

## **BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

### **MINUTES**

**November 22, 2005**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, November 22, 2005 at 8:02 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 4, 2005 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 4, 2005.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor Ronald R. Jones, Councilwoman Carol J. Skiba, Councilman Leonard Introna (arrived at 10:25 p.m.), Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilman Thomas E. Meli, Councilman Ronald F. Kistner, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa

Absent: Councilman Andrew Link III

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

**INVOCATION:** A prayer was given by Reverend James P. Whelan, Parochial Vicar of Corpus Christi R.C. Church

**PRESENTATION:** Storm Ready Community Award

A presentation was made to the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights as being one of the first storm ready communities in the State of New Jersey. The presentation was made by Gary Conte, representative of the National Weather Service and Chief Meteorological Forecaster of Upton, NY; and Mariana Leckner of the New Jersey Police Office of Emergency Management. Mayor Ronald R. Jones accepted along with Emergency Management Coordinator Dr. Roger Szanto.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** 1) Seven letters from Hasbrouck Heights residents who want a choice of cable TV providers

Letter from Mayors of Lambertville City, South Amboy City, Berkeley Township and Manville Borough regarding legislation to create state-wide video franchises.

On a motion by Councilman Meli, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Correspondence was accepted.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** (October 11, 2005)

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

None

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the claims and accounts amounting to \$153,513.66 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 Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Meli, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution was adopted.

**REPORTS:**

**FINANCE, HEALTH AND PUBLIC FACILITIES:** Deputy Finance Commissioner DiPisa read the following Finance Report: The current fund cash balance as of October 31, 2005 was \$3,862,067.73; on September 30, 2005 was \$2,225,877.43 which represents an increase of \$1,636,190.30. The entire balance was invested and is earning 3.75%. Cash receipts for October totaled \$4,372,500.59 of which \$4,163,483.06 was for current taxes, \$37,776.88 was prior year taxes, \$19,202.20 for Prepaid 2006 Taxes and \$152,038.36 was miscellaneous revenues. Cash disbursements for October totaled \$2,736,310.29 of which \$1,473,996.42 was local school taxes, \$545,565.71 was salaries, and \$171,977.44 was Debt Service and \$544,770.72 was for other expenses. The process for formulating the 2006 budget is underway. Under Health, he digressed from reading the statistics, but announced additional flu shots will be available in December to Medicare recipients. He will be conducting a Medicare Part B Workshop and continuing with the fact finding for senior housing in mid January. Making the bathrooms accessible in Woodland Park is scheduled for Spring.

**POLICE AND RECREATION:** Under Recreation, Commissioner Kistner congratulated the PeeWee Football Team who won the Meadowlands Division. He announced the high school varsity team will play at the Meadowlands on Dec. 3 and invited all to attend. The Recreation Basketball Draft for Boys and Girls us underway. Under Police, he reported a grant for \$5,000 was received for the "You Drink and Drive, You Lose" campaign. He announced that on Jan. 4, 2006, PBA 102 will hold its Fourth

## **POLICE AND RECREATION (cont'd):**

Annual Beefsteak Dinner for Special Olympics. The Police Sports Cards Program is again available and will be launched at a special ceremony.

**FIRE AND PARKS:** Commissioner Meli gave a year-end report for the Fire Department. He began by announcing the results of the Election as follows: Fire Chief, Joseph Taylor, Jr.; First Assistant Chief, Angelo Roccamo; Second Assistant Chief, Michael Ratkowski; Secretary, Thomas Rubino; Treasurer, Patrick Hayes. Engine Company One: Captain, Kevin Todd; Lieutenant, Edmund Carter III; Secretary, Bernardo Valente; Treasurer, Christian Semenech. Engine Company Two: Captain, Patrick Hayes; Lieutenant, Robert Jones; Secretary, David Gumbrecht; Treasurer, Thomas Rubino. Hook and Ladder Company One: Captain, Brian Morrow; Lieutenant, Michael Christensen; Secretary, Christopher Halloran; Treasurer, Laurence Donohue. Ambulance: Captain, Joseph Fehl; Lieutenant, John Riordan; Secretary, Patricia Thomasey. Rescue Company: Captain, Robert Knobloch; Lieutenant, Michael Thomasey; Secretary, Bernardo Valente.

On a motion by Councilwoman Skiba, seconded by Councilman Kistner, and unanimously carried, the Fire Department Election of Officers was confirmed.

Commissioner Meli continued with statistics, showing that there were over 1,000 ambulance calls and over 500 fire calls, coverage of Teterboro Airport, new equipment, donation of the fire truck to Pascagoula, Mississippi, and again made a plea for new members.

## **SANITATION, LAND USE, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND STREETS AND**

**TRANSPORTATION:** As Deputy Commissioner of Sanitation and Land Use, Councilwoman Skiba had no reports on these respective departments. She read a report on Social Services which noted that 10 families were serviced for the Thanksgiving holiday and noted the many volunteers and donations received. Under Streets and Transportation, as Commissioner she noted that the water leak on Terrace Avenue had been repaired by United Water New Jersey, the graffiti at the Route 46 underpass had been cleaned and that leaf collection will continue until December 7. She reminded residents to keep leaves at least 10 feet away from storm drains, that bagging was also permitted. The Christmas lights were installed on the Boulevard, the Circle will be decorated in time for the Tree Lighting December 4. She announced that the Borough had received an award from the National Air Disaster Foundation for supporting safety, as members of the Coalition of Public Health and Safety.

## **REPORT OF MAYOR:**

Mayor Jones had attended the Veterans Day Ceremony and commended Bob Riker, a World War II veteran who was honored for his valor in Normandy. He read a copy of a

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

Proclamation presented to former Governor Christie Todd Whitman this afternoon when she appeared at the Library for a book signing of her new book "It's My Party Too". The Proclamation read as follows:

*WHEREAS*, The Free Public Library of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was housed at 301 Division Avenue since 1916; and

*WHEREAS*, a future needs assessment study was done to determine what could be done to afford the library additional space for its growing needs; and

*WHEREAS*, in 1999, a plan was proposed to build a much-needed new library at the corner of Central Avenue and the Boulevard, along with a Senior Center; and

*WHEREAS*, as former Mayor and Assemblywoman, Rose Heck was instrumental in calling this project to the attention of former Governor Christie Todd Whitman and an application was made to the Public Library Project Grant Program and the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was awarded a grant of \$703,000; and

*WHEREAS*, in the course of planning for the new Library, a fire destroyed the Municipal Building at 248 Hamilton Avenue, putting the Library/Senior Center project on hold; and

*WHEREAS*, through many discussions and meetings a new proposal was made to move the Administrative offices in conjunction with the Library/Senior Center to the Central Avenue and Boulevard site;

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* that we, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, do hereby offer our sincere gratitude to former Governor Christie Todd Whitman for her participation in the Library Grant Program and affording the Borough an opportunity to build a State-of-the-Art Public Library.

/s/ Mayor Ronald R. Jones

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilman Kistner asked for a motion to have speakers playing holiday music placed at various locations on the Boulevard during the holiday season. It was seconded by Councilman DiPisa and unanimously carried.

**APPOINTMENTS:** Christopher J. Lisi to Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department  
Engine Company Two Gary Vanderwerf to Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department  
Engine Company One

**APPOINTMENTS: (cont'd):**

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

**RESIGNATIONS:** Alfred Cirelli from Hook and Ladder Company #1 effective November 11, 2005

Deborah Karlsson from the Ambulance Squad effective November 11, 2005

On a motion by Councilman Meli, seconded by Councilwoman Skiba, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resignations were accepted with regret.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** 182. Raffle License for Concerned Parents of Corpus Christi School

183. Raffle License for Maywood Cooperative Nursery School

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

**RESOLUTIONS:**

184. Supporting Port Authority Change Requests to FAA Regarding Teterboro Airport

185. Approving Extension of Distribution Line of United Water New Jersey in Route 17 so as to Serve the Premises of Classic Woodcraft, LLC

186. Authorizing Immediate Acquisition of Two Police Cars without Public Advertising for Bids and Bidding Therefor as an Emergency Affecting Public Safety

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

**ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2111:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT SECTION 45-22 ENTITLED “EXEMPT OFFICERS” OF ARTICLE IV ENTITLED “RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT EXEMPTIONS” OF CHAPTER 45 ENTITLED “OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO UPDATE AND MAKE CURRENT THE LIST OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS OF THIS BOROUGH WHO ARE EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF RESIDENCY IN THIS BOROUGH PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:60-6b(3)”** 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 December 13, 2005.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND 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 2005”** 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 December 13, 2005.

On a motion by Councilman Meli, seconded by Councilman Kistner, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance(s) on Introduction were approved.

**ORDINANCES ON CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING:**

**“AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$600,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PARKING LOT, A POCKET PARK, AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS UPON LOTS 20.01, 20.02 AND 22 IN BLOCK 47 BEING PREMISES ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION FORMED BY CENTRAL AVENUE AND THE BOULEVARD TOGETHER WITH IMPROVEMENTS OF A PORTION OF CENTRAL AVENUE IN RELATION THERETO, TO APPLY TO THE COST THEREOF A GRANT FROM THE BERGEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND IN THE SUM OF \$54,000.00 AND TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCING OF A FURTHER PORTION OF THE COST THEREOF BY THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OR NOTES NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF \$516,000.00 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL BOND LAW”**

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights - 11/22/05 - page 7

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

Mayor Jones opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2105. It was requested to withdraw this ordinance on a motion by Councilman Kistner, seconded by Councilman Meli, and unanimously carried.

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

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT SECTION 181-5 ENTITLED “LICENSE FEE” OF CHAPTER 181 ENTITLED “MOTOR VEHICLE SALES, LICENSING” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO REQUIRE THAT ANY FEES PAYABLE THEREUNDER BE IN THE FORM OF CASH, CERTIFIED CHECK, CASHIER’S CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY”** 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 Record, a newspaper circulating in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT SECTION 133-21A ENTITLED ‘FEES UNDER CHAPTER 181, LICENSING OF MOTOR VEHICLE SALES’ OF CHAPTER 133 ENTITLED “FEES” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO REQUIRE THAT ANY FEES PAYABLE THEREUNDER BE IN THE FORM OF CASH, CERTIFIED CHECK, CASHIER’S CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY”** 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 Record, a newspaper circulating in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT SCHEDULE 2 ENTITLED “AREA, BULK AND YARD REQUIREMENTS FOR PRINCIPAL USES” OF CHAPTER 275 ENTITLED “ZONING” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO INCLUDE IN THE COLUMN DESIGNATED “MAXIMUM FLOOR AREA RATIO (PERCENT)” THE LIMITATION OF 55% AS TO ONE-FAMILY AND TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS IN THE R-1, R-2, R-3 AND R-4 ZONES AND A FOOTNOTE REFERENCE TO THE DEFINITION OF THE FLOOR AREA TO BE APPLIED IN SUCH LIMITATION”** 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 Record, a newspaper circulating in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

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

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

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:**

Mayor Jones opened the meeting to the public.

Dorothy Petroulis, 215 Central Avenue, objected to the report that the town was thinking of selling borough property. (She was referring to the lot on Central Avenue near the proposed parking lot.)

Susan Fulton, 242 Paterson Avenue, objected to the ordinance which changed the floor ratio to 55% and was requesting a more detailed explanation as to what this would mean.

Sonya Buckman, 239 Central Avenue, asked for the time frame for the Central Avenue parking lot.

Susan Fulton, 242 Paterson Avenue, had additional questions regarding the floor ratio ordinance.

Andrew Heisey, 248 Division Avenue, was in favor of the floor ratio ordinance. It was noted that he is a certified planner in the State of New Jersey.

Mario Sasso, 205 Lawrence Avenue, submitted pictures of an accident that occurred at the corner of Lawrence Avenue and the Boulevard on his property to show that this was a dangerous corner. He also was not in favor of having the bus stop moved to the Boulevard where his driveway is located, noting that having passengers waiting on his property was becoming a nuisance.

John Baratta, 269 Walter Avenue, asked if the Recreation Department would consider cultural programs.

Mario Sasso, 205 Lawrence Avenue, asked whose responsibility would it be if someone fell on his property and was told he would be.

Before the meeting was closed, Chief Colaneri reported that the Police Junior Academy would be featured on NJN, Channel 8 on November 26 at 6 p.m. and the following Saturday at 7:30 a.m.

There being no one else wishing to speak, the public portion was closed.

**RESOLUTION TO CLOSE FOR CLOSED SESSION:**

Resolution No. 187:

Personnel and Litigation

A motion to Close for Closed Session was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Meli, and unanimously carried.

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 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 November 22, 2005.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC  
Borough Clerk