

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

May 25, 2004

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, May 25, 2004 at 8:41 p.m. at the Municipal Complex, 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, 2004 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 5, 2004.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Ronald R. Jones, Councilman Andrew Link III, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilman Garrett R. Pepe, Councilwoman Marlene Verrastro, Councilman Ronald F. Kistner, Councilman Thomas E. Meli

Absent: None

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

Mayor Jones asked for a moment of silence for Angela Verrastro (mother-in-law of Councilwoman Marlene Verrastro, Andrew Paparozzi (former member of the Board of Health) and Robert Zappatelli (Leisure Club of Hasbrouck Heights President)

INVOCATION: The Reverend Edward J. Glasser, Associate Minister, The Community United Church of Christ

COMMUNICATIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (March 9, 2004)

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

PETITIONS: None

BILLS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the claims and accounts amounting to \$101,146.59 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 therefore.

Signed Andrew Link, III
Commissioner of Finance

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

REPORTS:

FINANCE AND LAND USE:

Under Property Maintenance, Commissioner Link gave the report for May 2004 that seven residential properties had high grass and weeds with three being vacated and for sale. All were notified to maintain their properties. Several complaints of contractor signs on Boulevard stores and residents have been removed and contractors have been advised of borough ordinance. Two complaints of a business with an overfull dumpster and mattress were corrected. A fence complaint was received and a letter sent. An Oldfield Avenue resident to clean its yard has been unsuccessful with a letter sent to the lien holder. A homeowner with sump water being discharged across the property has been sent a letter. Under Finance, Commissioner Link reported that the Current Fund cash balance at April 30, 2004 was \$2,304,597 and at March 31, 2004 was \$1,301,354.70 which represents an increase of \$1,003,242.30. The entire balance was invested and earning approximately 1%. Cash receipts for April totaled \$3,614,901.12 of which \$3,447,867.32 was for Current Taxes, \$59,560.83 was for Prior Year Taxes, \$20,219.97 was Grants and State Aid and \$87,253 was Miscellaneous Revenues. Cash disbursements for April totaled \$2,611,481.58 of which \$1,300,708.57 was Local School Taxes, \$706,075.25 was for Salaries, and \$604,697.66 was for Other Expenses.

HEALTH AND RECREATION:

Under Health, Commissioner DiPisa dispensed with giving the statistics. A two hour food handlers short course is available in the Board of Health. A self inspection test is available as a check list for food establishments. Under Recreation, Commissioner DiPisa said the application forms for Recreation Camp Rec Trek are now available. Recreation Center volunteer applications are available. The first Teen Night will be June 4 and June 5. July 17 and 18 is Heights Camp Night at Woodland Park. The Community Awareness Access to All Committee meets monthly. A disability services

HEALTH AND RECREATION:

directory is being compiled. A push plate on the Senior Center side of the Municipal Building is now installed. He eulogized Robert Zappatelli on his recent passing.

POLICE AND PUBLIC FACILITIES:

Under Police, Commissioner Pepe reported that the Police Department has a new honor guard and uniforms have been ordered. A new car has been ordered to replace Car 610 which was totaled in an accident. The Bike Marathon is scheduled for Memorial Day weekend. So far 160 have registered. The first Citizens Police Academy was well received. He had a number of thank you letters, reading one from the Baker family on the recent death of former Police Chief Howard Baker. During April there were 898 calls to service, and 1,135 summonses issued. The Bureau of Justice Assistance notified the borough that a grant for \$11,120 for bullet proof vests will be sent shortly. Each vest costs approximately \$1,000. A traffic counter has been purchased and used throughout the borough where needed. Under Public Facilities, Commissioner Pepe reported that Aug. 1 is the slated date for moving into the Public Safety building. PSE&G will be moving their wires next week. The butler building has been removed by Lyndhurst who will be using it. The command center furniture has been installed. Two weeks will be required for training on the new equipment.

SOCIAL SERVICES: Under Social Services, 20 families were serviced the past month. She commended the end schools for their food donations and requested food donations year round. Regarding the Coalition, she met Freeholder Bernadette McPherson and the attorneys were gathering information to bring to Port Authority. On May 20 she attended the Bergen County Council of Girl Scouts, who is now starting adult registration. She said the statistics were astounding and that with the help of adults, the Girl Scout Council hopes to help young girls.

STREETS & TRANSPORTATION AND PARKS:

Under Parks, Councilman Kistner said Woodland Park is now completed with the help of Michael Mongen and volunteers. He is working on projects to improve parks for next year and has been in contact with Gary Kohles of the B.C. Parks Dept. for Open Space funding. Under Recreation, he reported a 3 on 3 basketball tournament for third grade through high school will be held at the schools in July. Under Streets, the pot holes under the Route 46 overpass have been patched and the lights fixed by the County Road Department or NJ Transit. On May 12 a storm put out some lights and he checked the pump station and commended Angelo Roccamo of the DPW who was on the job to make sure all was in working order.

FIRE AND SANITATION:

Under Fire, Commissioner Meli gave the Fire Report for the month of April: Fire Calls: Hasbrouck Heights, 17 calls, year to date 99; Teterboro 3, year to date 31; mutual aid 2, year to date 12; total for the month 22, year to date 142. Ambulance calls for April: Hasbrouck Heights, 83, year to date 476; Teterboro, 7, year to date 46; mutual aid, 8, year to date 32; total 98, year to date 554, total calls 696. The Fire Inspection was well attended. The new Fire Department Honor Guard performed. Under Sanitation, he thanked the DPW and all the volunteers for their help with the Boulevard Beautification Day.

REPORT OF MAYOR:

Mayor Jones commended the Youth Week members and the students who painted the mural in the Recreation Center. He commended the Boulevard Beautification volunteers and those who attended the Library Macy=s Night. He had attended the third grade class in Euclid School. He noted the new Spring banners along the Boulevard. Regarding leaf collection, a committee will be formed and a survey of Bergen County towns is being prepared and will be sent out. All information will be accumulated and discussed at the September town meeting. He noted the town meeting for May 24 was with regard to the McMansions, and although sparsely attended, good discussion evolved. Councilman Pepe interrupted to ask that a zoning committee be formed including the planner and borough attorney to come to some resolution on this subject. The mayor invited all to attend the Memorial Day Parade. He pointed out that the Recreation Center will also be available to senior citizens. The flag pole replacement is on order and the administrator was commended on the insurance claim. The garbage cans along the Boulevard and the benches were discussed. He commended the recent Fire Inspection. The mayor invited all to the free Concert sponsored by the Hasbrouck Heights and Wood-Ridge Municipal Alliances on June 18. Parking and bathroom access was to be made available for the handicapped at Woodland Park.

APPOINTMENTS: Steven J. Pell as Member of Fire Department Truck Company

Tania Lorente as a School Crossing Guard

On a motion by Councilman Link, seconded by Councilman Meli, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Appointments were approved.

RESIGNATIONS: William J. White from Office of Emergency Management

On a motion by Councilman Pepe, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resignation was accepted with regret.

NEW BUSINESS:

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 88. Raffle License for Hasbrouck Heights Jr/Sr H.S. PTSA
 - 89. Raffle License for Corpus Christi Church
 - 90. Raffle License for Lions Club of Hasbrouck Heights Inc.

On a motion by Councilman Link, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Consent Agenda Resolutions were approved (Copies attached).

- RESOLUTIONS:**
- 91. Authorizing Sale of Unclaimed or Borough Owned Property No L
 - 92. Authorizing Change Order Nos. 1-8 and 10-9 in
 - 93. Authorizing Change Order No. 4-3 in Connection
 - 94. Approval of Lions Club Fireworks Display at Athletic
 - 95. Award of Bid for Resinous Flooring in the Public Safety Building

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

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2049:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled **AAN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED AAN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$343,500.00 TO PROVIDE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SUMMIT STREET FOR ITS ENTIRE LENGTH AND PLANT ROAD FOR ITS ENTIRE LENGTH INCLUDING THE REPLACEMENT OR REPAIR OF CERTAIN CURBS, SIDEWALKS, DRAINAGE FACILITIES AND OTHER NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO ALL AS PART OF THE 2001 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND FURTHER TO**

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ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION (cont=d):

ORDINANCE NO. 2049:

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 SUM OF \$325,900.00@ BEING ORDINANCE NO. 1943 ADOPTED ON AUGUST 14, 2001, SO AS TO FURTHER INCLUDE THEREIN AUTHORIZATION TO RECONSTRUCT A PORTION OF HAMILTON AVENUE IN

FRONT OF THE NEW PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING@ was 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 June 9, 2004.

On a motion by Councilman Pepe, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Introduction was approved.

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Jones opened the public hearing on Ordinance Nos. 2046, 2047 and 2048. There being no one wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2046:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled **AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARY AND COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE HASBROUCK HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 2004 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AND THE POLICEMEN=S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LOCAL 102@** 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 published and circulating in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

ORDINANCE NO. 2047:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled **AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 236-20 ENTITLED ASIDEWALK AND DRIVEWAY SPECIFICATIONS@ OF ARTICLE III ENTITLED AUSE OF STREETS AND SIDEWALKS@ OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO INCLUDE THEREIN THE REQUIREMENT THAT SIDEWALKS LOCATED WITHIN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DESIGN DISTRICT AS THE SAME HAS BEEN OR MAY BE DESIGNATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 275-44 OF BOROUGH CODE SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DESIGN REQUIREMENTS RECOMMENDED BY THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND ADOPTED BY THE**

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2047:

PLANNING BOARD PURSUANT TO SECTION 275-49 HEREOF 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 published and circulating in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

ORDINANCE NO. 2048:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled **AAN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS AND FITTINGS FOR USE THROUGHOUT THE NEW PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING ON HAMILTON AVENUE AND FOR THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN THE NEW BOROUGH HALL ON THE BOULEVARD AND TO APPROPRIATE THE TOTAL SUM OF \$380,000.00 COMPRISED OF \$245,000.00 IN INSURANCE PROCEEDS, \$115,000.00 IN INTEREST EARNED** 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 published and circulating in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

On a motion by Councilman Meli, seconded by Councilman Link, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinances on Public Hearing were approved.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

Robert Thomasey, 307 Franklin Avenue, questioned Resolution No. 93 and what it was about. It was explained that it was a change order for the HVAC contractor to move some of its equipment and the Building Committee and contractor had reached an agreement to this change order.

Marilyn MacDonall, 52 Washington Place, regarding the leaf collection, thought that waiting until September for feedback on this committee to be appointed would be too late and that there should be citizen participation. She recommended considering a focus group within the community, someone from DPW, citizen participation, the purpose to look at the problems and come up with solutions and how to operationalize them to have the leaves picked up, going on simultaneously with the Mayor=s plans.

Carol Skiba, as secretary to the Coalition, referred to the proposed scope of work to be presented to the NJDEP. She had requested information regarding fuel storage tanks from the Fire Department and had heard nothing. The fire chief said the information was for another community and he was in the process of asking the borough attorney whether this was information could be dispersed. The borough attorney said the

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MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC (cont=d):

information could be released so long as the proper forms were completed. She was concerned with the odor of jet fuel she was detecting through her windows at home.

Frank Meo, 44 Washington Place, asked about a speed counter. It was explained it did not need to be manned, that it is a rubber tubing that goes across the street which takes readings that can be read on a computer. He was told that the speed counter will be placed at various locations throughout the borough to check on streets that are presumed to have speeders.

CLOSE FOR CLOSED SESSION:

RESOLUTION: 96. Close for Closed Session for any matter involving litigation or employment or appointment of personnel

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

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

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 May 25, 2004.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk