

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 12/27/2011

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

**MINUTES**

**December 27, 2011**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, December 27, 2011 at 8:06 p.m. at Borough Hall, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey.

Acting Borough Clerk Michael Kronyak 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, 2011 and October 13, 2011 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 3, 2011 and October 13, 2011.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor Rose Heck, Councilwoman Sonya Buckman, Councilman David Gonzalez, Councilman John Dingertopadre, Councilman Russell A. Lipari

Absent: Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilwoman Pamela J. Link

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

**INVOCATION:** Mayor Heck gave the Invocation as follows:

*"The Collect.* 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, straight forward 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 be kind"

**COMMUNICATIONS:** 1) Memo from Chief Kevin Todd advising of departure of Firefighter Paul Elenio from HHFD Engine Company Two

## Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 12/27/2011

**COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):**

- 2) Letter from Hasbrouck Heights Police Department which includes list of approved 2012 Towing Applications

Mayor Heck asked for a motion to approve the correspondence which was made by Councilman Dingertopadre, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez and unanimously carried.

**PETITIONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** None

**BILLS:**

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$84,959.13 specified in the schedule hereto annexed, have been examined and approved by the Finance Commissioner, or his Deputy; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in the accounts listed for payment of the claims;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the claims be paid and checks be issued on the funds and accounts indicated on the attached schedule.

Signed Pamela J. Link  
Commissioner of Finance

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

**REPORTS:**

**POLICE AND LAND USE:** Under Police, Deputy Commissioner Gonzalez reported from a report submitted by Chief Michael Colaneri. A breakfast meeting was held with the school crossing guards. Mayor Heck, Commissioner DiPisa, Chief Colaneri and Lt. Archer spoke and thanked the guards for their service to our children. Det. Sgt. Rinke was honored by Bergen County Juvenile officers for his service as president. Chief Colaneri was thanked by the group for his support. Chief Colaneri and Patrolman Jeff Werner attended the Town Forum to answer questions about the Police Department. Patrolman Werner showed a video on police work in the community. The video was

## Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 12/27/2011

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

made by Patrolman Werner and Patrolman Bassett. Summons year to date were 2010: 4,052; 2011: 4,830, a significant increase.

**RECREATION & PARKS:** Under Recreation, Commissioner Buckman as submitted by Recreation Director Robert Brady reported that Adult Programs will continue to use the new gym during the winter months from 8:30 to 10 p.m. Youth Basketball has over 252 children registered, with games starting after the holiday break. Recreation Wrestling had 50 boys signing up for the team, with two major tournaments to be hosted in January. They will also be hosting a select team who wrestles a high school type line up against some of the toughest team competition in the Passaic County youth wrestling league. Traveling basketball teams for 5 through 8 grades will be competing against other towns. The wrestlastics program will be available again. The Recreation Center is open on most weekends. Recreation Softball will hold registration in mid January for girls 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades. We will be attending the FDU softball clinic on the campus of Fairleigh Dickinson in Teaneck. Under Parks, The Department of Public Works has removed leaves at Memorial, Polifly, Miers, and Firemen's Memorial Parks. The Circle and areas surrounding it have also had leaves removed. Throughout all the parks several branches have been removed as a result of damage from the October snow storm. Woodland Park cleanup will begin next week, weather permitting. As Library Liaison, Commissioner Buckman reported that the library replaced the old Dell computers with new laptops installed with Microsoft 10.

**STREETS, SANITATION & TRANSPORTATION:** Commissioner Gonzalez reported the Leaf Collection Program has been completed for the season. Anyone that still has leaves must bag them or put them in container and place them at the curb for collection on the same day as their Branch Day. The leaves and brush will be picked up by the Sanitation Department. Please check the Recycling Calendar for the schedule. The debris pile that contains over 4000 cubic yards of branches is being chipped this week. The pile is located at the DPW facility and will be taken off the premises. The entire snow plowing fleet is being checked by the DPW mechanics. Two trucks have had their dump bodies rebuilt and repaired by Steve Daus, DPW mechanic, due to rust and erosion. When a holiday occurs and there is no trash pickup, he asked residents to please follow the calendar and not put it out to the next scheduled day. The Recycling container will be in the Municipal parking lot on January 7, 2012 from 7 a.m. to 12 noon.

**FINANCE:** Mayor Heck read the following Finance Report: The current Fund cash balance at November 30 was \$4,741,929.69 and at October 31 was \$4,195,014.58 which represents an increase of \$546,915.11. The entire balance was invested and earning approximately 0.35%. Cash receipts for the month of November totaled \$4,590,890.05 of which \$4,276,849.25 was for Current Taxes, \$23,427.00 was Prepaid 2012 Taxes, \$181,202.84 was State Aid and \$109,410.96 was Miscellaneous

## Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 12/27/2011

**FINANCE (cont'd):**

Revenues. Cash disbursements for the month of November totaled \$4,023,766.29 of which \$1,944,378.58 was for Local School Taxes, \$963,926.00 was for County Taxes, \$619,364.87 was for Salaries and \$496,096.84 was for Other Expenses. The 2012 budget process is well under way with the Finance Committee meeting on Tuesdays. Department Heads have returned 2012 budget request forms to the Finance officer. The date for introduction of the 2012 Municipal Budget has been extended from February 10 to March 9. The CFO will complete and submit the Annual Debt State which is due by January 31, 2012 and the Annual Financial Statement which is due by February 10, 2012.

**FIRE:** Commissioner Dingertopadre had no report.

**HEALTH:** Commissioner Lipari reported the following:

**Annual Dog Licenses**

The Board of Health would like to remind all dog owners that their 2011 dog license will expire on January 31, 2012. Annual renewal notices will be mailed on December 31, 2011. To renew your dog license, proof of a valid rabies vaccine must be submitted along with your application and payment. Dogs with immunizations, which will expire during 2012, will require a booster prior to obtaining a license. Please call the Health Dept. at (201) 288-1636 if you no longer have your dog. The Teterboro Animal Shelter will be offering free rabies vaccines to all Bergen County residents on Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 3:30 and 5:00 pm. Residents must bring your dog's current rabies certificate that shows the expiration date of the rabies vaccine.

**New Jersey Animal Rabies Cases**

The New Jersey Dept. of Health and Senior Services submitted a survey to all Municipalities showing there were 228 confirmed cases of rabies in the state from January through September 2011, with Bergen County having the highest number of confirmed rabid animals. Since the raccoon rabies variant entered the state in 1989, Cats have accounted for 90% of the domestic animal cases. Even though Hasbrouck Heights does not license cats the Board of Health is urging all owners to focus pet vaccination and animal control efforts with cats, as well as dogs.

**Health Consultation Program**

The Health Dept. provides a monthly Health Consultation Program on the fourth Thursday of each month by appointment only. Services include: Health History evaluation, blood pressure screening, height and weight measurements, individualized counseling and education about community and health resources with a public health nurse. To make an appointment please contact H.A.R. P. at 201-996-2038

## Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 12/27/2011

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Heck asked for a moment of silence for Josephine Greco, mother of Tony Greco and grandmother of Fire Department volunteers.

**Dec. 2, Friday at 3:30 p.m.** I met with Daisy Troop Leaders Cara Capasso-Murray's and Tara Eckert's Daisy Girl Scout Troop 4750. Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees and I hosted the event. The girls asked me individual questions about being the Mayor. We also viewed all the past mayors photographs in the hallway, noting that many of our Borough Streets are named for past mayors. It was a mutually enjoyable event.

**Dec. 3, Saturday,** Congratulated Councilman and Mrs. Justin DiPisa on the arrival that day of their grandchild Alexandria Carmen DiPisa. She is the first born child of Mark and Michelle DiPisa.

**Dec. 5, Monday, Noon** Attended the Leisure Club Holiday Luncheon held at the Fiesta in Wood-Ridge. This is the beginning of the second year term of President John Fitzen. I wished all Happy Holidays and invited them to attend our Town Forum and to also attend the Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 12 noon swearing in ceremonies of the newly elected officials, to be followed by Refreshments in the Senior Center.

**Dec. 6, Tuesday, 7 p.m.** Attended the Community Awareness, Access for all Committee. Councilwoman Pam Link also attended along with Recreation Director Rob Brady and a representative of the School District. Resident Chris Peters brought guests with her to make a presentation of a successful inclusive program she wanted Hasbrouck Heights to sponsor. An in-depth presentation was made and it was decided that an initial introduction would be pursued in 2012 with more information being made available at that time. Chris Peter was also invited by the Mayor to become a member of the CA-AFA Committee and she accepted.

**Dec. 7, Wednesday,** 7 pm Attended the Planning Board Meeting.

**Dec. 8, Thursday,** Met with Michael Kronyak to finalize Town Forum program to be presented that Saturday

**Dec. 10, Saturday, 10 a.m.,** I hosted a Town Forum with Council Members DiPisa, Link, Dingertopadre and Lipari also in attendance.

**6:30 p.m.** V.F.W. 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their building. I attended as did Council Members Justin DiPisa, Pam Link, John Dingertopadre and Russell Lipari.

**Dec. 12, Monday, Dec. 12,** Met with Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees who prepared the Certificates for my signature to be presented to the Championship Football Team and

## Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 12/27/2011

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

their Cheerleaders at the Council Meeting. Dec. 13, Tuesday. Reviewed the Agenda items.

**Dec. 13, Tuesday, Dec. 13,** I again contacted Hackensack University Medical Center about the possibility of using them as the Medical Director for our plans to hire Part Time EMT personnel for our Ambulance Corps.

**7 p.m.** Fire Commissioner John Dingertopadre, Borough Administrator and I met with Incoming Fire Chief Richard Giarratana, Incoming First Asst. Chief Patrick Hayes and Incoming Second Asst. Chief Angelo Roccamo. Several matters were on the agenda.

**8 pm.** Attended the Council Meeting. It was a wonderful celebration for the Champion Raiders Jr. Football Team and their Coach Joe Fadden along with their Cheerleaders and Cheerleading Coach Lisa Colaneri. I was honored to present awards to all with the assistance of Recreation Commissioner Sonya Buckman and Deputy Commissioner Justin DiPisa. We gave them out in two separate ceremonies that were attended by a full house of parents and family. Congratulations, and Applause greeted the children. The entire Borough is very proud of their accomplishments.

**Dec. 15, Thursday, 8:30 p.m.** Council Members Justin DiPisa, Pam Link, Russell Lipari and John Dingertopadre and I attended the special event sponsored by Dr. Mark Porto and the Board of Education Trustees to honor:

Kevin Condal – Recipient of the YMCA Scholar Athlete of the Year Award for 2011. He was represented by his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Condal.

Robert Brady – For Excellence in Coaching Track and Field for the 2010-2011 School Year

Lora Geftic – For Excellence as Advisor of the Pilot's Log

And Each Member of The Pilot's Log Staff – For Excellence in Journalism

I was privileged to present them with Borough of Hasbrouck Heights Certificates of Recognition and Achievements as well.

**Dec. 16, Friday, 7 p.m.** Participated in the Peace Light Ceremony held at Corpus Christi Church sponsored by Troop Pack 17. Den Leader Cindy Capozzi worked tirelessly to put this wonderful event together. John Hahn of Troop 15 in Glen Rock picked up the Peace Light at JFK Airport and brought it back to Corpus Christi after it had traveled 5,000 miles from Bethlehem. This is to be an annual event at Corpus Christi said Cindy. Fr. Ray Holmes and I both had the honor of speaking to the Cub Scouts about the Peace Light and how important it was to remember to cherish Peace in the world and especially in one's own community. My thanks to all for this memorable Event.

## Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 12/27/2011

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

**Dec. 17, Saturday 1 p.m.** I officiated at the Grand Opening of another new Business in Hasbrouck Heights. The Wine and Beer Emporium opened its doors on Route 17. Council Members DiPisa, Link, Dingertopadre and Lipari were also in attendance. We met Jay and Karl the owners of the store who had remodeled the entire area and spoke of future plans to add more businesses in that general area. I congratulated them on the beautiful building and wished them Good Luck.

That evening a special event was held at the V.F.W. in honor of the late Jim Hughes, whose untimely death brought sadness to both his family and many friends.

**Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>** Paid a last minute visit to Borough Hall, where I signed papers/checks and went over last minute details with Borough Clerk Ro Sees and Borough Administrator Mike Kronyak. I wished all a Merry Christmas and a wonderful holiday weekend.

Most of the that week I was busy as were so many Heights residents, baking, visiting with friends, and preparing for family dinners, including the purchase of last minute gifts. It seemed as if I was never finished food shopping and after 5 different days of that I decided that was enough.

I close my report with an invitation for all to attend the New Year's Day Council Meeting as Justin DiPisa, Pamela Link and I take our Oaths of Office. There will be refreshments and time to gather for some friendly visits after the ceremonies in the Senior Center.

And I can say, on behalf of all our departments, Thank God there were no Big Snow Storms Christmas Week and none in the forecast as we complete our New Year.

My wish for each and every one of us is a happy and Blessed, Healthy and Prosperous 2012.

See you all next year!

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 197. Authorizing Fire Department Percentages
  - 198. Authorizing 2012 Hotel Licenses
  - 199. Authorizing Ambulance Squad Percentages
  - 200. Authorizing Agreement with Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission as Health Enforcement Agency

## Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 12/27/2011

**CONSENT AGENDA (cont'd):**

201. Authorizing Agreement with Health Awareness
202. Regional Program of Hackensack University Medical Center to Provide Public Health Nursing Services
203. Authorizing Contract with Bollinger Fowler Insurance Company for Prescription Drug Program for 2012
204. Authorizing Contract with Delta Dental Plan of New Jersey for 2012
205. Budget Appropriation Transfers
206. Authorizing Contract with Certain Approved State Contract Vendor for Purchase of One 4WD Crew Cab Truck for the Fire Department

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

**APPOINTMENTS:** Jarrett R. Cooke from Probationary Patrolman to Regular Patrolman effective December 17, 2011

On a motion by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Appointment was approved.

**RESIGNATIONS:** Paul Elenio from Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department Engine Company Two

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

**ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:** None

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2274:**

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights – 12/27/2011

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

**ORDINANCE No. 2274 (cont'd):**

Mayor Heck requested a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2274 which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre, and unanimously carried.

There being no one wishing to speak on this ordinance, Mayor Heck requested a motion to close the public hearing which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre and unanimously carried.

**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 2012 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AND THE POLICEMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LOCAL 102”** 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 Lipari seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Public Hearing was approved.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2275:**

Mayor Heck requested a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2275 which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre, and unanimously carried.

There being no one wishing to speak on this ordinance, Mayor Heck requested a motion to close the public hearing which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre and unanimously carried.

**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 2012”** 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 Gonzalez seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Public Hearing was approved.

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:**

Mayor Heck asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilwoman Buckman, and unanimously carried. Mayor Heck invited anyone from the public wishing to speak to please come forward.

Frank Platania, 5 Garrison Avenue, had attended a previous meeting and left some pictures. He presented more pictures Next to his is the hill on Washington Place and there are serious erosion problems and asked what is going to be done and when. Mr. Kronyak will forward them to the Borough Attorney. Mr. Chandless said Washington Place remains a paper street, he had put forward the question to the council whether to vacate it and that way the adjacent property owners can take control of it. Mayor Heck asked him to explain this exactly. He continued that this is a street laid out in the early filed maps when the town was first developed. The borough never accepted it because it could not be used as a street. Essentially it is an unused public right of way each half of which belongs to the adjacent property owner. It is not open and public. It was reserved by the original owners of the property for the purposes of a street but never accepted by the municipality. So as a consequence the public has no rights in it. Mayor Heck asked who was responsible for growth of vegetation. Mr. Chandless said it would remain the adjacent property owners. That could be done by dedication of the street, which has often been done. Mayor Heck suggested Mr. Platania and Mr. Raguseo meet with the borough attorney informally so you can clear it up and what you want to do with the property. The borough does not have any responsibility. Mayor said that Mr. Spindler, Mr. Chandless and Mr. Kronyak should meet at the site with the property owners and explain their rights and responsibilities. Mr. Platania asked about responsibility.

Leonard Raguseo, 440 Washington Place, was confused. He is a resident of 30 years. The blueprint of his property line goes straight up the hill. Mayor Heck recommended he meet with the above named also, which could be tomorrow.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Heck asked for a motion to close the public portion which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre, and unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION TO CLOSE:**        206. Personnel and Litigation

Mayor Heck requested a motion to close for litigation and that there would be no action taken. On a motion by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Dingertopadre, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolution to Close was accepted. Mayor Heck said no formal action would be taken.

**ADJOURN TO SINE DIE:**

At 9:18 p.m. Mayor Heck requested a motion to adjourn which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilwoman Link and unanimously carried.

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 December 27, 2011.

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Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk