

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**YOUTH WEEK COUNCIL
MINUTES****MAY 26, 2015**

A Youth Week Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at 8:01 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey.

Mayor Rose Heck invited the Youth Week Mayor and Council to come forward and conduct the Youth Week Council Meeting. Andrew Kalmowitz took over as Youth Week Mayor.

Youth Week Borough Clerk Alyson Harden 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 5, 2015 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 5, 2015 in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

Youth Week Mayor Kalmowitz requested that Youth Week Borough Clerk Harden conduct the Roll Call:

ROLL CALL: Present: Youth Week Mayor Andrew Kamowitz (*Mayor Heck*) Youth Week Councilmembers: Meghan Azer (*Councilman DiPisa*), Evi Mosheraj (*Councilwoman Buckman*), Anisha Patel (*Councilwoman Gonzalez*), Amanda Azer (*Councilwoman Link*), Bianca Magsino (*Councilman Lipari*), Kelsey Deininger (*Councilman Semenech*)

Absent: None

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

INVOCATION: Youth Week Mayor Kalmowitz gave the Invocation which was as follows: "Prayer for Students. Father of Light and Wisdom, thank you for giving me a mind that can know and a heart that can love. Help me to keep learning every day of my life – no matter what the subject may be. Let me be convinced that all knowledge leads to you and let me know how to find you and love you in all the things you have made. Encourage me when the studies are difficult and when I am tempted to give up enlighten me when my brain is slow and help me to grasp the truth held out to me. Grant me the grace to put my knowledge to use in building the kingdom of God on earth so that I may enter the kingdom of God in heaven. Amen."

YOUTH WEEK COUNCIL REPORTS:

Youth Week Mayor Kalmowitz invited each Youth Week Councilperson to give their Commissioner reports which they wrote themselves:

POLICE: Youth Week Commissioner Azer reported that the Police of Hasbrouck Heights, unlike in neighboring towns, are very keen to stick to the rules but at the same time are fairly merciful. Having Officer Donahue in the high school every day gives all students a sense of safety as they pass through the hallway, Though we are lucky to have little, he is always there to respond to any emergency right away. It is also always nice to see the Police participate in events like the Torch Run, parades, foot ball games and other activities that happen throughout the year. I would also like to thank all the HH officers on their countless contributions and countless hours they spend watching out for us. I would like to recommend that every policeman receives a raise. There is no amount of money we can give to repay the people who watch over us. It's good to know that we have such caring people protecting our town and making Hasbrouck Heights a safe and secure town to live in. I would like to personally thank Chief Colaneri for keeping our town and police all up and running smoothly and efficiently.

Youth Week Borough Clerk Harden recorded the vote, motion to approve this report was made by Youth Week Councilwoman Azer, seconded by Youth Week Councilwoman Patel and unanimously carried.

RECREATION AND PARKS: Youth Week Commissioner Mosheraj reported the Recreational Department of Hasbrouck Heights has been very generous and giving when it comes to our public park. There is never a moment when you don't see someone enjoying themselves at Woodland Park. Whether it be a father and son playing baseball, or teams of kids playing basketball, there is never a dull moment. Because of Woodland Park, we are able to host many celebrations and sporting events like Town Day and Recreational Soccer. The same can also be said for Depken Field. Not only does the field get a lot of attention from the football games but also from baseball games and the track meets. With such a big track team I've been told countless times that other teams envy the high quality of our track, and believe it has a huge effect on the success of our track team. Field Day is also very popular and only possible and successful because of the Field. The field behind the high school has been such a big resource for students as well. It serves as a convenient way for athletes to come at different times in the day to work out and build their skill.

In conclusion I would like to recommend having a turf field at Woodland Park because soccer players frequently have ankle pain due to the uneven playing surface.

We are grateful for all of our fields and for the park that we have here in Heights. Without the recreational department we wouldn't have parks for families and friends to

get together to stay active, and our sports teams wouldn't be as successful. They are a big part of what makes the town fun and family friendly.

Youth Week Borough Clerk Harden recorded the vote, motion to approve this report was made by Youth Week Councilwoman Patel, seconded by Youth Week Councilman Deininger and unanimously carried.

FIRE, STREETS & SANITATION: Youth Week Commissioner Patel began by saying good evening Mayor, Councilmen, my fellow classmates, other honored guests. I would just like to take this time to thank Councilman Gonzalez for all the hard work he has done in keeping this town clean and bright. The first memory I have of this town was driving down the Boulevard in the winter of 8th Grade, just before I moved here. And I can't help but think that I would not have decided to move here if it hadn't been for how gorgeous the trees lining the Boulevard, or the twinkling lights hanging on them looked at night.

I would like to begin by thanking everyone for being here tonight. The small town charm of Hasbrouck Heights would be amiss if it weren't for the hard work and long hours put in towards keeping the streets clean and sparkling. Every time I drive down the Boulevard, there is always some sort of construction work going on to make this town a safer, cleaner environment for all its citizens. And as far as safety goes, from what I have seen, the quick response from the Fire Department in attending to the fire at Heights Pizza and R-Tist Hair Studios made me feel proud to live in a town that is devoted to the safety and well being of its members and local businesses.

In conclusion, I would like to say I am proud to be a councilwoman of a town as this one is and as devoted to fire safety. I would recommend for the sanity of our high school students to get Heights Pizza up and running as soon as possible. For me personally, I've lost my favorite place to frequent for lunch. From the Boulevard to Terrace to small residential streets, littering has never been a problem in this town and with the new parking spots, coming from a new driver such as myself, it is a godsend. Something I've always noticed about this town is its lack of graffiti. Coming from a city like Clifton, the sight of clean bricks on buildings is something that I'd never seen a lot of before and it makes me proud to be a citizen of this town.

Youth Week Borough Clerk Harden recorded the vote, motion to approve this report was made by Youth Week Councilwoman Meghan Azer, seconded by Youth Week Councilwoman Magsino and unanimously carried.

FINANCE AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS: Youth Week Councilwoman Amanda Azer reported as follows: People think that living in a small town means less opportunities, higher taxes and less recreational programs available to the residents of the town. Hasbrouck Heights, however, doesn't qualify under people's preconceived notions about small towns. We are fortunate enough to have manageable and

reasonable taxes of which our money is put toward significant factors in the town. The school, for example, gets a lot of our tax money in order to provide for students and make more clubs, sports and supplies available to students. In addition to having a great financial situation in town, our recreational programs are outstanding. We have numerous sports teams available to students to join like soccer, football, baseball, track, wrestling and cheerleading. Along with having a great sports program in town, Mr. Brady is able to run a very successful and enjoyable recreational summer camp. The elderly in town also have many programs available to them like yoga and line dancing at very affordable prices. We are lucky and blessed to live in a town that cares for its residents, that has affordable taxes, that puts its money toward useful things and that has so many amazing programs available to kids.

Youth Week Borough Clerk Harden recorded the vote, motion to approve this report was made by Youth Week Councilwoman Patel, seconded by Youth Week Councilwoman Magsino, with Councilwoman Meghan Azer voting No, and otherwise unanimously carried.

HEALTH AND LAND USE: Under Health, Councilwoman Magsino began her report by saying good evening to Mayor Heck, councilmen, my fellow students and citizens of Hasbrouck Heights. She said from an eye doctor, to a regular doctor, to a dental hygienist, and now an animal doctor, Hasbrouck Heights has it all. Now every resident and their pets can have regularly scheduled appointments to keep themselves healthy. I've also gotten surgery on both my knees, so I was able to use the physical therapy office the next block over. I didn't have to drive that far to get my mobility back in my knees. Heights isn't that big of a town, and by being able to put this many doctor offices in this town alone is ideal for everyone. The use of this land makes this little town seem big. We have a variety of restaurants and parks all around town. I love having the bathrooms easily accessible in the park. I just recommend them being cleaner to keep this town healthy and clean. This is a town for everyone to enjoy. Using the land efficiently, the citizens will always have something to do without going very far. Also this Thursday, May 28th, there will be a blood drive in the new gym at the Hasbrouck Heights High School. Everyone is invited to come and donate. Thank you Councilman Lipari for your hard work in keeping this town a healthy place to live.

Youth Week Borough Clerk Harden recorded the vote, motion to approve this report was made by Youth Week Councilwoman Amanda Azer, seconded by Youth Week Councilwoman Patel and unanimously carried.

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION: Councilwoman Deininger began by saying our town offers many public facilities to its residents. Woodland Park is a huge attraction for families and children and is always kept clean. It's a great place for people to bring their kids to play in the playground, come together for a picnic, or for a game of soccer on the field. There are also a few more small parks around the town that are good to get kids outside and to help them stay active and fit. Our fields for sports are

also kept in good condition along with the track at Depken Field which help contribute to the success of our school's sports teams. As for the transportation in Heights, as someone who will be driving soon, I can say that the town has made it extremely easy for new drivers to learn the ropes. Our roads are smooth and the street markings and signs are easy to see, making the learning process less nerve racking and stressful. I constantly see construction going on in the town to improve the roads and sidewalks to make Heights as safe and convenient as possible. Two recommendations I have for this department would be add a traffic light on the corner of Terrace and Kipp because there has been countless times that the driving in the car I'm in has purposely avoided Kipp, making the car trip longer to avoid this turn. I also recommend adding trees to the Boulevard to improve the scenery and make the town more beautiful.

Youth Week Borough Clerk Harden recorded the vote, motion to approve this report was made by Youth Week Councilwoman Magsino, seconded by Youth Week Councilman Amanda Azer and unanimously carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Youth Week Mayor Kalmowitz gave the following Mayor's Report:

My report tonight will be from two different perspectives. One as the Mayor and one as myself.

As the Mayor, I am extremely happy to report that the town is humming along just as it always has. Very recently we had the Street Fair, and it was met with a record turnout and a great reception. It was a fantastic day for the town that showed people not only from Heights, but all around New Jersey, what we have to offer. Our district schools are also having a great year. AP testing just finished as well as PARCC. Although there were a few hiccups, the staff at the various schools were able to keep it together in order to ensure the test was carried out successfully.

Another aspect of our town that I am very proud of is our high school sports programs. Every sport is having a banner year, this includes track, boy's tennis and girl's basketball, which won States this year.

Now I will be speaking as myself, an AP student, athlete, Student Council President, and 3rd runner up as Mr. Heights. I am extremely proud of this town, my home town. I have lived here all 18 years of my life, and I would not have wanted to grow up anywhere else. It's more that just a pretty town though. Underneath the exterior you see what really sets our town apart...the people. The people of our town are what make us, us. Nowhere will you find kinder people. From the Mayor to the person who picks up your garbage everyone is nice and friendly, plain and simple. This is my favorite part of Hasbrouck Heights, that I know cannot be replicated anywhere else. It is because of this fact that I leave Hasbrouck Heights with a heavy heart. Although I'm sure to make many

memories at Penn State, nothing will compare to the thousands I have here, whether it be participating in the Memorial Day Parade, summer camp, or even attending a Friday night football game. Even though Penn State will be where I live for the next four years...and who knows after that, Hasbrouck Heights will always be my home. Thank you.

RECOGNITION OF BOROUGH DEPARTMENTS:

The following list comprises the 2015 Youth Week participants:

MAYOR	Andrew Kalmowitz
COUNCILMAN DIPISA	Meghan Azer
COUNCILWOMAN BUCKMAN	Evi Mosheraj
COUNCILMAN GONZALEZ	Anisha Patel
COUNCILWOMAN LINK	Amanda Azer
COUNCILMAN LIPARI	Bianca Magsino
COUNCILMAN SEMENECZ	Kelsey Deininger
BOROUGH CLERK	Alyson Harden
CFO/ADMIN	Amanda Ortiz
POLICE CHIEF	Bobbi Kelly
FIRE CHIEF/EMS	Samantha Castle
	Angie Reyes
TAX COLLECTOR	Sydney Fontalvo
RECREATION DIRECTOR	Bianca Magsino
LIBRARY	Jerrika Kim
	Youstina Khalil
CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN	Anne Kahlil
DPW SUPERINTENDENT	Phillip Miller
	Dylan Auremma
	Dylan Freschi
BUILDING INSPECTOR	Kevin Kaloshi
	Mike DeNaro

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Mayor Kalmowitz declared the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Submitted by Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk