

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

**MINUTES**

**December 29, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, December 29, 2015 at 8:03 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 November 25, 2015 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on November 25, 2015.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor Rose Heck, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilwoman Sonya Buckman, Councilman David Gonzalez, Councilwoman Pamela J. Link, Councilman Russell A. Lipari, Councilman Christian Semenez

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 Gonzalez gave the Invocation as follows:

**A Soldier's Silent Night**

Words: James M. Schmidt, 1986, alt.

Vocal Recording: [MP3](#) / [WMA](#)

Reading by Father Ted Berndt, 2003

Twas the night before Christmas

He lived all alone,

in a one bedroom house

made of plaster and stone.

I had come down the chimney

with presents to give

To see just who,

in this dwelling did live.

I looked all around

A strange sight to see

**A SOLDIER'S SILENT NIGHT (cont'd):**

No tinsel, no presents,  
Not even a tree.  
On the wall hung pictures  
of far distant lands.  
Medals 'n badges, awards of every kind;  
A sobering thought came alive in my mind.

This house was different...  
it was dark, it was dreary.  
I had found the home of a soldier,  
I could see that most clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping,  
Silent, Alone;  
Curled up on the floor  
In this one bedroom home.

His face was so gentle,  
The room in such disorder;  
Not at all how I pictured  
a United States' soldier.

Was this the hero  
of whom I'd just read;  
Curled up on a poncho,  
the floor for a bed?

Then I realized the other families  
I saw this night,  
Owed their lives to soldiers  
Who were willing to fight.

In the morning, round the world,  
Children would play;  
Grown-ups would celebrate  
A bright Christmas Day.

But they all enjoy freedom  
Each month of the year,  
Because of soldiers  
Like the one lying here.

I couldn't help but wonder  
How many lay alone,  
On a cold Christmas Eve  
In lands far from home.

The very thought

**A SOLDIER'S SILENT NIGHT (cont'd):**

Brought a tear to my eyes;  
I dropped to my knees,  
I started to cry.

The soldier awakened  
I heard his rough voice,  
"Santa don't cry,  
This life is MY choice.

I fight for freedom,  
I don't ask for more;  
My life is my God,  
My country, My corps."

The soldier rolled over,  
and drifted to sleep.  
But, I couldn't control it,  
I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours,  
So silent and still;  
As both of us shivered  
From the cold night's chill.

I didn't want to leave him  
On that cold, dark night;  
This guardian of honor,  
So willing to fight.

Then, the soldier rolled over,  
In a voice soft and pure,  
He whispered, "Carry on Santa,  
It's Christmas Day, all is secure."

One look at my watch,  
I knew he was right.  
Merry Christmas my friend,  
May God bless you this night

**SWEARING IN OF NEW POLICE OFFICER:**

Mayor Heck invited John Cambridge to come forward to be sworn in as a Probationary Patrolman. She was assisted by Councilman DiPisa, Councilman Gonzalez, Chief Colaneri and Mr. Cambridge's family.

**PRESENTATION:** Proclamation to Rebecca Kryceski, Girl Scout Gold Award Recipient

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The following Proclamation was presented to Rebecca Kryceski:

*WHEREAS*, attaining the rank of Gold Award is the highest award of Girl Scouting in the United States; and

*WHEREAS*, Rebecca Kryceski has exhibited outstanding achievement in her 13 years in Corpus Christi School Girl Scout Troop 606 as a Daisy from 2003 through 2005, Brownie from 2005 through 2007, Junior from 2007 through 2009 where she earned the Bronze Award for working with the Food Bank in Hasbrouck Heights and establishing year long donations to fulfill the Community's needs; as a Cadette from 2009 through 2012; Senior from 2012 through 2014, where in 2014 she earned the Girl Scout Journey Award with her project "Your Voice, Your World," working with autistic and special needs children in the summer program teaching them simple life skills and following through on a learned simple task; and also in 2014 earned the Girl Scout Journey Award with her project "Bliss, Live it! Give it!" where she worked with Meals with a Mission in Garfield making sandwiches for various homeless shelters; and

Whereas, Rebecca as Ambassador Scout from 2015-2016 earned her Girl Scout Gold Award by working with Sharon Parker, patient advocate at the John Theurer Cancer Center, a part of Hackensack University Medical Center, to spread awareness and prevention for the early warning signs of breast cancer which entailed over 90 hours of planning and carrying out the planned project; and

*WHEREAS*, during the course of her 13 years as a Girl Scout has sold over 1,000 boxes of Girl Scout cookies; marched in the Annual Hasbrouck Heights Holiday and Memorial Day Parades, attended Girl Scout Sunday Mass for the past 13 years, and attended Girl Scout Camp in Glen Spey, New York;

*WHEREAS*, this governing body acknowledges the importance of encouraging its youth to participate in Scouting by recognizing their achievements;

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* that we, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights do hereby proudly congratulate Rebecca Kryceski on fulfilling the obligations of the Girl Scout Gold Award and further wish her every success and happiness in the future.

**PRESENTATION:** Certificates to Holiday Float Contest Winners

Mayor Heck presented certificates to the Holiday Float Contest Winners. They are:

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Lincoln School P.T.A. - First Place - Best Handmade  
Euclid School P.T.A. - First Place - Most Artistic  
Wixon, Grella Carter Families - First Place - Best Theme  
New Heights Landscapes - First Place - Most Creative  
The Collins Family - First Place - Holiday Theme  
V.F.W. - First Place - Most Patriotic  
Boy Scout Troop Pack 17 - First Place - Most Original

She congratulated Thomas Mason, a participant in the V.F.W. float, who was recently named to the Veterans Advisory Council by the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders for a term expiring December 21, 2018.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 1) Letter from Hasbrouck Heights Police Department which includes list of approved 2016 Towing Applications  
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2) Letter from PSE&G re: Bill credits and lower gas rates and electric bills
- 3) Letter from Fire Chief Patrick Hayes advising that Firefighter Gregory Rubino has declined position of Lieutenant of the Truck Company for 2016
- 4) Letter of resignation of Gloria Cotter from the Ethical Standards Board

Mayor Heck asked if any member of the Council wished to have any item read into the record. There was none. Mayor Heck then requested a motion to accept the Communications which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**           *(December 8, 2016 Regular Meeting)*

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the foregoing Minutes which was made by Councilman Semencz, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

**BILLS:**

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$162,141.70, 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.

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**BILLS (cont'd):**

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:**

Police Commissioner Justin A. DiPisa will give this portion of the Mayor's Year End Police Report

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS:**

An "Unwanted Medicine Drop Box" was received and installed in the lobby of the Police Station. The box is available 24-hours a day for proper disposal of unused or expired medications. No syringes or liquid medications are accepted. Thank you to American Medicine Chest for giving us the box at no cost.

The department assisted the NJ State Police in Security Detail for Governor Christi's visit on April 15, 2015. The HHPD provided an escort for the Governor as well as security at the VFW.

May 20<sup>th</sup> Chief Colaneri, Capt. Rinke, Lt. Colaneri, Lt. Robertson and Det. Behr attended the Bergen County Memorial Day held at the Police Academy. Lts. Colaneri and Robertson presented a wreath for Ptl. DeLamater HHPD killed in the line of duty.

Boulevard Stroll was held on August 13 where the Hasbrouck Heights Police Hummer was on display. Sgt. Adamo reported a good crowd was in attendance.

**DARE:**

The Euclid and Lincoln Schools 5<sup>th</sup> grade DARE culmination was held on Jan. 15, 2015. Mayor Heck, Police Comm. DiPisa and Councilman Lipari attended. Mayor Heck, Dr. Helfant and Chief Colaneri addressed the packed house of students, parents and teachers. Sgt. Alan Baker spoke on the hard work done by the students. Darren the DARE Lion made a surprise entry to congratulate the kids. The graduates were then treated to a party with DJ and refreshments.

The Corpus Christi 5<sup>th</sup> Grade DARE Graduation was held on March 12, with Mayor Heck, Comm. DiPisa, Councilman Lipari, Chief Colaneri and Capt. Rinke on hand to congratulate the graduates. Sgt. Baker was congratulated on doing a great job with the children.

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**POLICE (cont'd):** DARE night at Space Odyssey was held on March 25, 2015. The 200 children that attended had a great time playing laser tag, unlimited video games and food. Chief Colaneri, Capt. Rinke, Lt. Colaneri, Sgt. Baker and Ptl. D'Amico were chaperones for the night.

**PERSONNEL:**

Sgt Caccavella retired from the Police Department on June 1, 2015.  
Ptl. Chris Connors graduated from the Bergen County Police Academy June 18, 2015

**EQUIPMENT:**

Two new patrol cars were received, striped and equipment installed.

**TRAFFIC:**

A new traffic counter/speed monitor was received. This monitor is mobile and can be attached to an existing pole will monitor the speed of vehicles and record speed, time, direction of travel and more right to the Traffic Bureau computer.

**SCHOOLS:**

April and May were busy months for the Department doing escorts for all of our local schools for various day trips throughout the town. Euclid and Lincoln Kindergarten classes visited the Public Safety Building for a tour.

Capt. Rinke and Sgt. Baker chaperoned the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Washington DC. The fingerprinting and photos of all 2<sup>nd</sup> grades were completed in April. All prints and photos were turned over to parents for safekeeping.

The Badges vs Books Volleyball game was held on May 8. The games were played in front of a packed high school gym. The police team won the first and third games with the teachers winning game #2. It was a fun night with Z100 and the mascot from the Jersey Jackals entertaining the crowd. Thank you to Lodi Shop Rite for their donation. Danielle Kroncke and Ptl. Donohue our SRO ran the event that raised over \$1200 for Special Olympics.

Chief Colaneri and Capt Rinke attended a dinner for the top 10% of the HHHS graduating class on June 1.

June 5<sup>th</sup> Chief for a Day was held. This year's Chief was Declan DeBaun. Chief DeBaun had a great day with Chief Colaneri and Sgt. Baker. Chief DeBaun conducted school safety checks before returning to Headquarters to view the operation of the

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**POLICE (cont'd):** Department. Then he was sworn in by Mayor Heck. Declan then joined the other Chiefs at the Bergen County Justice Center and motorcade to a luncheon at the Empire Club. Declan was given a plaque to honor him as Chief and a bag of gifts from Chief Colaneri and Sgt. Baker.

June 12 – the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run was held. Nineteen police officers ran along with approximately 140 students. Students from Lincoln ran from Bell to LaSalle. Students from Euclid ran from Walter to Henry. \$30,000 was raised.

**BOROUGH EVENTS:**

The HHPD again ran the dunk tank at the Street Fair. Those being dunked were Comm. Gonzalez, Boro Admin Mike Kronyak, Chief Colaneri, Capt. Rinke, Lt. Colaneri, Det. Behr, Det. Dussault, Ofc. DeSimone, Ofc. Brunetti, Ofc. Olivo, Ofc. Condal, Ofc. Renna, Ofc. Rossillo and Ofc. Connors.

Traffic and crowd control was provided for the annual fireworks display. The HHPD Honor Guard along with the VFW Honor Guard presented the colors for the opening ceremony.

**This concludes my portion of the Mayor's Year End Police Report**

**RECREATION:**

Recreation Dept. Programs are A-Plus in the Success Dept.

Our thanks to Rob Brady who is a true professional, knowledgeable, hard-working in so many areas. As I have said in the past, Rob Brady is a valued Department Head. And expect that in 2016 he will be continue to be better than ever. Thank you Rob, your great Committee and your Commissioner Sonya Buckman.

In 2015 the recreation department offered 32 year round programs and activities for the residents to enjoy! We have seen our program's registrations grow to the highest numbers ever in recreation basketball, softball, and summer camp. We also had a great third year of our Special Needs Recreation Program.

New in 2015 we added a middle school and high school drama class. The children learned many different areas of dramatic acting, and how to set up a screenplay. Our Recreation Softball teams enjoyed a successful 2015 season, with two teams winning the South Bergen Championship, and our 10U team winning the UGALS Championship.

Recreation Wrestling had over 35 wrestlers win medals at various tournaments in 2015. The team as a whole won more than 110 medals last season. Recreation Track and Field had its largest team ever in 2015 with over 140 boys and girls in grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

**RECREATION (cont'd):** registering for the program.

All of our senior activities have seen a rise in attendance. This year we had a holiday party for our Senior Yoga and Chair Yoga classes; everyone in the class and instructors had a great time.

Town Day 2015 enjoyed excellent weather, great music, and participation from many town organizations. Thousands of people attended, enjoyed the hot dogs and took advantage of picking up free Brown Leaf Collection Bags at the Environmental Commission's Table.

Our Sincere Thanks to all the residents who helped as volunteer coach, and participate in our programs to make them the best they can be. We also thank all children, parents, and seniors for participating in our programs, without your involvement our recreation department and senior center would not enjoy the success that it does.

We appreciate all of you who helped make 2015 a great year for the Hasbrouck Heights Recreation Department and invite all of you out there who have not as yet participated to do so in 2016.

**PARKS**

Certified playground mulch was applied to Woodland, Miers, and Central Avenue Parks. Also at the Central Avenue Park, black privacy slats were installed on the chain link fence.

A pre-construction meeting was held at the office of the Borough Engineer, Ken Job, to discuss the improvements to Polifly Park. Construction was completed at Polifly Park. Prior to construction the DPW temporarily moved the gazebo off the asphalt pad and onto the grass area so that a new patio can be installed. The DPW also cleared an area of overgrown vines, weeds and sticker bushes located on the border of a residence on Cleveland Avenue. New evergreens were planted by the DPW and many environmentally friendly plants to insects and animals will be planted by Ron Frivoli of the Rotary Club of Hasbrouck Heights.

The following is an update of the progress at Polifly Park. Eighteen (18) Cypress evergreen trees were planted along the border of the Park adjacent to the residence on Cleveland Avenue. The new evergreens will grow 20 to 30 feet and provide a buffer.

Ron Fraioli of the Rotary Club of Hasbrouck Heights along with several members planted a variety of plant species to enhance the environmentally friendly theme of the Park as it is pesticide free.

Also the gazebo was painted and will be moved back to the new concrete pad after the contractor completes the walkways and steps. The contractor is waiting for the arrival of the brick pavers.

The DPW addressed some issues at the Wrights Brother Field in Teterboro used by the Hasbrouck Heights Soccer Association for their games as our Borough has a lease agreement with the NY-NJ Port Authority.

- A two (2) cubic yard garbage container was placed there as the previous one had

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**PARKS (cont'd):** broken lid covers and the bottom was eroded.

- An old garbage pit was filled in as it was a trip hazard.

The DPW prepared the 911 Memorial Park for the remembrance ceremony on September 11 by setting up chairs, the podium, and barricades. They also repaired the ground lights and are looking into purchasing a new type of fixture as vandalism over the years have made it very difficult to keep the lights from being destroyed.

The Department of Public Works prepared for two town events in Woodland Park, our annual Town Day and Halloween in the Park.

Town Day preparation began with removing all the picnic tables from the Pavilion area and placing them in the field area so that the live entertainment could set up for their performance. The park and comfort stations were cleaned before and during the event. Barricades and cones to close off the park were placed out and removed at the end of the event as was all trash. The give-a-ways distributed to our residents were reusable shopping bags filled with recyclable items and information along with brown leaf bags. Four free mulching movers were raffled off to encourage residents to “Cut it and Leave it”.

Our DPW sets up Halloween in the Park which features the “Haunted Hayride”. Its starts by picking up hay bales that are on loan from Creamer Construction Company and hauling them to the staging area. The DPW cleaned the park and also assisted with “scary” display placement throughout the area. Two DPW trucks were used to pull the hay wagons around the “haunted park.” At the end of the event the park was cleaned and the hay was returned.

The Gazebo was decorated with holiday lights again this year as the Borough received many compliments from our residents last year. Annual holiday lights that adorn our Circle were also completed as well.

Plans for an expanded Playground have been in the planning stages for almost two years. After extensive reviews it was agreed to expand the area, remove old vegetation so that new equipment that would be barrier free, with the newly prescribed “Fall Areas” requiring added space could be purchased. We have a grant to cover equipment purchase costs as was previously reported. It is hoped construction will be completed in the Spring of 2016.

### **2015 Year End Library Report will be given by Library Liaison Councilwoman Sonya Buckman**

The Free Public Library of Hasbrouck Heights continues to serve and meet the needs of a dynamic community. Y2015 marked the resource sharing, collaboration, and service among 77 member libraries of the Bergen County Cooperative Library System (BCCLS). Our residents have access to over 7 million items with a library card.

### **Annual Circulation Stats (as of December 22)**

\* 128,602 items circulated to date. Based on these projections, the Library will establish a new

**LIBRARY (cont'd):** record

breaking circulation figure by the end of this month.

- \* 329 people use the computers each week.
- \* 102,683 people walked through the doors of our library.
- \* 7,308 residents have a Hasbrouck Heights library card.
- \* 7,028 reference questions were answered.

Library services include circulating a variety of books and media to the public, educational programs for residents, professional research help, out-of-state interlibrary loans, free internet access, delivery to the homebound, notary public service, proctoring of exams and computer training classes. We keep abreast of current trends and cutting edge technology. We offer free downloading and streaming of audiobooks, e-books, and movies for smartphones, e-readers, and tablets.

**Programming**

Our library programs draw in people of all ages. To date, 6,695 people attended 348 library sponsored activities. We have book discussion groups for children, teens, and adults. We offer a variety of self-help and educational seminars, music concerts, job search assistance, and cross generational craft programs throughout the year.

Our popular Crafts-to-Share Club draws a dedicated following under the direction of Head of Reference Melissa Singlevich. The ladies from the Craft-to-Share program have continued to donate their time, materials, and talent to knit and crochet blankets, hats and other apparel to be donated to the Hackensack Medical Center. A total of 1,735 hours of donated time was given in 2015.

The attendance for the Young Adult Programs continues to grow. Our children's activities draw in high attendance year round. The Library sponsors programs in the Children's Area starting at birth through 6th grade. Our Children's Librarian Kate Senedzuk is hard at work trying to cultivate the love of reading. She has given class tours, made visits to the elementary public schools and Corpus Christi, promoted summer reading at school assemblies and at summer camp in Woodland Park, has done story time down by the town pool, visited the students in the Keys Program over the summer and has cultivated partnerships with local organizations such as the Junior Woman's Club to offer additional evening programming.

In one year, the Library has supervised and helped 62 students complete 1,035 community service hours.

166 groups used the meeting rooms this year. A total of 2,253 people met at the Library for meetings.

The public can register for various library programs from the comfort of their homes by

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**LIBRARY (cont'd):** going to the library's website – <http://hasbrouckheights.bccls.org>. Get the latest up-to-date news when you follow the Library on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

### **2015 Memorable Moments**

In August, the Library held its annual family summer bash. This year's theme was called–*Superheroes United @ the Hasbrouck Heights Public Library*. Special thanks to all the borough agencies and individuals involved in making it a success. 350+ people were in attendance. A great line-up of family friendly activities were planned throughout the evening which included special guest appearances of costumed characters, themed foods were served, a superhero training academy to hone the skills of the children, special performance by the award-winning music band Sock Rockerz from Nashville, TN who rocked in silly socks, a Super Smash Brothers Wii U Tournament, and the behind-the-scenes look at stage combat presented by the Bergen County Players Theatre stunt director Dave Arts.

Through the efforts of Mayor Rose Heck, a very special donation was made to the Library by Larry Inserra, owner of Shop Rite. He generously donated and installed an 85" flat screen Samsung TV (estimated cost of \$10,000) in the large meeting room. This was a much needed addition since just a couple of weeks before our Summer Bash our old television was not functioning properly. In addition, Mr. Inserra also donated food to support our community wide summer bash.

In early November, in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce, the Library hosted its second annual Taste of Hasbrouck Heights & Friends. Twenty-four eateries participated by donating their signature dishes. Over 200 people attended this affair. Our heartfelt appreciation to Chip Dee Music Academy for providing the entertainment and special thanks to the Hasbrouck Heights VFW Commander Joseph Colangelo, Gazette Newspaper Publisher Fritz Rethage, and Heights Flower Shoppe and Chamber President Ray Vorisek for being the sponsors.

### **Friends Of The Library**

The Library receives steadfast support from the Friends of the Library, presided over by Judy Mascis. The Friends help finance all programs (including the summer bash), and pay for all the refreshments and prizes. Only one book sale was held this year. To date, about \$ 15,500 has been donated to support ongoing programs. This year, the Friends of the Library purchased movie licenses for the Library to have public movie screenings, provided seed money to establish a blu-ray movie collection in addition cover the cost for speakers and entertainment.

Thirty-three local businesses have signed up for the Friends Merchant Program for 2016. All have agreed to offer discounts off purchases when an individual presents

**LIBRARY (cont'd):** his/her Friends membership card. This is the seventh year the Friends has been able to develop a solid and growing collaboration with our business community. It is deeply appreciated. Consider joining the Friends of the Library and the continuation of quality and educational programs.

That Concludes the Library Portion of the Mayor's Annual Report

**Finance Chair Councilwoman Pamela J. Link will begin the End of Year Finance Report**

**BOULEVARD STREETScape**

To date the Borough has been awarded \$1,179,500.00 under the Municipal Aid Program for phases I thru VII of the Boulevard Streetscape Improvements. Phases I thru VI have been substantially completed and the plans for phase VII and VIII are being formulated. The Borough has recently submitted an application seeking funding for Phase IX of the streetscape program which would cover the westerly side of the Boulevard between LaSalle Avenue and Paterson Avenue. Hopefully we will be successful in our application for future funding and the improvement plan can continue.

**Grant Applications**

The following grants were utilized in the 2015 operating budget to pay for services that would otherwise have to be funded by your tax dollars:

Clean Communities Program	18,166.43
Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund	4,608.73
Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Fund	827.12
Recycling Tonnage Grant	16,903.47
Body Armor Replacement Fund	2,946.19
Assistance to Firefighters Grant	13,775.00

Grants are also sought for the funding of Capital Projects. These grants help us complete large projects, which do not fall within the operating budget, without incurring additional debt. The following projects are either completed or in progress in 2015 as a result of grants received:

Boulevard Streetscape Improvement Phase I & II	300,000.00
Boulevard Streetscape Improvement Phase III & IV	290,000.00
Boulevard Streetscape Improvement Phase V & VI	291,500.00
Boulevard Streetscape Improvement Phase VII & VIII	298,000.00
Additional Improvements to Depken Field	75,000.00
Side/Curb Replacement along Terrace, Boulevard And Passaic	230,000.00
Barrier Free Curb Ramps at Various locations	177,580.00
Improvements to Polifly Park	24,000.00

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**FINANCE (cont'd):**

Improvements to Stanley Avenue Roadway	153,000.00
Improvements to Woodland Park Playground	100,000.00
Installation of Rubberized Surface at Miers And Central Avenue Parks	51,000.00

In addition to the above, the Mayor and Council have already applied for grants to fund projects such as:

Boulevard Streetscape Improvements Phase IX  
Improvements to Portions of Cleveland Avenue, Webb Place and Lincoln Street  
Replacement of Playground Mulch with Resilient Surface Material at Depken  
Field Parks

**Tax Collections, Tax Rates and Assessed Values**

The 2015 tax collection rate should remain stable at approximately 98%. The Borough continues to address tax appeals with the work of the Tax Settlement Committee comprised of the Borough Attorney, Assessor, Tax Collector and CFO. Aggressively addressing Tax Appeals as well as following up on added assessments for new construction help preserve the tax rateable base of the Borough.

**Borough Debt**

As of the end of 2015, the Borough's Net Debt is \$9,569,498.00, or approximately 0.558% of Net Assessed Valuation, well below the allowable limit of 3.5% of Net Assessed Valuation.

In February of 2014 the Borough completed a refinancing of outstanding bonds. It is important to note the fact that the Moody's Investors Service Bond Rating granted for this refinancing was a "Double A3" which represents an upgrade in the Borough's rating which had previously been an "A2"

**Rose Heck Will give this portion of the Finance Report after Finance Chair Pamela J. Link**

**Budget and Finance Committee**

Formulation of the 2015 Municipal Budget proved to be as difficult as in past years. The Budget and Finance Committee worked very hard to formulate a Budget that both met the needs of the residents and minimized the impact on taxes. As required by State Statute, the 2015 Municipal Budget was required to comply with both the 2% Tax Levy Cap and the 1.50% Budget Appropriation Cap, our budget met both requirements.

Prior years legislation which brought about changes to the pension funding formula as well as employee contributions towards health benefits continue to have an impact on the budget. These changes require employees to contribute a higher percentage of their

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**FINANCE (cont'd):** compensation towards their pensions and also pay a greater amount towards their health insurance costs. This year's employee contributions towards health insurance costs amounted to approximately \$350,000.00, this contribution for 2014 was approximately \$230,000.00.

The Budget is comprised of two parts, revenues and appropriations. Total 2015 anticipated revenues, those are the revenues other than taxes, increased by approximately \$168,000.00 and included \$1,100,000.00 in Anticipated Surplus. State Aid remained unchanged from the previous year. Total appropriations, which represents the spending portion of the budget, increased by approximately \$183,842.00. The final budget as adopted resulted in a decrease in Local Municipal Taxes in the amount of (\$15,095.00), an amount which equates to a reduction of (0.10%). The Local Municipal Tax Rate decreased by one tenth of one tax point for 2015.

This decrease in the Local Municipal Tax Rate was the result of a multi-year plan to stabilize taxes which had a 1.1 point increase in 2013, one half of a point increase in 2014 and a slight decrease in 2015. I am hopeful that the 2016 finance committee will continue to work with the same dedication as in the past in an effort to formulate a 2016 budget that continues to meet the needs of the residents with a watchful eye on the tax rate. I give my sincere thanks to the dedication and hard work of Finance Chair Pamela J. Link and Vice Chair Justine A. Di Pisa and most especially to the dedicated, hard-working and exceptionally talented Finance Officer Mr. Michael Kronymak for working with me to make my goal of bringing in a Zero Budget Increase for 2015.

**2015 Year End Health Dept. Mayor's Report to be given by Health Commissioner  
Russell Lipari**

Fees Collected for 2015: \$79,160.00

Health Inspections: 512 of various natures, by Mid-Bergen Health Commission

Dog Licenses: 1252 licenses

Dog License Fees: \$19,134.00

Animal Control Services: 527 responses of various natures

Town Resident Deaths: 72 residents

Total Deaths Recorded: 901 Deaths

Marriage Licenses Issued: 52 Couples Applied

Certified Transcripts: 2,095 issued (Death, Marriage & Birth)

The Board of Health continues to sponsor many programs, which are designed to educate the public. The AARP Safe Driver Program offers a refresher course teaching safe driving techniques and is open to all ages. The Blood Screening Program, which is offered twice a year and is an excellent opportunity to check on your body's internal wellness. Our Family & Friends CPR Course helps families learn specific CPR skills for an adult/child and infant. The Annual Senior Wellness Luncheon is always a well informative event. After a delicious lunch donated by Care-One of Wellington of Hackensack, the Nurses from H.A.R.P. spoke about health topics.

This year the Board of Health sponsored their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual 5 K Run & Fun Walk,

**HEALTH (cont'd):** which was held on Sunday, April 19, 2015. Over 175 people registered to run in the race. Michael Bravo (17:14) of Passaic and Cara Depascale (21:09) of Rutherford took the top spots in the run in the male and female categories. Proceeds collected were donated to the participating organizations for scholarships to high school seniors and for the Seeing Eye Dog Foundation. The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual 5 K Run has been scheduled for Sunday, April 24, 2016.

Our Public Nursing Staff from the H.A.R.P. provides residents with preventive health programs. The programs conducted during the year were our annual Senior & Child Flu Program, Monthly Health Consultations, and The Child Health Conference. These programs continue to be very popular with providing immunizations for children up to age 18 for preventable diseases and the health consultations, which focus on preventing & managing high blood pressure, managing stress, and weight control & life style changes.

The Registered Environmental Health Specialist provided by the Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission continued to provide many inspections of various nature of food surveillance to assure that wholesome foods are being prepared and sold in Hasbrouck Heights.

The Health Department continues to conduct “Grease Trap” inspections to specific Food Establishments. The inspections have been periodic and unannounced with the intent of preventing any future buildup and blockages, which may compromise the efficiency of flow through the borough’s wastewater disposal system. The Health Dept. has conducted 61 Grease Trap inspections during the course of the year.

1252 dog licenses were issues. The Annual Dog Census Program was very successful. The Crossing Guards reported 118 unlicensed dogs.

### **Commissioner Christian Semencz will give the Mayor’s Year End Public Facilities Report.**

There have been numerous repairs to our Borough facilities. They are as follows: Repairs at the Library/Borough Hall:

- Installation of two heat exchangers.
- Installation of two electrical heaters above the drop ceiling.
- Replacement of several electrical outlets.
- Installation of security mirrors.
- Drywall was removed as a result of water damage in the Library and was replaced, spackled, and painted. A quote from a roofer was approved to repair several areas at the Borough Hall including the area over the Library.

• Shelves were purchased and assembled for use in the Food Pantry at the Borough Hall.

• Electrical work was completed in the Caucus Room by replacing a control modular and coil the controls the emergency lights.

Repairs at the Public Safety Building/Police Range:

• Painting of the Police Department in collaboration with the Bergen County Work Release Program.

- Replacement of two heaters in the Fire Department garage bays including

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS – MINUTES - December 29, 2015

**PUBLIC FACILITIES (cont'd):** the relocation of thermostats and a new flue pipe.

- The A/C compressor for the Radio//Computer Room at Police Headquarters was replaced as the room temperature was exceeding the recommended levels.

- The DPW repaired the air lines to the targets at the Police Range.

**Repairs at the DPW facility are as follows:**

- Replace heating duct, blower motor, thermostat, & circuit board.
- Installed break-away sheer pins on fuel pumps
- Replaced photo cells on lighting system by fuel pumps
- At the DPW facility, a pressure regulator valve was replaced on the fuel pumps. To achieve this, the pumps had to be removed from their base and placed back in a timely manner as to not interfere with the refueling process. An automatic garage door motor was replaced in the diesel shop garage. Also the card reader on fuel pumps was replaced.

Bill Spindler, Mike Kronyak, and State representative from FEMA met in what is called a “Kick-off” meeting to secure funds for an emergency generator for the DPW facility

The DPW setup and cleaned several areas for the Lions Club sponsored fireworks show to celebrate the 4th of July. Bleachers were moved from the Little League Field to allow for the firing area to operate. Cones and barricades were set in place. A stage was assembled on Depken Field. After the event the DPW used backpack blowers, rakes, brooms, and the street sweeper to clean all of the affected areas. In addition to the DPW, the Bergen County Work Release Program provided men to clean up the Little League Field the following day.

The DPW removed all the pots from the business district for “The Boulevard in Bloom” project and unloaded them at the DPW facility for winter storage.

The DPW assisted in the retrieval of an exhibition trailer from the Bergen County Police and Fire Academy in Mahwah for the Hasbrouck Heights Fire Prevention Bureau for their “Fire Prevention Awareness Event.” The DPW returned the trailer when the event was completed.

He thanked the people of Hasbrouck Heights for putting him on this council that he has been proud to serve.

This concludes the Public Facilities Year End Report

**COURT:**

Mayor Heck read the Court Stats for January through November 2015:

Parking Tickets	3,580
Moving Violations	2,770
DWI's	41

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**COURT (cont'd):**

Total 6,391

Court Revenue from January through November was \$218,799.39

This completes the Year End Report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
192. Authorizing Payment to former Fireman Richard Giarratana for 25 Years of Service
  193. Authorizing Promotion of Michael Renna and Anthony Rossillo from Probationary Patrolmen to Regular Patrolmen of the Hasbrouck Heights Police Department effective December 19, 2015
  194. Authorizing Raffle License for Friends of the Hasbrouck Heights Public Library
  195. Authorizing Agreement with Bollinger Fowler Insurance Co. To Supply a Prescription Drug Program for Employees
  196. Authorizing Renewal of 2016 Hotel Licenses
  197. Authorizing Award of Playground Equipment for Woodland Park
  198. Authorizing Transfer of Current Taxes Received to Taxes Overpaid
  199. Authorizing Cancellation of Minimal Credit and Debit Balances on Current Taxes in the Amount of \$10.00 or less
  200. Authorizing Change Order #2 for Improvements to Depken Field Phase II (Utilizing Bergen County Open Space Funds)
  201. Interfund Transfer
  202. Authorizing Budget Appropriation Transfers

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**CONSENT AGENDA (cont'd):** Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried. (Copies attached)

**RESOLUTIONS:** None

**APPOINTMENTS:** Rose Heck to Hasbrouck Heights Free Public Library Board effective January 1, 2016 for a term of 5 years

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the foregoing Appointment which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, with Councilman Gonzalez abstaining, Councilman Semenez voting No, and otherwise unanimously carried.

**RESIGNATIONS:** Gloria Cotter from the Ethical Standards Board

Mayor Heck requested a motion with regret to accept the foregoing Resignation which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2352:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: “**AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARY AND COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE HASBROUCK HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 2016 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AND THE POLICEMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LOCAL 102**” 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.

Mayor Heck requested a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2352 which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried.

There being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Heck requested a motion to close the public hearing on this ordinance which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the adoption of Ordinance No. 2352 which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, with Councilman Semenez voting No, and otherwise unanimously carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2353:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARY AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY, FOR THE YEAR 2016”** 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.

Mayor Heck requested a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2353 which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, 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 this ordinance which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the adoption of Ordinance No. 2353 which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, with Councilman Semenez voting No, and otherwise unanimously carried.

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:**

Mayor Heck requested a motion to open the meeting to the public which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Semenez, and unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Link asked to read a letter from Governor Christie to Mayor Heck as follows:

Dear Mayor Heck:

On behalf of the State of New Jersey, I am pleased to recognize you for your outstanding service to the residents of Hasbrouck Heights.

For more than two decades, you provided invaluable service to your residents and have been selflessly committed to improving the community of Hasbrouck Heights. Through your varied positions as Councilwoman, Assemblywoman and Mayor, you have distinguished yourself as a true champion for the interests of your community. You can take pride in the knowledge that your hard work and commitment have not only earned you the respect and admiration of your colleagues and neighbors, but will serve as an inspiration to others in our great State. I join with the residents of Hasbrouck Heights, your family, friends and colleagues in applauding your many accomplishments and thanking you for a job well done.

**MISCELLANEOUS (cont'd):**

Again, congratulations and best wishes for good health and happiness in the future.

Sincerely,

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Councilwoman Link also noted she had met with Assemblyman Tim Eustace, he was sorry he hadn't prepared for this evening, but said Mayor Heck was the "eveready bunny," he had never seen anyone so hard working for the good of all. He thanked you.

Ronald Ellis, 109 Paterson Avenue, read a prepared statement as follows:

Thank you Mayor Heck

My family and I have lived in Hasbrouck Heights for over 31 years and for almost all of those years you have been in a position to influence our community. From organizing the line-up of the Christmas Parade, to Councilwoman, to Mayor, to Assemblywoman and a few more terms as Mayor, to name a few of the high-profile positions that you have held. Beyond these high-profile positions, the list of leadership positions that you held within the many charitable, civic, government and quasi-government organizations of which you are or were a member is quite extensive. Your influence has always been positive.

You and I have not agreed on all issues from reductions to the Board of Education budget following voter rejection while I was a Board of Education Trustee – and you were Mayor - to the rebuilding and placement of the borough offices (and Library) following the disastrous fire that burned down our borough hall in 1999, while you were an Assemblywoman but were attending the rebuilding meetings as a concerned resident to name a few. But, in every case, you would listen to my concerns, thoughts and suggestions and if I did not make a strong enough argument, you would go with what you believed was best based on all the other inputs you had received.

You always made yourself available to Boro residents and members of our business community through your scheduled weekly hours at the Library, community events, grand opening or simply a telephone call. I can only imagine how many concerns of our community members have been resolved because of your willingness to listen.

I do not know the number of discussions that we have had nor the number of subjects that we covered, but I do know that in every instance, foremost in your mind was what is in the best interest of Hasbrouck Heights. From the Boulevard Streetscape projects to the annual town fair to fiscal conservatism (under your leadership in the past two years the municipal tax rate increase was kept to one-half of one percent for 2014 and to a zero percent increase for 2015) your actions supported your words.

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**MISCELLANEOUS (cont'd):**

Just this summer you learned that the large flat-screen television in the meeting room of the Library was failing after some ten years of use and the annual Summer Bash was fast approaching. You placed a call to a friend and in no time at all the replacement television – bigger and better – was fully installed and available well in advance of the Summer Bash – at no cost to the community. As you know, the new television was a big hit at the Summer Bash.

It is with great appreciation and admiration that I thank you for your service to our community. God Speed.

Ron Ellis  
December 29, 2015

Justin Watrel, 506 Collins Avenue, said as a neighbor and friend of his and his family, he thanked her for all her support throughout the years, your hardwork and dedication to the town and his family. He wished everyone good luck in the next year.

Councilman Justin DiPisa presented Mayor Heck a fun gift, which had some significance, since everyone on the dais signed this gift including Mr. Kronyak and Mr. Chandless, was a reminder to the Mayor “that you are bright, your favorite color is red and your favorite party is red.”

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

**MAYOR’S FAREWELL ADDRESS:**

Highlights of work done since 2008  
*Under Mayor’s Leadership With the support of the Council, Administration, Volunteer Committees many accomplishments were achieved on behalf of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.*

Since 2008 I set a goal to stabilize the Municipal Tax Rate and in 2015 - Zero Municipal Tax Increase was achieved with many positive steps being taken including in 2011 the Borough authorized a Reassessment of Real Property in an effort to get tax appeals under control by adjusting values downward to reflect the current market conditions at the time. The reassessment values were effective for fiscal year 2012. My compliments to Borough Attorney Ralph W. Chandless Jr. and Finance Officer/Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak and everyone involved including the Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees.

Hasbrouck Heights named one of the Top Ten in New Jersey

Best & Safest Place to Live \ Best Place for Seniors to Retire

One of the Healthiest Real Estate Markets – Thanks to a Police Dept. led by Police Chief Michael Colaneri and all the men of his department. When I ran for the first time in 2007 for Mayor when the town was in trouble, I explained to my running-mates Sonya Buckman and David Gonzalez it was my goal to bring our Police force back to its strong reputation of exceptional law enforcement and service. It took time to accomplish because in my opinion several problems were put into play by our two previous mayors...

Let me recap:

In June 2003 Mayor Torre recommended the promotions of Lieutenants to Captain: Cronin and DeLorenzo and Bill Castiglione to Capt. of Detectives. At the same time he recommended the promotion of Capt. Robert Kroncke to Deputy Chief.

In December of that same year 2003, before he left office, he promoted to Lieutenant, Sgts. Miller, Archer and Krisinski and from Patrolmen to Sgts. Corbliss and Rinke. These promotions totaled 9 for 2003.

Then on May 11, 2004, Mayor Jones recommended the promotions to Lieutenants of Sgts. Mullins, Ruroede, Tozzi and Lesho and from Patrolmen to Sgts. Caccavella, Vargo, Netelkos and Sisto. The total for that year was 8 promotions.

When I took office in 2008, I viewed a top heavy Police Department and set about on a path to not make any promotions until I could get to a place to limit the number of ranking officers to patrolmen. This meant I had to freeze promotions until I saw a certain amount of retirements of ranking officers and then wait to review the entire situation. You will recall I appointed myself Police Commissioner during that time to safeguard against any fallout to any member of the Council. Long story Short – I chose to not recommend any promotions in 2008, in 2009, in 2010, in 2011 and in 2012. I asked the Chief to review our Promotion Policy and to gather ordinances from around the state so that I could present a more in depth way of handling and deciding on promotions. Historically the system was simple – The Police Chief and the Mayor would meet talk

about who to promote then the Mayor would make recommendations to the Council. Looking at the recent past history, I decided this system was not working for the betterment of the Police Force, the Community or the Taxpayers of Hasbrouck Heights.

After many meetings, reviews, and consultations with a Police Attorney, The Borough Attorney, the Police Chief, The Police Commissioner, the Deputy Police Commissioner, the Borough Administrator, the Borough Clerk and me as Mayor, we came up with the final Ordinances March 26, 2013.

The first one Ordinance 2298 – 11 pages long – the heading reads - “An ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CERTAIN SECTIONS OF ARTICLE I ENTITLED ‘CREATION AND ORGANIZATION’ OF CHAPTER 55 ENTITLED ‘POLICE DEPARTMENT’ OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS UPDATING THE SAME AS TO CURRENT APPLICABLE LAW, REGULATIONS AND PRACTICES.

Let me make it clear, I limited the authority of the Mayor to make Promotions and so “I” wanted to insure that proper procedures be followed and not misused.

A second ordinance, Ordinance # 2302, was adopted with Council Members Buckman and Semencz voting against. It was carried by the vote of the marjority of the Council and established.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT SUBSECTION B OF 55 OF CHAPTER 55 ENTITLED ‘POLICE DEPARTMENT’ OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASB ROUCK HEIGHTS IN ORDER TO UPDATE THE TABLE OF ORGANIZATION

It was adopted on 28<sup>th</sup> day of May 2013 with Council Members Buckman and Semencz voting against.

This limited the amount of ranking officers to patrolmen. It calls for a Police Chief, two Captains, four Lieutenants, eight Sergeants and so many Patrol Officers as may from time to time be appointed, etc., etc.

Now we come to the first promotions made with me as Mayor in June of 2013 recommended as provided in the newly adopted, more detailed promotion procedures and recommended by the Police Committee that included the Mayor, Police Commissioner DiPisa and Deputy Police Commissioner David Gonzalez.

Promotions, the first made since I took office as mayor in 2008, included replacement of retirees.

They were from Sergeants to Lieutenants – Rinke and Corbliss; from Patrolmen to Sergeants Colaneri, Robertson, Baker and Adamo. Remember the date was June 2013. 6 promotions in 2013.

Next promotions, same system, with the Police Committee making recommendations were in December 2014 – I thought this was a great time for celebrations, so I chose the month of December.

Promotions made were Lieutenant Rinke to Captain.

Sergeants to Lieutenants Colaneri, and Robertson and from Patrolmen to Sergeants Werner and Kroncke. 5 promotions in 2014. Still not filling all the open positions.

I had planned to meet with the Police Committee to consider only three promotions this year for December 2015 – One Captain, One Lieutenant and One Sergeant – I never had the opportunity to do this.

In my opinion, the whole process was made murky by warnings by the incoming Mayor-Elect and Councilman-Elect and, in my opinion, misinformation given privately to several members of the Council without my knowledge in the presence of the Mayor –Elect and Councilman-Elect, and in addition, the inability of reaching anyone to hold a Police Committee Meeting in a timely manner.

I am in touch with others who will offer me legal advice as to the happenings, the two legal interpretations of the ordinances and I will, when I am out of office, ascertain certain procedural information and if and when necessary, make this information available to the proper parties, so that it never happens to another sitting mayor again.

And now my thanks to a fantastic, hard-working Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees who wears so many hats and does an outstanding job at everything she is asked to do. We

put together 8 editions of the Borough Business Bulletin that I introduced as one of the means of communicating with the Borough Residents and I hope it will continue. You, Ro, were my right hand worker along with Business Administrator Michael Kronyak in introducing and putting together the Annual Street Fairs along with the Members of the Business Community Committee that I created in 2008. I hope it will continue. I added to the Mayor's Community Celebrations Committee and must say each of those volunteers are to be commended for giving hundreds of hours of work and dedication to all of the Celebrations we have held, even the newer ones. Thank you so much.

To all of you who worked to give input to better operate the business of the Borough. Thank You.

To Michael Kronyak for his patience and understanding in undertaking the many lists of jobs I kept giving him. Thanks so much. Thanks to his staff, the Tax Collector Chita Parker and Louise Balsamo, and the retired Angela Ferraro; to Laura French for all her due diligence as Registrar and Secretary to the Board of Health and to Dorothy Bernice for multi-tasking with the Zoning and Planning Boards and the Building Dept.

A Special thanks to Nick Melfi, Bill Spindler and Michael Kronyak, who took time to periodically ride throughout town with me , checking on a myriad of happenings and needs. And Nick, I am so proud of the new Ratables that we have over the past 8 years.

Terrace Avenue Townhouses

Meadowlands Nissan

Springfield Estates (Townhouses)

24 Hour Fitness

Wine Emporium 65 Rte. 17 South Complex

Hasbrouck Heights Holiday Inn Renovations

4 New 2 Family Homes on the Sylvester's/Old Homestead Site

Sonic on Route 17 North

Pep Boys on Route 17 South

Hasbrouck Heights Veterinary Hospital on the Boulevard

Hasbrouck Heights Hilton Renovations

377 orte 17 South – New Hilton Suites 2 Hotel

\*Beautification of the Boulevard \ Circle – Free Design by Landscape Architect – New Welcome Sign – 8 years of consecutive Grants helping to pay for new lighting and Sidewalks -

\*Beautification \ Upgrade of each of our Parks

Miers Park - expanded and playground additions made

Woodland Park – new Pavilion – paved entrance – parking areas - Planning stages for Expanded Playground Area with new equipment - Including Barrier Free Equipment

Veterans Park – sidewalks – Barrier Free Access – Landscaping – Lighted Flag Pole

Polifly Park - Landscaped and Gazebo refurbished

Central Avenue Park – Completed with Picnic Table and Pavilion cover

All Playgrounds to be completed with resilient ground cover

\*Continued New Businesses\Restaurants on the Boulevard – Route 17 Business Growth bringing in new Ratables to help our Taxpayers while adding to our town's good reputation

\*Safety Programs - Walking School Bus for our children (As Mayor I helped get Grants) \ new Stop for Pedestrian Signs \ new equipment for our Police Dept. inclusive of Cameras that are connected into Police Headquarters and others registering and taping speed of cars \ infractions

\*Communication Upgrades that began with the Message Board in front of the Municipal Building, Web-Site, e-mails, Modern Emergency Technology and my introduction of the first Borough Business Bulletin touting every Borough Department and listing all Personnel giving an over view of each Service to our People including our Outstanding Recreation Programs with Award Winning Programs and so much more

\*I Introduced Enhanced Recycling Programs that brought the School District into the program along with the private schools including the Shredding Event that brings new dollars into the Borough and saves on garbage costs.

\*Succeeded in getting the County to Repave the Boulevard and getting PSE&G to upgrade equipment after I used my office as mayor to highlight the power problems in several Borough Areas.

\*I continued to highlight the needs of Hasbrouck Heights in numerous areas and have brought high level officials into town to address them. I still continue my efforts on behalf

of the people of Hasbrouck Heights.

\*Instituted needed environmental programs

\*I have fought for commuters at the New Jersey Transit Board

\*With my 13 years of experience as a leading Assemblywoman, I helped Hasbrouck Heights from being pushed by State Legislators to have Teterboro Divided among surrounding towns, that could have resulted in Hasbrouck Heights being responsible for Hundreds of Thousands of Dollars in responsibilities added as we lost \$200,000 in contract revenue from what would have been the “non-existent Borough of Teterboro” that would have been divided and made part of South Hackensack, Little Ferry, Moonachie and Wood-Ridge - All Democrat Controlled Towns with Hasbrouck Heights being the only Republican Controlled community. I not only had the guts to go to Trenton to fight for Hasbrouck Heights, but had the foresight to have all documents gathered by Borough Clerk Rose Sees, Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak, Borough Engineer Ken Job, and Borough Attorney Ralph W. Chandless, from archives including the history of how Teterboro became a Borough, but I placed the focus on the matter front and center in the media. I testified at the quickly put together public hearing held in Trenton when all others had other pertinent Borough Business matters to be addressed –I drove to Trenton in the early hours and was there throughout the 9 am opening of the committee until late afternoon when the Bill came before the Committee and I gave my testimony, and the documentation to the Assembly Committee Chairman and answered all questions posed to me. Long story short – the bill lays dormant now with me ever ready to fight for Hasbrouck Height again whenever they dust off the plan and bring it up for a vote. Ask me about that day and I will be happy to share it with you.

\*Open door policy: I was available on Saturday Mornings in the Library to meet and greet residents, answer questions, help resolve individual problems and often times just to give simple friendly advice to those who sought my input. I used my knowledge, experience and expertise to help serve the people of Hasbrouck Heights.

\*My history of support for children of all ages is well known and documented; including laws to protect children; my sponsorship of Children’s Summits Statewide included Parents, Educators, Physicians & Children’s Experts; Four Regional Diagnostic & Treatment Centers were sponsored and formed by my legislation, one of them is the Audrey Hepburn Children’s House in Hackensack; Laws sponsored to aid Special

Needs students and aid for Schools like The Bergen County Academy with the help of my friend Dr. John Rossi.

\*The Read across America Program is one of my favorites and I continue to read to Children at Lincoln and Euclid Schools beginning with those in Kindergarten-Age. I hope that I will be allowed to continue doing that.

\*As Mayor I made myself available to participate in School, Boy Scout and Girl Scout Programs.

\*DARE continues to be a big program in Hasbrouck Heights. The Late Police Chief Howard R. Baker, me, and Juvenile Officer Lt. Edward Chermark started the DARE program 26 years ago In Hasbrouck Heights and it continues in the schools to this date.

I loved meeting with the children at every age level to teach them about Community involvement and encourage them to participate by learning more about the town and its Government.

Thank you to all Department Heads, to all Staff in every department who made my 8 years so memorable and enjoyable.

It is now time for me to work in other capacities to help my community and rest assured I will do so.

As I have so often said, I can lead and I also can follow. So whatever God has in store for me I am ready, willing and able.

I thank God for all of these wonderful 8 years. I thank all the volunteers again for their service to the community.

I have worked hard and enjoyed every minute.

As Mayor I thank you and bid you Farewell.

/s/ Rose Heck Proud Resident of Hasbrouck Heights 12/29/15

**ADJOURN:**

There being no other business to come before the governing body, at 9:59 p.m., Mayor Heck requested a motion to adjourn which was made by Councilman Semenech, seconded by Councilman Lipari, 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 24, 2015.

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Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk