

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

JANUARY 22, 2008

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at 8:13 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 2, 2007 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 2, 2007.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Rose Heck, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilwoman Maryetta Saccomano, Councilman Anthony DiNanno, Councilman Stephen Altobelli, Councilwoman Sonya Buckman, Councilman David Gonzalez

Absent: None

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

INVOCATION: Mayor Rose Heck read *The Collect* as follows:

“Keep us Oh God from pettiness. Let us be large in thought, in word and in deed. Let us be done with faultfinding and leave off self-seeking. May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face, without self pity and without prejudice. May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous. Let us take time for all things; make us to grow calm, serene, gentle. Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward and unafraid. Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create differences; that in the big things of life we are at one. And may we strive to touch and to know the great common human heart of us all, and Oh, Lord God, let us forget not to be kind.”

PRESENTATION: CERTIFICATES TO JUNIOR FOOTBALL LIGHTWEIGHTS SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONS

Mayor Heck, Councilwoman Buckman, Councilman DiPisa and Chief Colaneri presented certificates to the following: Maurizio Altamura, Jason Annichairaco, Devon Auriemma, Robert Benkovic, Michael Blanco, Luciano Borsani, Bobby Colton, Michael

PRESENTATION (cont;d):

Denaro, Keefe Doheny, Patrick Dowd, Kyle Ellerson, Joey Fadden, Christian Haddad, Darren Iurato, Alex Kensik, Robert Klenk, Michael Leone, Joseph Lepera, Tyler Loughlin, Andrew Mascis, James Mernin, Keigh Mlenak, Richard Newmann, Nathaniel Onorato, Ryan Palladino, Kyle Perri, Justin Prozl, JT Rinke, Peter Rokssi, Steven Salerno, Sage Scalvino, Michael Schroback, Anexander Sodora, Jason Sproviero, Sean Sproviero, Danny Squeo, Chris Tattoli, Christopher Verdi; Head Coach Mike Colaneri; Assistant Coaches Mike Colaneri Jr., John Colaneri, Jeff Perri, John Halpin, Kevin Colaneri, Dan DeCongelio, Dan DeCongelio, Jr., TJ Kroncke and Anthony Carullo.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

PETITIONS: None

BILLS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the claims and accounts amounting to \$657,140.91 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 Justin A. DiPisa
Commissioner of Finance

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

ler Police Mayor/Commissioner Heck gave the following report: Abandoned 911 Calls35, Ambulance Request 68, Ambulance w/Paramedics 13, animal complaints 10, assisting other agencies, 28, Borough Ordinance violations 10, Burglar Alarms - commercial 42, Burglar Alarms - residential 44, Burglary Auto 4, Burglary Commercial 3, Burglary Residential 3, Cell Phone 911 50, Child Custody Dispute 1, Disabled Vehicles 17, Disorderly Conduct 7, Disorderly Conduct - Fight 1, Domestic Violence 17, Domestic Violence Orders 8, DUI, 3, Fire 12, Fire Alarm 31, General 46, General Disputes 10, Harassment4, Identify Theft 2, Juvenile - runaway 1, Juvenile Delinquency 3, Juvenile

Incidents 7, Lockout - MV 12, Noise Complaints 10, Property Damage 11, Summonses 27, Suspicious Incidents 14, Suspicious Persons 14,

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ehicles 17, Teterboro 911 Calls 12, Theft 13, Theft from Auto 5, Traffic Accidents County Roads 22, Traffic Accidents Borough Roads 13, Traffic Accidents Private 6, Traffic Accidents State Roads 44, Traffic Enforcement 53, Traffic Related Services 51, Welfare Check 6, Wood-Ridge 911 Calls 57, totalling 1,031. She continued Chief Colaneri received the Chiefs Achievement Award from the B.C. Police Chiefs Association. Capt. William Castiglione will be retiring on February 1, 2008, after 31 years of service. The Police Memorial Statue has been received with the unveiling planned for Police Memorial Week May 19-23. It will be placed at the front side north corner of the sitting area at Central Ave and the Boulevard. A meeting of the Superior Officers of the Department was held at the Emergency Operations Center with disaster training conducted in the event of a failure at Police Headquarters, She thanked Dr. Szanto for his assistance. She had attended Anti Drug Week festivities the week of January 14-18 including the DARE Graduation of Euclid and Lincoln Schools. She named into the record the BADGE Program (B-Bringing, A-About, D-Development, G-Growth, E-Education) assignments for 2007: Grade 12, D/Sgt. Joseph Rinke; Grade 11, Sgt. Nicholas Sisto; Grade 10, Ptl. Jeffrey Werner; Grade 9, Det. Scott Adamo; Grade 8, Ptl. Corey Lange; Grade 7, Ptl. P. Bassett; Grade 6, Ptl. Daniel Kroncke; Grade 5, Ptl. Paul Albanese; Grade 4, Ptl. James Ciccarelli; Grade 3, Det. Alan Baker; Grade 2, Ptl. James Loos; Grade 1, Ptl. Brian Donohue; Kindergarten, Det. Michael Colaneri; and Pre-School, Ptl. Ian Robertson. The Community Safety Office in the Municipal Building was in the process of being set up, with the buildings video cameras on site, and this also being available at the Police Desk. Under the N.J. Division of Criminal Justice's 2007 State Body Armor Replacement Fund Program, \$3,437.79 was awarded to the department.

HEALTH & PUBLIC FACILITIES: Under Finance, Councilman DiPisa read the following Finance Report: the current fund cash balance as of December 31, 2007 was \$2,122,693.09; on November 30, 2007 was \$4,130,060.72, which represents a decrease of \$2,007,367.63. The entire balance was invested and is earning 4.43%. Cash receipts for December totaled \$971,794.46 of which \$251,124.85 was for current taxes, \$29,784.27 was for pre-paid taxes, \$137,903.20 was Grants and Aid, \$312,777.23 was interfunnds and \$240,207.91 was miscellaneous revenues. Cash disbursements for December totaled \$2,980,675.09 of which \$1,663,770.25 was local school taxes, \$685,815.86 was salaries, and \$631,088.48 was for other expenses. Under Health, he reported the reorganization meeting was held on January 9, with Pam Link elected as president, Connie Doheny as vice president, Colleen Jarvis as financial secretary and Laura French as registrar and secretary. Two representatives from Bergen County Health Services, Carmen Capuccio and Leonard Fiorenza who explained County updates and that Chapter 24 sanitation codes now replaces Chapter 12 for all food

establishments. They complimented the Borough that out of 28 towns they cover, Hasbrouck Heights has the best ordinances. Under Public Facilities, he reported there were water leaks in the Public Library ceiling which were looked at by the

HEALTH AND PUBLIC FACILITIES (cont'd):

ctor, which still should be under warranty. He continued to report that the Community Awareness Access for All Committee held their reorganization meeting on January 15, with the same officers holding office. The File of Life program was distributed to interested residents.

SERVICES: Under Social Services, Commissioner Saccomano reported entry in Borough Hall received an overwhelming supply of gifts and donations for the holidays which were most gratefully received. However, the shelves are almost completely empty again, save for plenty of pasta and vegetables. Donations continue to come in from many sources, but with 15 families coming on Monday mornings to shop, it quickly disappears. Some items requested are tuna, canned fruit, canned tomatoes, pasta sauce, cosmetics, soaps, paper goods, laundry detergent, dish detergent, macaroni & cheese, cereal and breakfast items, condiments, canned or powdered milk, flour, sugar, coffee, tea, jelly and juices. Donations for the new year have been received from Euclid Masonic Lodge, Corpus Christi Church, First Reformed Church, Methodist Church, Josephine McClean, Martha Pertuz, Joan Turner, Gerry Breen, Mary and Lida, John Aston, Mary Carney, Lois Carlson, Joe and Tripta Warfield, Ethel Ball, Kathleen O'Connor and Magda Vanek.

er Parks, Commissioner DiNanno reported the DPW completed clean up of Woodland, Polifly, Memorial and Miers Parks. In between leaf pickup and snow events, leaves were removed in the parks. He will be giving updates on the new playground on Central Avenue and toddler park at Depken Field with construction slated for early spring. Regarding the Swim Club parking lot, curb cuts and striping are planned. Regarding the Oldfield Avenue homes property, there is no schedule available from the developer.

TRANSPORTATION: Under Transportation, Commissioner Altobelli had no report.

RECREATION: Under Land Use, Commissioner Buckman reported in December there were 33 permits issued, fees collected were \$5,732.00. Under Property Maintenance, she reported there were 10 complaints of neighbor issues, with all resolved; six verbal warnings of property maintenance, vehicles without license plates in driveways, five summonses to a resident to repair various violations; four contractors were asked to remove signs on lawns; the building inspector was advised of an awning with no permit issued. Under Recreation, she reported there were 280 children registered in the Basketball program, as well as a traveling league. The Wrestling team hosted their first event against Lakeland and Ramsey Recreation. They have competed in three tournaments thus far, with three major tournaments to be hosted in February. Adult

programs are in progress. The Recreation Center is open Friday and Saturday evenings. A Battle of the Bands will take place there in early

AND RECREATION (CONT'D):

Senior Citizen activities calendar includes many programs. The Recreation Committee met and are looking into increased programming.

FIRE & SANITATION: Under Fire, Commissioner Gonzalez reported that on January 11, a special election was held to nominate a chief, 1st assistant chief, 2nd assistant chief and ambulance secretary, with a special Council meeting held on January 15 to swear in Chief Michael Ratkowski, 1st Assistant Chief Kevin Todd and 2nd Assistant Chief Richard Giarratano. Christopher Lisi who could not attend, will be sworn in as ambulance secretary at a later date. A fire call in Teterboro on January 17 brought out numerous mutual aid, with Chief Ratkowski in command and 2nd Assistant Chief Giarratano inside the building. Commissioner Gonzalez was on the scene and was happy to report there were no injuries. Under Streets, he reported a large stormwater catch basin at the dead-end of Lincoln Avenue that borders the Curtis-Wright property was repaired. Large potholes were repaired with two tons of asphalt used, which repairs are ongoing, and the tree crew removed some dead trees that were on the list. Under Sanitation, Commissioner Gonzalez reported the main sewer line running behind the high school on Oak Grove from LaSalle to Ottawa Avenues was video taped and submitted to the Borough Engineer. Also, the main sewer line on the 300 block of Madison Avenue was video taped in response to a homeowner's complaint, which confirmed the resident was responsible for the repairs to his lateral line. He continued that the DPW and Health Inspector will start an inspection program to monitor the Borough's grease trap ordinance, including fast food establishments along Route 17 and eateries throughout the town.

REPORT:

attended The Planning Board Reorganization Meeting

attended the Junior Football Celebration at The Fiesta – over 400 attended. I congratulated all on behalf of the entire Council

attended the Leisure Club meeting; I also attended The Reorganization Meeting of the Library Board and the Health Department Reorganization Meeting.

attended the NJ League of Municipalities Special Session for elected and newly elected officials from 8:30 am. To 4:30 pm with Council Members Buckman and Gonzalez. It was very informative and valuable. We were given budget updates and told of the new CAPS

imposed on local government and information given by the Dept. of Community Affairs. And Labor Attorney for the League gave us an overview of binding arbitration.

REPORT (cont'd):

attended Gov. Corzine's" Town Meeting "Save Our State" was the topic and his plan presented to create the Public Benefits Corp. that will control the Turnpike and Parkway along with some other toll roads. The meeting was held at the John Grieco Auditorium in Hackensack.

at the special Council Meeting I was invited to speak at the DARE Graduation held in the H.H.H.S. Gym at 7 pm. I congratulated all of the students on behalf of the Council. Lt. Sean Mullins and all of the DARE Officers are to be commended for their outstanding work with the children under the supervision of Chief Colaneri.

attended the Community Awareness - Access For All Committee Meeting.

attended the NJ League of Municipalities Legislative Session in Trenton which began at 9 am and ended at 1 pm. The Governor was invited to explain and answer questions pertaining to his plan to create the new corporation to oversee the Turnpike and Parkway.

Environmental Commissioner and DCA Commissioner spoke. After that the speakers included Senators Ron Rice, Kevin O'Toole and John Adler along with Assembly Members Lou Greenwald, Bonnie Watson Coleman and Alex DeCroce, along with a couple of mayors.

to speak privately with a number of people including the Governor and the DCA Commissioner to set up future talks. Appropriations Chair Assembly Greenwald and I will also meet in the near future.

concerned about our local roads being impacted by the increased tolls and the lack of money to fix our roads and infrastructure.

On 1/19th The entire Research Committee met for the first time at 9 am in the Caucus Room with Tom Meli and Steve Pikowski as Co-Chairs and Pam Link as Secretary. Members included Bill Foley, Russell Lipari, Kathleen Dates, Ron Ellis, Carol Ann Minimi, John Baratta, and Mike Flynn. Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak was also in attendance. I stayed till I had to leave for my 10 am Library Commitment.

at the number of people who spoke with me that morning. The first of my Saturdays in the Library from 10 am to noon. On this day I was busy till 12:35 pm.

people to come to visit with me on matters of interest to them. I also bring my paperwork with me to fill any lulls in the visits. It was very informative and I was able to be of service.

REPORT (cont'd):

attended the Fire Department's Recognition Dinner. The Department honored the Chiefs and outgoing Chief Angelo Roccamo. I thank them for inviting and for a well organized event.

the formal meetings and events I continue to meet with The Borough Clerk and the Borough Administrator and all heads of departments. I am pleased with all of the work in progress.

one for being so cooperative and productive.”

MESS:

MENTS:

appointed a committee to devise a new anti-nepotism ordinance which included Councilman Altobelli, Councilwoman Buckman and Councilman DiPisa, Library Director Mimi Hui, Police Chief Colaneri, DPW Supt. Spindler, Borough Clerk Sees, Borough Administrator Kronyak and Borough Attorney Chandless.

Altobelli asked if there was a schedule for the committee to meet and if there was a chairperson. Mayor Heck appointed Councilman DiPisa. Councilman Altobelli questioned the perceived need to appoint this committee and was advised that it will be explained in the ordinance to be introduced tonight.

ended Appointments (*Italics Indicates Amended Appointment*):

Gilbert Hunt to Environmental/Transportation Commission - *3 Years*
Pam Link to Board of Health - *4 Years*
Mark DelCalzo to Board of Health - *4 Years*

n Saccomano questioned why when these individuals were already appointed and was told it was to correct the number of years.

by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman DiNanno and unanimously carried, the foregoing amended Appointments were approved.

IONS: None

AGENDA: 24. Raffle License for Corpus Christi Rosary Society

by Councilwoman Saccomano, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried, the forego

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- 25. Authorizing Professional Contract with Edward J. Trawinski as Planning Board Attorney for 2008
- 26. Authorizing Professional Contract with Cameron Arabi as I.T. Specialist for 2008
- 27. Burial Permits - Payment of Fees to State
- 28. Authorizing Redemption of Tax Title Certificate No. 90-5 for Block 74.2, Lot 17
- 29. Naming Chief of Police as 9-1-1 Coordinator

Altobelli questioned the rates for Resolutions No. 25 and 26.

strator Kronyak advised that his hourly rate was \$75.00 and that in the past the bid threshold of \$17,500 was not broken. In some instances hardware is purchased through him. Borough Attorney Chandless advised that Mr. Trawinski's rates did not change from last year, he is hired by the Planning Board, and payments to him are generally made through the applicants' escrow accounts.

by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried, the foregoing resolutions were approved. (Copies attached).

(S) ON INTRODUCTION:

NO. 2172:

VED that an Ordinance entitled: "AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL ORDINANCE NO. 2166 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" ADOPTED OVER THE VETO OF THE MAYOR ON DECEMBER

27, 2007." 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 February 12, 2008.

Altobelli questioned why the current ordinance could not be kept on the books until the committee met and a new ordinance was introduced. He was advised by the Borough Attorney that the present ordinance was fatally flawed and this would be discussed in further detail in closed session.

(S) ON INTRODUCTION (cont'd):

NO. 2172 (cont'd):

by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, with Councilwoman Saccomano, Councilman DiNanno and Councilman Altobelli voting Nay, and Mayor Heck breaking the tie of 3-3 by voting Yes, the foregoing Ordinance on Introduction was approved.

(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

opened the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2170. There being no one wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

NO. 2170:

MOVED that an Ordinance entitled: "**AN ORDINANCE TO DEFINE THOSE ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR WHOM MEDICAL BENEFITS SHALL BE NO LONGER PROVIDED BY THIS BOROUGH**" 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 in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights.

by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, with Councilwoman Saccomano, Councilman DiNanno and Councilman Altobelli voting Nay, and Mayor Heck breaking the tie of 3-3 by voting Yes, the foregoing Ordinance on Public Hearing was approved.

NO. 2171:

opened the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2171.

ice, 232 Passaic Avenue, urged the council to reject this as a liability issue, he didn't believe any public facility should be used for consumption of alcohol.

eli, 50 Central Avenue, a former Fire Commissioner who was involved in the process of developing this ordinance, explained that this was for special events of the Fire Department, that insurance was provided by the Borough, no claims were made in the past and procedures have been strictly enforced.

NO. 2171 (cont'd):

Fire Chief Richard Giarratana, 116 Springfield Avenue, was present for questions.

n Saccomano asked if there were there any issues to be addressed in the eight events that took place in 2007 and who was taking responsibility for 2008 and 2009. Chief Giarratana said there were incidents, and that the Chief, 1st Assistant Chief and 2nd Assistant Chief, whichever was present would be taking responsibility.

no one else wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

NO. 2171:

RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **"AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE V ENTITLED "CONSUMPTION IN PUBLIC" OF CHAPTER 84 ENTITLED "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, AS THE SAME HAS BEEN HITHERTO AMENDED 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 SO AS TO EXTEND THAT EXCEPTION UPON THE SAME TERMS AND CONDITIONS UNTIL DECEMBER 30, 2009"** 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.

by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Public Hearing was approved.

REPORTS FROM PUBLIC:

Invited anyone from the public wishing to speak to please come forward.

nenecz, 415 Jefferson Avenue, was curious about the fence in the Central Avenue parking lot. Mayor Heck asked Councilwoman Buckman to respond, a resident of Central Avenue, observed the solid fencing and she and her neighbors thought it a safety issue, met with the Administrator, Engineer and Police Chief and a change order would be made to install an open fencing.

Fire Chief Richard Giarratana, 116 Springfield Avenue, thanked the Mayor and Council for the passing of the Fire Department ordinance, reported that the

EXCLUS FROM PUBLIC (cont'd):

best morale and comradery, that everyone is tagged, the members are servers and exempt firemen, the Mayor and Fire Commissioners are invited as well.

No one else wishing to speak, the public portion was closed.

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE: 30. Litigation and Personnel

Proposed by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman DiNanno, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution to Close was accepted.

No further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

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 and correct copy of the Regular Meeting held on January 22, 2008.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk