

## **BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

### **MINUTES**

**February 28, 2006**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, February 28, 2006 at 8:07 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 3, 2006 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 3, 2006.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor Ronald R. Jones, Councilwoman Maryetta Saccomano, Councilwoman Carol J. Skiba, Councilman Leonard Introna, Councilman Thomas E. Meli, Councilman Ronald F. Kistner, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa

Absent: None

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

**INVOCATION:** Deacon Vincent DeFedele, Corpus Christi R.C. Church

**PROCLAMATION: READ ACROSS AMERICA**

Mayor Jones asked the Borough Clerk to read the following:

WHEREAS, the citizens of Hasbrouck Heights stand firmly committed to promoting reading as the catalyst for our students' future academic success, their preparation for America's jobs of the future, and their ability to compete in a global economy; and WHEREAS, Hasbrouck Heights has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education of our youth, grounded in the principle that educational investment is key to the community's well-being and long-term quality of life; and

WHEREAS, *NEA's Read Across America*, a national celebration of reading, will be conducted on March 2, 2006, which would have been the 102nd birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss; and

WHEREAS, *Read Across America-NJ* being conducted statewide by the New Jersey Education Association, in partnership with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the New Jersey Library Association, Saturn-UAW, Staples, and their

**PROCLAMATION (cont'd):**

local affiliates across the state to promote reading and adult involvement in the education of our community's students;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, calls on its citizens to assure that every child is in a safe place reading together with a caring adult on March 2, 2006; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body enthusiastically endorses *NEA's Read Across America* and *Read Across America-NJ*, and recommitts our community to engage in programs and activities to make America's children the best readers in the world.

/s/ Mayor Ronald Jones and  
Members of the Council

**COMMUNICATIONS:**      1)      2005 Sewer Connection Fee Program Rebate Check from BCUA

Letter from NJ Board of Public Utilities regarding a Municipal Assistance Program with cable television franchise renewal procedure

Packet of Material Outlining Cable TV Franchise Renewal from NJ Board of Public Utilities

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**      (November 22, 2005 Closed Session)

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Skiba, with Councilwoman Saccomano abstaining as she was not on the Council at that time, the foregoing Minutes were approved.

None

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the claims and accounts amounting to \$154,476.18 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.

Thomas E. Meli  
Commissioner of Finance

**BILLS (cont'd):**

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

**REPORTS:**

**HEALTH AND PARKS:** Under Health, Commissioner DiPisa reported that on Feb. 8 the regular Board of Health meeting was held. He continued that 85% of those required had taken the Food Handlers Course. With regard to Health statistics for January, there were seven births, 2 male, 5 female; 67 burial certificates issued with only one from Hasbrouck Heights, 491 transcripts, 14 marriages, dog license fees collected \$4825 with 652 licenses, and total fees collected were \$11,183. Under Parks, Commissioner DiPisa reported Woodland Park and Miers Park were cleaned up by the DPW and Acting Supt. Spindler was commended. Under Community Awareness Access to All Committee, Woodland Park is under discussion for handicap facilities.

**POLICE AND RECREATION:** Under Police, Commissioner Kistner reported two thank you letters were received, one from Church of St. John the Divine and one from Corpus Christi thanking Chief Colaneri and Lt. Archer for the handicap cones. A letter from the NJ Attorney General's office commended the Police Department for their involvement in the Click it or Ticket statewide seat belt enforcement mobilization over the holiday season. The two new patrol cars are in service. The Corpus Christi DARE Graduation was held and the students were commended. Over 200 children attended the DARE trip to Sports World (which is now closed). Department training continues in recertification of CPR, OC Spray and First Aid. He reported he and his daughter participated in the Polar Bear Plunge the past Sunday which benefits Special Olympics. Under Recreation, he reported the Wrestling Program is coming to an end, and has been very successful. The Basketball Town League Program is in semi-finals. Movie Nights under the direction of high school teacher, Mike Stillman will begin. The Battle of the Bands will be rescheduled.

**FINANCE AND FIRE:** Under Finance, Commissioner Meli read the following Finance Report: The current fund cash balance as of January 31, 2006 was \$3,295,429.04; on December 31, 2006 was \$2,471,918.99 which represents an increase of \$823,510.05. The entire balance was invested and is earning 4.25%. Cash receipts for January totaled \$4,426,612.29 of which \$3,800,652.90 was for current taxes, \$32,380.16 for Delinquent Taxes, \$16,000 was grants and state aid, \$423,161.70 was for interfunds and \$153,417.53 was miscellaneous revenues. Cash disbursements for January totaled \$3,179,276.85 of which \$1,477,854.41 was local school taxes, \$555,881.49 was salaries, \$500,000 was Interfunds, \$172,523.91 was debt service and \$473,016.04 was for other expenses. The annual financial statement was filed by the Feb. 10, 2006 deadline, with introduction of the Budget scheduled for March 21, 2006. He reported the Revaluation has been completed with the new total assessed value of all property at \$1,855,347,500, with the total value last year at \$875,710,063. By now

**FINANCE AND FIRE (cont'd):**

all homeowners should have received a post card with their new assessed value and he reminded residents to not use the 2005 tax rate. The 2006 taxes will be calculated after the 2006 budget is adopted. Under Fire, he reported the carbon monoxide detectors and thermal imaging cameras are in every fire vehicle. Through the HHFD, two fire trucks are in the process of being delivered to Mississippi by UPS, with assistance from Senator Trent Lott's office. Training is complete for the truck from Port Authority and should be in service within two weeks. This past Sunday, the ambulance went out 14 times. Under Library, he sits on the Library Endowment Fund Board which will be providing two power point projectors, a digital camcorder, new software to allow the capability of reserving a book from home and a new wall for the children's room. Changes to Boulevard ordinances will be announced in the near future, as well as progress with the Boulevard in Bloom program.

**SANITATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES:** Under Public Facilities, Commissioner Introna reported the Feb. 12 snowstorm amounted to 22 inches and the DPW plowed the roads for 18 hours and removed snow from schools, churches and business district areas. The DPW had new outdoors lights installed to provide safety. The DPW yard was visited by students who were given a tour of the Recycling Center. Spring Clean Up dates are March 6, 13, 20, and 27 for Zone 1 and March 7, 14, 21, and 28 for Zone 2.

**TRANSPORTATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES:** Under Social Services, Councilwoman Skiba reported the Food Pantry continues to be open on Mondays from 9 to 11 a.m. Donations were received from Corpus Christi Brown Bag Sunday, the McCarthy family, Girl Scout Troop 1108, New World Montessori School, First Reformed Church, and Helen O'Shea. The volunteers were commended. Under Transportation, she announced that on March 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Senior Center the Coalition for Public Health and Safety will be hosting a presentation of the kickoff of an air impact study by the NJ DEP in conjunction with Environ Corp.

**STREETS AND LAND USE:** Under Streets, Commissioner Saccomano reported the B.C. Road Department has informed the Borough that Terrace Avenue from Henry Street to Pasadena Avenue will be resurfaced sometime in March as well as repairing of any broken sewer manholes along that stretch. An inventory of the town's stormwater catch basins in need of reconstruction will start in the spring. Bids on the Spring Tree Planting Replacement Program will be compiled and awarded soon. Potholes continue to be repaired. The Leaf Committee met regarding spring clean up. She reminded residents that no yard waste must be placed in paper bags or rigid containers. Under Land Use, she reported eleven complaints were made on property maintenance of neighbors which were investigated by Property Maintenance officer Ed Carter, were resolved, with no summons issued. Sixteen violations were given to residents and business owners for not having their snow shoveled, with all violations

**STREETS AND LAND USE (cont'd):**

abated within 24 hours. Five property maintenance complaints were turned over to the Building Department for their investigation as they dealt with zoning. Four violations regarded contractor signs. She reminded that packets are available for Zoning.

**REPORT OF MAYOR:** Mayor Jones gave his report as "progress."

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**APPOINTMENTS:** None

**RESIGNATIONS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** 39. Authorizing 2005 Recycling Tonnage Grant Application

40. Raffle License for Hasbrouck Heights Music Parents Assoc.

40. Authorizing Allocation to the Bergen County Juvenile Fire Prevention Program

40. Raffle License for VFW Post 4591

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

**RESOLUTIONS:** None

**ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2125:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **"AN ORDINANCE REQUIRED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN CONNECTION WITH ITS STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TO SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO INCLUDE THEREIN A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED "CHAPTER 234, STORMWATER CONTROL"** 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

**ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION (cont'd):**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2125 (cont'd):**

hearing on said Ordinance to be held at the regular meeting of the Borough Council on March 14, 2006.

On a motion by Councilman Meli, seconded by Councilwoman Skiba, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Introduction was approved.

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

Mayor Jones opened the Public Hearing on Ordinances No. 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123 and 2124. There being no one wishing to speak, the Public Hearing was closed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2120:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE REQUIRED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN CONNECTION WITH ITS STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TO SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 152 ENTITLED “GARBAGE, RUBBISH AND REFUSE” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO INCLUDE THEREIN A NEW ARTICLE ENTITLED “ARTICLE IIIA” ENTITLED “DEPOSIT OF NON-CONTAINERIZED YARD WASTE”** 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. 2121:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE REQUIRED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN CONNECTION WITH ITS STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TO SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO INCLUDE THEREIN A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED “CHAPTER 234, STORMWATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM”** 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. 2122:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE REQUIRED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN**

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2122 (cont'd):**

**CONNECTION WITH ITS STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TO SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO INCLUDE THEREIN A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED "CHAPTER 179, LITTER CONTROL"** 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. 2123:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **"AN ORDINANCE REQUIRED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN CONNECTION WITH ITS STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TO SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO INCLUDE THEREIN A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED "CHAPTER 49, PET WASTE DISPOSAL"** 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. 2124:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **"AN ORDINANCE REQUIRED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN CONNECTION WITH ITS STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TO SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO INCLUDE THEREIN A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED "CHAPTER 274, WILDLIFE FEEDING"** 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 Councilwoman Saccomano, seconded by Councilman Kistner, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinances on Public Hearing were approved.

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:**

Jorge Risquet, 257 Walter Avenue, questioned why the land was being cleared at Oldfield Avenue, if it was part of the ice/roller rink? He was told no, and Acting DPW Supt. Spindler explained that maintenance was being done on Borough property. He said Ravine was also cleared up. Risquet also questioned if there was an Education

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC (cont'd):**

liaison from the Council and was told yes. He wondered if the town could ask for a grant to move the offices. He was advised that would be a Board of Education project.

Mayor Jones opened the meeting to the public. There being no one wishing to speak, the Public Portion was closed.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

**RESOLUTION TO CLOSE:** 43. For Any Pending or Anticipated Litigation or Contract Negotiation

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

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 February 28, 2006.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC  
Borough Clerk