

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

April 8, 2003

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on April 8, 2003 at 8 p.m. at the Masonic Hall, 200 Division Avenue, corner of the Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey.

Mayor Torre began the meeting and stated that the meeting complied with the Sunshine Law, due notice having been made to all members by personal service on January 1, 2003 and to The Observer, The Record and the Herald News on January 1, 2003.

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:

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

PRESENTATION: In appreciation for life saving of Borough employee

Mayor Torre began the agenda with a happy occasion which brought joy and relief, that the Borough employees are like family and when something happens to one of them, the others rush to their aid. It happened when Ricky Urban collapsed and due to the quick action of Rich Giarratana, his life was saved, assisted by Rick Price, the first responders, Police Department, and Ambulance Squad. He invited Ricky Urban to come forward with Rich Giarratana. Certificates of appreciation were then given to Giarratana, Price (who was not present), Lt. Joseph Cronin, Patrolman Michael Colaneri Jr., and Ambulance Squad (of which 17 members responded) via Fire Chief Thomasey.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. An announcement from the office of Governor McGreevey unveiling a series of enhanced benefits for New Jersey National Guard members on active duty as part of Operation Liberty Shield.

COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):

2. Letter from Jack Lettiere announcing the Fiscal Year 2004 Municipal Aid Program.
3. Letter from Robert F. Layton, County Tax Administrator, requesting tax maps regarding Revaluation Orders for the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.
4. Letter from American Legion Post 170 of Rochelle Park who will hold the 2003 Bergen County Convention on May 16 and 17.
5. Letters from NJ Senator Coniglio regarding his support of our concerns regarding scheduled airline service at Teterboro and his support of the Borough's Extraordinary Aid application sent to the Dir. Of Local Government Services.
6. Letter from Arlene Russo, co-founder of WTC Families for Proper Burial, asking for our support by passing a resolution in support of NJ Assembly Bill 2753 and NJ Senate Bill 1924 that would require proper burial of those killed at the World Trade Center.
7. Letter from Governor McGreevey announcing web site www.NJHomelandSecurity.com to provide citizens with important information and news related to homeland security.
8. Letter from Cablevision that YES Network has been launched on all Cablevision systems.
9. Letter from Jack Lettiere Commissioner of State Dept. of Transportation of Governor McGreevey's launching of a \$15 million pothole repair program.

On a motion to waive the reading of any of the items of correspondence was made by Councilman Pepe, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Correspondence was accepted.

PETITIONS: None

MINUTES: None

On a motion by Councilman Pepe, seconded by Councilman Heeren, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Minutes were approved.

BILLS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the claims and accounts amounting to \$4,248,593.33 specified in the schedule hereto annexed, having been examined and approved by the Finance Commissioner, or his Deputy, be paid and that warrants be issued therefor.

Signed Herbert D. Heeren
Commissioner of Finance

On a motion by Councilman Heeren, seconded by Councilman Wassberg, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA: 62. Raffle License for Corpus Christi School

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was approved (Copies attached).

- RESOLUTIONS:**
- 63. Dog License - Payment of Fees to State
 - 64. Marriage Licenses - Payment of Fees to State
 - 65. Payroll
 - 66. Assigning the Rights of Handex to Motiva Re: Shell
 - 67. Re-appointment of Municipal Clerk
 - 68. Authorizing Purchase of Furnishings Under State Contract
 - 69. Authorizing Purchase of Police Car Under State Contract
 - 70. Authorizing Renewal of Bond Anticipation Note
 - 71. Authorizing Renewal of Bond Anticipation Note
 - 72. Authorizing Adoption of 2003 Budget - This was held
 - 73. Construction Fees - Payment of Fees to State
 - 74. Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for Purchase of

RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

On a motion by Councilman Link, seconded by Councilman Wassberg, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolutions were approved (copies attached).

Regarding No. 67, congratulations were extended to the Municipal Clerk.

APPOINTMENTS: None

RESIGNATIONS: None

ORDINANCE (S) ON INTRODUCTION: None

PUBLIC HEARING OF 2003 BUDGET:

Mayor Torre read the following statement on the 2003 budget:

“Tonight we will be having the public hearing on the 2003 Municipal Budget as introduced but we will not be adopting it tonight.

“The budget as introduced calls for an 8 point increase and the finance committee continues to review all aspects of the budget in an effort to make any possible modifications that would result in any tax savings.

“As mentioned when the budget was introduced on March 11th, in light of the tax increase as proposed we have applied for Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$700,000.00 to offset the increase. The application must be reviewed by the Department of Community Affairs and hopefully they will make their determination and awards within the next month or two, the DCA indicated today that the applications are currently under review. The reason we cannot adopt the budget tonight is that by adopting we would also be withdrawing our application for Extraordinary Aid.”

Mayor Torre invited anyone wishing to comment on the public hearing of the 2003 budget to please step forward. There being no one wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

ORDINANCE(S) ON CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING:

ORDINANCE NO. 2001:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED CHAPTER 25 ENTITLED “ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS”** was continued on public hearing until April 22, 2003.

ORDINANCE(S) ON CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING (cont'd):

On a motion by Councilwoman Verrastro, seconded by Councilman Wassberg, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance was continued on public hearing.

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Torre opened up the meeting to the public on Ordinance No. 2004, Ordinance No. 2006 and Ordinance No. 2007. There being no one wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed on these ordinances.

ORDINANCE NO. 2004:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled **“AN ORDINANCE TO STABILIZE AND REGULATE RENTS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AND TO ESTABLISH A RENT BOARD, WHICH ORDINANCE IS TO BE COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE “2003” RENT LEVELING ORDINANCE”** 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 2006:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled **“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS AND FITTINGS FOR USE THROUGHOUT THE NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING ON THE BOULEVARD EXCLUSIVE OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITIES THEREIN AND TO APPROPRIATE THE TOTAL SUM OF \$215,000.00 PROVIDED BY \$105,000.00 IN INSURANCE PROCEEDS AND \$110,000.00 IN INTEREST EARNED ON THE INVESTMENT OF INSURANCE PROCEEDS”** 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 2007:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled **“AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$245,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS, SHELVING AND OTHER FITTINGS FOR THE NEW FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITY IN THE NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AND FURTHER TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCING OF THE COST THEREOF IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL BOND LAW BY THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OR NOTES NOT TO EXCEED THE**

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING (cont'd):

SUM OF \$230,000.00" 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.

On a motion by Councilman Wassberg, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinances on Public Hearing were approved. (Before Councilman Pepe, voted, he asked how much interest was earned on the insurance proceeds, and he was advised around \$200,000.)

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

RECESS FOR CAUCUS :

Mayor Torre announced that the meeting would be recessed for Caucus.

ADJOURN:

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 Mayor and Council Meeting held on April 8, 2003.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk