

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

August 22, 2006

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, August 22, 2006 at 8:09 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: The Invocation was given by Rev. James P. Whelan, Parochial Vicar of Corpus Christi R.C. Church

PRESENTATIONS: Award of Check for Extraordinary Aid by District 38 Senator Joseph Coniglio, Assemblyman Robert Gordon and Assemblywoman Joan Voss

Representing Senator Coniglio and Assemblywoman Voss, Assemblyman Robert Gordon presented a check for \$150,000 for Extraordinary Aid to Mayor Jones.

Awarding of Check for \$17,800 to Upgrade the 9-1-1 System

Lt. Mark Kapinski, of Wallington presented the above check to Mayor Jones and Chief Colaneri

Certificates to 2006 9-10 Year Old New Jersey District 5 Champions

Mayor Jones and Councilman Kistner presented certificates to the Little League baseball players and their coaches.

PRESENTATIONS (cont'd):

Award of Check from Town Wide Garage Sale Receipts to
Municipal Alliance and Friends of the Library

Mayor Jones and Councilman Meli presented the Municipal Alliance check to Chief Michael Colaneri and the Friends of the Library check to Suzanne Kepsel with Town Wide Garage Sale Chairpersons Patricia Link and Eve DeDomenico assisting.

PROCLAMATIONS: Honoring Elsie Paolini and Virginia DiMaria in Observance
of Woman's Equality Day, August 26

Mayor Jones requested the Borough Clerk to read a short biography into the record of each of the recipients.

Mayor Jones presented the Proclamation to Elsie Paolini which was read by Councilman DiPisa as follows:

WHEREAS, in 1971 the U.S. Congress designated August 26 as Women's Equality Day to commemorate the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution granting women the right to vote, and this day also calls attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality; and

WHEREAS, Elsie Lois Clark was born on January 10, 1907 on a farm in Ludlowville, New York, a graduate of Cornell University, where she met her husband, Alfred Paolini and they married in 1934 and moved to Hasbrouck Heights in 1941; and who is a woman who has combined her exemplary and prolific talents as Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Teacher and Volunteer; and

WHEREAS, Elsie and Al (who has sadly passed on), raised two children, a daughter, Margaret Ann and a son, Alfred Clark, have four grandchildren and one great grandson; and

WHEREAS, Elsie was a teacher until the 1970s, involved in Girl Scouting, remains active in the First Reformed Church and its Woman's Society and church choir over 50 years. She served as the President of the Woman's Club of Hasbrouck Heights and as a member she has served for 64 years in many capacities and is still an active member. She is also one of the founders of "The Chris Heller Foundation" which gives scholarships to graduating high school students; and

PROCLAMATIONS (cont'd):

WHEREAS, Elsie Paolini has been a loyal citizen and a distinguished example to all women, and to the community of Hasbrouck Heights;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey does hereby extend a heartfelt thank you to Elsie Paolini and recognizes her commitment and service to the community and country and proudly honors her on Women's Equality Day, August 26, 2006.

A Proclamation to honor Virginia DiMaria, who could not be present, was read by Councilman DiPisa as follows:

WHEREAS, in 1971 the U.S. Congress designated August 26 as Women's Equality Day to commemorate the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution granting women the right to vote, and this day also calls attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Powelson , born on April 26, 1913 at 171 Franklin Avenue, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ, a graduate of Rutgers College as a pharmacist, where she met her husband, Sam DiMaria, also a pharmacist, and they married in 1938; and who is a woman who has combined her exemplary and prolific talents as Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Pharmacist and Volunteer; and

WHEREAS, Virginia and Sam raised five daughters, Rosalind Everett, Karen Orsini, Toni Nanek, Anita Austin and Stacey DiMaria, have eleven grandchildren and six great grandchildren; and upon the death of Virginia's father, assumed ownership of Powelson's Pharmacy until their retirement in 1978, with Sam passing in 1980; and

WHEREAS, Virginia worked, ran her home and raised her family and volunteered her time and talent by being a Girl Scout Leader and was a member of the Woman's Club. She is a founding member of the Contemporary Club of Hasbrouck Heights which was founded in September 1944, and also served as President. She is the only surviving Charter Member serving over 62 years; and

PROCLAMATIONS (cont'd):

WHEREAS, Virginia DiMaria has been a loyal citizen, an outstanding volunteer and a distinguished example to all women, and to the community of Hasbrouck Heights;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey does hereby extend a heartfelt thank you to Virginia DiMaria and recognizes her commitment and service to the community and country and proudly honors her on Women's Equality Day, August 26, 2006.

Mayor Jones asked the clerk to read a 1955 Good Housekeeping article (which she had received in an e-mail) entitled "The Good Wife's Guide" which was found to be most amusing.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (March 14, 2006 Work Session and Closed Session, May 23, 2006 Closed Session, August 8, 2006 Regular Meeting)

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

None

BE IT RESOLVED that the claims and accounts amounting to \$77,714.28 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

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

REPORTS:

HEALTH AND PARKS: Under Health, Commissioner DiPisa reported for the month of July there were 16 births, 9 male, 7 female, 81 burial permits, 2 from Hasbrouck Borough of Hasbrouck Heights - 8/22/06 - page 5

HEALTH AND PARKS (cont'd):

Heights, 564 certified transcripts, 20 marriages, collected in fees \$10,962. On August 15, a special meeting was held to appoint a new registrar/secretary for the Board of Health with the retirement of Marilyn deRussy. They unanimously appointed Lori French to begin on September 2, 2006. The 4th Health Fair Expo will be held on Oct. 13, 2006 in the Senior Center and all residents are invited. Under Parks, he complimented the DPW on the improvements to the Soccer Field in Woodland Park. Under Community Awareness Access to All, he reported new members are welcome to an open house on Sept. 5. He and Councilwoman Saccomano had met on August 9 and 16 with Construction Official Nick Melfi to discuss options for apartment resident parking and options for driveways.

POLICE AND RECREATION: Under Recreation, Councilman Kistner said over 75 children are signed up. College students have been hired as chaperones. The final concert is scheduled for August 24 featuring "Boote." Recreation Director Rob Brady and Jennifer Catalano will be getting married August 25 and he wished them well. Under Police, the Junior Police Academy finished on August 21. He thanked Middle School Teacher Michael Stillman, Det. Joseph Rinke, Det. Michael Colaneri Jr., Capt. Jack DeLorenzo and Capt. Bill Castiglione and Patrolman Alan Baker.

FINANCE AND FIRE: Under Finance, Commissioner Meli read the following Finance Report: the Current Fund cash balance at July 31, 2006 was \$470,804.45 and at June 30, 2006 was \$584,802.28 which represents a decrease of \$113,997.83. The entire balance was invested and earning approximately 5.25%. Cash receipts for the month of July totalled \$2,773,802.91 of which \$2,583,499.79 was for Current Taxes, \$30,039.77 was for Delinquent Taxes, \$46,119.00 was Grants and Aid and \$114,144.35 was Miscellaneous Revenues. Cash disbursements for the month of July totaled \$2,887,800.74 of which \$1,586,924.83 was Local School Taxes, \$568,464.03 was for Salaries and \$732,411.88 was for Other Expenses. He continued by reading the following statement:

STATEMENT FOR INTRODUCTION AND ADOPTION OF 2006 BUDGET AMENDMENT

"Tonight we are introducing an amended 2006 Municipal Budget.

"The original 2006 municipal budget was introduced on March 21st, and in light of the tax increase as proposed of 6.1 points we applied for Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$650,000.00 to offset the increase. We recently received word that the Borough would receive \$150,000.00 under this program.

"While waiting for the award of funding under this aid package the budget committee continued to meet in an effort to make further adjustments that would reduce the tax

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BUDGET STATEMENT (cont'd):

increase as introduced. These meetings resulted in an additional \$398,895.00 reduction in the amount to be raised by taxes.

“The combination of increased revenues in the amount of \$352,097.00, and budget cuts in the amount of \$196,798.00, has resulted in an Amount to be Raised by Taxes for the Local Budget of \$11,065,348.41. This is \$548,895.41 less than the Amount to be Raised by Taxes for the Local Budget as introduced in March. We have been able to cut 3.3 tax points off of the budget as introduced.

“In order to make the budget cuts every line item was examined and the expenditures to date were considered. Ultimately 39 separate operating line items received cuts with the smallest cut being \$500.00 and the largest cut being \$17,500.00.

“Based on the budget amendment being introduced tonight the average house assessed at \$436,800.00 would pay \$2,603.32 in Local Taxes in 2006. The total tax bill cannot be determined until the County Tax Board certifies the total rate. After the public hearing on this amendment is held on August 29, 2006, at 8:00 pm, here in the Municipal Building, the budget will be transmitted to the Division of Local Government Services for approval and certification. We anticipate that final tax bills will be printed and mailed within the next few weeks.” Under Fire, he reported that he had met with the local Clergy and Councilwoman Saccomano to discuss the 9-11 Memorial which will be held on September 11. The theme would be to honor first responders from Hasbrouck Heights. The Firemen’s Memorial Program is ongoing and brick orders are being received.

SANITATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES: Under Sanitation, Commissioner Introna reported the DPW has completed maintenance of the Borough’s sanitary sewer line that runs underneath and parallel to Route 17. A collapse in the line along the northbound section was discovered caused by a telephone pole that settled. This is now in the hands of the Borough engineer.

TRANSPORTATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES: Under Social Services, Councilwoman Skiba reported donations were received from the Masonic Lodge, Dorothy and Aimee McCarthy and Meredith Yorkin who donated items and helped man the pantry during June and July, Nancy Nimmo, Gina DeFlorio, St. John’s Episcopal Church, Corpus Christi’s Brown Bag Sunday, First Reformed Church, Bertha Spada, and Dorothy Petroulis. Under Transportation, she reported Environ Corporation in conjunction with Dr. Artegas who is conducting an environmental impact study of the Meadowlands is looking for volunteers to wear 48-hour monitoring devices. Councilwoman Skiba is coordinating the effort and can be reached at 201-288-7448 and for the first round badges would need to be picked up Aug. 26 or Sept. 7.

STREETS AND LAND USE: Under Streets, Councilwoman Saccomano reported the DPW is awaiting notification of a start date from the County for the repair of Terrace

STREETS AND LAND USE (cont’d):

Avenue from Springfield to Pasadena Avenues, with utility companies doing repairs. Trees that need to be addressed have been put on a list as a result of storms in July. Under Land Use, she reported that in July the Building Department issued 57 building permits. She read into the record hours of operation for contractors as follows: Monday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and absolutely no contractors or landscapers are permitted to work on Sunday. Homeowners if doing the work yourself can work Monday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m. to sunset, Saturday from 8 a.m. to sunset and Sunday from 10 a.m. to sunset. Certificates of occupancy are required for sale of property. She reported Councilman DiPisa, Mr. Melfi and she had met regarding parking lots in the B-1 District Zone. They also reviewed an outline presented by Mary Ellen Courtney on real estate signs, and reviewed the decks requirements.

REPORT OF MAYOR: Progress

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENTS: None

RESIGNATIONS: Robert K. Rogers, Jr., as Electrical Sub Code Official effective September 1.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER IN TETERBORO:

Councilwoman Saccomano asked to make a recommendation under New Business regarding the proposed Juvenile Detention Center to be placed in Teterboro, and requested if the Mayor and Council could write a letter to the Board of Chosen Freeholders that this be put on the ballot for a referendum in November, and write letters to the surrounding towns if they would do the same.

Councilwoman Skiba had spoken with Councilman Mauro Raguseo of Little Ferry whose police department covers Teterboro, who had suggested the communities get together and discuss ideas. She reported she had attended a Freeholder meeting last week at which they introduced a \$9.8 million bond ordinance for this project which did not include design costs or construction with only Freeholder Elizabeth Randall voting no.

Councilwoman Saccomano referring to Former Mayor and Assemblywoman Rose Heck who had also attended that meeting and who asked if she should rise for a point of information as she had intended to speak on this in the public portion, said she was

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JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER (cont'd):

most concerned that they are doing this without a traffic study or environmental study and that a resolution be introduced to request such from the Freeholders before passage of this ordinance. She additionally noted public transportation is no where near that particular area so they will be coming in and around the surrounding towns, that a number of people have requested that they take the juvenile center they have now and leave it on Paramus ground and just do it there. It is incumbent upon Hasbrouck Heights, Little Ferry, South Hackensack, all the adjoining towns to request pertinent information.

Councilman Meli wholeheartedly agreed, as Hasbrouck Heights covers the ambulance for Teterboro, that there are additional procedures that our volunteers would have to get involved in that regard.

Councilman DiPisa said they should rethink this, from a cost point of view it sounds so prohibitive to go somewhere else, when you can just expand where you are and he was shocked that the adjacent towns did not had an opportunity to respond.

Mr. Meli recommended it be done through resolution and agreed with Councilwoman Skiba as to a presentation also.

Mayor Jones asked if Teterboro had been consulted.

Borough Attorney Chandless said the difficulty is that we would have to extract the language from the Minutes tonight. Rather than try to dispatch a verbatim resolution, he suggested authorizing Mrs. Sees and himself to extract the pertinent language from the record this evening and advise the freeholders of that with copies to Township of South Hackensack, Borough of Little Ferry, Borough of Teterboro, Borough of Moonachie. Copies should go to the Governor, Senator Coniglio, Assemblyman Gordon and Assemblywoman Voss. A motion was made by Councilman Meli, to put together a notice to the Bergen County Freeholders, seconded by Councilwoman Skiba. A roll call resulted in a unanimous affirmative vote. A suggestion was made to make the language strong.

A recommendation was made to have the entire council attend the next public meeting of the Freeholders.

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 131. Raffle License for Hasbrouck Heights Parents Association for Athletes
 - 132. Raffle Licenses for Corpus Christi Home School Association

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Skiba, with Councilman Kistner abstaining from Resolution No. 131, as his wife is on the Executive Board, the foregoing Consent Agenda Resolutions were approved (Copies attached).

- RESOLUTIONS:**
- 133. Entering into a Grant Agreement with the County of Bergen Community Development Block Grant Program for Barrier Free Improvements to Woodland Park
 - 135. Authorizing Check from Town Wide Garage Sale Receipts to Municipal Alliance
 - 136. Authorizing Check from Town Wide Garage Sale Receipts to Friends of the Library

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

- RESOLUTION:** 134. Amend 2006 Budget

On a motion by Councilman Meli, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, with Councilwoman Saccomano, Councilwoman Skiba and Councilman Introna voting Nay, Councilman Meli, Councilman Kistner and Councilman DiPisa voting Yes, and Mayor Jones breaking the tie by voting Yes, the foregoing Resolution was approved.

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2140:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: “**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 28 ENTITLED “FIRE DEPARTMENT” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS IN RESPECT TO THE RESIDENCY AND DOMICILIARY REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**” 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 September 12, 2006.

ORDINANCE NO. 2141:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: “**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE V ENTITLED “CONSUMPTION IN PUBLIC” OF CHAPTER 84 ENTITLED** Borough of Hasbrouck Heights - 8/22/06 - page 10

ORDINANCE NO. 2141(cont'd):

“ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS IN RESPECT TO THE EXCEPTION FROM THE GENERAL PROHIBITION OF THE SERVICE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN PUBLIC PLACES BY WHICH THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT SHALL BE PERMITTED TO SERVE AND ITS MEMBERS AND GUESTS SHALL BE PERMITTED TO CONSUME ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WITHIN THE “EXEMPT ROOM” 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 September 12, 2006.

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

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Jones opened the public hearing on Ordinances 2137, 2138 and 2139. There being no one wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2137:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARY AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY, FOR THE YEAR 2006”** 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. 2138:

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 2006”** 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. 2139:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: “**AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO INCLUDE THEREIN A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED “CHAPTER 61, RECORDS, OPEN PUBLIC,” PURSUANT TO THE “OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT” AND SO AS TO INCLUDE THE FEES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH IN CHAPTER 133 ENTITLED “FEES”** 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 Meli, seconded by Councilman Kistner, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinances on Public Hearing were approved.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

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

Gilbert Hunt, 117 Henry Street, spoke on budgets, taxes, the Juvenile Detention Center, and government procedures, that the entire council support some kind of budget. He

Mayor Jones noted many hours went into the preparation of the budget by the Finance Committee and agreed full council support was needed, and later expressed that full disclosure was provided to the council.

Councilman Introna said the issue is saving taxes, that he was offended that the Superintendent (of Schools) wasn't present (when the school budget was discussed) to answer some questions he had of possibilities to save money and that was why he voted no on the school budget.

Councilman Meli as a member of the Finance Committee had repeatedly requested any council member approach him with ideas, recommendations and questions, but received none, until tonight.

Councilwoman Saccomano did not discredit the Finance Committee, but found it disheartening that people are selling their homes as they can't pay taxes, and voted no.

Councilman DiPisa said the council had the opportunity to review every line item. There was \$200,000 cut. If he had a question he would be proactive in finding an answer.

Ronald Ellis, 107 Paterson Avenue, who was on the Board of Education for six years, was surprised on the vote of the budget and what followed, noting the BOE budgetary process, the procedure and time lines for special needs students. He was present to again request the bus stop at Paterson Avenue and the Boulevard be revisited as he had proposed in 2003, referring to some proposed changes regarding bus stops on the
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MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC (cont'd):

Boulevard which would prove even more inconvenient. Chief Colaneri would sit down with Mr. Ellis and listen to his suggestions.

Steven Altobelli, 67 Hamilton Avenue, asked for an update on Depken Field improvements. He was told that receipt of environmental reports was pending. Committee meetings on ongoing. A 501C3 corporation was being set up for donations. No action could take place until the sale of the property.

Anthony DiNanno, 10 Garrison Avenue, questioned the field project, if there was a set time for breaking ground. He was told it was all premised on the closing of the property. Martin Saccomano, 57 Ottawa Avenue, had attended the Kiwanis meeting who had approved a donation to a special program for Alzheimer's patients monitored by the B.C. Sheriff's Department and hoped all town clubs would donate to this program.

There being no one else 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 11:02 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 August 22, 2006.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk