

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

January 24, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 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, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilwoman Sonya Buckman, Councilman David Gonzalez, Councilwoman Pamela J. Link, Councilman John Dingertopadre, Councilman Russell A. Lipari

Absent: None

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

INVOCATION: Councilwoman Buckman gave the Invocation as follows:

“Loving, heavenly Father, we come to you this hour asking for your blessing and help as we are gather together. We pray for guidance in the matters at hand and ask that you will clearly show us how to conduct our work with a spirit of joy and enthusiasm. Give us the desire to find ways to excel in our work, help us to work together and encourage each other to excellence. We ask that we would challenge each other to reach higher and farther to be the best we can be. We ask this in the name of the Lord, Jesus Christ, Amen.”

PRESENTATION: Certificates to HHSA Division 5 Champions: Challenge Training and Consulting

Mayor Heck, Recreation Commissioner Buckman and Deputy Recreation Commissioner Dingertopadre presented Certificates to the following team members: Killian Turner, T.K. Kasper, Gabriella Boccia, Dylan Van Ryn, Emily Perri, John Van

PRESENTATION (cont'd):

Dam, Kassandra Pinto, Peter Garifalos, Nicholas Valle, Nicholas Bua, Natalie Pinto, Danielle Pinto and Matthew Bruno. Coaches: Frank Pinto, Frank Bua and Kyle Kasper

PRESENTATION: Certificates to South Bergen Soccer League U12 Boys Champions: Heights Bar & Grille

Mayor Heck, Recreation Commissioner Buckman and Deputy Recreation Commissioner Dingertopadre presented Certificates to the following team members: Jeremy Bailey, Zachary Bailey, Nicholas Cali, Filip Checko, Tyler DeMicco, Shalom Dukhande, Jonathan Durham, Antonio Greco, Zachary Hauptman, Ronnye Hurtado, Jay Kapossy, Scott Ketschke, Marc Pagan, Anthony Palmer, Darin Porto, Leandro Pozo, Lucas Rexford and Aarav Supekar. Coaches: Ed Hauptman, Jim Bailey and Dave DeMicco.

PRESENTATION: Certificates to South Bergen Soccer League U12 Girls Champions: Bill O'Shea's Florist

Mayor Heck, Recreation Commissioner Buckman and Deputy Recreation Commissioner Dingertopadre presented Certificates to the following team members: Dana Bincoletto, Kate Bothe, Tori Buckman, Catherine Castellanos, Jacqueline DeLorenzo, Alyssa Demone, Janeth Fermin, Isabella Foley, Sophia Hein, Kelly Innis, Madeline Kalmowitz, Olivia Licini, Olivia Marinelli, Erin Murphy, Julia Murphy, Helen Nigro, Chelsea Peralta, Natalie Stefanelli, Courtney Summers, Sheridan Wheeler and Brianna Wynne. Coaches: Rob Bothe, Mike Marinelli, Francesco Licini, Dave Kalmowitz and Larry Nigro.

PRESENTATION: Certificates to South Bergen Soccer League U14 Girls Champions: Heights Pizzeria

Mayor Heck, Recreation Commissioner Buckman and Deputy Recreation Commissioner Dingertopadre presented Certificates to the following team members: Sarah Bailey, Hannah Christensen, Brianna Colletti, Amanda DeJulia, Jessica Gaffney, Jessica Gasparino, Daliah Jawabrah, Kayla Lisa, Sydni Masiello, Micah Nollara, Kate Palmieri, Erin Scannell, Destinee Silva, Victoria Vazzacchero, Rachel Weber, Melanie Wexler and Jacquelyn Zarrillo. Coaches: Frank Gasparino, Andrew Gaffney and Mike Christensen.

- COMMUNICATIONS:**
- 1) Exempted Transfer Notice by NextG Networks of NY
 - 2) 2012 Campaign Contribution Notice
 - 3) Memo from Fire Chief Richard Giarratana to appoint Joseph Benkovic as Mechanic of Ambulance 603 for 2012,

COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):

as the name of Anthony Viso was submitted in error

4) Memo from Fire Chief Richard Giarratana to appoint Joseph DeSiervo to serve as Secretary of Hook and Ladder Company One for 2012, as name of Steven Pell was submitted in error.

5) Memo from N. Melfi regarding Rebuilding Together Bergen County who will be doing home renovations and repairs for people who are low income, elderly or disabled and asking that any permit fees which may be needed for this project be waived.

Mayor Heck asked if anyone wished to have any item read into the record. Item #5 was requested to be read (copy attached). As this required approval, Mayor Heck asked for a motion to approve waiving the permit fees as requested, which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilwoman Buckman, and unanimously carried.

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

PETITIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *(October 11, 2011 Regular Meeting)*

Mayor Heck asked for a motion to approve the foregoing Minutes which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman DiPisa and unanimously carried

BILLS:

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$615,373.84 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

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BILLS (cont'd):

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

REPORTS:

POLICE: Under Police, Commissioner DiPisa gave the statistics for the month of December and year to date on Parking and Moving Violations. In an effort to boost performance and productivity, Patrols started a trial program of 12-hour shifts which will be reviewed on a monthly basis. The new LED blinking Stop signs have been issued to crossing guards to increase visibility and safety for the children paid for by Safe Routes to Schools grants. Lt. Thomas Archer will be retiring on February 1 and was wished well. Residents are reminded to clear sidewalks after each snowfall and not to throw snow into the street. The Detective Bureau participated in a Task Force tracking of known burglars, with 2 burglars arrested.

RECREATION: Under Recreation, Commissioner Buckman as submitted by Recreation Director Robert Brady reported the Men's Over 30 Basketball and Adult Coed Volleyball will continue to use the new gym at the high school during the winter months. The Youth Basketball League has over 250 children and are in their 4th week of games. Recreation wrestling now has over 55 boys in the program. There will be two major tournaments, the HH Recreational Invitational on February 5 and the Andy Feintuch Twin County District 5 Championship on February 19. Senior programs are ongoing and the Recreation Center is open most weekends. Recreation Softball registration is today, January 24 for 3rd-8th grade girls. As Library liaison, she reported from 2001 to 2011 there was an increase in circulation of over 40,000 pieces. In December 2011 thirty-two new library cards, 24 adult and 8 children, were issued. Total HH library card holders are 5,487. Total circulation of materials to date shows an increase of 2% from last year.

FIRE, STREETS & SANITATION: Commissioner Gonzalez gave the activity report as submitted by EMT Liz Waring from 1/1/12 thru 1/15/12: 12 fire calls, 6 non-fire emergency calls and 57 EMS calls. He continued that during the holiday season, the Fire Department participated in the annual holiday parade and tree lighting as well as Santa around town. He reminded residents to replace any old batteries in all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Any carbon monoxide detector over five years old should be replaced with a new one. The shelf of carbon monoxide detectors and smoke detectors is around five years. He advised that if a carbon monoxide detector should go off, that you evacuate the home immediately and call the Police Desk who will notify the Fire Department. The Hook and Ladder Truck is back at headquarters. Captain Brian Morrow along with members of the ladder company have inspected the truck to insure it is in working order and tested before putting it back in service. As of yesterday, it is in service.

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STREETS & SANITATION:

Under Streets & Sanitation, he reported the snow storm this Saturday brought out the DPW salt trucks early that day followed by the entire plowing fleet later in the morning. The snow fall approached the five inch mark before the event was over. Bergen County was billed for the plowing of county roads within the borough's boundaries. Several repairs were made on DPW equipment during the plowing operation due to breakdowns. Other trucks covered the snow plowing routes during repair down time and some trucks had to cover the routes alone causing double-duty which means plowing the center of the roadway and then plowing the curb line. A new piece of equipment called a "Grapple Bucket" was received at the DPW. This type of bucket is outfitted to attach to a front end loader. It will increase efficiency during leaf season and storm damage debris removal.

FINANCE, SOCIAL SERVICES & WELFARE: Commissioner Link read the following Finance Report: The current Fund cash balance at December 31, 2011 was \$2,256,430.84 and at November 30, 2011 was \$4,741,929.69 which represents a decrease of \$2,485,498.85. The entire balance was invested and earning approximately 0.35%. Cash receipts for the month of December totaled \$803,188.60 of which \$187,132.53 was for Current Taxes, \$76,927.41 was Prepaid 2012 Taxes, \$47,754.25 was State Aid, \$187,943.25 was Interfunds and \$303,431.16 was Miscellaneous Revenues. Cash disbursements for the month of December totaled \$3,288,687.45 of which \$1,944,378.60 was for Local School Taxes, \$955,644.34 was for Salaries and \$388,664.51 was for Other Expenses. She continued that the process of formulating the 2012 Municipal Budget is under way. The CFO submitted the Annual Debt Statement which indicates that the Borough's net debt at 12/31/11 was \$8,872,118.00 and at 12/31/10 was \$9,180,718.00, a reduction of \$308,600.00. The Percent of Net Debt to Equalized Valuation is 0.48% which is well below the 3.5% permitted by statute. The CFO is working on the Annual Financial Statement which is due by February 10, 2012. The 2012 Budget Introduction Date has been extended until March 9 in order to accommodate the planned February 21 presentation of the Governor's budget.

Under Social Services, Commissioner Link reported the food pantry is open on Monday mornings from 9am-11am for Hasbrouck Heights residents in need. Anyone in need that has to register can do so with Robert Brady by calling (201) 288-4143. During the month of January the pantry helped over 47 residents in need. Thank you to the generous volunteers that help stock and supervise the food pantry, as well as the following donors: The Pertuz Family, Tom Corcoran, Mrs. McGill, Arlene Carreau, Josephine McClean, Colleen Leddy, Ana Martinez, Women's Bible Baptist Church, Terri Rista, Mark Cricco, Frank DePalma, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Gumbrecht Family, Theresa Call, Vicki Grunski, Dave Macpherson, Irene Tim, Donna Boyd, Marie Vecchi, Euclid Masonic Lodge, The Quatrone Family, Gina DeFlorio, Barbara DeNarco, Lincoln School PTA, Joann Rosetti, Connie Margagliano, Karen Janowski, Mr. LeConte,

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SOCIAL SERVICES (cont'd):

Mr. & Mrs. Osowski, Kathy Dulhagen, The McGrath Family, Mr. & Mrs Kinsley, Jack Ball, Ms. Hand, ReMax Trading Places, John Tamborini, Debbie Weiner, United Methodist Church, Dave Jackson, Patrick McGraff, Dave Gonzalez, Mr. Ron Ellis, and Justin Watrel. If anyone is interested in donating food items here are some ideas: canned fruit, juices, paper products, all kinds of soaps and cleaning products, shampoo, toiletries, jelly, coffee, tea, powdered milk, and snacks. Please call the Recreation office at (201) 288 4143 or the Borough Clerk's office at (201) 288-0195 if you have any questions.

PARKS, PUBLIC FACILITIES & TRANSPORTATION: Under Parks, Commissioner Dingertopadre reported Woodland Park has been cleared of all leaves and branches as well as all other parks throughout the town. The Woodland Park sign at the Cleveland Avenue entrance was damaged by the storm in October. It will be repaired and reset by the springtime. At Borough Hall, the DPW kept the parking lots and sidewalks clear during the snow storm to allow the Library to open on Saturday. All other public facilities, sidewalks, and parking lots were cleared.

HEALTH & LAND USE : Commissioner Lipari read a report prepared by Board of Health Secretary Lori French:

Possible Changes to Marriage and Civil Union Licenses

Bill No. A-4366 is proposing a number of changes to the process of obtaining a marriage license; this bill will soon come to a vote in the State Senate. The purpose of this bill is to allow New Jersey residents to apply for a marriage or civil union license in the municipality in New Jersey where the ceremony will take place. Currently, they apply in the municipality that they reside. Another change being proposed is when an applicant applies for a marriage license the 72-hour waiting period be dissolved so that the license can be issued immediately. Along with these possible changes, a couple may apply for an annulment within 30 days of the marriage ceremony, as long as either party request so. An additional change is the application fee; the fee for a marriage license would change from \$28.00 to \$60.00. Currently \$25.00 is allocated to the General Fund of the State and \$3.00 is entitled to the Municipality. The new fee of \$60.00 shall be distributed; \$22.00 to the General Fund of the State and \$30.00 will be allocated to the State Department of Human Services. Leaving the balance of \$8.00 to the Municipality. The Registrar's Association of New Jersey feels the split is very unfair, considering the licensing officer in each municipality is doing the labor. A letter from the Registrars' Association has been submitted to Gov. Christie on January 11, 2012 explaining their concerns.

Licensing Cats

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services submitted a report to the

HEALTH (cont'd):

Board of Health explaining the recommendation that all cats, including free-roaming cats, be kept currently vaccinated against rabies. And local health departments and animal control are urged to focus pet vaccination and animal control efforts on cats, as well as dogs. The Hasbrouck Heights Board of Health is currently in discussion about the possibility to include cats with the annual dog license ordinance. According to the states report during 2011 there have been more cats and groundhogs found to be positive for rabies then in 2010. With Bergen and Burlington Counties having the highest number of confirmed cases of rabid animals in 2011 the Board of Health believes this is a topic worthy of discussion.

Health Fair

The Hasbrouck Heights Health Department is pleased to announce this years Health Fair will be on Saturday, April 28, 2012, from 11 am to 2 pm in the Senior Center at 320 Boulevard. There will be plenty of valuable health information along with prizes, giveaways and samples. Refreshments will also be served by Care-One at Wellington from Hackensack.

AARP

The Health Dept. will be sponsoring an AARP Safe Driver Program on February 21st and 23rd from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Community Room located at 320 Boulevard. This program is open to drivers of all ages. Completion of the course, which is renewable every three years, will allow a two point reduction from your driver's license and a five percent deduction on car insurance. The cost of the program is \$12 for members and \$14 for non-members of AARP. For further information please call the Has. Hts. Health Dept. at 201-288-1636

Dog Licenses

The Board of Health would like to remind all dog owners that their 2011 dog license will expire on January 31st, 2012 and must be renewed during the month of January. A 2012 dog license for an altered dog is \$12.00 and \$15.00 for a non-altered dog. Proof of valid rabies immunization must be submitted with payment. Dogs with immunizations, which will expire during the year of 2012, will require a vaccine prior to obtaining a license. Please call (201) 288-1636 to advise the Health Department if you no longer have your pet.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Jan. 1, Swearing in of new term for Mayor and Council members Justin DiPisa and Pamela Link. Appointments made for New Year along with department reports given under Mayor's Annual Report. I have decided to change the date of giving the End-of-Year Reports to the second Meeting of January of the following year due to the length

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):

of time it takes for all of the appointments. This will be more conducive to people staying till the end of the meeting. So I will give the Mayor's End of the Year Summary in brief and the Council Members will give the department reports in 2013.

Jan. 3, Met with Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak and Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees. Went over a 22 point Agenda to prepare for the New Year.

That evening at 7 p.m. I attended along with Council Members Pam Link and John Dingertopadre the reorganization meeting of Community Awareness Access For All Meeting in the Caucus Room. Maryann Pisani was elected Chair for 2012 and new member Chris Peters was there for her first meeting. Other members who attended were Outgoing Chair Dorothy McCarthy who was thanked for all of her good work in 2011; Aimee McCarthy, Patrick McCarthy and Brenda Colaneri. Anyone interested in joining this group, which meets quarterly, is encouraged to contact me or any member of the CA-AFA.

Jan. 4, 7:30 pm I attended the Reorganization Meeting of the Planning Board. Henry Dobbelaar was re-elected Chair and Andrea Bocker Vice-Chair. A Resolution was memorialized. Members present included Eric Mason, Dennis Nuzzo, Councilman Russell Lipari, Gerald Sternbach, Dorothy Bernice, Secretary; Handle, and Nicholas Melfi.

Jan. 7, 10 am Library Met with residents.

11 am Met with Fire Commissioner David Gonzalez and Deputy Commissioner Sonya Buckman, along with Fire Chiefs Richard Giarratana and Angelo Racco and Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak.

Jan. 10, 11:30 am Finance Committee Meeting with Chair Pamela Link, and Vice Chair Justin DiPisa and Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak.

7 p.m. Police Committee Meeting Met with Police Commissioner Justin DiPisa, and Deputy Commissioner David Gonzalez, Police Chief Michael Colaneri and Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak.

8 pm Council Meeting

Jan. 12, Thursday, 7 pm I attended the DARE Graduation along with Council Members Pamela Link, John Dingertopadre and Russell Lipari, Police Chief Michael Colaneri, Capt. Jack DeLorenzo and Sgt. Joseph Rinke, the D.A.R.E Instructor.

MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd):

Friday, Jan. 13, Friday, 10:30 am I attended the Requiem Mass for Assembly Minority Leader Alex DeCroce who passed away Monday Night after the final Meeting of the 2010-2011 Assembly Term.

I asked Councilman Justin DiPisa to attend the Euclid and Lincoln School Anti Drug End of Week Rallies held at both those schools since I would be out of town for the funeral services. Thank you Justin.

Saturday, Jan. 14, 10 –Noon. Was at the Library to meet with Residents.

Sunday, Jan. 15, 9:30 am: I attended the Memorial Service for former Council Member Harry Maisch III held at the First United Methodist Church. The service was very well attended with standing room only in the church. Councilwoman Pam Link and Councilman Justin DiPisa were also in attendance.

Jan. 17, Tuesday, 11:30 am: I attended the Finance Meeting with Chair Pam Link and Vice Chair Justin DiPisa along with Borough Administrator/Finance Officer Michael Kronyak. Mike gave us an overview of the end of 2011 finances and we discussed new laws impacting our 2012 budget.

Jan. 18, Wednesday, 7 p.m., I met with Library Board Member for the Reorganization. I officiated at the Swearing-In Ceremony prior to the Board Meeting. Lisa Traina was re-elected President and Pat Link Secretary.

Jan. 20, Friday, 1 pm Met with Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees and Finance Officer Michael Kronyak. We briefly reviewed some matters to be placed on the next Council Agenda.

Jan. 23, Monday, 7 pm, I attended the Reorganization of the Mayor's Community Celebrations Committee. Pat Link outgoing Chair, asked for nominations. Vice Chair Rosemary Willard is the new Chair and Dennis Nuzzo Vice Chair. New Members Guy Bernice and Elizabeth Fass were added to the Committee. I appointed Pat Link as my Liaison to the Committee and commended her for her outstanding work as chair. Event Chairs and Co-Chairs volunteered. Discussion took place as to additions to the traditional events and opening participation to the children who are not residents but who attend school in Hasbrouck Heights. Both were unanimously approved.

Saturdays, I continue to meet with Residents from 10 am till noon in the Library.

This concludes my report

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NEW BUSINESS:

- CONSENT AGENDA:**
27. Approval of 2011/2012 Licenses for Commercial Sale of Certain Motor Vehicles
 28. Raffle License for Corpus Christi Church
 29. Raffle License for PTSA Hasbrouck Heights HS
 30. Raffle License for Junior Woman's Club of Hasbrouck Heigh
 31. Authorizing Refund of Taxes Overpaid due to Tax Court Judgment for Block 45, L 39
 32. Authorizing Award of Professional Services Contract to AccuTech Environmental Services, Inc. for Remedial Work at DPW Garage
 33. Authorizing of Contract for E-Tickets

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

APPOINTMENTS: Guy Bernice to Mayor's Committee on Community Celebrations

Joseph Benkovic as Fire Department Mechanic of Ambulance 603 for 2012 as the name of Anthony Viso was submitted in error

Joseph DeSiervo as Fire Department Secretary of Hook and Ladder Company One for 2012 as the name of Steven Pell was submitted in error

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

RESIGNATIONS: None

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

Mayor Heck asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public which was made by

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC (cont'd):

Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Lipari, and unanimously carried. Mayor Heck invited anyone from the public wishing to speak to please come forward.

Richard Robitaille, 148 Roosevelt Avenue, said that on Jan. 11, 2012, and had a police report to back up the story, his daughter and her track team were running down the Boulevard as they do many days. When they approached LaSalle Avenue, a dog on a 20 foot retractable leash ran into the street and bit his daughter and knocked her to the ground. The team and the coach were there and the Police were called. His daughter is on antibiotics and has a seven-inch laceration. He went to the Police Department to ask what was being done and was told the dog was under quarantine for 10 days. He read the ordinances and there is nothing else they can do. Borough Attorney Chandless came forward and said there is a provision where each municipality will appoint an officer in respect to "dangerous animals," which he thought was about 20 years old. The last appointee he recalled was former Police Chief Buddy Baker. It was thought that although on a leash, the dog was not under control. Mayor Heck asked Captain Cronin and Borough Attorney Chandless to review that and report back to the Mayor and Council.

Jim DiDonato, 221 Pasadena Avenue, was wondering if Pasadena has become a truck route, with as many as six dump trucks coming down every day. Borough Attorney Chandless thought a weight limit was put on those streets many years ago. It will be checked out by the Traffic Bureau. If the restriction still applies, then something can be done about it.

Dragan Blanusa, 127 Division Avenue, a year ago asked when the Cleveland and Boulevard light will be fixed. He was told that PSEG fixes lights and that a list of about 40 lights throughout town was sent to them. Mr. Kronyak will follow up. He noticed the Minutes on the website is up to November – that's a good job. He presented a picture of Division Avenue, prep work was not done correctly. He was advised to talk to Mr. Spindler tonight. Mr. Blanusa then questioned if the city pass an ordinance permitting cell towers. Borough Attorney Chandless said there is an ordinance which permits under very limited conditions commercial cell towers in very restricted districts. Site Plan and variances are necessary and there are no pending applications he knows of. Mr. Blanusa referred to the corner of Division and Burton which was approved by the Planning Board several years ago. He questioned if Smith was collecting pension from the town. Mr. Chandless said he made application on his own to the NJ Pension Board, the borough was not involved. It was strictly between himself, his union and the Pension system. The status is subject to that contract.

