

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 8/28/2012

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

**MINUTES**

**August 28, 2012**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, August 28, 2012 at 8:05 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 3, 2012 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 3, 2012.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilwoman Sonya Buckman, Councilman David Gonzalez, Councilwoman Pamela J. Link, Councilman John Dingertopadre, Councilman Russell A. Lipari

Absent: Mayor Rose Heck

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council President Lipari led in the Salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance.

**INVOCATION:** Councilman Gonzalez gave the Invocation as follows:

“Lord, take me where you want me to go; Let me meet who you want me to meet; Tell me what you want me to say, and Keep me out of your way.” –Mychal Judge, O.F.M.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 1) Thank you letter from Jennifer Dowd, Mary B. Quigg Scholarship Recipient
- 2) Op-Ed from United Water regarding leaks and aging infrastructure
- 3) Letter from Borough Attorney re: no Bids received for Cellular Communication Facility at Public Safety Building
- 4) Copy of B.C. Board of Chosen Freeholders Introduction of Ordinance 12-27 re: Dissolving the Bergen County Police Department - Public Hearing on September 12, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

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**COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):**

- 5) Letter from County Executive Kathleen A. Donovan to Mayor Heck re: Approval of 2012 CD Block Grant funds for Handicapped Accessible Curb Ramps
- 6) Letter from Senator Robert M. Gordon re: Resolution #75 supporting A2425 – eligibility requirements for unemployment insurance for season workers and #77 re: S1451 and 1452 proposing amendments to OPMA and OPRA

Council President Lipari asked if anyone wished to have any item read into the record. Item #4 was requested. (Copy attached) Council President Lipari asked for a motion to approve the correspondence which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez and unanimously carried.

**PETITIONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *(June 26, 2012 Executive Session, July 10, 2012 Work Session and Executive Session, July 24, 2012 Regular Meeting, August 14, 2012 Regular Meeting, Work Session and Executive Session)*

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Buckman, with Councilwoman Buckman abstaining from the July 24, 2012 Regular meeting, Councilman Gonzalez abstaining from the August 14, 2012 meetings and Councilwoman Link abstaining from the July 24, 2012 Regular Meeting, and otherwise unanimously carried, the foregoing Minutes were approved.

**BILLS:**

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$299,950.86 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

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**BILLS (cont'd):**

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

**REPORTS:**

**POLICE:** Under Police, Commissioner DiPisa reported the written exam portion of the testing for applicants of the Police Department was held on August 7, 2012. Forty-nine applicants took the exam with 46 receiving a passing grade. The next step is the physical agility/strength test which will be on September 15, 2012. The switch over for Little Ferry 9-1-1 calls to Hasbrouck Heights Police Department is set for September 4, 2012. State approval has been received. A meeting was held at Headquarters, with the Police Department, Fire Department, DPW and OEM to discuss and plan for the federal mandate of all radio frequencies and equipment being switched to narrow band. Representatives of ESS (Borough's radio maintenance company) reported most of the Police Department equipment can handle the change with minor programming. Switch over needs to happen prior to January 1, 2013. On behalf of the Hasbrouck Heights Police, I would like to thank Ron Ingui, RC Landscaping, for donating his time to trimming and maintaining the area around the Police Memorial. Schools will reopen on September 5, 2012. Our School Marshalls will be on their posts. Motorists are reminded that they must comply with the instructions of the Marshalls or face a summons and for the safety of our children the Walking School Bus will also be in operation on that day and will operate every school day. This is a great way to beat the traffic. Just drop your child off a couple blocks away on the walking bus and beat the drop off zone traffic.

**FIRE, STREETS & SANITATION:**

Under Fire, Commissioner Gonzalez gave the following productivity report as submitted by EMS Coordinator Elizabeth Waring for the period of 7/15 to 8/15 2012. There were a total of 24 Fire calls, 12 Non-Fire Emergency calls and 113 EMS calls. On Saturday July 28<sup>th</sup>, around 6:45 am, a tractor trailer crashed into the parking lot of 500 RT 17S and struck the building at the same location. The trucks diesel tank exploded killing the driver. This resulted in a 4 alarm fire call commanded by Fire Chief Rich Giarratana. Mutual aid was called to the scene. The following towns were on scene; Little Ferry, Wood-Ridge, Moonachie Fire and EMS, Wallington, Carlstadt and Lodi. The following Fire Departments were on stand-by at the fire house; Rochelle Park, Hackensack and South Hackensack. Under Streets & Sanitation, Commissioner Gonzalez reported following up on the Borough's sanitary sewer main that is located in the fast lane of Rt.17 North, the Department of Public Works performed a video inspection of the completed project that replaced a section of pipe that had a severe sag and a partial structural deformation. The video was given to Ken Job, Borough Engineer, for review who confirmed that project was satisfactory. The DPW tree crew completed same

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

trimming of the entire 300 block of Paterson Avenue as well as the 100 block of Kipp Avenue. Two trees were removed from Depken Field to allow for proper installation of the new fence that will be installed. Five tons of asphalt was used this past month to repair potholes throughout town as the pothole list is ongoing. The white crosswalks were painted at every school crossing guard station in the town and Bergen County Roads Department will be notified by our Police Department – Traffic Div. as to the re-stripping of all crosswalks on the county roads that traverse the Borough. Also, all yellow curb areas have started to be painted as the DPW purchased a Line & Curbing stripping sprayer. This replaces the old method in which 4 inch rollers were used.

DPW Repairs

- Garbage Truck #101- Replace starter and air brake canisters.
- Garbage Truck # 105 – replace all oil lines.
- Repaired old landscaping trailer/outfitted to carry new traffic painting equipment.
- Service all landscaping equipment.

Police Department Repairs:

- Logged over 96 hours of various repairs to all vehicles.

**FINANCE, SOCIAL SERVICES & WELFARE:** Under Finance, Commissioner Link stated the report would be postponed until the September 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. 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. From July 2 through August 20, there were 223 visitors to the Food Pantry. Thank you to the generous volunteers who helped stock and supervise the food pantry during this time period: Peg Walter, Vivian Leidenfrost, Dolores Jones, Dorothy Petroulas, Elsie Sternbach, Ethel Ball, Elaine Ruroede, Joyce and Andy Belbo, Marie Wojchiechowski, Al Kinsley, Jeff Leidenfrost, Marge Heeren and Rosemarie Williard as well as to the following donors: Corpus Christi Church, Bible Baptist Church, United Methodist Women, First Reformed Church, Euclid Masonic Lodge, Trippodo Family, Paul Fitzpatrick, Karen McDowell, Estelle Sattler, Diane Lukich, Sharon McGill, Richard Catalo, Jane Gay, Charmaine Thomas, Elizabeth Carnicer, Bejay Drugs, Vivian Leidenfrost, Mrs. D'Amico, Joan Laguerre, Capozzi Family in honor of Mayor Heck's birthday, Diane Robertson, Barbara Juliano, Mary and Ron Jones, Jane LoBue, Nelly Fader, Leon Dussault, Gary, Patty, Debbie Weiner, Gagliardi Family, Kathy Van Jura, David MacPherson, Vicki Grunski, Fran Visco, Al Kinsley, Terry Rista, Cathy Brunetti, John & Chris Rocha, Chelsea, Dave Jackson, Michelle Zahn, Mr. Fargo, Pamela Biss, Rosemary, Dr. Sternbach, Helen Frank, Carney Family, Mr. & Mrs. Gumbrecht, Villacampa Family, Mary Smith, Terry Castellito, Julie Canavatchal, Arlene Carreau, Rosemarie Smith, Connie Margagliano and Mrs. Rista. The response for donations has been most generous and very much appreciated!! The shelves empty quickly and donations are most welcome. If anyone is interested in donating items here are some ideas: canned fruit, juices, beans, rice,

**FINANCE, SOCIAL SERVICES & WELFARE (cont'd):**

pasta, 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.

**9-11 Memorial Service:** Councilwoman Link read the following: The Borough of Hasbrouck Heights will be holding a 9-11 Memorial Service on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to gather at the Firemen's Memorial /9-11 Memorial Park located on the Boulevard at the Circle. A brief program will be held to remember, reflect and respect those who were lost on that tragic day of September 11, 2001. Also planned is the dedication of a Memorial Plaque thanking all who played some part in the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9-11 which was held on September 11, 2011. For more information, please call the Borough Clerk at 201-288-0195.

**PARKS, PUBLIC FACILITIES & TRANSPORTATION:** Commissioner Dingertopadre reported that at Woodland Park, two infant swings were replaced in the playground due to the fact that the metal back supports had started to separate from the protective coating. New bushes were planted on the Circle as a result of a motor vehicle accident that occurred in the northern section. Fall flowers were ordered and will be planted at the Firemen's Memorial, 9-11 Memorial Park as well as the Circle. New memorial benches were placed at the Borough Hall, three at the Library courtyard and one at the front entrance. Three more will be set in concrete at the Firemen's Memorial and Woodland Park. Schedule of Meeting Rooms: Community Room 10, Caucus Room 6, Council Chambers 4, Rec Center 1, Senior Center2 (not including Senior Activities).

**HEALTH & LAND USE:** Under Land Use, Commissioner Lipari reported during the month this department issued 63 permits with income totaling \$20,807. There is refurbishing of several gas stations on Route 17 currently taking place. The Exxon Station across from Borough Hall will be appearing before the Zoning Board to modernize that facility. 82 initial UCC inspections were done during the past month with a passing rate of 89%. The Building Inspector spent 12 hours at 501 Route 17 South the day of the crash and subsequent fire. He has continued to work with the contractors to insure the safety of the office staff whose employers rent space there. The property maintenance inspector made 17 inspections. He followed up 22 times and took 5 photos of problem areas. Once again we must remind the public that no warning must be given for grass that exceeds 10 inches in either the front or back yard. Shrubs and flowers must be kept trimmed and cannot grow over onto a neighboring property or the public sidewalk. Since property maintenance is sometimes an expense that a homeowner might not be able to afford. This Department would like to advise those homeowners that Rebuilding Together is now accepting applications for their 2013 Rebuilding Day as well as for some smaller projects that they will do in the fall. The Fall Rebuilding Days are Saturday, October 13 and Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Rebuilding Together has the mission of bringing volunteers and communities together to improve

**HEALTH AND LAND USE (cont'd):**

the homes and lives of low-income homeowners. You can call 201-447-8886, e-mail at [info@rebuildingtogetherbergen.org](mailto:info@rebuildingtogetherbergen.org) or write PO Box 1389; Ridgewood, NJ 07451.

Under Health, Commissioner Lipari asked the Borough Clerk to read a report prepared by Board of Health Secretary Lori French. **Annual Blood Screening Program:**

The Hasbrouck Heights Board of Health will be offering their Annual Blood Screening Program on Thursday, October 4, 2012 from 7:00 am to 9:00 am in the Senior Room at Borough Hall. 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 copy of the results will be sent directly to your private medical doctor and another mailed to the participant. Additional screenings will be available; PSA (Prostates Specific Antigen), a blood-screening tool for detection of prostate cancer will be an option for all male participants at a cost of \$30 (cash) and a Vitamin D25, OH, Total Screening at a cost of \$30. This program is available to everyone. Registration and payment must be made in advance at the Hasbrouck Heights Health Dept., 320 Boulevard, Monday through Friday 10:00 am to 3:30 pm. At the time of registration please bring two large stamped envelopes, your name and address on one and your physician's name and address on the other. A 12-hour fasting period is required prior to your time on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions please call the Health Department at 201-288-1636.

**Flu Shots to be offered to seniors:** The Hasbrouck Heights Board of Health 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 Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. There will be no Pre-registration date; seniors will register on date of distribution. **Free Vision Screening For Adults and Children:**

The Hasbrouck Heights Board of Health in conjunction with the Passaic County Board of Social Services and the Health Awareness Regional Program of Hackensack UMC is offering free vision screening for adults and children on Tuesday, September 11 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Hasbrouck Heights Borough Hall. Vision screenings can help identify people who are at risk for vision problems. This program will screen adults for glaucoma, and tests for blur and common eye disease. Children will be screened for muscle coordination, test for blur and common eye diseases as well, This program helps with follow-up services to individuals who need further eye evaluations or eye care services, and who have no health insurance, and do not qualify for other state programs. Families that have insurance are welcome to attend this screening.

Appointments are required for this event. **Annual Senior Wellness Luncheon:** The Hasbrouck Heights Board of Health will be sponsoring their Annual Senior Wellness

**HEALTH AND LAND USE (cont'd):**

Luncheon on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at the Borough Hall Senior Center, 320 Boulevard, from 11a.m. – 2 p.m. no registration required. This is an invitation to all senior residents of Hasbrouck Heights. Come and enjoy a free lunch, provided by Care-One of Wellington of Hackensack. Guest speaker will be Carol Brush from the Health Awareness Regional Program of Hackensack UMC. For all health programs or if you have any questions please call Laura French at 201-288-1636.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Council President Lipari asked the Borough Clerk to read the following report prepared by Mayor Rose Heck:

We take a moment this evening to remember fondly Bill Smith who passed after a long illness. He was the consummate Firefighter having served proudly for decades. He is remembered as a caring and giving person who served well as the Fire Chief of the Fire Department.

**July 24,** Met with Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak prior to the July 24<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting to go over many items of Borough Business.

**July 26<sup>th</sup>** signed checks at Borough Hall and met with Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees and Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak.

**July 28<sup>th</sup> Saturday,** Trailer Truck Accident that rammed into the Office Building on Williams and Rte 17 South causing an extensive fire fought by our local Fire Dept. and Mutual Aid Fire Departments. I was kept informed of the happenings by Fire Commissioner David Gonzalez via phone. Our Firefighters and Police Officers on the scene kept the area safe as they battled the fire. Fortunately it being a Saturday the office building was unoccupied.

Resolutions of Commendation were planned to be given at the Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting. All who worked the scene, as well as each of the Mutual Aid Fire Departments would be recipients.

**July 29, 12:30 pm** performed a wedding at Maggiano's Restaurant in Hackensack.

**August 1, Wednesday, 1 p.m.** Michael Kronyak and I met with a representative of Teterboro Airport to discuss matters of importance. Plans for the anticipated busy time that will occur during the World Sports Event at the Meadowlands were discussed.

**7:30 p.m.** Attended the Planning Board Meeting

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

**August 2, 10 a.m. Caucus Room.** Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak and I met with Cindy Randazzo, representative of State Government from the Governor's office. We car-toured areas of interest and importance in Hasbrouck Heights. First areas of importance we visited was the extensive work we had to do on Coolidge Avenue. The expense of that project that we tried to obtain Project Ready funds from the Federal Government never reached fruition, so we had to take long overdue action on this matter within the Borough's Capital Improvement Fund. We visited areas such as the Environmental Pond on Franklin Avenue that has been a constant area of concern for the Borough and witnessed the overgrowth of vegetation in that area. Ms. Randazzo was impressed with our Depken Field and the fencing project which is in the process of being completed this summer, as well as the recent emergency work repairs done to the sewer lines under Route 17 South, paid for by the Borough. We visited the Streetscape Grant projects 1-2-3 and 4 and spoke about the newest grant for Streetscape 5 that will cover Hamilton to Walter Avenues on the Boulevard.

**August 3<sup>rd</sup>, Friday,** beginning at 7 pm the Annual Sleepover at the Library was in full progress. Hundreds of children along with parents attended the magical Fairytale event. I read books to the children beginning at 10:30 p.m. that night. Council Members Justin DiPisa, Pamela J. Link and Sonya Buckman also read to the children. Our congratulations to Library Director Mimi Hui and her staff for another job well done.

**August 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday,** my family caught me completely by surprise as they took me to my 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Luncheon at The Ivy Inn. I walked in and was completely shocked to see my entire family there, including my sister who came from Austin, Texas to be part of the celebration. My four daughters led by Nancy, planned and kept the secret surprise party from me for months prior to the event. Every one of my 8 grandchildren were in attendance. I was thrilled to say the least. I thank them all, and I thank all of my friends who took the time to be part of that wonderful celebration. I loved every minute of it.

**August 5,** former Councilman Garrett Pepe hosted a special campaign fundraiser for my birthday and the Ivy Inn was again packed with friends who came to celebrate my special event. What lovely memories were created that weekend. My thanks to all.

**Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup>** Met with Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak and Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees and went over local business matters and communications that had to be made.

August 10<sup>th</sup>, Friday, Councilman Russell Lipari and I attended the wakes of brothers of Police Officers Capt. Joseph Cronin and Lt. James Miller; the first in Paramus and the second in Lyndhurst. We extended the Borough's sympathy on the early loss of each

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

brother.

**August 14<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm** Attended the 7 pm Finance Meeting with Council Members Pamela Link and Justin DiPisa along with Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak and Borough Attorney Ralph W. Chandless. Several matters to be addressed were discussed prior to the Council Meeting.

8 pm Attended the Council Meeting.

**August 15<sup>th</sup>** Met with Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak and Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees.

**Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.** met in front of Prima Donna Beauty Salon with Councilman Justin DiPisa to view the Streetscape work in progress at that corner.

Due to extenuating circumstances, my library meetings open to the public will not resume on a regular Saturday basis until October. I will keep everyone updated as to my availability..

That concludes my report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 140. Payroll
  - 141. Authorizing Change Order #2 Creating Supplemental Items S12 and S13 for 2010 Road Resurfacing Program
  - 142. Authorizing an Application with the County of Bergen for 2011 Open Space Trust Fund Municipal Program Award for Improvements to Polifly Park

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

- APPOINTMENTS:**
- Louis Castellito as a Substitute Crossing Guard
  - Joann Melillo as a Substitute Crossing Guard
  - Wendy Spindler as a Substitute Crossing Guard
  - Mariagiovanna Sciavicco as a Substitute Crossing Guard
  - William Smith as a Substitute Crossing Guard

**APPOINTMENTS (cont'd):**

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## Yvonne Taylor as a Substitute Crossing Guard

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

**RESIGNATIONS:** Dr. Gerald Sternbach from Planning Board

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

**ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:****ORDINANCE NO. 2289:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled **AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$175,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR PHASE V OF THE BOULEVARD STREET SCAPE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, TO APPLY TO THE COST THEREOF A GRANT FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM IN THE SUM OF \$146,500.00, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$3,500.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCING OF A FURTHER PORTION OF THE COST THEREOF BY THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OR NOTES NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF \$25,000.00 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL BOND LAW** 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 September 11, 2012.

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

**ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:**

Council President Lipari requested a motion to open the meeting to the public which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre, and unanimously carried. Council President Lipari invited anyone from the public wishing to speak to please come forward. There being none, Council President Lipari asked for a motion to close the public portion which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

**ADJOURN:**

At 8:48 p.m. Councilman Lipari requested a motion to adjourn which was made by Councilwoman Buckman, seconded by Councilman DiPisa 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 August 28, 2012.

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Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk