

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

**MINUTES**

**December 11, 2012**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on December 11, 2012 at 8:17 p.m. at Borough Hall, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ.

Mayor Heck 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 3, 2012 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 3, 2012.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor Rose Heck, Councilman Justin A. DiPisa, Councilwoman Sonya Buckman, Councilman David Gonzalez, Councilwoman Pamela J. Link, Councilman Russell A. Lipari

Absent: Councilman John Dingertopadre

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

**INVOCATION:** The Invocation was given by Councilman Gonzalez which was as follows:

“A Soldier’s Silent Night

’Twas the night before Christmas, He lived all alone, In a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.  
I had come down the chimney with presents to give, And to see just who in this home did live.  
I looked all about, a strange sight I did see, No tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.  
No stocking by mantle, just boots filled with sand, On the wall hung pictures of far distant lands.  
With medals and badges, awards of all kinds, A sober thought came through my mind.  
For this house was different, it was dark and dreary, I found the home of a soldier, once I could see clearly.  
The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone, Curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home.  
The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder, Not how I pictured a United States Soldier.  
Was this the hero of whom I’d just read? Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?  
I realized the families that I saw this night, owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.  
Soon round the world, the children would play, and grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas day.  
They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year, because of the soldiers, like the one lying here.  
I couldn’t help wonder how many lay alone, on a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home.  
The very thought brought a tear to my eye, I dropped to my knees and started to cry;  
The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice, “Santa don’t cry, this life is my choice;

**INVOCATION (cont'd):**

I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more, my life is my God, my country, my corps."  
The soldier rolled over and drifted to sleep, I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.  
I kept watch for hours, so silent and still and we both shivered from the cold night's chill.  
I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark night, this guardian of honor so willing to fight.  
Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice soft and pure, whispered,  
"Carry on Santa, it's Christmas Day, all is secure. One look at my watch, and I knew he was right.  
"Merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night."

- COMMUNICATIONS:**
- 1) Thank you note to Mayor and Council for their support in the Tree Lighting Ceremony from the Mayor's Celebrations Committee
  - 2) Copy of letter to NJ DOT Commissioner James Simpson from Senator Robert Gordon, Assemblywoman Connie Wagner and Assemblyman Timothy Eustace supporting Borough's application for funding of the Boulevard Streetscape Project and Franklin Avenue Improvement Project
  - 3) Copy of PSEG Application for Modified Freshwater Wetlands Statewide General Permit for Maintenance and Installation Electric Distribution Lines in Public Rights-of-way
  - 4) Letter from Hasbrouck Heights Police Department which includes list of approved 2013 Towing Applications

Mayor Heck asked if anyone wished to have any item read into the record. There being none, Mayor Heck requested a motion to accept the correspondence which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried.

**PETITIONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *(September 25, 2012 Work Session, November 2012 Work Session and November 27, 2012 Regular Meeting)*

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the aforementioned Minutes which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilwoman Link and unanimously carried.

**BILLS:**

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$2,366,350.57 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.

/s/ Councilwoman Pamela J. Link  
Commissioner of Finance

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

174. Payroll
175. Dog Licenses - Payment of Fees to State
176. Authorizing Refund of Taxes Overpaid due to a Tax Court Judgment for Block 54, Lot 33 for 2010, 2011 and 2012
177. Authorizing Refund of Taxes Overpaid due to a Tax Court Judgment for Block 30, Lot, owned by FAO Hasbrouck Heights LLC, 169 Washington Place, for 2010 and 2011
178. Authorizing Refund of Overpaid Taxes for Block 163, Lot 6, owned by Christie Heights Assoc. LLC, 10 Hasbrouck Avenue, for 2010 and 2011
179. Authorizing Mutual Aid Agreement with South Bergen Fire Chiefs Association for 2013
180. Authorizing Payment to Former Firemen for 25 Years of Service
181. Authorizing Fire Department Percentages

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

182. Authorizing Ambulance Squad Percentages

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

**RESIGNATIONS:** Dr. Gerald Sternbach from Hasbrouck Heights Planning Board

On a motion by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resignation was accepted with regret.

**ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2292:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$55,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACQUISITION AND UPGRADE OF RADIO EQUIPMENT FOR THE USE OF THE POLICE, FIRE AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENTS OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AND FURTHER TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCING OF THE COST THEREOF IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL BOND LAW BY THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OR NOTES NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF \$52,000.00”** as 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, 2012.

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

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2291:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:9-154.6 GRANTING TENURE TO WILLIAM SPINDLER IN HIS POSITION AS SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS** 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.

Mayor Heck requested a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2291 which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, 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 DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2291 which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried.

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:**

Mayor Heck requested a motion to open the meeting to the public which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried.

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

**RECESS FOR WORK SESSION:**

Mayor Heck asked for a recess of three minutes before the meeting resumed to work session to which all members agreed.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Lipari, 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 Mayor and Council Meeting held on December 11, 2012.

---

Rose Marie Sees  
Borough Clerk