

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

**MINUTES**

**October 8, 2013**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on October 8, 2013 at 8:09 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 2, 2013 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 2, 2013.

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

Absent: None

**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 Justin A. DiPisa who thanked Our Lord for all of our blessings, most especially for the things that we take for granted every day, like our health and our family. He asked everyone to please take a moment of silence to think about something that they were personally thankful for today. Amen.

**PRESENTATION:**

Mayor Heck invited Recreation Sonya Buckman and Deputy Recreation Commissioner David Gonzalez to join her in extending Congratulations to Rob Brady as 2013 B.C. Girls Track and Field All-Bergen First Team Coach of the Year. He was presented a plaque which read: *“Congratulations to Rob Brady 2013 Coach of the Year Girls Track and Field All-Bergen First Team, Borough of Hasbrouck Heights Mayor Rose Heck and Council members Justin A. DiPisa, Sonya Buckman, David Gonzalez, Pamela J. Link, Russell A. Lipari and Christian Semenez.”*

**PRESENTATION:** Certificates were presented to the Winners of the 2013 New Jersey Sectional Championship for Outdoor Track: Felicia Cascone, Danielle Cannici, Irene Cedano, Danielle Dallara, Jenna DiGiacinto, Jillian DiGiacinto, Grace DeQuinzio, Kristen Delcalzo, Kristine Dugay, Maggie Filja, Daria Georgatos, Nicolette Goodman, Daniella Macera, Brooke McKnight, Tina Messery, Nina Messery, Shellie Nielsen, Amanda Ortiz, Stacey Porzi, Tiffany Rodrigues, Sarah Schmitt, Lauren Sembrano and Gabby Tuzzo. Coach Brady congratulated the team for their hard work and commitment.

- COMMUNICATIONS:**
- 1) Invitation to NJ Aviation Hall of Fame Regional Veterans Day Ceremony on November 10, 2013 at 11 a.m.
  - 2) Letter from William Dressel, Jr., of NJLM Regarding Constitutional Issues Involving Holiday Displays
  - 3) Letter from Fire Chief Richard Giarratana advising of resignation of James Halloran from Engine Company Two

Mayor Heck asked if anyone wished to have any item read into the record. Item #2 was requested. (Copy attached). Mayor Heck requested that this letter be referred to the Borough Attorney.

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

**BILLS:**

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$2,387,786.57 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/ Councilman Justin A. DiPisa  
Deputy Commissioner of Finance

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**      *(September 24, 2013 Regular Meeting)*

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the afore-mentioned Minutes which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 166. Payroll
- 167. Dog Licenses – Payment of Fees to State
- 168. Marriage/Civil Union Licenses - Payment of Fees to State
- 169. Burial Permits - Payment of Fees to State
- 170. Authorizing Grant Agreement with the County of Bergen for the purpose of using \$37,180.00 in 2013 Community Development Block Grant Funds for the Construction of Handicapped Accessible Curb Ramps
- 171. Construction - Payment of Fees to State
- 172. Authorizing Agreement with the American Red Cross to use Public Safety Building as an Emergency Shelter During a Disaster
- 173. Authorizing Agreement with the American Red Cross to use Hasbrouck Heights Borough Hall as an Emergency Shelter During a Disaster

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the foregoing Consent Agenda which was made by Councilman Semenez, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Former Mayor Ronald Jones to Community Awareness Access for All Committee as Founding Member

Councilman Justin A. DiPisa to Community Awareness Access for All Committee as Founding Member

**APPOINTMENTS (cont'd):**

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the foregoing Appointments which was made by Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilwoman Buckman, and unanimously carried.

Kristine Kelly to Board of Health

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the foregoing Appointment which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilman DiPisa, and unanimously carried with pleasure.

**RESIGNATIONS:** James Halloran from Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department Engine Company Two

Mayor Heck requested a motion to accept this Resignation which was made by Councilman Gonzalez and Councilwoman Buckman, and unanimously carried with regret.

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

**ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**UPDATE ON CURRENT 2013 BEST PRACTICES INVENTORY - CFO/Admin. Michael Kronyak**

Mr. Kronyak reported that back in 2011 a new program was put in place whereby municipalities had to answer what was called a Best Practices Checklist, a series of 50 questions, had to answer them all and based on a grading system, you could receive a penalty of losing your last State Aid payment which could be up to 5% of your total State Aid for the year. As the years progressed, the questions were changed, the way they were done. He just completed the Borough's and as part of the requirement of the Best Practices Checklist, he is required to report at a public meeting the status. It is due October 15. He answered the 50 questions and of that amount there were 41 yes, three no, and six not applicable and based on the scale a score of 94% was achieved. Based on this he will do the final review and authorization of the Mayor and Council he will submit it by October 15.

Mayor Heck asked if there were any questions. Councilman Semencz requested a copy. Mr. Kronyak said after submitting it online, he will provide a copy to everybody. Mayor Heck requested a motion which was made by Councilman Semencz, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

**Public Hearing on Borough's 2013 Bergen County Open Space Park Improvement and Development Grant Application - Improvements to Playground at Woodland Park**

Mayor Heck requested a motion to open the public hearing on the above mentioned application which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

Mr. Kronyak reported this public hearing is a new requirement of the Open Space Trust Fund. Mayor Heck noted Rob Brady is the appointed representative for the Borough. The application is completed which is authorized by resolution. New this year a display ad must be advertised and have a public hearing. This application is for Improvements to the Playground at Woodland Park including park playground equipment upgrades and a request for \$100,000 is being requested. This is based on a dollar for dollar matching funds. However, the Borough will be matching \$150,000 as only the purchase of equipment is eligible for the match. This was approved on September 24 by resolution, he asked if anyone had any questions. There were none.

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

Mayor Heck requested a motion to accept the application which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilman Semencz and unanimously carried.

**MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:**

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

Lori Cintron, 164 Oldfield Avenue, was extremely disappointed and appalled that the gentlemen from PSEG wasn't here this evening. She said they were given 30 days. Mayor Heck interjected that she gave them 30 days to start their work, he said he would be back in 90 days. Mayor Heck said within one week he was on the job. Mrs. Cintron said he should have given the courtesy of a report.

John O'Donnell, 159 Oldfield Avenue, a 46-year resident, said that his was one of the last blocks to lose power, now they are the first. He had spoken with the tree company who told him it is a secondary line, that they were working on the major lines.

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

**WORK SESSION:**

Mayor Heck announced that the meeting would go right into the Work Session, there were no objections.

**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 Councilwoman Link, seconded by Councilman Semencz, 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 October 8, 2013.

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Rose Marie Sees  
Borough Clerk