

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

M I N U T E S - REORGANIZATION MEETING

JANUARY 5, 2003

The Reorganization Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on January 5, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. at the Masonic Hall, 200 Division Avenue, corner of the Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey.

A Ceremonial Swearing In was administered to Councilman Andrew Link III and Councilman Justin A. DiPisa by Assemblywoman and Former Mayor Rose M. Heck at 1 p.m. at the new Municipal Complex at 320 Boulevard.

The Oath of Office was again administered to Councilman Andrew Link III and Councilman Justin A. DiPisa by Assemblywoman and Former Mayor Rose M. Heck at the Masonic Hall at 2 p.m.

Mayor Torre declared the 2003 Reorganization Meeting in session and stated that the meeting complied with the Sunshine Law, due notice having been made to all members of the Council on December 12, 2002, and to The Observer, The Record and the Herald News on December 12, 2002.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor William J. Torre, Councilman Andrew Link III, Councilman Herbert D. Heeren, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilman Garrett R. Pepe, Councilwoman Marlene Verrastro, Councilman John Wassberg

Absent: None

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

Following the Salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance, the Invocation was offered by Reverend Joseph Pickhard, Fire Chaplain and Vicar of Church of St. John the Divine Episcopal Church.

PROCLAMATION:

In honor of Retired Judge Harry H. Chandless Jr., the following Proclamation was read into the record by Mayor Torre, assisted by Councilman Justin A. DiPisa.

PROCLAMATION (cont'd):

WHEREAS, Harry H. Chandless Jr. has been a lifelong resident of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, having attended Euclid School, graduated from Hasbrouck Heights High School in 1948, received his B.A. degree from Columbia College in 1952 and LL.B degree from Columbia Law School in 1954, where he was named Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar for distinction in scholarship; and

WHEREAS, he began his law career with the firm of Chandless, Weller and Kramer, under the tutelage of his uncle, Ralph W. Chandless Sr.; subsequently opened up his own law practice at 230 Boulevard, and from 1959 to 1966 was the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights Municipal Prosecutor, and served as acting Prosecutor for the Township of South Hackensack and City of Hackensack for several years; and

WHEREAS, in August of 1966, the Mayor and Council appointed Harry H. Chandless Jr. as Municipal Judge at the age of 36, the office which he has conscientiously and stalwartly held until his final court session on December 18, 2002 and retirement on December 31, 2002; and

WHEREAS, over these past 36 years as Judge, he has heard over 73,000 cases and can proudly say he is the longest continuously serving municipal court judge in Bergen County; and

WHEREAS, Judge Chandless is known for his fairness, toughness and has followed his principles according to the law when performing his duties, but also memorably and fondly known for his quick wit and astuteness when the occasion warranted a lighter moment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that we do hereby extend our most sincere gratitude to Judge Harry H. Chandless, Jr. for his many years of service and commitment to the Borough and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement as Municipal Judge, with best wishes for many years of happiness and contentment.

Dated: January 5, 2003

Signed by Mayor and Council

Judge Chandless was invited to say a few words which included his appreciation and good wishes.

Assemblywoman Rose Heck also presented the Judge with an Assembly Proclamation and her good wishes.

MUNICIPAL JUDGE:

Mayor Torre administered a ceremonial Oath of Office to newly appointed Municipal Judge, Janice Gatto.

FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS:

Mayor Torre, assisted by Commissioner of Fire DiPisa and Deputy Commissioner of Fire Link, administered the Oath of Office to the 2003 Fire Department Officers: Fire Chief Robert Thomasey, 1st Assistant Fire Chief Joseph Taylor, 2nd Assistant Fire Chief Angelo Roccamo, Secretary Thomas Rubino, Treasurer Richard Giarratana.

Engine Company One : Captain Edmund Carter III, Lieutenant Kevin Todd, Secretary Bernardo Valente, Treasurer Christian Semenez. Engine Company Two: Captain Christopher Hayes, Lieutenant James Halloran, Secretary Michael Thomasey, Treasurer Laurence Donohue.

Ambulance: Captain Maria Moretto, Lieutenant Deborah Karlsson, Secretary Gail Cardaci.

Rescue Company: Captain Robert Pietz, Lieutenant Robert Knobloch and Secretary Bernardo Valente.

2003 BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES :

Mayor Torre assigned the 2003 Council Committees as follows:

Commissioner of Finance	Herbert D. Heeren
Deputy Commissioner of Finance	Andrew Link III
Commissioner of Police	John Wassberg
Deputy Commissioner of Police	Herbert D. Heeren
Commissioner of Fire	Justin A. DiPisa
Deputy Commissioner of Fire	Andrew Link III
Commissioner of Health	Herbert D. Heeren
Deputy Commissioner of Health	Justin A. DiPisa
Commissioner of Strs. & Transp.	Andrew Link III
Deputy Commissioner of Strs. & Transp.	Marlene Verrastro

2. Authorize CFO to Invest Idle Funds
3. Authorize CFO to Prepare Payrolls
4. Designate Official Depositories for Borough Funds
5. Authorize CFO to Pay Medical Insurance Premiums
6. Authorize Signatures for Borough Checks
7. Designate Official Newspaper
8. Set Meeting Dates for 2003 Council Meetings
9. Temporary Budget
10. Continuing Tax Settlement Committee
11. 2003 Debt Service Budget
12. Designating Number of Hours Per Week as Minimum Requirement for Full Time Status

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CONSENT AGENDA (cont'd):

13. Authorizing Rate of Interest to be Charged for Non-Payment of Taxes
14. Authorizing Adoption of By-Laws for 2003

On a motion by Councilman Link, seconded by Councilman Pepe, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were adopted (Resolutions attached).

COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Mayor Torre asked if there was a motion to nominate a council member as Council President for the year 2003. Councilwoman Verrastro made a motion to nominate Councilman Heeren. The nomination was seconded by Councilman Wassberg and unanimously approved.

COUNCIL MEMBER TO PLANNING BOARD:

Mayor Torre asked if there was a nomination of a council member to the Planning Board. Councilman Link nominated Councilwoman Verrastro as representative to the Planning Board. The nomination was seconded by Councilman Heeren. Councilwoman Verrastro was unanimously appointed to the Planning Board as a Class III Member for the term of one year.

APPOINTMENTS FOR 2003:

Mayor Torre made the following appointments and requested confirmation by the Council:

POSITION	APPOINTEE	TERM
Borough Attorney	Ralph W. Chandless, Jr.	1 Year
Borough Engineer	Kenneth G.B. Job	1 Year
Administrator/Treasurer/ Purchasing Agent/ Administrative Officer of Land Use	Michael J. Kronyak	1 Year
Borough Auditor	Paul Garbarini	1 Year

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APPOINTMENTS FOR 2003 (cont'd):

Superintendent D.P.W./ Cert. Public Works Mgr.	Robert Heck	Tenure
Construction Code Off./ Building Subcode	Nick Melfi	1 Year
Property Maintenance Officer/Zoning Enforce- ment Officer	Nick Melfi	1 Year
Property Maintenance Patrick Vella Officer		1 Year
Plumbing Inspector	Richard Vanatta	1 Year
Electric Sub-Code Official	Robert K. Rogers	1 Year
Fire Code Official	Arthur Jackson	1 Year
Municipal Court Judge	Janice Gatto	3 Years

Court Administrator	Susan Paul	1 Year
Deputy Court Admin.	Craig Ferdinand	1 Year
Public Defender	Thomas Mason	1 Year
Prosecutor	Thomas Flinn	1 Year
Borough Historian	Louise Davenport	1 Year
Board of Health	Michael Mink	4 Years
	Dona DeFranco	3 Years
	Martin Saccomano - Alt 1	1 Year
	Tim Crabbe - Alt 2	1 Year
Local Assistance Board	Herbert D. Heeren	1 Year
	Ralph Mastroberte	2 Years
	Lucretia White	4 Years
	Peter Prato	3 Years

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APPOINTMENTS FOR 2003 (cont'd):

General Assessment Board	Anthony Bruno	3 Years
Planning Board	Nick Melfi	1 Year
	Henry Dobbelaar	4 Years
	Harold Jacobus	4 Years
	Robert Searle	4 Years
	Edward Sees - Alt. 1	3 Years
	Andrea Bocker - Alt. 2	4 Years
Free Public Library	Joanne Serraino	1 Year
	Donna Mikulka	1 Year
	Lisa Traina	5 Years
Rent Leveling Board	Joseph Torre	1 Year

	Joseph Ciano	1 Year
	Ronald Monteleone	1 Year
	Roy Perham III	1 Year
	Charles Stenger	1 Year
	Patricia Tobin	1 Year
Recreation Programs Advisory Committee	Mayor William J. Torre	1 Year
	Councilwoman Marlene Verrastro	1 Year
	Mayor's Alternate:	
	Ronald Kistner	1 Year
	Eilleen Kiick	1 Year
	Kevin Ketchko	1 Year
	Jurgen Hofheinz	1 Year
	Charles Fasciano	1 Year
	Roslyn Bocker	1 Year
	John Moore	2 Years
	Laura French	2 Years
	Thomas Mason	2 Years
	Gregory Condal	2 Years
	Randy Mansfield	3 years
	Nicholas DelCalzo	3 years
	Dan Decongilio	3 Years
	Alfonse DeAngelo	3 Years

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APPOINTMENTS FOR 2003 (cont'd):

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee	Rose Mulle	1 Year
	Paul Mulle	1 Year
	Edward Hart	1 Year
	Audrey Ascione	1 Year
	Rose Berardo	1 Year
	Michael Conti	1 Year
	Rita Pastor	1 Year
	Darlene Kammerer	1 Year
	Constance Stanzione	1 Year

Elsie Paolini	1 Year
William White	1 Year
Robert Zappatelli	1 Year
Helen Taylor	1 Year
Edward Sosnowski	1 Year
Anne Ciavaglia	1 Year

Committee of Community Celebrations

Audrey Ascione	1 Year
Dorothy Bernice	1 Year
Anthony Bernice	1 Year
Michael Ciano	1 Year
Debra Ciano	1 Year
Joanne Ciano	1 Year
Mark Ciano	1 Year
Madeline de Velasco	1 Year
Patricia Link	1 Year
Richard Torre	1 Year
Elizabeth Torre	1 Year
John Pirilli	1 Year
Nancy Pirilli	1 Year
Mary Russo	1 Year
Brian Willard	1 Year
Rosemary Willard	1 Year
Debra Torre	1 Year
Vincent Gareffa	1 Year
Mary Alice Gareffa	1 Year
Ann O'Donnell	1 Year
Marie Kistner	1 Year
Vincent Romano	1 Year
Connie Romano	1 Year

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APPOINTMENTS FOR 2003 (cont'd):

Joseph Giancaspro	1 Year
Valerie Giancaspro	1 Year
Barbara Moore	1 Year

	Helene Searle	1 Year
	Connie Mason	1 Year
	Shelley Claude	1 Year
	Susan Verrastro	1 Year
	Joyce Powell	1 Year
	Donna Villacampa	1 Year
	Helen O'Shea	1 Year
	Christine O'Shea Canetti	1 Year
	Louis Bernice	1 Year
	Eileen Kiick	1 Year
	Dorothy Link	1 Year
	Madeline Leddy	1 Year
	June Raymond	1 Year
	Maria Galassi	1 Year
	Maryann Latona	1 Year
	Marietta Prato	1 Year
	Leslie Giaquinto	1 Year
	Darlene Parente	1 Year
	Barbara Lobroschiano	1 Year
	Eileen DiMaria	1 Year
	Joann Hollister	1 Year
	Lynn Giarratana	1 Year
	John Dingertopadre	1 Year
	Maria Dingertopadre	1 Year
Ethics Board	Thomas Verrastro Jr.	3 Years
	James Jarvis	3 Years
	Dennis Dinallo	3 Years
Environmental Commission	John Stavash NJDEP	3 Years
	Kathleen H. Krivak	3 Years
	Michael Sancilio	1 Year
	Leonard Lamparello	1 Year
	Maureen Kroncke	2 Years
	Christopher Moore	2 Years
	Edward Sees	2 Years

APPOINTMENTS FOR 2003 (cont'd):

Emergency Management		
Coordinator	Dr. Roger Szanto	3 Years
Deputy	Police Chief Michael Colaneri	3 Years
Chief Radio		
Communications Officer	Dr. Roger Szanto	1 Year
Special Law Enforcement		
	Joseph Attilio	1 Year
	William Pols	1 Year
	Thomas Rubino	1 Year
Police Matrons		
	Karen Carney	1 Year
	Gail Cardaci	1 Year
Borough Examining Drs.		
	Louis Napolitano, MD	1 Year
	Thomas Bellavia, MD	1 Year
	Mark Delcalzo, DC	1 Year
School Marshals		
	Lillian Buffone	1 Year
	Esther Long	1 Year
	John Mazotas	1 Year
	Karen Carney	1 Year
	Helen Treptow	1 Year
	Rita Nedellec	1 Year
	Patrick Power	1 Year
	Doris Holden	1 Year
	Jean Reyngoudt	1 Year
	Josephine Bruno	1 Year
	Arthur Horne	1 Year
	Joseph DiPrete	1 Year
	Marilyn A. Collum	1 Year
	Christy Harrington	1 Year
Substitutes:	Joseph Attilio	1 Year

	Kathryn Warren	1 Year
	William White	1 Year
Fire Official U.F.S.A.	Arthur Jackson	1 Year
Assistant Fire Official	Kevin Todd	1 Year

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APPOINTMENTS FOR 2003 (cont'd):

Fire Inspectors	Frank Pistilli	1 Year
	Albert Saulnier	1 Year
	Kenneth Kubler	1 Year
	Edmund Carter	1 Year
	Richard Giarratana	1 Year
	Bruce Werner Jr.	1 Year

Fire Mechanics

Eng. Co. No.1	Christian Semenez	1 Year
Eng. Co. No.2	Michael Ratkowski	1 Year
Hook & Ladder	Alfred Cirelli	1 Year
Rescue	J ames Halloran	1 Year

Ambulances - EMS 1	Robert Knobloch	1 Year
EMS2	Michael Thomasey	1 Year

Public Info. Off.	Robert Thomasey	1 Year
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Dept. Safety Off.	Harry Maisch	1 Year
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On a motion by Councilman Wassberg, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Appointments were confirmed and approved.

MAYOR'S ANNUAL MESSAGE:

Mayor Torre began his Annual Message for 2003 by welcoming everyone and giving his report on the state of the Borough, his responsibility as mayor to address the residents annually. He first thanked the Council for their hard work, dedication and commitment. He congratulated Councilman Link and Councilman DiPisa on their reelection. He thanked former Mayor and Assemblywoman Rose Heck for her help in obtaining millions of dollars of grant money for the

borough. He thanked Administrator Michael Kronyak, Borough Attorney Ralph W. Chandless, Jr., Borough Clerk Ro Sees, Bernice Baker and Lori French. He thanked the Masons for their generosity in sharing their home again in 2002.

He enumerated some of the **highlights of the year**. A tax increase of almost 10 points in the 2002 budget due in part to increases in health benefits, police salaries and miscellaneous other municipal costs was reduced with the help of Councilmen Link and Heeren, himself and Mr. Kronyak and resulted in cutting it nearly five points. Discretionary aid was applied for, but denied. The end result was a small municipal government increase in the average household of approximately \$115 for the year.

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MAYOR'S ANNUAL MESSAGE (cont'd):

Overall the municipal government tax rate increased an average of only 1.25% per the last eight years. The tax collection rate was 98.5% and Tax Collection Conchita Parker and Assistant Tax Collector Angela Ferraro were commended. Surplus is estimated to be approximately 1.1 million dollars which will be used to offset this year's budget. As per Tax Assessor George Reggo tax base ratables are up almost \$800,000 over 2001. This increase also negates the amount of lost ratables on land purchases for the municipal complex. He thanked Mr. Reggo for a great job.

Teterboro Airport expansion was opposed and membership was renewed in the Teterboro Coalition. The mayor noted that he and Councilwoman Verrastro had become proactive in protesting the airport expansion and he thanked her for being the liaison with the Coalition. Cable rate increases were opposed to the Board of Public Utilities and Cablevision directly. Through the council's efforts, senior citizens are now entitled to a Cablevision discount. He continued that development of the Curtis Wright tract in Wood-Ridge has been opposed and is ongoing. Through letters and the mayor's appearance at planning board meetings, Wood-Ridge Mayor Paul Sarlo is asking for a meeting to discuss these concerns. He thanked former Recreation chair Dick Tort and the members of the Recreation commission which was now replaced with a Recreation Programs Advisory Committee which has broader powers. He will be recommending that they look into a feasibility study for a new center. He thanked Judge Harry Chandless who retired after 36 years and wished him well, he thanked Court Administrator Sue Paul and Violations Clerk Craig Ferdinand and welcomed Janice Gatto as the new Municipal Court Judge.

Regarding the new Municipal Complex, he noted it was in final stages and on schedule with completion in the spring 2003. He commended Councilmen Pepe and DiPisa for a job well

done. Regarding the Public Safety Complex, all contracts for construction have been awarded and the General Contractor has begun mobilization. This building will house the Police Department, Fire Department and Municipal Court. He continued that the Fire Department was in temporary headquarters on a vacant lot on Central Avenue. As mentioned earlier he commended Chief Thomasey and Al Cirelli for creating the Junior Ambulance and Firefighters Squad. This year was the first that volunteer firefighters and ambulance members were able to benefit from the Length of Service Awards Program. The Hook and Ladder was refurbished at a cost of \$98,190, a new Pierce Pumper Truck replaced a 25 year old truck, and through a grant with the help of Assemblywoman Heck, a new ambulance was received. The purchase of the Shell Station on the Boulevard was in the process of being purchased and an important part of the Municipal Complex plan with the gain of over 25 additional parking spaces.

He continued that intergovernmental services now include fire and 9-1-1 coverage to
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MAYOR'S ANNUAL MESSAGE (cont'd):

Teterboro, 9-1-1 to Wood-Ridge, and a joint Tax Assessor's office with South Hackensack and Rochelle Park. Changes in Planning and Zoning included an Environmental Commission, amendments to adult entertainment regulations, emphasizing community oriented business in the Central Business District. He commended the Planning Board on a difficult year with regard to adult entertainment. A new litter vacuum was purchased and Boulevard improvements including lighting and pavers will begin at the new municipal complex and extend southward as funding is available.

He noted that **capital improvements** include for 2003, paving Charlton Avenue from Terrace to Burton, Franklin Avenue from Woodside to Oak Grove, Harrison Avenue from the Boulevard to Wood, Hasbrouck Avenue from Williams to Hillside, Henry Street from Route 17 to Terrace, MacArthur Avenue from Boulevard to the town border, and Oak Grove from Passaic to Williams (\$150,000 DOT funding). Over three miles of streets completed in 2002 including resurfacing LaSalle from the Boulevard to Oak Grove, Paterson from Terrace to Burton; reconstruction of curbs and streets of Summit and Plant Road; Kipp Avenue is under construction for curb/apron, sidewalk and streets from Boulevard to Terrace and resurfacing of Ottawa from Burton to Route 17 (\$140,000 DOT funding). Rehabilitation of the sanitary sewer system is continuing. MDTs have been replaced in police cars. Through a \$300,000 legislative grant with help from Assemblywoman Heck, the communications system has been updated.

Grant applications applied for included Domestic Preparedness applications for fire vehicles and message boards (\$78,500) and new pagers for Fire Department (\$31,750); Livable

Communities Pilot Program (\$385,000); D.E.P. Livable Communities Program and Bergen County Open Space Program for a pocket park at the Swim Club (\$104,000); Statewide Local ADA Grant to help offset cost of Municipal Complex elevator \$30,844); and CD funding to help offset cost of elevator (\$72,000) and construction of barrier free curb ramps (\$60,000).

He thanked Lee Kulakowski who heads the **Social Services** Department (noting that Welfare was consolidated into the Bergen County Social Services last year), as well as members of the Welfare Board. A second annual Senior Citizens picnic was held in July and commendations to the committee were made.

Regarding the **Police Department**, he commended them on a fine job, with two new patrolmen hired, Paul Albanese and James Cicarelli. Upgrades to the police range included a new target system, range building, fencing and paving, provided through a grant from Assemblywoman Heck. Statistics included 11,000 calls received and 6,000 summonses issued. Drunk driving enforcement is one of highest in Bergen County and this was recognized by a county daily. The Jr. Police Academy under Sgt.

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MAYOR'S ANNUAL MESSAGE (cont'd):

DeLorenzo and Cronin was expanded and has been a huge success with young residents. A domestic violence Response Team was created and volunteers trained. The Bike Marathon on Memorial Weekend, under Chief Colaneri and Captain Castiglione was again a huge success. The Department received AAA Silver Award for Traffic Safety. The DARE program continued its success with Sgt. Mullins teaching fifth graders. He noted regrettably that an agreement could not be reached with the Police Union and negotiation were in arbitration. The main contentions in the arbitration were reductions in compensation to future officers. He thanked Commissioners Verrastro and Link and Chief Colaneri.

Mayor Torre reported that for the year 2002, Statistics for the busy **Fire Department** included 584 fire calls and 1,431 ambulance calls with 50 active members. New members are needed. He again mentioned LOSAP, temporary headquarters and thanked the department for their patience and continued professionalism in their duties under these extreme circumstances. He thanked Chief Knobloch for his service to the borough and wished new Chief Thomasey, 1st Asst. Chief Taylor and 2nd Asst. Chief Roccamo good luck.

He commended the **DPW** for a great job in cleaning, sweeping and plowing and thanked Supt. Heck and Assistant Supt. Schneider and all personnel. With the new camera nearly two miles of sewer was videoed and 800 feet of line excavated and repaired. The butler building from

Hamilton Avenue was reconstructed at the DPW and houses equipment. He next discussed parks, overall in good condition and that a new park in over 50 years has been designated at the Swim Club, with almost full funding by Bergen County. He commended Parks Commissioner Wassberg on this project and the logistics of the memorial brick pavers in veterans park, as well as Assemblywoman Heck who coordinated the pavers project with the veterans.

The **Health Department** had a busy year under the guidance of Chairman Andy Paparozzi and Lou Castellito. The Child Health Conference, Flu Clinic and Health Consultation Program continue to thrive and Health Registrar Marilyn deRussy was commended.

Under **Recreation**, he commended Director Rob Brady noting new programs Track and Field with over 60 children enrolled; Cheering and Dance Team for girls; Men's Flag Football with 80 men in the program; the highly successful wrestling program, youth basketball league with over 200 enrolled, and senior programs. All volunteers and coaches were thanked as well.

Mayor Torre reported that the Hasbrouck Heights Free Public **Library** under the direction of Michele Reutty, Tom Verrastro and Board of Trustees had a prosperous
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MAYOR'S ANNUAL MESSAGE (cont'd):

year and were anxiously awaiting their new home. New programs were instituted for teenagers.

He was advised by the **Building Department** that new construction totalled over \$5 million. The department was taken over by Nicholas Melfi, and he commended Secretary Donna VanDongen, Property Maintenance official Pat Vella, for his work on vacant homes, businesses, and placing a fence at Miers Park with the help of Assemblywoman Heck.

He commended the Chamber of Commerce and President Tom Meli for the Christmas Parade and Farmer's Market.

In closing he said that much was accomplished in 2002 and that the mission for 2003 was to keep moving forward.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM THE COUNCIL:

Councilman Link extended Happy Holidays to all. He hoped to see the problems with the sanitary sewer lines resolved in the new year.

Councilman Heeren thanked the people of Hasbrouck Heights for the opportunity to continue to serve. He congratulated Councilmen Link and DiPisa on their re-election. He thanked his wife Marge and wished everyone happy holidays.

Councilman DiPisa thanked his wife, Rosemarie, his family and to the mayor and council noted that it has been a privilege to serve with them, as Recreation Commissioner and on the Building Committee. Streamlining government was noted and taking a proactive role regarding the Boulevard business district.

Councilman Pepe thanked everyone, noting that it had been a hard year for the Council candidates and congratulated them on their win. He said he will work diligently with the Chamber of Commerce for businesses to come to Hasbrouck Heights. He thanked the Borough employees and the Fire Department (noting the large numbers of calls made) for their true spirit of volunteerism. He thanked his family and those of the council.

Councilwoman Verrastro congratulated Councilmen Link and DiPisa and after having served as Police Commissioner for the past two years, she thanked Chief Colaneri and the Police Department. She also thanked the Building Department members, the Borough employees and her husband.

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MISCELLANEOUS FROM COUNCIL (cont'd):

Councilman Wassberg congratulated Councilmen Link and DiPisa, thanked Assemblywoman Heck for the grant monies received by the Borough, the volunteers of the Fire Department and the Borough employees.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Torre opened the meeting to the public for anyone wishing to speak.

Assemblywoman Rose Heck, 501 Collins Avenue, presented commendations and citations to Councilmen Link and DiPisa. On the east and west Riser Ditch, there has been difficulty in getting a meeting together with the transition, but found out accidentally that monies will be assigned with \$17,000 given to each of the towns for engineering costs, with fees and permits taken care of on the dredging. Over \$300,000 will be given to Little Ferry and she will find out if this is going toward the Riser Ditch. She commended the Chamber of Commerce for their

recent informative meeting. She sadly noted the loss of Joseph Salinardi from the ninth district, requesting a memorial for him in Miers Park. She will be attending a later council meeting to discuss other issues.

Joseph Mongelli, for Senator Coniglio, presented Senatorial citations to Councilmen Link and DiPisa.

Assemblyman Matt Ahearn wished the Mayor and Council a Happy New Year.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Torre closed the meeting to the public, and thanked his colleagues on the council.

The Benediction was offered by Reverend Karyn L. Wiseman, Pastor of First United Methodist Church. She first commented that it was a privilege and honor to be part of a community that is so steeped in tradition.

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned.

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 Reorganization Meeting held on January 5, 2003.

Rose Marie Sees
Borough Clerk