

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 2/28/2012

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

February 28, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at 8:04 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, 2012 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 3, 2012.

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

Absent: Councilman Justin A. DiPisa

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

INVOCATION: Councilwoman Dingertopadre gave the Invocation as follows:

“Let us bow our heads and pray humbly to ask God to unite us and guide us in all our decisions we make for the good of the citizens of the Borough who have engaged us to trust of their well being making the Borough a better place to live for our families as we continue to hope and pray let us all give thanks for the freedom we share. Amen. ”

PROCLAMATION: *Read Across America*

Mayor Heck asked Councilwoman Buckman to read the following Proclamation:

WHEREAS, the citizens of Hasbrouck Heights stand firmly committed to promoting reading as the catalyst for our students’ future academic success, their preparation for America’s jobs of the future, and their ability to compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, Hasbrouck Heights has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education of our youth, grounded in the principle that

PROCLAMATION (cont’d):

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 2/28/2012

educational investment is key to the community's well-being and long-term quality of life; and

WHEREAS, *NEA's Read Across America*, a national celebration of reading, will be conducted on March 2, 2012, which would have been the 108th birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss; and

WHEREAS, *Read Across America-NJ* is being conducted statewide by the New Jersey Education Association, in partnership with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the New Jersey Library Association, and their local affiliates across the State to promote reading and adult involvement in the education of our community's students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, calls on its citizens to assure that every child is in a safe place reading together with a caring adult on March 2, 2012; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body enthusiastically endorses *NEA's Read Across America* and *Read Across America-NJ*, and recommits our community to engage in programs and activities to make America's children the best readers in the world.

Dated: February 28, 2012 /s/Mayor Rose Heck and Members of the Council

Mayor Heck presented two copies of this Proclamation to Kathy DiGuglielmo, Lincoln School Teacher, to give to Euclid and Lincoln Schools.

APPOINTMENTS: Rosario Castro, III to Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department Engine Company 2

David M. Cassiere to Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department Engine Company One

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

Mayor Heck recognized some Boy Scout Troop 17 who were present to observe government at work.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) PSEG Application for Modified Freshwater Wetlands Statewide General Permit #2 for Installation of New Natural Gas Distribution Mains in Public Rights-of-Way
- 2) Response letter from Anthony J. Attanasio, Asst Commissioner, Government and Community Relations, NJ DOT re: Red Light Running Pilot Program

COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 2/28/2012

3) Invitation to Mayor's Committee on Community Celebrations Easter Egg Hunt

Mayor Heck asked if anyone wished to have any item read into the record. Councilwoman Link asked with regard to Item #1 if the Borough was aware of where this would be taking place. The Borough Engineer would be asked. It was noted that a street opening permit would be requested before any work is to be done. Item #2 and Item #3 were requested to be read (copies attached). Councilman Gonzalez asked for a list of towns who have been approved for the Red Light Pilot Program which would be requested. Mayor Heck asked for a motion to approve the correspondence which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez and unanimously carried.

PETITIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

BILLS:

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$108,281.87 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 Gonzalez, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was adopted.

REPORTS:

POLICE: Under Police, Deputy Commissioner Gonzalez gave the following report as submitted by Police Chief Colaneri. The Annual Beefsteak was held for Special Olympics with over 350 attending and \$12,000 raised. The Department participated in Lincoln and Euclid School Drug Rallies. Patrolmen Robertson and Adamo have been assigned to the Traffic Bureau. A DMV inspection checkpoint was held with 20

REPORTS: POLICE (cont'd):

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 2/28/2012

summonses issued and many vehicles were in inspected. Commissioner Gonzalez read a letter from Euclid and Lincoln School PTAs on behalf of the Drug Awareness Committee thanking Chief Colaneri for the Department's participation at the Drug Rallies.

RECREATION: Under Recreation, Commissioner Buckman as submitted by Recreation Director Robert Brady reported men's over 30 Basketball will continue to use the new gym even during the winter months. This program is free of charge and is available to all residents and alumni 30 years and older. The program is on Monday nights 8:30pm-10pm. Adult coed volleyball will continue to use the new gym on Wednesday Nights 8:30pm-10pm. This program is free of charge and is available to residents 18 and older. The youth basketball league has over 250 children ranging from 1st grade to 8th grade. All teams are in their 4th week of games. There are 4 3rd 4th grade boy's teams, 3 3rd 4th grade girl's teams. 6 5th 6th grade boy's teams, 3 5th 6th grade girl's teams, 4 7th 8th grade boy's teams, and 3 7th 8th grade girl's teams. As always there is a full schedule of Senior Activities in the Senior Center. The Recreation Department's Youth Center will be open on most Friday and Saturday evenings from 7pm-10pm. The cost is \$40 dollars and parents must fill out a registration form at the center. The center is open to all town boys and girls in grades 6th –8th. The softball program is available for girls in 3rd – 8th grades. The program has over 95 girls registered for all grades. Recreation Track & Field will have registration Wed. Febuary 29th 7pm-9pm in the recreation office. The program is available for boys and girls in 5th-8th grade. As Library liaison, she reported the Library circulated 8,979 items last month with total circulation of materials to date shows a slight decrease, possibly due to the Sunday closing. 41 new patrons were registered, with total to date of 5,473 card holders, 9,602 people walked through the Library doors last month.

FIRE, STREETS & SANITATION: Commissioner Gonzalez gave the activity report as submitted by EMT Liz Waring from 1/15/12 thru 2/15/12: 24 fire calls, 11 non-fire emergency calls and 130 EMS calls. A Fire committee meeting took place prior to tonight's council meeting.

STREETS & SANITATION: Under Streets & Sanitation, Commissioner Gonzalez reported the Department of Public Works responded to a call from the Police Desk regarding sewage seeping out of a manhole on Route 17 South. Upon inspection, the waste water sewer system located in the proximity of White Castle was blocked. A crew was called in to set up highway lane closure procedures since the sewer system runs under two lanes of Route 17. The blockage was cleared and the highway was reopened. At the Woodside Waste Water Pump Station, repairs were made and new alternating relay pump switches were installed. On Hasbrouck Avenue, a sink hole appeared in the area near Alger Avenue. The DPW cleaned and videoed all waste water and storm water systems in the area and found no breach in any of the Borough's systems. The sink hole will be filled

STREETS & SANITATION (cont'd):

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 2/28/2012

during the next dispatch of asphalt. Another sink hole located at the Boulevard and Longworth Avenue was investigated by the DPW. Upon inspection it was discovered that a breach in the storm water pipe was in need of a repair. The DPW performed the excavation and the repair was completed. During the months of January and February, five tons of cold patch asphalt was used to repair potholes throughout the Borough. A contractor for PSE & G was in town the week of February 13 to remove trees that were on a list sent by the DPW. These trees were deemed dead and in close proximity of the high voltage wires. Twelve trees were addressed. The DPW has also been focusing on stump grinding of trees that they removed.

Repairs were made to the following vehicles:

Garbage Truck #102: Replace brake air chambers, PTO shaft, and driver's seat.

Garbage Truck #103: Replace PTO transmission

Garbage Truck #106: Replace anti-freeze tank

Dump Truck # 204: Repair leaf springs & pins

Dump Truck # 205: Install new latch

Dump Truck # 209: Replace fuel tank & oil pan

Salt Spreader: Replace conveyor belt

Mason Dump Plows: Replace shoes & guides

As Environmental liaison, Commissioner Gonzalez reported the Satellite container would be in the Central Avenue parking lot on March 3 from 7 a.m. to noon. On January 31 the Environmental Committee held its reorganization meeting with new Chair Chris Nekriewicz selected.

FINANCE, SOCIAL SERVICES & WELFARE: Commissioner Link read the following Finance Report: The current Fund cash balance at January 31, 2012 was \$3,320,050.77 and at December 31, 2011 was \$2,256,430.84 which represents a increase of \$1,063,619.93. The entire balance was invested and earning approximately 0.35%. Cash receipts for the month of January totaled \$4,437,860.55 of which \$4,015,302.57 was for Current Taxes, \$65,380.42 was Delinquent Taxes, and \$357,177.56 was Miscellaneous Revenues. Cash disbursements for the month of January totaled \$3,274,240.62 of which \$1,969,378.60 was for Local School Taxes, \$581,022.04 was for Salaries and \$723,839.98 was for Other Expenses. She continued that the process of formulating the 2012 Municipal Budget continues with the Finance Committee meeting every Tuesday. The Annual Debt Statement and Annual Financial Debt Statement have been completed and submitted. The 2012 Municipal Budget will be introduced at the March 13 Council meeting. The Annual Financial Statement indicates that the Surplus at December 31, 2011 was \$1,300,502.50 and at December 31, 2010 was \$1,088,609.07, an increase of \$211,893.43. The tax collection rate for the year 2011 was 98.88% and for 2010 was 98.50%, an increase of .38%.

SOCIAL SERVICES (cont'd):

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 2/28/2012

Under Social Services, Commissioner Link reported the food pantry is open on Monday mornings from 9am-11am for Hasbrouck Heights residents in need. Anyone in need that has to register can do so with Robert Brady by calling (201) 288-4143. 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.

PARKS, PUBLIC FACILITIES & TRANSPORTATION: Under Parks, Commissioner Dingertopadre a meeting at Woodland Park was attended by Michael Kronyak, Ken Job, Bill Spindler, and Rob Brady to discuss the improvements to the pavilion that will be funded by a grant. Topics of discussion were the layout and position of the new pavilion, concerns about the roof line, and the preservation of the existing fireplace and barbeque grills. A new Woodland Park sign was made at the DPW wood shop and placed back in its location at Cleveland Avenue. The sign was destroyed by the October snow storm. Under Public Facilities, he reported damage at the Circle was caused by a motor vehicle accident and an estimated bill was sent to the individual's insurance carrier to cover the repairs. On Saturday, February 11, the DPW responded to a call fro the Police Department about a flooded bathroom in the Library. The result was a child's stuffed animal was flushed down the toilet and the DPW snaked it out. The schedule of meetings was as follows: Community Room – 28, Caucus Room – 8, Council Chambers – 10, Senior Center – 3 (other than senior activities). Commissioner Dingertopadre read this report on final upgrades to Depken Field: The last phase of upgrades to Depken field are in the final planning stages and will include new fencing along Franklin and Ravine Avenues, additional walkways and the installation of a pavilion near the snack stand. It is anticipated that all bidding will be complete in the spring with construction in the summer. These improvements are part of the overall renovation of the field and is partially funded by a \$75,000 Bergen County Open Space Grant.

HEALTH & LAND USE : Commissioner Lipari read a report prepared by Board of Health Secretary Lori French:

Prohibiting of Feeding of Wild or Stray Animals

The Board of Health would like to remind residences that it is prohibited to feed any wild or stray animal on any property, public or private in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights. Animals such as feral cats, raccoons, possums and groundhogs have fleas and ticks and could carry rabies. By feeding wild or stray animals you are attracting these animals into your neighborhood and making it unsafe for your family, neighbors and their pets. Wild animals have a natural instinct that can be dangerous. They may bite or scratch without warning. If you should see someone feeding wild or stray animals please contact the Board of Health at 201-288-1636.

Dog Licenses

The Health Dept. has issued over 890 Dog Licenses and collected over \$11,000.00 in

annual fees. Reminder letters were mailed during the last week of February.

The Teterboro Animal Shelter will be offering free rabies vaccines to all Bergen County residents on Thursday, March 1st and 15th between the hours of 3:30 and 5:00 pm. Residents must bring proof of ID along with your dog's current rabies certificate that shows the expiration date of the rabies vaccine.

Norovirus

The N.J. Department of Health and Senior Services has seen an increase in the number of gastrointestinal (GI) illness outbreaks across the state. These outbreaks have been associated with schools, long-term care facilities, childcare centers and restaurants. Norovirus has been confirmed to be the causative agent in many of these outbreaks. Norovirus is a highly contagious illness caused by a virus. It is often called by other names such as a stomach flu and food poisoning. The illness begins suddenly and people with norovirus are contagious from the moment they begin to feel sick and for as long as 2 weeks after recovery. Symptoms include stomach cramps, vomiting, nausea and diarrhea. Some people may also experience low-grade fever, chills, headache, body aches and fatigue. Most people get better within 1-3 days. Noroviruses can spread quickly from person to person in crowded, closed places like schools, hotels, long-term care facilities, family dinners and restaurants. In other words, places where people often eat food that is prepared or handled by others. There is no vaccine to prevent norovirus infection and there is no drug to treat it. Antibiotics are not effective against viruses. The best way to reduce the risk of getting norovirus is to: Practice good hand hygiene, Carefully wash fruits and vegetables, Do not prepare food while infected or while having symptoms of norovirus, Clean and disinfect contaminated surfaces, Report all outbreaks to the local health department.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Heck asked for a Moment of Silence in memory of a beloved resident, friend, community leader and valued supporter of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, Joseph Costa who passed on Feb. 15th. Our prayers go to his wonderful wife Vicki and sons Joseph and Vincent as well as their entire family.

I would also like you to remember a lovely lady who passed away, Lucy Dente, who was married to the late Councilman Vincent Dente. She was a special person and wonderful wife, mother and grandmother and a good friend.

Jan. 31st, Tuesday, 9 am Mike Kronyak and I attended a special meeting held in Lodi by Manager Tony Luna at which officials/mayors of Elmwood Park, Fair Lawn, Hackensack, Wallington, met to discuss matters of importance that we had in common. A number of us were already involved in shared services and reviewed other possible cost saving measures. We also were given a special viewing of a special police training

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 2/28/2012

unit in which the use of guns and tasers were used. This was courtesy of Police Chief Vincent Caruso who is currently President of the Police Chiefs Assn. I was advised by our Chief, Michael Colaneri, that we also have such a training program.

Feb. 2nd, Thursday, I had an appointed D.P.W. Hiring Committee meeting. Members included Finance Chair Pam Link, D.P.W. Commissioner Dave Gonzalez and me. Application presented by DPW Supt. Bill Spindler. Several Applicants then received personal interviews by the Committee.

Feb. 4th, Saturday, I attended the Fire Dept Reorganization at which time Fire Chiefs Richard Giarratana, Patrick Hayes and Angelo Roccamo presented the newly elected officers. Council Members Justin DiPisa, Pam Link, David Gonzalez, Sonya Buckman, and John Dingertopadre were also in attendance. Fire Commissioner Gonzalez and I also had the opportunity to speak and thank the Volunteers of the Department on behalf of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

Feb. 8th, Wednesday; Left at 7 am with Councilwoman Pam Link for the League of Municipalities Legislative Day Meeting in Trenton. We returned to Heights at 3 p.m.

7 pm Michael Kronyak and I attended the Reorganization meeting of the Southwest Community Development Block Grant Committee held in East Rutherford. I was re-elected Chair and Carlstadt Councilman Joseph Crifasi was re-elected Vice Chair. Applications for grants were presented by the members representing 12 towns.

Feb. 10, Friday, 9 am Left for a taping of Power and Politics with Jim McQueeney at Channel 12. Subject was the Hudson Bergen Light Rail Environmental Impact Study now before New Jersey Transit and the FTA. The Mayor of Tenafly was also present. I spoke as Chair of the New Jersey Assn. of Railroad Passengers Light Rail Panel Chair.

Feb. 12, Sunday, Councilwoman Pam Link and I attended the final Mass at St. John's Episcopal Church offered by Outgoing Pastor Joseph Pickard. We also attended the reception that followed and presented Fr. Joe with the attached Proclamation citing his many contributions and proclaiming Sunday, Feb. 12th Rev. Joseph Pickard Day in Hasbrouck Heights.

Feb. 13, Tuesday, 8:30 a.m., I held the first Mayor's Business Community Committee Meeting for 2012. In attendance were Bill Lenox of Lenox Auto Body, Vickie Oller of TD Bank, Fritz Rethage of The Gazette, Peter Gallo III, Cliff Witmeyer of Cliff hanger Productions. Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees and Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak also took part in preparing for the May 20th Street Fair. Several new matters were discussed with a sub committee formed to follow up. Another meeting is scheduled for March.

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 2/28/2012

This was followed at 11:30 am with the regularly scheduled weekly Finance Committee Meetings attended by Finance Committee Chair Pam Link, Vice Chair Justin DiPisa, Finance Officer Michael Kronyak and me.

7 pm. A Police Committee Meeting was held with Chief Michael Colaneri, Police Commissioner Justin DiPisa and Deputy Commissioner David Gonzalez, Borough Administrator Mike Kronyak and me. Various matters were discussed.

8 p.m. Council Meeting followed by the Work Session.

Feb. 17, Brownie Troop Visit. We met in Borough Hall. Borough Clerk Ro Sees and I enjoyed answering their many questions and we also gave them a brief history of the Mayors whose photos are hung in the hallway.

Feb. 27, 8 pm attended the Mayor's Community Celebrations Committee Meeting. Details of the Egg Hunt were discussed. Co-Chairs Cindy Palmieri and Dennis Nuzzo reported on number of tickets and prizes to be ordered and distributed to the schools in the Borough.

I will be in the Library from 10 am till noon on Saturday, but will also attend the special Library Breakfast Event being sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

This concludes my report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 47. Approval of 2012/2013 Renewal Licenses for Commercial Sale of Certain Motor Vehicles
 - 48. Authorizing Approval of Statements of Consent for Treatment Works Approval for Heights Cliffs, LLC

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

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

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC (cont'd):

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 2/28/2012

Phil Guttilla, 307 Boulevard, owner of property and business at that location, was looking for more information regarding a visit from a police officer regarding a resident complaint about parking in front of his home. He questioned the 2 hour parking limitations. Mayor Heck said that most of the side streets along the Boulevard had 2 hour parking restrictions. She had asked Chief Colaneri to study the issue, she did not have a report back as yet. This complaint was for parking all day. She also referred Mr. Guttilla to Chief Colaneri after the meeting if he so wished.

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.

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE: 49. Disposition of Public Property and Potential Litigation

Mayor Heck requested a motion to close after a 5-minute recess. On a motion by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution to Close was accepted. Mayor Heck said no formal action would be taken.

ADJOURN:

At 9:36 p.m. Mayor Heck requested a motion to adjourn which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre 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 28, 2012.

Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk