

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS – MINUTES - August 25, 2015

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A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at 8:10 p.m. at Borough Hall, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey.

Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees stated that the meeting complied with the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting having been made to all members of the Council by personal service on January 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 Pamela J. Link, Councilman Russell A. Lipari, Councilman Christian Semenech

Absent: Councilwoman Sonya Buckman, Councilman David Gonzalez

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

INVOCATION:

Councilman Semenech gave the Invocation as follows: "Dear Lord, thank you for the days that you have given us, for the days that you will give us, thank you for your spiritual guidance and help us to be better people in this world. Amen"

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) Thank you from Juliana Quatrone, recipient of the Mary B. Quigg Scholarship Award
- 2) Invitation to all Bergen County residents from Bergen County Department of Parks to participate in Bocce Tournament on September 27, 2015 at Riverside Park, Lyndhurst
- 3) Invitation to 9-11 Memorial Service on September 11, 2015 at the Firemen's Memorial/9-11 Memorial Park at 7 p.m.
- 4) Invitation from United Water to learn about water

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COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):

treatment innovation over the past 50 years and take a tour of the treatment plant at Haworth Water Treatment Plant on October 3, 2015

Mayor Heck asked if anyone wished to have any item read into the record. Item #1 was requested. (Copy attached). She then requested a motion to accept all the correspondence which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *(August 11, 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 Councilman Lipari, with Councilwoman Link abstaining, and otherwise unanimously carried.

BILLS:

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$339,051.08, 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 reported the following report which was submitted by Police Chief Michael Colaneri: Schools will reopen on September 2, 2015. Our School Marshals will be on their posts. Motorists are reminded that they must comply with the instructions of the Marshals or face a summons and for the safety of our children the Walking School Bus will also be in operation on that day and will operate every school day. This is a great way to beat the traffic. Just drop your child off a

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POLICE (cont'd):

couple of blocks away on the walking school bus and beat the drop off zone traffic. Hasbrouck Heights Police will be cracking down on motorists who do not yield to pedestrians on the Boulevard. The Boulevard Stroll was held on August 13 where the Hasbrouck Heights Police Hummer was on display. Sgt. Adamo reports a good crowd was in attendance, no issues reported.

He gave the following statistics report: Parking Violations: 299 in July 2015 vs. 338 in July 2014 with year to date for 2015, 2492 vs. 2014 2,638. Moving Violations: 248 in July 2015 vs. 341 in July 2014 with year to date for 2015, 1,745 vs. 2,700 in 2014.

RECREATION AND PARKS: Under **Parks**, Deputy Commissioner Link reported The DPW addressed some issues at the Wrights Brothers 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 new two (2) cubic yard garbage container was placed there as the previous one had broken lid covers and the bottom was eroded.

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

The 911 Firemen's Memorial Park was weeded again and red mulch was applied to all areas as well as the flower beds at the Circle.

The brick pavers and steps were completed at Polifly Park and the gazebo was put back in place. We are still awaiting delivery of the benches and trash receptacles.

The DPW replaced master locks on the electrical boxes by the pavilion at Woodland Park due to vandalism.

Under **Recreation**, she reported that Town Day is September 26 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Woodland Park. You can register your club or organization by contacting the Recreation Department.

FIRE, STREETS & SANITATION: Under **Fire**, Deputy Commissioner Lipari reported on the productivity report from July 15 to August 15 as submitted by EMS Coordinator Liz Waring: Company Drill, 44.9 man hours; EMS 367.7 man hours; Company Meeting, 20 man hours, NFIRS 188.4 man hours, Special Assignment 3.0 man hours, Training 61.8 man hours, Work Detail 33.3 man hours for a total of 719.1 man hours.

Under **Streets & Sanitation**, Deputy Commissioner Lipari reported The DPW performed the task of weed whacking the entire Boulevard Business District for the fourth (4th) time this season. A certified pesticide professional sprayed the brick pavers along the area surrounding the trees. The DPW does this as a courtesy but it is the

STREETS AND SANITATION (cont'd):

responsibility of the property owner and/or occupant in the central business district to maintain their area. This issue is now being addressed by the Borough's Property Maintenance Officer.

The DPW made a number of calls to PSE & G regarding the sinking excavations where the several new utility poles were installed on Terrace Avenue. PSE & G was given the poles numbers and will send a crew to address the issue.

At the Woodside Avenue Pump Station a new battery and battery charger was purchased for the emergency generator.

Pedestrian crosswalk sign were repaired at the DPW yard for the Police Traffic Dept.

Engraved memorial plaques were installed on the benches throughout the Boulevard.

On August 13, 2015, the DPW welcomed two new additions to their fleet. Two International Terrastar dump trucks with salt spreaders and plows replaced two 1984 International trucks that were still being used as emergency spare trucks. With removal stainless steel salt spreaders, the new trucks will not only will be used for salting and plowing our roads but will be used for leaf removal, branch pickup, and any other need during the daily operation of the DPW. The Terrastar's are smaller models then those they are replacing but they have more horsepower (300 HP) than any other truck currently used. The combined cost of the two trucks was \$184,000, as a larger model would have been \$135,000 each. It was more cost effective to purchase these models and to add two new trucks that will have multiple uses for the Borough.

FINANCE AND SOCIAL SERVICES: Under Finance, Commissioner Link gave the following report: the Current Fund cash balance at July 31 was \$317,442.36 and at June 30th was \$1,181,995.40 which represents a decrease of \$864,553.04. The entire balance was invested and earning approximately 0.25%.

Cash receipts for the month of July totaled \$3,394,357.45 of which \$3,175,767.25 was for Current Taxes, \$21,150.68 was for delinquent 2014 taxes and \$197,440.52 was Miscellaneous Revenues.

Cash disbursements for the month of July totaled \$4,258,911.49 of which \$2,283,448.00 was for Local School Taxes, \$636,502.72 was for Salaries and \$1,339,960.77 was for Other Expenses.

As reported previously, the fourth quarter final tax bills were delayed pending certification of the total tax rate. The certification has been received and the final tax bills are printed and should be mailed next week.

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Under Social Services, Commissioner Link reported there were 111 visitors to the Food Pantry from August 3 through August 24, 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, Janice Cooney, Vivian Leidenfrost, Audrey Gall, Madeleine Leddy, Colleen Sarden, Dorothy Petroulas, Elsie Sternbach and Madeline deVelasco. 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, Dave Gonzalez, Debbie Spencer, Lida and Mary, William Postman, Mrs. Pertuz, Kathy Van Jura, Mrs. Gumbrecht, Phylis Burman, Mr. Jackson, Kathy Saggio, Karen McDowell and Rosemary Smith.

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.

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

Senior Wellness Luncheon: The Board of Health will be sponsoring their Annual Senior Wellness Luncheon on 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.

Senior Flu Program: This year's Senior Flu Program will be held Monday, September 21 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Senior Center and Monday, September 28 from 4 to 6 p.m. for children and residents in the Senior Center. There will be no pre-registration date; seniors will register on date of distribution. The nurses from H.A.R.P. will be administering the vaccine.

Free Eye Screening: The Board of Health in conjunction with the Passaic County Board of Social Services and the Health Awareness Regional Program of Hackensack

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HEALTH (cont'd):

UMC is offering free vision screening for adults and children on Thursday, September 10 from 2 to 6 p.m. at Borough Hall.

Child Health Conference: With the beginning school year fast approaching the Board of Health, Child Health Conference provides free Well-Child care services, which include immunizations for children up to age 18 years for preventable diseases. The Health Clinic facility is located in New Milford, contracted through Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission. The pediatrician and nurses with New Milford provides a complete health screening and immunization program. This service is offered to the children of Hasbrouck Heights residents who do not have health insurance or a plan that does not cover immunizations. For further information, please contact Laura French at 201-288-1636.

Under Land Use, Commissioner Lipari read a report prepared by Dorothy Bernice which was: during the month this department issued 67 Uniform Construction Code permits with income totaling \$27,619. Home sales are still booming with 13 CO inspections for houses sold. There were 113 initial UCC inspection with 102 passing with a 90% passing rate.

The Property Maintenance inspector received 25 calls regarding violations. He followed up with the residents to have the matter resolved 48 times, four warnings were issued. He issued two summonses and will appear in court in the next few weeks. The inspector only issued summonses as a last resort. Every effort is made to try and have the matter resolved before a summons is issued.

Several new homes that were begun in the last few months have already been sold and we are looking forward to welcoming new neighbors to town.

The Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment do not have meetings in August.

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION: Commissioner Semencz gave the following report: During a power outage that affected the Public Safety Building, the emergency generator engaged and provided power to the building on its battery backup system but needed two new batteries installed to insure proper operation. The Police desk contacted the DPW which addressed the issues. Diesel fuel was ordered to top off the fuel tank and was delivered. Two 30amp fuses were also replaced. After normal power was restored the generator performed its regular cycle and shut off.

Quotes were sought for the Fire Alarm System's yearly inspection of the Municipal Complex and the Public Safety Building. The inspections were authorized to be completed this week.

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PUBLIC FACILITIES (cont'd):

Maintenance and repairs for all facilities are as follows:

Borough Hall

- Replace light ballasts.
- Replace toilet gaskets.
- Perform elevator inspection.

Library

- Adjust closing arm system on entry door.

DPW Facility

- Installed new water fountain.
- Renew service contract for copy machine.

Schedule of Meeting:

Community Room	03
Caucus Room	04
Council Chamber	02
Senior Center	03 (not including Senior Activities)

MAYOR'S REPORT:

July 31, Friday, I met with Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees and signed the Council on Affordable Housing Contract. Met briefly with Finance Officer Michael Kronyak.

Aug. 1, Saturday, 6 p.m., I performed the wedding of my grandson Michael LaCava and his bride Danielle at the Charter Club in Monmouth County.

Aug. 7, Friday 6:30 p.m. till 9:30 p.m., I attended the Library Bash along with a couple of hundred children and adults. Had the pleasure of viewing two shows. Took photos with some of the Superheroes. I extend my personal thanks to Library Director Mimi Hui and Children's Librarian Kate along with the Friends of the Library and the Junior Friends of the Library for a job well done. Kate is already working on this year's Leggo Contest.

I continued my Monday nights at the Library. I will resume my Saturday hours after Labor day on Sept. 12th from 10 till noon.

Aug. 11th, Tuesday, 8 p.m. I attended the Regular Council Meeting and Work Session. Copy of those minutes will be found on the Borough Web Site at www.hasbrouck-heights.nj.us.

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Aug. 13, Thursday, 6 p.m. I took part in the First Boulevard Stroll walking from Washington Place on the Boulevard to Raymond. It was a wonderful event sponsored jointly by the Chamber of Commerce and the Friends of the Library. It was so nice to see and visit with residents and business owners who participated in the event. I took the opportunity to stop at the Automobile Display next to the Heights Veterinary Hospital. Later I stopped at the Religious Store and had my photo taken with a bigger than life-size replica of Pope Francis. After that I visited with Peter Gallo at Envisions and had my photo taken with Elmo. I enjoyed the Stroll and hope it will be repeated soon. Heard lots of good comments from residents.

Aug. 18th, Tuesday, 7 p.m., I attended the Library Board's Finance Meeting to discuss various needs. I also began the preliminary process for the fundraising campaign with Finance Chair John Baratta and Ron Ellis. I suggested the naming of Trustees Emeritus Chris Heller, Al Farber, Marcia Imken, Dr. Burnett Eglow, and Tom Verrastro.

Aug. 19, Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. I visited the DPW site to view the two new pieces of equipment that recently arrived. D.P.W. Commissioner David Gonzalez. We were given a report by DPW Supt. Bill Spindler that the borough's 1984 two International Dump Trucks were being replaced by two new trucks with Salt Spreaders and Plows at a combined cost of \$184,000. Although smaller they would do a comparable job but with a savings since one replacement of the size of the old one would have cost \$135,000. The other old truck will be used for back up as needed and eventually spare parts. Experience and attention to costs have always been an asset in keeping up with our Borough's equipment needs. It takes planning and forethought to keep our town clear of snow in the winter and use of the same equipment to pick up the tons of leaves in the fall. Our thanks to DPW Supt. Bill Spindler and Asst. Supt. Jim Schneider plus a great workforce at the D.P.W. Lots of talent and we appreciate it.

My Weekly visits include meetings with Department Heads. I met with Recreation Director Rob Brady to discuss the plans for Town Day.

My meeting with Police Chief Michael Colaneri included discussing his plans to distribute the special Police Baseball Cards to the students at both Euclid and Lincoln Schools.

Several meetings a week are minimum with Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees. Last week one my visits with her included a final check on the 9-11 Memorial Service. She showed me the final proof of the Program she had prepared. We made plans to again have some chairs placed at the site.

I received a report from Scott Stephens of Dept. of Transportation. He told me he would get updates on the progress of the Environmental Basin located at Route 17 and

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Franklin Avenue. After he spoke with D.O.T. consultants he learned it has been determined that a full redesign will be needed to return the basin to proper working order while also returning it to a state that DOT will be able to properly maintain it. Unfortunately he said Quote: “They reported this would take more time than they originally anticipated and will certainly require DEP permits to allow the work to be done. We will begin reaching out to DEP to start that process. In the mean time we will reach out to you and your engineer should there be anything that Hasbrouck heights can help with. I assure you and your constituents that Commissioner Fox and the DOT remain committed to completing this necessary project. I personally want to thank you for your patience as we work through the process,” concluded his report.

Several other matters have been brought to my attention and I will report on them when I have more information.

That concludes my August Report.

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSENT AGENDA: 150. Approving a Reduction in the Security Held Under the Developer’s Agreement with Three Buildings, LLC

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

RESOLUTIONS: 151. Authorizing an Application with the County of Bergen for 2015 Open Space Trust Fund Municipal Program for Installation of a Poured in Place Resilient Surface Fall Protection Material in Depken Field Toddler’s Park and Fitness Area

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the foregoing resolution which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, with Councilman Semencz voting Nay, and otherwise unanimously carried. (Copy attached)

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

ORDINANCE NO. 2347:

BE IT RESOLVED that 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**” be now passed on second and final reading and the Borough Clerk be and is hereby

ORDINANCE NO. 2347 (cont'd):

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. 2347 which was made by Councilman Semenez, seconded by Councilman Lipari, 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 Semenez, seconded by Councilman Lipari, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2347 which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Semenez, and unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2348:

BE IT RESOLVED that 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" 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. 2348 which was made by Councilman Semenez, seconded by Councilman Lipari, 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 Semenez, seconded by Councilman Lipari, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2348 which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilman Semenez, and unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2349:

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 133 ENTITLED “FEES,” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS IN ORDER TO INCREASE, DECREASE OR ADD CERTAIN FEES AS RECOMMENDED BY**

ORDINANCE NO. 2349(cont'd):

VARIOUS DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS OF THIS BOROUGH” 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. 2349 which was made by Councilman Semenech, seconded by Councilman Lipari, 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 Semenech, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2349 which was made by Councilman Semenech, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

APPOINTMENTS: Patrick McCarthy to Mayor’s Research Committee

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

RESIGNATIONS: None

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.

Ron Ellis, 107 Paterson Avenue, referring to an article in the Bergen Record regarding a police contract for Upper Saddle River that they did not participate in lifetime health benefits, asked when retirees are paid lifetime health benefits, if is it paid by the community or the State. Mr. Kronyak gave him a brief summary, saying it was not an easy explanation. The borough gets a bill annually from the State for the pension. Health benefits are many categories, requiring some to now pay a portion based on their pension value.

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

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE: 152. Possible Litigation and Borough Property

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Mayor Heck requested a motion to go into Executive Session which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Heck requested a motion to recess for 3 minutes which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

ADJOURN:

There being no other business to come before the governing body, at 9:18 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 August 25, 2015.

Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk