

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS – MINUTES - July 28, 2015

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

**MINUTES**

**July 28, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, July 28, 2015 at 8:05 p.m. The meeting was held 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 5, 2015 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 5, 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 Semenech

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 offered the following Invocation: "Prayer for hope and strength. Almighty God, You reach into the darkness with hope, truth and light. Stretch out your strong hand in this situation, hold and rescue those who have suffered. Let your almighty love move mountains, cross seas and breathe life into the darkest places. Light that redeems. Light that restores. Light that heals. Light that protects. Light that saves. There is nothing higher, stronger or greater than your love. We trust in you. Amen."

At the Mayor's beckoning everyone sang Happy Birthday to Councilman Russell Lipari who was celebrating on this day.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 1) Thank you from Thomas Murphy, Andrew Feintuch Memorial Scholarship Recipient
- 2) Letter from Borough Attorney Ralph W. Chandless, Jr. Re: Ordinance Amending The Chapter Governing Sewers

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**COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):**

3) Announcement of Bergen County Senior Picnic on Wednesday, Sept. 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Van Saun Park in Paramus

Mayor Heck asked if anyone wished to have any item read into the record. There being none, she then requested a motion to accept all the correspondence which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Lipari, and unanimously carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**           *(July 14, 2015 Regular Meeting, Work Session and Executive Session)*

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

**BILLS:**

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$141,428.74, specified in the Schedule hereto annexed, have been examined and approved by the Finance Commissioner, or his Deputy; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in the accounts listed for payment of the claims;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the claims be paid and checks be issued on the funds and accounts indicated on the attached schedule.

Signed Pamela J. Link  
Commissioner of Finance

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

**REPORTS:**

**POLICE:** Under Police, Commissioner DiPisa read from a report prepared by Chief Michael Colaneri: Ptl. Connors has completed his departmental training and is now on the road covering patrol.

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.

Drug arrests: The Police Department has been actively investigating drug offenses

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**POLICE (cont'd):**

within the Boro over the last few months. We have been successful in this cause. We have made 49 total drug arrests since April, 42 by the Detective Bureau and 7 by Patrol Officers for possession of CDS. Most of the arrests have been for motorists that live outside our Borough. We have also seized \$20,000 from these suspects.

Two new patrol cars were received, striped and equipment installed (lights, radio, siren.) We are waiting for the Mobile Video Recorders to be installed before they are placed into service.

He cautioned drivers, especially the women and elderly, regarding thieves who are going to Malls and placing something on the back of windshields and using that ploy to steal cars.

**RECREATION AND PARKS:** Before beginning her report, Councilwoman Buckman also cautioned drivers to place their handbags on the floor car to deter thieves from stealing them if they are on the car seat.

Under **Parks**, Commissioner Buckman reported the following is an update of the progress at Polifly Park. Eighteen 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 weeds were pulled three times at the 911 Memorial, Firemen's Memorial, and the Circle, due to all the rain over the past month which has promoted heavy weed growth.

New basketball nets were installed at Miers and Woodland Parks.

Under **Recreation**, Commissioner Buckman reported Recreation Softball has four UGALS teams playing in the playoffs this year. All four teams are having a great season, hopefully a few teams can win the UGALS team championships in the next few days.

Recreation Summer Camp is now in its sixth and final week. The campers enjoyed a great season, with many fun and educational trips as well as exciting theme days.

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**RECREATION (cont'd):**

Adult Coed Volleyball will resume on September 9th and continue on Wednesday evenings from 7 pm-9 pm at the Hasbrouck Heights High School's new gym. The program is open to men and women 18 years and older.

Adult Basketball will resume on September 14<sup>th</sup> and continue on Monday evenings from 7 pm-9 pm in the Hasbrouck Heights High School's new gym. The program is open to town residents and HH alumni 18 years and older.

Town Day is scheduled for Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup> at Woodland Park 10:30am-3:30pm

Senior Activities, there is a full monthly calendar of event available at the senior center, and in the recreation office.

As Library liaison, she reported the Friends of the Library in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce are holding a Boulevard Stroll on Thursday, August 13.

**FIRE, STREETS & SANITATION:** Before giving his reports, Councilman Gonzalez who had formerly been on the Task Force at Stern's Department stores, also warned drivers in Mall parking lots to approach their cars cautiously and be aware of their surroundings before entering their vehicles.

Under **Fire**, Commissioner Gonzalez reported the HHFD/EMS was on standby for the Wings and Wheels Expo which was held June 20 and 21 at Teterboro Airport.

On June 29 the HHFD responded to a mutual aid call for a five alarm fire at Hackensack Avenue and Broad Street in Carlstadt. Two restaurants were closed as a result of the fire and four apartments' residents were displaced.

The HHFD was on standby for the annual fireworks show on June 30 which was held at Depken Field.

On July 4, the HHEMS was present for the Hasbrouck Heights Annual Children's Parade at Woodland Park.

On July 8, the HHFD responded to a mutual aid 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm fire call in Wood-Ridge.

On July 20, a house fire on Columbus Avenue started in the early morning hours of July 20. The fire started in the bathroom and smoke alarms were activated. Residents of the home got out safely.

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**FIRE (cont'd):**

He noted that at our last Council meeting, authorization of award of contract was given for the HHFD 100'-110' Heavy Duty Rear Mount Steel Aerial Ladder Truck to Smeal Fire Apparatus Co. He thanked the members of the Fire Department who had worked very hard in this coming to fruition.

Under **Streets & Sanitation**, Commissioner Gonzalez reported this past month two sanitation trucks broke down and were taken out of service for repairs:

Truck # 101: Broke down on the way to the transfer station. The DPW mechanics determined that it was an air brake issue and made the repairs roadside.

Truck # 103: Broke down on route to the transfer station and had to be towed back to the DPW facility. The problem was with the fuel injector system and a spare sanitation truck was used for a week until the repairs were completed.

Twenty new American Flags were purchased and were attached to the existing poles. The Flags are set out on the Boulevard for the holidays.

Our DPW loaned out our sewer camera truck to the Rutherford DPW as we often share services between Municipalities. Recently, Rutherford provided us the use of their stage for the fireworks show.

A bus bench was repaired at Terrace and Williams Avenues.

The new Asphalt Hot Box was delivered to the DPW so that hot asphalt can be used during colder months of the year to patch potholes. The manufacturer will schedule training for the DPW employees.

As new utility poles are being set along Terrace Avenue, the DPW has requested from PSE & G to follow up with back fill material in those areas as the heavy rains have created sink holes. After two days without any response from PSE & G, the DPW back filled the area themselves.

**FINANCE AND SOCIAL SERVICES:** Under **Finance**, Commissioner Link reported The Current Fund cash balance at June 30<sup>th</sup> was \$1,181,995.40 and at May 31<sup>st</sup> was \$4,101,292.78 which represents a decrease of \$2,919,297.38. The entire balance was invested and earning approximately 0.25%.

Cash receipts for the month of June totaled \$469,202.45 of which \$209,642.39 was for Current Taxes, \$62,274.37 was for delinquent 2014 taxes and \$197,285.69 was Miscellaneous Revenues.

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**FINANCE (cont'd):**

Cash disbursements for the month of June totaled \$3,404,233.40 of which \$2,200,612.00 was for Local School Taxes, \$654,534.06 was for Salaries and \$549,087.34 was for Other Expenses

As reported at previous meetings, the estimated third quarter tax bills were mailed to all property owners, the due date for payment remains August 1<sup>st</sup>. We did just receive the certified tax rate from the Bergen County Tax Administrator which will be used as the basis for the fourth quarter tax bill.

It is important to note that your total 2015 taxes will not be equal to the third quarter estimated tax bill multiplied by four, this would overstate your total 2015 taxes. Total 2015 taxes would be the total of first and second quarter taxes, which were based on the 2014 taxes, plus the estimated third quarter bill and final fourth quarter bill which will be mailed shortly.

The Tax Collector's Office, located at 320 Boulevard, will be open this Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, from 9:00 AM until 12:00 Noon for the collection of third quarter taxes due on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

She then gave the following report:

**EXPLANATION OF TAX BILLS AND LOCAL MUNICIPAL TAXES**

When the budget was adopted we reported that it would result in no increase, actually a slight decrease, in the Local Municipal Tax portion of your tax bill for 2015. When the estimated third quarter tax bills were received by property owners, with increases over the second quarter estimated bills, there was understandably some confusion. Hopefully this explanation will help.

The first and second quarter 2015 taxes were based on 2014 (last year's) taxes. Basically the 2014 taxes are divided by four and the result is the amount due on February first and May first of 2015. Any change in total taxes will be collected in the third and fourth quarters of the year.

The Local Municipal Budget as adopted resulted in a small decrease in the Local Purpose Tax from \$14,125,633.28 in 2014 to \$14,110,538.27 in 2015, a decrease of \$15,095.01. This represents a decrease of 0.107% resulting in no increase, actually a slight decrease, in the Local Municipal Tax portion of your tax bill for 2015.

A summary of the total tax rate per \$100.00 of assessed value of property is as follows:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>change</u>
Local Municipal Rate	0.910	0.909	(0.001)

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**FINANCE (cont'd):**

Minimum Library Rate	0.036	0.038	0.002
Local School Rate	1.708	1.767	0.059
County Tax Rate	0.247	0.269	0.022
County Open Space Rate	0.003	0.003	0.000
Total	<u>2.904</u>	<u>2.986</u>	<u>0.082</u>

The total taxes on the average house assessed at \$351,478.00 in 2014 were \$10,206.92 and for 2015 will be \$10,495.13, an increase of \$288.21. The Local Municipal Taxes on that same house in 2014 were \$3,198.45 and in 2015 will be \$3,194.94, a slight decrease of (\$3.51).

Summary of Balance of Taxes	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>change</u>
Library Taxes	126.53	133.56	7.03
Local School Taxes	6,003.24	6,210.60	207.36
County Taxes	868.15	945.48	77.33
County Open Space Tax	10.54	10.54	0.00

**Under Social Services,** Commissioner Link reported there were 128 visits to the Food Pantry from June 29 through July 27, 2015. The pantry is operational only because of the generous donations received on a continuing basis from the local churches, civic organizations, Scout troops, School and PTA food drives and the many, many generous residents. Thank you to the United Methodist Church Women who purchase and stock the shelves with paper and cleaning products at least once a month.

We are also most thankful to the volunteers who supervise the food pantry on a rotating basis. Those who volunteered their time during these past weeks are Denise Betts, Dorothy Petroulas, Elsie Sternbach, Madeline deVelasco, Ethel Ball, Audrey Gall, Barbara Juliano, Joyce Belbo, Al Kinsley, Jeff Leidenfrost, Warren Nelson, Marge Heeren and Rosemary Willard. Thank you all!

We sincerely thank the following for their generosity: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, St. John the Divine Episcopal Church, United Methodist Church Women, Corpus Christi Brown Bag Sunday, First Reformed Church, Bible Baptist Church, Meals with a Mission, Euclid Masonic Lodge, Elizabeth Conasaire, Rosemary Smith, Karen McDowell, Joyce Belbo, Ivana, BPO Elks Lodge, Janet Pinkett, Terrie Nass, Shadow's Market, Josephine McLean, Anthony DiBello, Cookie, Bertha Spada, Mr. Carney and Darla Jeffries.

As understandably happens in the summer months, we get less donations and any extra help would be most appreciated. Items most needed are paper products, soaps, toiletries, peanut butter, soups, coffee, cereal, juices and canned fruit. All donations are very much appreciated and accepted in the Borough Clerk's office from 8 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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**HEALTH AND LAND USE:** Under **Health**, Commissioner Lipari read a report submitted by Lori French as follows:

Second Quarter Report: During the second quarter of 2015 the Health Inspector conducted 76 food inspections, 23 spot checks, 24 grease trap inspections and 16 complaints of various natures.

The Health Department collected \$34,379.00 in fees during the second quarter of the year and issued 224 dog licenses.

The Borough Registrar of Vital Statistics issued 569 certified transcripts collecting \$9,025.00. The department also recorded 209 non-residential deaths and 33 resident deaths. Thirteen marriage licenses were issued and the Health Department was notified of 16 births to town residents.

Senior Wellness Luncheon: The Annual Senior Wellness Luncheon will be held Thursday, September 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Senior Center. CareOne at Wellington of Hackensack will be providing the complimentary lunch.

Annual Dog Census: This year the annual Dog Census began June 22 and was completed by July 10. Thirteen Crossing Guards signed up to participate. They reported 118 unlicensed dogs, and each dog owner has now received a letter along with a dog license application from the Health Department explaining our ordinance and the importance of Rabies immunization.

Food License Renewal: During the month of June the Health Department issued 121 food licenses, 21 Personal Grooming licenses and 10 Milk truck licenses, along with collecting \$17,575.00 in annual application fees.

**Under Land Use**, Commissioner Lipari reported from May 1 through July 15 there has been a huge increase in the Building Department in the last two months regarding permits. There were 233 combined permits for a total \$48,498. There were over 273 inspections. Under Property Maintenance under the direction of Ron Monteleone, there were 32 initial reported violations, 54 reinspections with follow up, 26 phone conversation follow up, 8 warning issues, 10 personal interviews, 4 photos, 4 summons issued, 3 court appearance.

He then gave the Fifth Report of the Zoning Commissioner regarding the Wesmont Redevelopment in Wood-Ridge. (A complete copy is attached to these minutes.

At the end of his reading this report, Mayor Heck thanked him and Borough Attorney Chandless for attending these meetings.

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**PUBLIC FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION:** Commissioner Semenez before giving his report thanked James Schneider who had helped him with some problems. He gave the following report: Maintenance and repairs for all facilities are as follows:

Municipal Building

Blue paint was added to the handicapped parking spaces.  
HVAC electrical contacts on the compressor was repaired  
Fire Suppression System inspection was completed.  
Fire extinguisher were inspected and serviced.  
Quotes for the Fire Alarm System are being sought.  
A hazardous tree was removed at 301 Division, which was the old Library, and broken sidewalks were removed to allow the DPW to pour new concrete walkways

Public Safety Building

All roof drains cleaned.  
All A/C condensation drain lines cleared.  
Water leak repaired in Detective Bureau.  
Light fixtures and bulbs replace at the Fire Dept.

DPW Facility

Installed break-away sheer pins on fuel pumps  
Replaced photo cells on lighting system by fuel pumps.

The DPW made available to our Police Dept a BBQ grill for a DARE cookout held at the Swim Club and a Junior Police Academy Training outing held at Police Headquarter.

The DPW setup and cleaned several areas for the Lions Club sponsored fireworks show to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

Schedule of Meeting:

Community Room	06
Caucus Room	06
Council Chamber	04
Senior Center	03 (not including Senior Activities)

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

I would like a moment's silence in memory of Fred Allen, who lived for many years on

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

Henry Street, served as the Borough Prosecutor for many years and whose family business started by his father Peter J. Allen, continues on the Boulevard. He continued the business that is now run by his sons. Fred was a staunch Young Republican, a dedicated and loving son, husband and father and active Lions Club Member and a good friend to many of us.

June 25, Thursday, 7 p.m. Hasbrouck Heights High School Auditorium. Junior Police Auxiliary Recruit Class 16 Graduations. It was the highlight of a week-long experience for over 40 Eighth grade boys and girls who chose to begin their summer break with an experience that would be part of their memories for a lifetime. The theme "Honor, Integrity, Discipline" was stressed overall. Police Chief Michael Colaneri initiated the program suggested by then Police Recruits Michael Colaneri Jr. and Scott Adamo in 1999. Even with warnings that Hasbrouck Heights was too small a community to attract participants, it has proven itself to be successful and helped to subsequently produce 7 Heights Police Officers: Joe Armeli, Michael Desimone, Nick Brunetti, Kevin Condal, Joe Olivo, Michael Renna, and Chris Connors. Again I must say how very proud I am of the program and of the Police Department in total. We have worked diligently to be the best and that is why Hasbrouck Heights has the honor of being in the top ten safest places to live in the State of New Jersey.

Thank you to every Police Officer for doing your best for our hometown. I am proud of each and every one of you.

And by the way two of last year's graduates Matthew Stemel and Meghan Mehto carried on the tradition of coming back to be of helping to the new recruits.

June 29, Monday, 6:30 p.m. Library Finance Meeting, several future changes in personnel were discussed along with 2015 and 2016 budgets.

June 30, Tuesday, 8 p.m. Lions Club sponsored Fireworks took place with Tom Mason as MC. New First Reformed Church Minister Debbie Rundercker gave the Invocation. I gave the welcome and Sheriff Saudino spoke. It was a wonderful event. Our thanks to the Members of the Lions Club, and to the Police Dept. and Fire Dept. Members who kept everyone safe.

July 1, Wednesday: 7:30 p.m. I attended a brief Planning Board Meeting.

8 p.m. A special meeting was convened to interview prospective D.P.W. employees. Finance Chair Pamela Link, D.P.S Commissioner David Gonzalez and I participated along with D.P.W. Supt. Bill Spindler and Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak.

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**MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):** July 4, Saturday, 10 a.m. The Mayor's Community Celebrations Committee Children's Parade took place at Woodland Park. Event Chair was Dennis Nevins. Children were delighted with their miniature flags and of course winning medals given out in various categories. My thanks to all the Committee Volunteers including Dennis Nuzzo, Vice Chair and the Youth Committee volunteers who helped with the Judging of the long time Traditional event. Council Members Sonya Buckman, Pam Link, Russell Lipari and I attended the fun event. Notification to schools was discussed since I surveyed the parents as to how they learned of the event and not one responded through the local schools, but through newspapers and the Web Site. I recommended that next year hard copies of the flyer be given to the children to take home to their parents in addition to e-mail notification.

July 7, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Continue to interview applicants for D.P.W. Positions.

July 10, Friday, 6 p.m. I performed my daughter Nancy's wedding in Atlantic City. It was a beautiful day and I was able to update my photo album. That album will soon be seen on my new FACEBOOK Page that I am currently in the process of designing.

July 14, Tuesday, Discussions held with Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees and the Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak re: history of research work done on Skateboard Parks.

7:15 p.m. Finance Meeting with Chair Pam Link, Justin DiPisa and Finance Officer Michael Kronyak several matters discussed including several ordinances to be introduced.

8 p.m. Council meeting. Our Borough's Minutes of that meeting can be found on line at [www.hasbrouck-heights.nj.us](http://www.hasbrouck-heights.nj.us).

July 16, Thursday, I had a wonderful time at the Senior Citizens Picnic luncheon held in the Senior Center from noon till 4 p.m. Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees and Senior Citizens Director Rob Brady made a couple of changes in the menu at the request of the seniors. There was a fun Free Prize Raffle, plus singing and dancing.

I left at 3 pm to attend a meeting with Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak and Borough Attorney Ralph Chandless. Several Borough Business matters were discussed.

July 22, Wednesday, 1 pm., I attended the Summer Camp Talent Show held at Woodland Park. The children in various age groups performed a series of dances, gymnastics, hula hoop performances, singing, some with choreography and a young comedian. More than two hundred were in the receptive audience who applauded each

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**MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):** act. Camp Counselors were judges and trophies were awarded for first, second and third place winners. I thoroughly enjoyed the event and Congratulated Recreation Director Rob Brady on the success of yet another great program. I asked him when Ice Cream Day was set to occur and he told me – Ice Cream Day happens every Friday.

July 23, Thursday, 7 p.m. Woodland Park Soccer Study Group met in the Senior Center, since the Zoning Board was meeting in the Council Chamber. I chaired the meeting along with Recreation and Parks Commissioner Sonya Buckman and Deputy Commissioner Pamela Link. Those present included: Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak, Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees, D.P.W. Supt. Bill Spindler, Recreation Director Rob Brady, Soccer Club President Phil Artuso, Lions Club Members Tom Mason, Kevin Mullins, and Joseph Mastropietro incoming Lions Club President, and Garden Club President Marie E. Morales, former D.P.W. Supt. Bob Heck (no relation to the mayor) and Eric Mason.

At 7:10 p.m., Mayor Heck opened the meeting noting that this was an informal sharing of information with regard to the soccer field at Woodland Park. Mr. Artuso presented a seven page document which asked for help for a better soccer field, repairing the sprinkler system and better dirt and sod. It also gave information regarding a turf field.

He said the Soccer Association could help to raise funds by coming up with \$25,000 to \$30,000 through fundraising.

Discussion included many alternatives with the mayor emphasizing that the public would ultimately make the decision because costs were involved and the taxpayers would ultimately decide.

Besides the obvious two major alternatives –

First - redo the entire area with removal of soil not conducive to grass growth – better drainage – a proper sprinkler system and placement of sod. Costs were guesstimated at up to \$300,000.

The second redo the center radius with turf – that would have to be replaced every 10 years – cost estimates of approximately a half a million dollars and if done a fence would have to be placed around it since it then would have to be a protected field.

Numerous points and opinions were given and I noted that certainly we were not going to resolve the matter in this one informational meeting. That both Police Chief Colaneri to ascertain what kind of patrolling would have to be done to protect the field and of course, Borough Engineer Ken Job would have to be present to give an accurate assessment of needs and approximate costs.

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**MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):** Another short term alternative was also introduced and that would be to assess the use of all the fields by all the teams and to better coordinate times and use.

I then chose to appoint a smaller committee to meet and made recommendations based on what was presented at that time. I named Recreation Director Rob Brady, Lions Club Members Tom Mason and Kevin Mullins, former retired D.P.W. Supt. Bob Heck, and of course, Soccer President Phil Artuso. I asked Councilwoman Buckman to be the Council representative, to coordinate efforts, and to work together to come with the best possible solution. I also asked incoming Lions Club President Joseph Mastropietro who is also the Principal at the Hasbrouck Heights Middle School to talk to Supt. of Schools Dr. Matthew Helfant and the Board of Education Parks and Recreation person to help evaluate fields under the aegis of the School District.

I re-emphasized that whatever decisions are recommended, since they will impact us as taxpayers, they will have to go before the voters as a referendum for a final decision.

July 24, Friday, 11:30 a.m. till 2 p.m. Community Awareness Access for All President Brenda Colaneri and I attended the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Americans with Disability Act held at Bergen Community College. CAAFA Past Presidents Dorothy and Patrick McCarthy and their Daughter Aimee all CAAFA Members were also present. We presented Jim Thebery with a Proclamation, copy of which can be found on our Web Site at [www.hasbrouck-heights.nj.us](http://www.hasbrouck-heights.nj.us).

July 28, Tuesday, 7:15 p.m., I chaired a Finance Committee Meeting attended by Chair Pamela J. Link, Deputy Commissioner Justin A. DiPisa and Finance Officer Michael Kronyak.

I continue my summer availability to the public at the Library on Monday nights from 7 to 8 p.m.

I close reassuring the public that our Municipal portion of the Budget stays at Zero increase. There apparently was some confusion with the estimated tax bills that were sent out to our taxpayers. The County Tax increased and the School Budget increased – but as I announced when we adopted our Budget – I was proud to announce that there would be no increase in our portion, that is the Municipal portion of our taxes – Zero Increase remains even though all other parts of the tax bill and I restate the County and the School Taxes went up. Local School Taxes rose in 2015, \$207.36 and the County Tax \$77.33.

I also remind the public that as part of my special Committees that brings together numerous volunteers, young and old alike, that help me to better serve the public and

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**MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):** continue to improve what we already have a wonderful community in which to live for all age groups. Several months ago I asked members of the Mayor's Research Committee to review and try to help the School Board find ways to save money on their portion of the budget. I am encouraging the public-at-large to add their comments and/or ideas in that area.

That concludes my report for July.

Mayor Heck asked the clerk to read a letter from Borough Attorney Ralph W. Chandless regarding the ordinance recently adopted on Sewers (Copy attached)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 142. Authorizing the Borough Planner to Update the Housing Element and Fair Share Housing Plan of this Borough
  - 143. Authorizing Approval of 2015/2016 Licenses for Commercial Sale of Certain Motor Vehicle Deal

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried. (Copies attached)

- RESOLUTIONS:**
- 144. Resolution Granting Permission for a Requested Use of a Public Right-of Way

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

**ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2346:**

**BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$65,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK, TO APPLY TO THE COST THEREOF THE SUM \$32,000.00 PROVIDED BY A BERGEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND GRANT, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$2,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCING OF THE COST THEREOF IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL BOND LAW BY THE ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION (cont'd):**

**ISSUANCE OF BONDS OR NOTES NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF \$31,000.00" BEING ORDINANCE # 2303 ADOPTED ON MAY 28, 2013 SO AS TO INCREASE THE TOTAL AUTHORIZED APPROPRIATION TO \$77,000.00 BY APPLYING AN ADDITIONAL \$12,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND 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 August 11, 2015.**

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the introduction of the foregoing Ordinance which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Lipari, and unanimously carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2347:**

**BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: "AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARY AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN OF THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY, FOR THE YEAR 2015" 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 August 11, 2015.**

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the introduction of the foregoing Ordinance which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Semencz, and unanimously carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2348:**

**BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARY AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY, FOR THE YEAR 2015" 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 August 11, 2015.**

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the introduction of the foregoing Ordinance which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Lipari, and unanimously carried.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2345:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: “AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS BY PROVIDING A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED “CHAPTER 40, LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES” AND RE-NUMBERING THE CURRENT CHAPTER 40 ENTITLED “LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM” AS CHAPTER 37” be now passed on second and final reading and the Borough Clerk be and is hereby 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. 2345 which was made by Councilman Semencz, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

Carol Skiba, 119 Field Avenue, a former councilwoman, questioned why this ordinance was never discussed at a work session. Borough Attorney Chandless explained that this actually came about as a result of an appointment to the board. Historically we did not have an ordinance that governed membership of the Board, we relied on State Statute that said you could have either 7 or 9 members. Mayor Heck made the determination to make it a 9 member board. Mayor Heck noted that one of the members had moved out of Hasbrouck Heights which changed the number of town residents statutorily. Ms. Skiba asked how many trustees live outside of Hasbrouck Heights, she was told 2.

There being no one else 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. 2345 which was made by Councilman Semencz, seconded by Councilwoman Buckman, and unanimously carried.

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:**

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

Carol Skiba, 191 Field Avenue, had questions regarding the Wesmont Station project, were the number of townhouses increased this meeting from the original plan, she was told no. A few reports ago, it was mentioned that Highland Avenue, she was told it will be an open street. She asked how many streets would be open into the borough of Wood-Ridge. Initially the plans called for four egress and three ingress from Passaic Avenue, which she considered a lot of traffic that would impact Hasbrouck Heights. She

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wanted Wood-Ridge to take responsibility for their development and incorporate it into its community. Mayor Heck said that is why our Borough Attorney and Councilman Lipari attend the meetings. Councilman Lipari said the only other road was Innes Road which will only be open for emergency vehicles. Mr. Chandless said Highland Avenue will be open in coordination with the railroad station. Tonight's report was about the project approved a year ago, the significant issue of this meeting was minor variances sought by that contractor, one of which was offering a loft bedroom with a bathroom, which was denied.

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

**ADJOURN:**

There being no other business to come before the governing body, at 9:29 p.m., Mayor Heck requested a motion to adjourn which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilwoman Buckman, 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 July 28, 2015.

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Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk