lifetime.

5:30 p.m. Attended the public hearing held at the South Hackensack Post Office location on the subject of closing the Hasbrouck Heights Post Office. I handed the District Manager the Resolution passed by the Mayor and Council in 2010 citing the need for the Post Office and how it would adversely impact our senior citizens and businesses in the area. The owner of New Balance Shoes in the Route 17 Mall spoke about his need for the location since his business ships hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of packages a year that would go to Fed Ex. if the Hasbrouck Heights location closed. Residents of Hasbrouck Heights voiced their concerns, as did former Councilman John Wassberg.

Oct. 29, Saturday, 1 p.m. After I finished my morning at the Library, I attended the Ragamuffin event held in the Senior Center sponsored by the Mayor's Community Celebrations Committee.

Nov. 4, Friday night 7 pm I was one of the Judges at the Leggo Contest. As usual the Contest was a big hit. The Library was crowded with children of all ages and their moms and dads. Friends of the Library were there to volunteer their help as always and were thanked by Mimi Hui and Children's Librarian marie along with other Library staffers did a wonderful Job.

Nov. 5, 9:30 am went to the Shredding Event. It was spectacular resulting in 9100 lbs of paper that was shredded. Great Job done by all and a special thanks to Bill Spindler for all the arrangements and to Dave Gonzalez who will again be in the Dunk Tank at the Street Fair in 2012.

Nov. 8, Election Day I would like to congratulate Council Members Pam Link and Justin DiPisa on their re-election to the Council. They do a great job representing the people of Hasbrouck Heights. And I personally want to thank the voters for coming out to vote and express my gratitude for their support. Please mark your calendars for Jan. 1st the day we will be sworn into office for our new terms. We want everyone here to

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):

share the day with us as we continue to do our best for our wonderful town.

Nov. 9, Wednesday at 1 pm, our first Finance Meeting was held with Mike Kronyak. Plans for the coming budget year were discussed and a review of current projects discussed including the expenses involved in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene and the horrific snow and ice storm just before Halloween.

Nov. 11, Friday, 11 am, I attended and spoke at Veterans Memorial Park in honor of Veterans Day and on behalf of the residents of Hasbrouck Heights I thanked them for their invaluable service to our country.

Nov. 15, Tuesday 6 p.m., Councilwoman Pam Link and I stopped by The Fiesta to wish Aimee McCarthy a happy birthday. We had to leave shortly thereafter to attend the Council Meeting.

7 pm I attended the Fire Committee meeting with Chief Kevin Todd, 1st Asst. Chief Richard Giarratana and 2nd Asst. Chief Patrick Hayes and Borough Administrator Mike Kronyak

8 pm Chaired the Council Meeting and Work Session.

Nov. 16, 1 pm Attended the Leisure Club Luncheon Meeting held in the Senior Center. The Costa Family hosted a Thanksgiving Dinner catered by Gerisi Caterers of Lodi.

Nov. 19, Saturday, 9:30 am I attended the 2011 Coaches and Players Football Game held at Depken Field Pam Link, Justin DiPisa and Russell Lipari also attended.

Book and Bake Sale: was wonderful. I bought lots of books for family and friends and even went back the next day to make another purchase. Great job done by the Library staffers and of course, The Friends of the Library. This is a wonderful fundraiser that helps support Library events.

Nov. 21, 3:30 p.m. I had the honor of presenting the Key to the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights to Rapunzel one of the Stars of the Disney Princesses on Ice. Mimi Hui our Library Director and Lisa Traina, President of the Library Board dedicated the Rapunzel Book, that the Disney Princess signed, and will be on loan to children at the Library. Over 200 Children signed up for the event and it was great to be there to witness the joy of these children as the book was read to them and then to have photos taken with Rapunzel.

Nov. 25, Friday, 7 pm, I joined Council Members Pam Link, Justin DiPisa, Sonya
MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):

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Buckman, Dave Gonzalez, John Dingertopadre, and Russell Lipari on the Winter Wonderland Float which was part of the Chamber of Commerce Holiday Parade. On an unseasonably warm November night, crowds gathered to see Santa and Mrs. Claus come to Town and listen to the 4 wonderful bands, to view and applaud members of our Fire Dept. as they drove by on their Fire and Ambulance Equipment. Many children involved in Sport and Scouts, also marched in the spirit of a great Holiday Parade.

Congratulations to Heights Florist Owner/Chamber President Ray Vorisek and Vice President Jason Cosimano of Otterstedt Insurance for all of their hard work.

The Tree Lighting Followed at the Traffic Circle where a large crowd gathered to sing along with the High School Choir and join in the countdown to the flipping of the switch that illuminated the Trees at the Circle. I greeted the children, parents and grandparents, families and friends on behalf of the Mayor and Council and also thanked TD Bank for donating the refreshments of hot pretzels and hot chocolate. I praised Mayor's Celebration Committee Chair Pat Link and all the members of the Committee for all their work in preparing for this annual event. Special thanks to DPW Supt. Bill Spindler and his men for preparing the site and the lights we will enjoy all season long.

I then returned to the Senior Center where Santa and Mrs. Claus greeted the children and individual photos were taken. Everyone enjoyed refreshments and the Large Screen TV Played the Christmas Carol Movie which was enjoyed by all. A special thanks to Maria's Party Planner Costumed Characters who gave out fun balloon animals.

Nov. 28th, Followed up with Mike Kronyak, Borough Administrator and Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees on Agenda items and projects/meeting dates to be announced for December.

I continue to meet with Residents on Saturday morning from 10 am till noon. I will not be in the Library on the Mornings of the 24th and 31st.

That concludes my report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 182. Authorizing Sale of Unclaimed or Borough Owned Property No Longer Needed for Public Use
 - 183. Raffle License for Junior Woman's Club of Hasbrouck Heights

CONSENT AGENDA (cont'd):

On a motion by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Consent Agenda Resolutions were approved (Copies attached).

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2272:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE V ENTITLED “CONSUMPTION IN PUBLIC” OF CHAPTER 84 ENTITLED “ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, AS THE SAME HAS BEEN HITHERTO AMENDED IN RESPECT TO THE EXCEPTION FROM THE GENERAL PROHIBITION OF THE SERVICE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN PUBLIC PLACES BY WHICH THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT SHALL BE PERMITTED TO SERVE AND ITS MEMBERS AND GUESTS SHALL BE PERMITTED TO CONSUME ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WITHIN THE “EXEMPT ROOM” OF THE NEW PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING SO AS (1.) TO EXTEND THE EXEMPTION AS IT APPLIES TO NEW YEAR’S EVE, AND (2.) TO EXTEND THE ENTIRE EXCEPTION UPON THE AMENDED TERMS AND CONDITIONS UNTIL DECEMBER 30, 2013”** 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 December 13, 2011.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2273:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND §133-29 ENTITLED “FEES UNDER CHAPTER 271, VEHICLES, TOWING OF” OF CHAPTER 133 ENTITLED “FEES,” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS TO INCREASE CERTAIN OF THE CHARGES PERMITTED TO BE MADE BY APPROVED TOWERS “** 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 December 13, 2011.

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

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING: None

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 Dingertopadre, and unanimously carried. Mayor Heck invited anyone from the public wishing to speak to please come forward.

Frank Connelly, 118 Division Avenue, said his children attend Euclid School, referred to an intersection at Terrace and one block north of Passaic (Henry Street), where there is a crossing guard. He was concerned with the danger of that intersection and requested that a Police Officer be on duty. Mayor Heck advised Chief Colaneri take this into advisement who said he would speak with Lt. Archer the next morning.

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

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE: 184. Pending or Anticipated Litigation

Mayor Heck requested a motion to close for litigation and that there would be no action taken. On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution to Close was accepted.

ADJOURN:

At 8:53 p.m. Mayor Heck requested a motion to adjourn 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 November 29, 2011.

Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk