

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**MINUTES****December 11, 2007**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on December 11, 2007 at 8:00 p.m. at Borough Hall, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ.

Mayor Jones declared the meeting in Session and 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 2, 2007 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 2, 2007.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Ronald R. Jones, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilman Leonard Introna, Councilwoman Carol J. Skiba, Councilman Anthony DiNanno, Councilman Stephen Altobelli

Absent: Councilwoman Maryetta Saccomano

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

INVOCATION: Councilman DiPisa read a passage from the Corpus Christi bulletin on hospitality.

PRESENTATION: Recognition of Hasbrouck Heights Education Foundation Hall of Fame 2007 Inductees

The HHEA Hall of Fame 2007 Inductees who were recognized are: Syd Salt, Ph.D., Class of 1947, Elmer Pouch, Class of 1949 (posthumously), Jack Delaney, Class of 1954, Michael Delpercio, Jr., Class of 1954, Dr. Edward G. Williams, Class of 1955, Albert Dunlap, Class of 1956, Henry P. Dobbelaar, Jr., Class of 1962, Bill Deegan, Class of 1980, Wendy Gerquest Spindler, Class of 1981, Michael Krommenhoek, Class of 1986, Michele Carcich, Class of 1996, the 1975 Football Team and the 1976 Football Team. Mayor Jones, Councilman DiNanno and Councilman Introna presented Certificates to Inductees Wendy Spindler, Michael Krommenhoek, Henry Dobbelaar and Dr. Williams who were present. Certificates for those who could not attend were asked to be mailed.

COMMUNICATIONS: 1) Letter of Resignation from Ron Botelho as EMS Coordinator

COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):

- 2) Senior Citizen Free Admission to High School Athletic Events

Item No. 2 was read into the record.

On a motion by Councilwoman Skiba, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, the foregoing letter and resignation was accepted with regret.

PETITIONS: In Opposition of Cell Antennas/Tower Installation at 174 Boulevard

Mayor Jones requested a copy of this petition be forwarded to the Planning and Zoning Boards.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *(October 23, 2007 Executive Session, November 13, 2007 Regular Meeting, Work Session and Executive Session)*

Councilwoman Skiba made a correction to the November 13, 2007 Work Session Minutes on page one in the paragraph regarding billboards, that the location was on the east side of Route 17, not the north side.

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

BILLS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the claims and accounts amounting to \$2,198,716.00 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 Leonard Introna
Commissioner of Finance

Councilwoman Skiba brought one item to the attention of Mr. Kronyak, who would see to a correction, and who asked that the bills be approved pending that correction, which was affirmed.

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

NEW BUSINESS:**CONSENT AGENDA:** None

- RESOLUTIONS:**
- 179. Payroll
 - 180. Dog Licenses - Payment of Fees to State
 - 181. Authorizing Change Order #2 for Improvement of Vacated Portion of Ravine Avenue Right-Of-Way
 - 182. Eliminating Benefits for Elected Officials
 - 183. Authorizing Redemption of Taxes for Tax Title Lien 2007-01, Block 54, Lot 6.01
 - 184. Authorizing Payment to Former Firemen for 25 Years of Service
 - 185. Authorizing an Award of a Contract for the Acquisition of a Bronze Sculpture
 - 186. Authorizing Fire Department Percentages
 - 187. Authorizing Ambulance Squad Percentages
 - 188. Authorizing 2007 Budget Appropriation Transfers

Mayor Jones requested that Resolution No. 182 be held until the next meeting, to allow for Councilwoman Saccomano's input, as it affected her personally, and also stating it was his opinion that previous discussion included beginning this policy as of January 1, 2008.

On a motion by Councilman Altobelli, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried, the Resolutions Nos. 180, 181, 183-188 were approved (Copies attached).

APPOINTMENTS: Vincent A. Risalvato III to Fire Department Hook and Ladder Company

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

RESIGNATIONS: None

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:**ORDINANCE NO. 2167:**

BE IT RESOLVED that 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 2008**" 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 27, 2007.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2168:

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 2008 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AND THE POLICEMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LOCAL 102**" 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 27, 2007.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2169:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled : "**AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARY AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY, FOR THE YEAR 2008**" 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 27, 2007.

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

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

Before opening the public hearing, Mayor Jones said the committee for this ordinance (No. 2166) had never had the opportunity to discuss with the council their reasons why or why not this ordinance was necessary. After discussion, Mayor Jones asked to have this ordinance removed or postponed, which was denied.

Mayor Jones opened the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2163 and Ordinance No. 2166.

Garrett Pepe, 187 Burton Avenue, regarding Ordinance No. 2166, that it was limiting the choice of qualified individuals and begged the council to not pass this ordinance and have it shelved.

Theresa Call, 231 Paterson Avenue, thanked the Council for the past year. In turn, Mayor Jones thanked her for her service to committees. She asked if the political clubs could resume their monthly meetings in the Municipal Building. Mayor Jones made the decision to allow political clubs back into the Municipal Building.

Christian Semencz, 415 Jefferson Avenue, regarding the Dog License ordinance and why he had never heard a committee report. He was advised that discussion was held at the Board of Health meetings, as well as information submitted to The Observer.

Sonya Buckman, 239 Central Avenue, regarding the nepotism ordinance, believed people should be hired on qualifications.

Edwinna Carroll, 134 Franklin Avenue, thanked the Mayor for her appointment as Library Trustee this past year.

John Baratta, 269 Walter Avenue, considered any "ism" is wrong, and to exclude people is also wrong. He suggested there should be some level of accountability, standards.

Councilman DiNanno said it was the implication of that word. Councilman Introna said the civil service test was more controlled.

Mayor Jones and Chief Colaneri explained the civil service test, that it was statewide, that the applicant chooses the towns he wants his test results sent to. On the other hand, there was no difference in the hiring process, individuals apply to the town, it is advertised, and it is guided by Title 40A.

Garrett Pepe, 187 Burton Avenue, said there are policies and procedures in every department that have worked.

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

Lois Carlson, 208 Longworth Avenue, questioned how a family member would be handled if it were not up to standards.

Mayor Jones gave some examples of his experiences as a police officer, ending that this ordinance was discrimination.

Joseph Bonacci, 10 Ottawa Avenue, questioned how far the ordinance went with regard to family members, that he would like to see copies of the ordinances that appear on agendas.

There being no one else wishing to speak, the public hearing on these ordinances was closed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2163:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 8 ENTITLED “LICENSE FEES” OF CHAPTER 124 ENTITLED “DOGS” AND SECTION 13 ENTITLED “FEES UNDER CHAPTER 124, DOGS” OF CHAPTER 133 ENTITLED “FEES” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS TO AMEND THE SUM TO BE PAID ANNUALLY AS A LICENSE FEE FOR THE LICENSING OF DOGS IN THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN”** 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 Altobelli, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Public Hearing was approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 2166:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS BY ADDING A NEW CHAPTER, TO BE TITLED “ANTI-NEPOTISM GUIDELINES,” WHICH OUTLINES PROHIBITIONS AGAINST THE HIRING BY THE BOROUGH OF FAMILY RELATIONS FOR PERMANENT FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME PAID POSITIONS”** 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 Altobelli, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, with Councilman DiPisa voting Nay, the foregoing Ordinance on Public Hearing was approved.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

Mayor Jones invited anyone wishing to speak, to please come forward.

Joseph Luongo, Supt. Of Schools, 379 Boulevard, commented on lame duck sessions, that in the State legislature lame duck will decide the fate of school funding, which he considered a travesty. He again commended the cooperation given to the Board of Education and the school district for projects for the betterment of the community.

Garrett Pepe, 187 Burton Avenue, thought it a shame that the council didn't listen to the public's wishes.

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

WORK SESSION:

Mayor Jones announced that the meeting would continue to Work Session, to which he invited all present to stay.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the regular meeting was adjourned at 10:23 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 Mayor and Council Meeting held on December 11, 2007.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk