

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

July 10, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on July 10, 2012 at 8:04 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 Lipari which was as follows:

“Lord we are meeting today to conduct matters of business. Guide our hearts and our minds in the spirit of fairness, right thought and speech. Impart your supreme wisdom upon our activities so that our affairs may reach a successful conclusion. Thank you for being our source of guidance today. Amen.”

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) Thank you from Rebecca Ratkowski, Mary B. Quigg Scholarship Recipient
- 2) Notice of Bergen County Annual Senior Citizens Picnic on Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2012 - Location changed to Overpeck County Park
- 3) Notice to Public Service Electric and Gas Company

COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):

Customers Notice of Filing for Approval of changes in its RGGI Recovery charges and changes in tariffs

4) Notice from U.S. Postal Service re: Defensive Driving; Safety Around Your Vehicle

5) Letter to Mayor Heck from N.J. Dept. of Transportation advising that work will begin this summer on the Route 17 Northbound and Southbound Preventative Maintenance Resurfacing Project

6) Letter from Senator Loretta Weinberg re: S1451 and S1452 Bills which revise Open Public Meetings Act and Open Public Records Act

7) Letter from Ken Job re: Sewer Emergency Rt. 17

8) Letter from Planning Board Attorney Joseph Rotolo re: Ordinance No. 2283

Mayor Heck asked if anyone wished to have any item read into the record. Items #5, 6 and 7 were requested to be read into the record (Copy attached). Mayor Heck requested a motion to accept the correspondence which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

PETITIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *(May 22, 2012 Regular Meeting and Youth Week Meeting)*

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

BILLS:

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$2,667,033.60 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;

BILLS (cont'd):

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:**
- 119. Payroll
 - 120. Authorizing a Professional Contract with Thomas B. Hanrahan, Esq. as Special Labor Attorney
 - 121. Authorizing Raffle License for Hackensack Riverkeeper
 - 122. Authorizing New Check for Refund of Taxes Overpaid due to a Tax Court Judgment for Block 184, Lot 16, 155 State Highway 17
 - 123. Authorizing Redemption of Tax Title Lien #2009-0016 for Block 148, Lot 40, 76 Ottawa Avenue
 - 124. Authorizing Refund of Taxes Overpaid due to a Tax Court Judgment for Block 13, Lot 79, 177 Oak Grove Avenue
 - 125. Authorizing a New Police Examination for Candidates for Appointment to the Police Department
 - 126. Dog Licenses - Payment of Fees to State
 - 127. Burial Permits - Payment of Fees to State
 - 128. Marriage/Civil Union Licenses - Payment of Fees to State
 - 129. Authorizing an Exigency Resolution for Repairs to a Sewer Collapse on Route 17 South

CONSENT AGENDA (cont'd):

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

APPOINTMENTS: None

RESIGNATIONS: Robert F. Corso from the Hasbrouck Heights Board of Health

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

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2285:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$425,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF COOLIDGE AVENUE FOR ITS ENTIRE LENGTH INCLUDING THE REPLACEMENT OR REPAIR OF CERTAIN CURBS, SIDEWALKS, DRAINAGE FACILITIES AND OTHER NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$25,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND 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 \$400,000.00”** 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 July 24, 2012.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2286:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$75,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF AN IN-CAR VIDEO RECORDING SYSTEM FOR THE USE OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT 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 \$70,000.00”** 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(S) ON INTRODUCTION (cont'd):

ORDINANCE NO. 2286 (cont'd):

Ordinance to be held at the regular meeting of the Borough Council on July 24, 2012.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2287:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 55-1 ENTITLED "CREATION AND OFFICERS" OF CHAPTER 55 ENTITLED "POLICE DEPARTMENT" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO THAT THE "TABLE OF ORGANIZATION" CONFORMS TO THE CURRENT ORGANIZATION"** 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 July 24, 2012.

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

ORDINANCE(S) ON CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING:

ORDINANCE NO. 2283:

Mayor Heck requested a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2283 which was made by Councilman Lipari, 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 Lipari, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **"AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SUBSECTION K ENTITLED "SIDEWALK CAFES" OF §275-21 ENTITLED "REGULATIONS GOVERNING CERTAIN ACCESSORY STRUCTURES AND USES" OF CHAPTER 275 ENTITLED "ZONING" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO PERMIT UNDER VARIOUS CERTAIN SPECIFIED CONDITIONS THE EXTENSION OF SUCH USES INTO THE PAVED IMPERVIOUS SIDEWALK AREAS OF PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY OF SIDE STREETS RUNNING A DISTANCE OF NO MORE THAN 50 FEET FROM THE BOULEVARD RIGHT-OF-WAY"** 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.

ORDINANCE(S) ON CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING:

ORDINANCE NO. 2283:

On a motion by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Lipari, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Continued Public Hearing was approved.

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

ORDINANCE NO. 2284:

Mayor Heck requested a motion to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2284 which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried.

Susan Collins, 247 Walter Avenue, appreciated the volunteers who were on the Fire Department but was confused on how the duties of the Associate Member would help the Fire Department. She was told by Chief Giarratana that it was to help the firefighters on call in various ways, and would be open to those who were not able to be full fledged members and who would not perform a firefighting function. She asked with all the current resignations, was the department adequately covered. Mayor Heck said the department can operate with a minimum of 25 people. Ms. Collins referred to percentages and members resigning. 1st Assistant Chief Hayes presented the following information, that there were 56 members at the beginning of this year, lost 18, two of whom moved out of state, three terminated who were offered a letter in January on noncompliance of bylaws, and three months later were sent a second letter. Seven members had little to no percentages and resigned and six left due to current issues with the department. Three current members are currently injured or sick, four are no shows, four for personal reasons and three with statuses unknown. There are 24 active members, including the Chiefs, performing the same number of calls and tasks. Recruitment is low, it involves 36 weeks at the Fire Academy. Ms. Collins continued to question the Associate Member duties and it was further explained.

Fire Commissioner Gonzalez said the department has a lot of integrity, that the current members are out to prove they can run with the amount of members they have.

Justin Watrel, 506 Collins Avenue, was a seven-year member of Engine One who said they do get out and work hard and are very dedicated.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: **“AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT**

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2284:

CHAPTER 28 ENTITLED "FIRE DEPARTMENT" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS SO AS TO INCLUDE THEREIN A NEW ARTICLE ENTITLED "ARTICLE VIII, ASSOCIATE MEMBERS CORPS" FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A BRANCH OF THAT DEPARTMENT WHICH MEMBERS OF WHOM WOULD PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN VARIOUS SPECIFIED WAYS" 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 Lipari, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Public Hearing was approved.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

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

Justin Watrel, 506 Collins Avenue, as Junior Friends of the Library chairman, invited all to attend "Freaky Friday Night," on July 13, 2012 at which time esteemed author Mary Rodgers, would be a guest speaker at the library at 3 p.m. followed by a book signing and the showing of the two versions of the movie "Freaky Friday."

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

RECESS FOR WORK SESSION:

Mayor Heck asked for a motion to recess for work session which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilwoman Buckman, and unanimously carried.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Gonzalez seconded by Councilman DiPisa, 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 July 10, 2012.

Rose Marie Sees
Borough Clerk