

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights - Reorganization Meeting - January 1, 2015

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS
MINUTES - REORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 1, 2015

The Reorganization Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on January 1, 2015 at 12.00 p.m. at Borough Hall, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey.

The Oath of Office was administered to Councilman Justin A. DiPisa by Sons Mark DiPisa, Esq. and Robert DiPisa, Esq., with Son Michael DiPisa holding the Bible, and surrounded by their family.

The Oath of Office was Administered to Councilwoman Pamela J. Link by Mayor Rose Heck with Former Councilman Andrew Link III holding the Bible, and surrounded by their family.

Mayor Heck declared the 2015 Reorganization Meeting in session and Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees stated that the meeting complied with the Sunshine Law, due notice having been made to all members of the Council on December 8, 2014 and to The Observer, The Record and the Herald News on December 8, 2014.

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.

SINGING OF "GOD BLESS AMERICA: Tax Collector Conchita Parker led in the singing of "*God Bless America.*"

INVOCATION: The Invocation was offered by The Reverend Eric Dammann, Pastor of Bible Baptist Church.

OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS:

Mayor Heck administered the Oath of Office to Fire Chief Patrick Hayes, First Assistant Chief Angelo Roccamo and Second Assistant Chief Robert Knobloch with their families

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OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS (cont'd):

surrounding them and to all Fire Department Officers: Secretary, Justin Watrel; Treasurer, David Gumbrecht. Engine Company One: Captain, Robert Pietz, Lieutenant, Bernardo Valente; Secretary, Justin Watrel; Treasurer, Christian Semencz. Engine Company Two: Captain, David Gumbrecht; Secretary, Patrick Mucha; Treasurer, David Gumbrecht. Hook and Ladder Company One: Captain, Peter Kolodziej; Lieutenant, Jeffrey Rubino; Secretary, Andrew Waring; Treasurer, Gregory Rubino. Ambulance Squad: Captain, John Riordan; Lieutenant, Allison Saabye; Ambulance/Rescue Secretary, Rebecca Ratkowski. Rescue Squad: Lieutenant, Michael LeSane.

2015 BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Mayor Heck read the following list of Borough Council Committees:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Commissioner of Finance | Pamela J. Link |
| Deputy Commissioner of Finance | Justin A. DiPisa |
| Commissioner of Police | Justin A. DiPisa |
| Deputy Commissioner of Police | David Gonzalez |
| Commissioner of Fire, Streets & Sanitation | David Gonzalez |
| Deputy Commissioner of Fire, Streets & Sanitation | Russell A. Lipari |
| Commissioner of Recreation and Parks | Sonya Buckman |
| Deputy Commissioner of Recreation and Parks | Pamela J. Link |
| Commissioner of Social Services & Welfare | Pamela J. Link |
| Deputy Commissioner of Social Services & Welfare | Christian Semencz |
| Commissioner of Health & Land Use | Russell Lipari |
| Deputy Commissioner of Health & Land Use | Justin A. DiPisa |
| Commissioner of Public Facilities & Transportation | Christian Semencz |
| Deputy Commissioner Public Facilities & Transportation | Sonya Buckman |
| Senior Citizens Ombudsman | Russell Lipari |
| Juvenile Outreach Ombudsman | Sonya Buckman |
| Library Liaison | Sonya Buckman |
| Drug Alliance Chairperson | Rose Heck |
| Municipal League Liaison | Rose Heck |
| Intergovernmental Services Liaison | Justin DiPisa |
| Chamber of Commerce Liaison | Sonya Buckman |

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2015 BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Community Awareness Access for All Liaison | Pamela J. Link |
| Environmental & Transportation Commission Liaison | David Gonzalez |
| DPW Mayor's Liaison | Garrett Pepe |
| Fire Dept. Mayor's Liaison | Tom Meli |
| Recreation Dept. Mayor's Liaison | Ron Kistner |
| Finance Committee – Mayor's Liaison | Steve Pikowski |
| TANAAC – Mayor's Liaison | Fritz Rethage |
| Mayor's Committee on Community Celebrations Liaison | Patricia Link |

RESOLUTIONS: 1. Request to Waive the Ruling in Delivery of Resolutions so they can be Read on Consent Agenda

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve Resolution #1 which was made by Councilman Lipari, seconded by Councilwoman Link, and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

2. Authorize CFO to Invest Idle Funds
3. Authorize CFO to Prepare Payrolls
4. Designate Official Depositories for Borough Funds - *Valley National Bank*
5. Authorize CFO to Pay Medical Insurance Premiums
6. Authorize Signatures for Borough Checks
7. Designate Official Newspaper - *The Observer, The Record, Herald News*
8. Set Meeting Dates for 2015 Council Meetings
9. Temporary Budget
10. Continuing Tax Settlement Committee
11. 2015 Debt Service Budget
12. Designating Number of Hours per Week as Minimum Requirement for Full Time Status
13. Authorizing Rate of Interest to be Charged for Nonpayment of Taxes
14. Adoption of By-Laws for 2015
15. Petty Cash Fund
16. Authorizing Re-Appointment of Joseph Jones As Municipal Court Judge for a Term of Three Years

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda which was made by Councilman DiPisa, seconded by Councilwoman Link, with Councilman Semencz voting No on Resolution #12, and otherwise unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolutions on Consent Agenda were approved (Resolutions attached).

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APPOINTMENTS: Joseph Jones as Municipal Court Judge

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

COUNCIL PRESIDENT NOMINATION:

Mayor Heck asked if there was a motion to nominate a council member as Council President for the year 2015. Councilman DiPisa made a motion to nominate Councilman Russell Lipari, which was seconded by Councilman Semenez, and was unanimously carried.

COUNCIL MEMBER TO PLANNING BOARD:

Mayor Heck asked if there was a nomination of a council member to the Planning Board. Councilwoman Link nominated Councilman Lipari as representative to the Planning Board which was seconded by Councilman Semenez and unanimously carried.

NOMINATION OF PROFESSIONAL APPOINTEES FOR 2015:

Mayor Heck made the following nominations and requested confirmation by the Council:

| POSITION | APPOINTEE | TERM |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Borough Engineer* | Kenneth G. B. Job, P.E. | 1 Year |
| Borough Auditor* | Paul Garbarini, Jr. | 1 Year |
| Bond Attorney* | Steven Rogut | 1 Year |
| Appraiser* | Ernest DelGuercio, Jr. | 1 Year |
| IT Specialist* | Cameron Arabi | 1 Year |
| Borough Planner* | Remington & Vernick | 1 Year |

*Subject to adoption of resolution by the Governing Body authorizing contract and further compliance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.

Mayor Heck requested a motion to approve the foregoing nominations which was made by Councilman Semenez, seconded by Councilman Lipari, and unanimously carried.

NOMINATIONS AND/OR APPOINTMENTS FOR 2015:

| POSITION | APPOINTEE | TERM |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Chief Fin. Off. | Michael J. Kronyak | Tenure |

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NOMINATIONS AND/OR APPOINTMENTS FOR 2015 (cont'd):

| POSITION | APPOINTEE | TERM |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Administrator/Treasurer/ Purchasing Agent/ Administrative Officer of Land Use | Michael J. Kronyak | 1 Year |
| Borough Clerk | Rose Marie Sees | Tenure |
| Supt. D.P.W. /Recycling Coord. | William Spindler | Tenure |
| Asst. Supt. D.P.W. | James Schneider | 1 Year |
| Construction Code Off./ Building Subcode Off. | Nicholas Melfi | Tenure |
| Prop. Maintenance/ Zoning Enforcement Off. | Nicholas Melfi | 1 Year |
| Property Maintenance Plumbing Inspector | Ronald Monteleone Frank Recanati | 1 Year 1 Year |
| Electric Sub-Code Official | Scott Pomarico | 4 Years |
| Fire Code Official | Joseph J. Cariddi | 1 Year |
| Hotel/Multiple Dwelling Inspector | Jesse D'Amore | 1 Year |
| Court Administrator | Susan Paul | Tenure |
| Public Defender | Thomas Mason | 1 Year |
| Public Defender Alt. | Mark Musella | 1 Year |
| Prosecutor | Rosario Presti | 1 Year |

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NOMINATIONS AND/OR APPOINTMENTS FOR 2015 (cont'd):

| POSITION | APPOINTEE | TERM |
|--|---------------------------|-------------|
| Prosecutor Alt. | Thomas Flynn | 1 Year |
| DPW Mayor's Liaison | Garrett R. Pepe | 1 Year |
| Fire Dept. Mayor's Liaison | Thomas E. Meli | 1 Year |
| Recreation Dept. Mayor's Liaison | Ron Kistner | 1 Year |
| Finance Committee - Mayor's Liaison | Steven Pikowski | 1 Year |
| TANAAC – Mayor's Liaison | Fritz Rethage | 1 Year |
| Mayor's Committee on Community Celebrations Liaison | Patricia Link | 1 Year |
| Borough Historian | Louise Davenport | 1 Year |
| Board of Health Secretary | Laura French | 1 Year |
| TANAAC Alternate | Fritz Rethage | 1 Year |
| Board of Health | Louis Castellitto | 4 Years |
| | Lisa Ratkowski | 4 Years |
| | Kathleen Kelly- Alt. 1 | 2 Years |
| | George Shihanian - Alt. 2 | 1 Year |
| Local Assistance Board | Mary Jones | 3 Years |
| | Mary Barone | 4 Years |
| General Assessment Board | Leslie Giaquinto | 3 Years |
| Ethical Standards Board | Karen McDowell | 5 Years |
| Planning Board | Mayor Rose Heck | Incumbency |
| Class II | Nicholas Melfi | 1 Year |
| Alt. Class II | Dorothy Bernice | 1 Year |
| | Henry P. Dobbelaar | 4 Years |
| | Marlene Verrastro | 4 Years |

NOMINATIONS AND/OR APPOINTMENTS FOR 2015 (cont'd):

| POSITION | APPOINTEE | TERM |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Alt. 1 | Dennis Nuzzo | 1 Year |
| Alt. 2 | James Zarrillo | 2 Years |
| Zoning Board | Anthony Niosi | 3 Years |
| | Andrew Heisey | 4 Years |
| | John Mazza | 3 Years |
| | Bernard Pigott | 2 Years |
| Alt. 1 | OPENING | 1 Year |
| Free Public Library | Mayor Rose Heck | Incumbency |
| | Mayor's Alt. Thomas Verrastro | 1 Year |
| | School Superintendent | Incumbency |
| | BOE Alt. Linda Mansfield | 1 Year |
| | Patricia Link | 5 Years |
| Rent Leveling Board | Ronald Monteleone | 1 Year |
| | William Pols | 1 Year |
| | Constance Militzia | 1 Year |
| | Patricia Tobin | 1 Year |
| | David Fanale | 1 Year |
| | Joyce Renshaw | 1 Year |
| Recreation Programs Advisory Committee | Mayor Rose Heck | 1 Year |
| | Council Commissioner | 1 Year |
| | John Baratta | 3 Years |
| | Alfonse DeAngelo | 3 Years |
| | Edward Gumbrecht | 3 Years |
| | Louis Vizzachero | 3 Years |
| Dir. Of Recreation | Robert Brady | 1 Year |
| Committee of Community Celebrations | Faith Armonaitis | 1 Year |
| | Peter Baron | 1 Year |
| | Dorothy Bernice | 1 Year |
| | Laura Baker | 1 Year |
| | Julie Canavatchel | 1 Year |
| | Cynthia Capozzi | 1 Year |
| | John Capozzi | 1 Year |

NOMINATIONS AND/OR APPOINTMENTS FOR 2015 (cont'd):

| POSITION | APPOINTEE | TERM |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| | Lois Carlson | 1 Year |
| | Juana DiBisceglie | 1 Year |
| | Elizabeth Fass | 1 Year |
| | Donna Gasser | 1 Year |
| | Ronnell Kearns | 1 Year |
| | Teresa L. Sterlacci-Kyritz | 1 Year |
| | Robert LaMorte | 1 Year |
| | Maryann Latona-Rosales | 1 Year |
| | Patricia Link | 1 Year |
| | Lisa Mason | 1 Year |
| | Dennis Nuzzo | 1 Year |
| | Jackie Nuzzo | 1 Year |
| | Bernard Pigott | 1 Year |
| | Maryann Pigott | 1 Year |
| | Lisa Quish | 1 Year |
| | June Raymond | 1 Year |
| | Michelle Sery | 1 Year |
| | Joan Spaldo | 1 Year |
| | Lynn Taylor | 1 Year |
| | Justin Watrel | 1 Year |
| | Jennifer Werner | 1 Year |

*Youth Committee will serve as a sub-committee to the Mayor's Celebrations Committee

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Community Awareness Access For All Committee | Mayor Rose Heck | Incumbency |
| | Council Liaison: Pam Link | 1 Year |
| | Police Chief or Designee | 1 Year |
| | Richard Giarratana - Fire Dept. Rep. | 1 Year |
| | Anne Ciavaglia McMahon | 1 Year |
| | Robert Ciavaglia | 1 Year |
| | Eric Bischoff | 1 Year |
| | Maryann Pisani | 1 Year |
| | Brenda Colaneri | 1 Year |
| | Dorothy McCarthy | 1 Year |
| | Patrick McCarthy | 1 Year |
| | Aimee McCarthy | 1 Year |
| | Joseph Bonelli | 1 Year |
| | Christine Peters | 1 Year |
| | June Raymond | 1 Year |
| | Kathy Nigro | 1 Year |
| | Nanette Zarrillo | 1 Year |

NOMINATIONS AND/OR APPOINTMENTS FOR 2015 (cont'd):

| POSITION | APPOINTEE | TERM |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------|
| | Former Mayor Ronald Jones | 1 Year |
| | Councilman Justin A. DiPisa | 1 Year |
| Environmental/Transportation Commission | Ann Lustberg | 3 Years |
| | John Stavash | 3 Years |
| Mayor's Business Community Committee | Thomas E. Meli | 1 Year |
| | Ronald Kistner | 1 Year |
| | Fritz Rethage | 1 Year |
| | Ray Vorisek | 1 Year |
| | John Kosakowski | 1 Year |
| | Sam Papasavas | 1 Year |
| | Mary Ellen Courtney | 1 Year |
| | David Fanale | 1 Year |
| | Vickie Oller | 1 Year |
| | Peter Gallo III | 1 Year |
| | Hank Lyon | 1 Year |
| Mayor's Research Committee | Councilwoman Pam Link | 1 Year |
| | Steven Pikowski | 1 Year |
| | William Foley | 1 Year |
| | John Baratta | 1 Year |
| | Councilman Russell Lipari | 1 Year |
| Mayor's Senior Citizens Committee | Dorothy Fitzin | 1 Year |
| | Peter Gallo | 1 Year |
| | Andrew Link III | 1 Year |
| | Madeleine Leddy | 1 Year |
| | Dorothy Petroulas | 1 Year |
| | Dolores Jones | 1 Year |
| | Ethel Ball | 1 Year |
| | Jack Coneys | 1 Year |
| | Marilyn deRussy | 1 Year |
| | June Raymond | 1 Year |
| | Netta Catrillo | 1 Year |
| | James Catrillo | 1 Year |
| | Mary Jones | 1 Year |

NOMINATIONS AND/OR APPOINTMENTS FOR 2015 (cont'd):

| POSITION | APPOINTEE | TERM |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Mayor's Youth Committee* | Robert Brady | 1 Year |
| | Katie Gasparino | 1 Year |
| | Nina Messery | 1 Year |
| | Emily Condal | 1 Year |
| | Casey Shenloogian | 1 Year |
| | Kate Palmieri | 1 Year |
| | Alyson Harden | 1 Year |
| | Kerry DeAngelo | 1 Year |
| | Samantha Parente | 1 Year |
| | Jason DiGiacinto | 1 Year |
| | Jillian DiGiacinto | 1 Year |
| *Will also serve as a sub-committee to the Mayor's Celebrations Committee | | |
| Emergency Management: | | |
| Coordinator: | Pol. Chief Michael Colaneri | 3 Years |
| Deputy: | Dr. Roger Szanto | 3 Years |
| Chief Radio Communications Officer | Dr. Roger Szanto | 1 Year |
| NIMS Coordinator/ Identification Officer | Dr. Roger Szanto | 1 Year |
| Special Law Enforcement | William Pols | 1 Year |
| | Thomas Rubino | 1 Year |
| | George Shihanian | 1 Year |
| Police Matrons | Karen Carney | 1 Year |
| | Frances L. Sanzo | 1 Year |
| Borough Examining Drs. | Louis Napolitano, MD | 1 Year |
| | Thomas Bellavia, MD | 1 Year |
| | Mark Delcalzo, DC | 1 Year |
| | David F. Porter, DO | 1 Year |
| | Michael Shustyk, DC | 1 Year |
| | Paul Kovatis, MD | 1 Year |
| | Valley Health Medical Group | 1 Year |

At this point Mayor Heck acknowledged Dr. Kovatis who was in the audience.

NOMINATIONS AND/OR APPOINTMENTS FOR 2015 (cont'd):

| POSITION | APPOINTEE | TERM | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------|
| School Marshals | Karen Carney | 1 Year | |
| | Arthur Horne | 1 Year | |
| | Marilyn A. Collum | 1 Year | |
| | Christy Harrington | 1 Year | |
| | Donald E. Lucas | 1 Year | |
| | Vincent Varelas | 1 Year | |
| | Frances Sanzo | 1 Year | |
| | Renita Goldsberry | 1 Year | |
| | Agnes Anderson | 1 Year | |
| | Paul Malin | 1 Year | |
| | Edward Powers | 1 Year | |
| | Peter Parrish | 1 Year | |
| | Robert Cuccio | 1 Year | |
| John Proto | 1 Year | | |
| Jerry Melillo | 1 Year | | |
| Walking School Bus: | Michael Gingerelli | 1 Year | |
| | Wendy Spindler | 1 Year | |
| | Joann Melillo | 1 Year | |
| | Gail Canavatchel | 1 Year | |
| Substitute Crossing Guard | Kevin Makely | 1 Year | |
| | Ronald DiBisceglie | 1 Year | |
| | William Smith | 1 Year | |
| | Mary Fitzgerald-Lloyd | 1 Year | |
| Fire Official U.F.S.A. | Robert Knobloch | 1 Year | |
| Assistant Fire Official | Edmund Carter, Jr. | 1 Year | |
| Fire Inspectors | Kevin Todd | 1 Year | |
| | Albert Saulnier | 1 Year | |
| | Paul Elenio | 1 Year | |
| | John Hund | 1 Year | |
| | Leo Morolla | 1 Year | |
| Fire Mechanics | Eng. Co. No. 1 | Christian Semenezc | 1 Year |
| | Eng. Co. No. 2 | Michael Ratkowski | 1 Year |
| | Hook & Ladder | Peter Kolodziej | 1 Year |
| | Rescue | Michael LeSane | 1 Year |
| | Ambulances -(603) | David Gumbrecht | 1 Year |

NOMINATIONS AND/OR APPOINTMENTS FOR 2015 (cont'd):

| POSITION | APPOINTEE | TERM |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Ambulances -(604) | Patrick Mucha | 1 Year |
| Dept. Safety Officer | Thomas Rubino | 1 Year |
| Public Info. Officer | Patrick Hayes | 1 Year |

On a motion by Councilman Semenez, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Appointments were approved.

Mayor Rose Heck's 2014 Year End Comments:

2014 was a very busy and successful year here in the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights and as Mayor I am very proud to have been a part of it. I have had the pleasure of being able to appoint the right people to the right jobs. The majority of this Council gives 100% to each of their assignments. I know, because I work closely with them. We have worked for the community we love.

In 2014 Hasbrouck Heights was named the Fifth Safest Place to Live in the State of New Jersey. That was followed by the accomplishment of being named the Eighth Best Place to Retire in the State of New Jersey and to top it all off Hasbrouck Heights was named the Tenth Best Small Town/Borough/City with populations of 10,000 to 60,000 to live in the State of New Jersey.

When I was asked to run in 2007 to bring us back from a desolate time of political mayhem, and conflict, I vowed to work diligently to get us back to being the best we could be. I had two new running-mates, Sonya Buckman and David Gonzalez, who were up for the job and they supported me in that goal. Justin DiPisa, the lone Republican, welcomed us on board after the win. After that I formulated a series of new committees getting input from a variety of knowledgeable sources, and utilized to the utmost those already in place such as our very talented key people in the Administration beginning with Borough Administrator/Finance Officer Michael Kronyak and Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees. Their Knowledge, Work Ethic, Experience and Dedication were key to the Borough's success story!

Year after year, I set goals and we added to the talent on our Council with the election of Pam Link and Russell Lipari. Here we were with so much to do. . . So much to accomplish and the will to get things done and one of the first people we brought back was our Borough Attorney Ralph W. Chandless. We definitely needed his expertise and history. Please check the minutes www.hasbrouck-heights.nj.us of the meetings beginning with 2007, they are filled with facts and reminders of the major steps we have made in the past 7 years.

Most of you know I am a big fan of Abraham Lincoln whose quote I learned from, "Governments like Clocks go from the motion men give them." I followed that by studying the talents of everyone around me and working to place them in the right positions.

Mayor Heck (cont'd):

Add to that my other hero – Teddy Roosevelt who said, “Speak softly and Carry a big stick.”

You will be hearing reports given by the various members of the Council as I share with them the Mayor’s End-of-the-Year Report. They are just touching on some of the wonderful work that has been accomplished.

I am going to begin having Special Meetings on Saturday Morning in the Library to feature each of the Commissioners and their various Departments to give all of our residents the opportunity to not only hear first-hand what each is doing, but give the opportunity to ask questions and/or make suggestions. This is something I wanted to do last year. This is an addition to my being available on Saturday mornings to meet with our residents which I have been doing since 2008.

Both Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak’s office and Borough Clerk Rose Marie Sees’s offices are located on the first floor of the Municipal Building. Both Michael and Ro make up the hub of our Municipal Government. They are ably assisted by Jean Curci and Pamela Grisafe.

Michael Kronyak also acts as a Grant person. He works closely with heads of all departments and in turn gets the necessary information needed to submit request. No one could have a better Administrator or Finance Officer. He is never out of reach. His report to me included the following:

BOULEVARD STREETSCAPE To date the Borough has been awarded \$1,030,500.00 under the Municipal Aid Program for phases I thru VII of the Boulevard Streetscape Improvements. Phases I thru VI have been substantially completed and the plans for Phase VII are being formulated. The Borough has recently submitted an application seeking funding for Phase VIII of the streetscape program which would cover portions of the Boulevard between Madison Avenue and LaSalle Avenue. Hopefully we will be successful in our application for future funding and the improvement plan can continue. The long awaited milling and paving of the Boulevard was completed this fall. The paving could not be completed until after all corners were retrofitted with barrier free curb ramps, this was accomplished by using a contract awarded by the County and utilizing approximately \$110,000.00 in Department of Transportation funds.

Grant Applications The following grants were utilized in the 2014 operating budget to pay for services that would otherwise have to be funded by your tax dollars:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Clean Communities Program | 19,363.43 |
| Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund | 12,428.08 |
| Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Fund | 1,372.14 |
| Recycling Tonnage Grant | 17,937.68 |
| Body Armor Replacement Fund | 3,810.79 |

Grants are also sought for the funding of Capital Projects. These grants help us complete large projects, which do not fall within the operating budget, without incurring additional debt. The following projects are either completed or in progress in 2014 as a result of grants received:

| | |
|--|------------|
| Boulevard Streetscape Improvement Phase I & II | 300,000.00 |
| Boulevard Streetscape Improvement Phase III & IV | 290,000.00 |

Mayor Heck (cont'd):

| | |
|---|------------|
| Boulevard Streetscape Improvement Phase V &VI | 291,500.00 |
| Safe Routes to Schools Program | 173,000.00 |
| Additional Improvements to Depken Field | 75,000.00 |
| Side/Curb Replacement along Terrace, Boulevard And Passaic | 230,000.00 |
| Improvements to Veteran's Memorial Park | 32,000.00 |
| Barrier Free Curb Ramps at Various locations | 177,580.00 |
| Improvements to Polifly Park | 24,000.00 |
| Improvements to Stanley Avenue Roadway | 74,000.00 |
| Improvements to Woodland Park Playground | 100,000.00 |

Finance Commissioner Pamela J. Link will now proceed with the rest of the report. In addition to the above, the Mayor and Council have already applied for grants to fund projects such as:

- Boulevard Streetscape Improvements Phase VIII
- Improvements to Stanley Avenue Sidewalks and Curbs
- Replacement of Playground Mulch with Resilient Surface Material

Tax Collections, Tax Rates and Assessed Values

The 2014 tax collection rate should remain stable at approximately 98%. The Borough continues to address tax appeals with the work of the Tax Settlement Committee comprised of the Borough Attorney, Assessor, Tax Collector and CFO. Aggressively addressing Tax Appeals as well as following up on added assessments for new construction help preserve the tax rateable base of the Borough.

Borough Debt

As of the end of 2014, the Borough's Net Debt is \$9,569,498.00, or approximately 0.583% of Net Assessed Valuation, well below the allowable limit of 3.5% of Net Assessed Valuation.

In February of 2014 the Borough completed a refinancing of outstanding bonds which were originally issued in 2003. The refinancing resulted in net savings over the remaining 10 years of the life of the bonds in the amount of approximately \$285,000.00. Also important to note is the fact that the Moody's Investors Service Bond Rating granted for this refinancing was a "Double A3" which represents an upgrade in the Borough's rating which had previously been an "A2"

Budget and Finance Committee

Formulation of the 2014 Municipal Budget proved to be as difficult as expected. The Budget and Finance Committee worked very hard to formulate a Budget that both met the needs of the residents and minimized the impact on taxes. As required by State Statute, the 2014 Municipal Budget was required to comply with both the 2% Tax Levy Cap and the 0.50% (1/2 of 1%) Budget Appropriation Cap, our budget met both requirements.

Prior years legislation which brought about changes to the pension funding formula as

Finance (cont'd):

well as employee contributions towards health benefits continue to have an impact on the budget. These changes require employees to contribute a higher percentage of their compensation towards their pensions and also pay a greater amount towards their health insurance costs. This year's employee contributions towards health insurance costs amounted to approximately \$230,000.00, this contribution for 2013 was approximately \$148,000.00.

The Budget is comprised of two parts, revenues and appropriations. Total 2014 anticipated revenues, those are the revenues other than taxes, increased by approximately \$222,000.00 including an additional \$100,000.00 in Anticipated Surplus. State Aid remained unchanged from the previous year. Total appropriations, which represents the spending portion of the budget, increased by approximately \$341,000.00. The final budget as adopted resulted in an increase in Local Municipal Taxes in the amount of \$119,000.00, an amount which equates to 0.85%. The Local Municipal Tax Rate increased by only one half of one tax point for 2014.

The finance committee will continue to work with the same dedication as in the past in an effort to formulate a 2015 budget that continues to meet the needs of the residents with a watchful eye on the tax rate.

MAYOR HECK CONTINUED:

Borough Clerk Ro Sees is an amazing individual who will be preparing resolutions for the Council Agenda, creating Certificates of Commendation and assisting individuals who appear daily at her office for help of various kinds. She is a fountain of information and appears tireless in her effort to be of service to each Council Member and to attend various meetings with myself as Mayor. Check our web site at www.hasbrouck-heights.nj.us. She prepares those as well as handling the following.

PERMITS ISSUED The Borough Clerk's office issues many permits on a daily basis. Here are some of the breakdowns for 2014. Garage Sales - 154 permits (not including Town Wide Garage Sales of which there were 123). Woodland Park - 45 permits. Open House signs - 12 licenses. New Merchant, Peddler/Solicitor licenses - 44 licenses. Sidewalk Café - 1 license. Laundry - 1 license. Burglar Alarm - 498 licenses. Raffle - 18 licenses. Hotel - 2 licenses. ABC - 15 licenses issued including two transfers.

OPRA REQUESTS: For the year 2014, there were 102 requests for public records which were processed in the allotted time. Many requests now come via e-mail and are processed at no cost to the requestor.

AUTO WHOLESALERS LICENSES: In 2014 there were 88 applications totaling \$88,000.00 received for auto wholesaler licenses in the Industrial Zone. Renewal notices for 2015/2016 will go out in January.

Report of the MUNICIPAL COURT

Court stats for 2014 up to the end of November are:

MUNICIPAL COURT (cont'd):

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Parking Tickets | 4,049 |
| Moving Violations | 3,946 |
| DWI | 49 |
| | 8,044 |
| Court Revenue (Jan. - Nov.) | \$255,056.00 |

Council Member Link will now give the Social Services Report:

The Hasbrouck Heights Food Pantry is open every Monday morning (Tuesday, if Monday is a holiday) from 9 to 11 a.m. This year the pantry has helped 71 families totaling 1,319 visits through December 22, 2014.

The pantry is operational only because of the generous donations received on a continuing basis from the local churches, civic organizations, Scout troops, School and PTA food drives and the many, many generous residents. We are also most thankful to the 21 volunteers who supervise the food pantry on a rotating basis.

Donations are accepted in the Borough Clerk's office at 320 Boulevard during regular business hours.

MAYOR HECK CONTINUED:

My Thanks and compliments to Police Chief Michael Colaneri for doing an outstanding job, not only this year, but every year as he continued to deal with the retirement process and hiring of new officers. This was no easy task since I had held promotions in check since I came into office in 2007. I wanted to wait to fill those ranks until after retirements were made. And as everyone knows we took a year to redo procedures and I quote last year's report...

"We also worked for almost an entire year to improve the method of determining Police Promotions. Meetings included Police Commissioner Justin DiPisa and Deputy Police Commissioner David Gonzalez along with our Police Labor Attorney Thomas Hanrahan, Borough Attorney Ralph W. Chandless, Council President Pamela J. Link, Police Chief Michael Colaneri, and Borough Administrator Michael Kronyak."

Thank You Chief the Borough is in good hands. Personnel information includes the following: We had three ranking officers retire in 2014: Sgt. Mike Vargo, Lt. Kevin Corbliss and Sgt. George Netelkos retired Aug ust 1.

New Department Rules and Regulations were approved by the Police Committee and issued to all Members of the Department.

Parking Enforcement Officer/EMT Jeff Rubino started on February 10, 2014.

Officer Kevin Condal completed his training at the Bergen County Police Academy on June 27th. Officers Renna and Rossillo graduated on December 19, 2014.

Ptl. Dussault completed a 7-week assignment as a member of the Prosecutor's Heroin Initiative Task Force. He was honored by M.A.D.D. for his efforts against drunk drivers.

Det. Armeli has attended the train the trainer course for NASAC NARCAN. Det. Armeli is in the process of training the members of the HHPD in its use. NARCAN is used to save victims of opiate overdose. Active shooter training was held in August. Members of the HHPD were trained in an active school shooter. We would like to thank the HH Schools for their assistance.

POLICE EQUIPMENT:

An automated license plate reader has been received from a grant from the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office. This piece of equipment is able to read and check all license plates approaching the patrol vehicle as well as vehicles parked. It automatically checks DMV, NCIC and BOLOS and notifies if any vehicles are wanted or unregistered. We would like to thank Pros. Molinelli for this great piece of equipment. The cost would have been nearly \$20,000 installed. A new 2014 Chevrolet Caprice was received. The Department has received 20 portable radios from the Department of Defense. The radios were set up and programmed by Det. Werner with an assist from Dr. Roger Szanto.

Det. Werner has been very successful in obtaining items from the D.O.D. that are no longer needed by them. To date, the Borough has received 3 Humvee's, diesel fork lift, truck, trailer, communication vehicle and a large generator on a trailer. We are in the process of obtaining a back hoe. All free to the Borough.

TRAFFIC: In the spring, "Stop for Pedestrian" signs were back on the Boulevard. The Police Department enforced the stop for pedestrian in crosswalk law. Chief Colaneri, Sgt. Robertson and Sgt. Adamo attended the AAA Traffic Safety Lunch and the Department received an Award of Merit for our efforts in the area of Traffic/Pedestrian Safety. 2 DMV inspection check points were held in the spring and fall.

Police Commissioner Justin DiPisa will continue with the Police Dept.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

Toys for Tots – The Hasbrouck Heights Police Department PBA would like to thank all who donated towards the Toys for Tots campaign. The outpouring of generosity from our residents, family and friends made Hasbrouck Heights one of the largest donating towns in Bergen County. Several carloads of toys made numerous trips to Closter, where the toys were distributed. The toys donated put a smile on the children's faces during this Holiday Season.

The HHPD Annual Beefsteak for Special Olympics was held on January 17. This was one of the largest ones with over 360 people attending. The Committee of Sgt. Al Baker, Lt. Joe Rinke, Sgt. Mike Colaneri, Sgt. Ian Robertson, and Det. John Behr were assisted by Chief Colaneri, Sgt. Scott Adamo, Det. Jeff Werner, Det. Joe Armeli, Ptl. Brian Donohue, Ptl. Dom D'Amico, Ptl., Jarett Cooke, Ptl. Brad Dussault, Ptl. Sean Woodbridge, Ptl. Mike DeSimone, Ptl. Nick Brunetti, Ptl. Joe Olivo, Ptl. Cosimo Marino and Ptl. Kevin Condal.

We would like to thank our sponsors and the HH VFW. This year we raised over \$16,000 for Special Olympics.

The Hasbrouck Heights Police Department has a Facebook page. Residents are invited to join our Facebook page by visiting our website at www.hhpd.com. You will see the icon for Facebook on the right hand side.

Police (cont'd): Police Chief Michael J. Colaneri would like to commend his Department for their outstanding service and dedication to the residents of Hasbrouck Heights by making our Boro #5 on the 10 Safest Places in New Jersey. This list was compiled by MOVOTO Real Estate. Movoto conducted the study by looking at violent crime, property crime and the chance a resident will be the victim of crime.

The report states that Hasbrouck Heights has all the benefits of being just 10 miles northwest of Mid- town without the crime.

Operation I.D. – The fingerprinting and photographing of all kids in the second grades was completed. The fingerprints and photo cards were given to the parents and are invaluable in case a child becomes missing.

On April 15th, Chief Colaneri participated in Career Day at Hasbrouck Heights High School. Students who have an interest in the Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement filed met with the Chief and were told the requirements needed and different areas available to them.

Saturday April 26, 2014 “Operation Take Back” was held at the Hasbrouck Heights Police Department, 248 Hamilton Avenue. Residents were able to dispose of unused and/or unwanted medications.

HHPD participated in this year’s Law Enforcement Torch Run. Fifteen members of the Department ran nearly 2 miles through town and were greeted and joined by students from Corpus Christi, Euclid and Lincoln Schools. The HHPD again raised over \$25,000.00 this year and over ¼ million over the last 10 years.

Chief Colaneri and Honor Guard Members, Lt. Rinke, Sgt. Colaneri, Sgt. Adamo and Det. Behr travelled to Trenton for the opening ceremonies. Chief Colaneri had the honor of running a torch through the stadium representing run #6.

June 6, Chief Austin Alvarez was sworn in as Hasbrouck Heights Chief for a day.

Chiefs Alvarez and Colaneri had a great day of work and fun.

The Torch for the 2014 Special Olympics National Games came to HHPD. This honor was due to the department’s efforts for Special Olympics for over 25 years.

The HH Police and Lyndhurst Police Advanced Leadership Institute held a graduation dinner at the HH V.F.W. Mayor Heck, Comm DiPisa and Deputy Comm. Gonzalez attended. The graduates did an outstanding presentation on the ongoing heroin problem and Law Enforcements response to the problem. We would like to thank Middle School Teacher Mr. Michael Stillman for his hard work and dedication to this program.

The 15th Hasbrouck Heights Jr. Police Academy was held June 23 – 27. Over 50 8th grade students had a fun filled week of training, team building, physical training and lectures. There were trips to the Bergen County Jail, Sheriff’s office, BCI and HHPD range.

We would like to thank Bergen County Sheriff Saudino, Retired FBI Agent Robert Bukowski, the Regional Swat Team, Lodi Shop Rite and Mr. Michael Stillman of the Middle School. HHPD officers involved were Chief Colaneri, Lt. Rinke, Sgt. Colaneri, Sgt. Baker, Det. Armeli, Ptl. D’Amico and Ptl. Condal.

Glow sticks and reflective Halloween bags will be distributed at all schools for children prior to Halloween.

DARE:

The Euclid and Lincoln Schools 5th grade DARE culmination was held on January 9, 2014. Mayor Heck, Police Comm. DiPisa and Councilman Lipari attended. Mayor Heck, Dr. Porto and Chief Colaneri addressed the packed house of students, parents and teachers. Sgt. Alan Baker spoke on the hard work by the students. Darren the DARE Lion made a surprise entry to congratulate the kids. The graduates were then treated to a party with DJ and refreshments.

January 10, 2014 Lincoln and Euclid schools anti-drug rallies were held. Chief Colaneri, Lt. Rinke, Sgts Colaneri and Baker, Dets. Werner, Behr and Armeli, Ofcs. D'Amico, Cooke, Dussault, DeSimone, Brunetti, Olivo, Marino attended. Chief Colaneri spoke to the children, Sgt. Baker lead them in the DARE pledge. The Officers stopped by the classroom to visit after the rallies.

January 15, 2014 Chief Colaneri, Sgt. Baker and Det. Behr were on hand for Operation Sticker Shock, a campaign to warn people of the fines for purchasing alcohol for anyone under age.

DARE Night at Space Odyssey was held on April 10th and was a huge success. This year 200 DARE students, siblings and parents attended and had a safe and fun night of arcade activities, bowling and laser tag. Chaperones for the night were Lt. Joseph Rinke, Sgt. Al Baker, Det. John Behr, Ptl. Sean Woodbridge and Ptl. Joseph Olivo. The D.A.R.E. 8th grade swim party was held at the Swim Club. Over 80 8th graders attended and had a great evening of swimming, music and food. Chief Colaneri, Lt. Rinke, Sgt. Baker and Ptl. Condal were in charge of grilling 200 burgers and hot dogs. We would like to thank Lodi Shop Rite and the HH Swim Club for their donation to the night.

SCHOOLS:

April/May were busy months for school escorts to various locations throughout town. Euclid and Lincoln Kindergartners visited the Public Safety Building and were given a tour by HHFD and HHPD members. Corpus Christi children visited HHPD then observed the HH Municipal Court. Sgt. Baker and SRO Donohue worked on school evacuation plans and sheltering the students in case of evacuations.

BORO EVENTS:

The HHPD assisted with the Annual Street Fair with traffic detours, parking and security. This year the dunk tank was manned by Chief Colaneri, Lt. Rinke, D/Sgt. Colaneri, Det. Behr, Ptl. Cooke, Ptl. Dussault, Ptl. Olivo and Ptl Condal. We would like to thank Councilman Dave Gonzalez, Principal Mike Sickles, Principal Joe Colangelo, JT Rinke, Joe Fadden Jr., and Michael Thorpe, for helping. All monies raised will be donated to Special Olympics.

It has been a busy time for the Hasbrouck Heights Police Department providing traffic safety for Borough projects: street scape, Veteran's Park renovation, curb project, and the Boulevard milling/paving. The Department participated in Town Day, Operation Medicine Drop and Halloween in the Park. The Police Department was again busy assisting with Borough Projects like paving/stripping of the Boulevard, upgrade to Veterans Park and streetscape. Traffic assistance was provided for the annual rag-a-muffin parade.

GRANTS:

\$2,946 grant was received to purchase replacement bullet proof vests from the State of New Jersey.

\$4,600 for DWI Enforcement

\$15,000 from BCPO for SWAT members overtime

MAYOR HECK CONTINUED:

My sincere thanks to Fire Dept. Chief Pat Hayes for all his work to investigate the best equipment choices to replace the over 20 year old Hook and Ladder Truck. Pat spent 2 years of visiting areas, on his own time and at his own expense, to see and learn as much as possible before he came up with a strong recommendation for the Quint. He and his committee will be working with Mike Kronyak and the Borough Engineer Ken Job on all that is needed to proceed with the plans to allow us to purchase the new piece of equipment.

Fire Commissioner David Gonzalez will give that Department's report.

The Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department is compliant with:

Fit Testing

Pump Testing

Ladder Testing

Federal Highway Traffic Scene Safety Vest Program

NJ Division of Fire Safety Training Standards

Fully compliant with JIF Inspection

Year ending 11-30-14:

Total calls 1,561

1,151 EMS, 410 fire/emergency calls

1,053 man-hours of training and a total of 8,086 man-hours of service

Equipment Purchased in 2014:

New ladder/quint apparatus is completing final specs and will be ordered early 2015

Ten new full sets of turnout gear

HHFD is currently staffed by 41 members, 8 Juniors and 2 Associates

In 2014:

- Two members were recognized for 25 or more years of service.
- HHFD Public Relations Program has added a Facebook page; or follow on Twitter @ Heights FD
- Along with other training, Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department members attended Right to Know and Bloodborne Pathogens training. The Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department visited all the schools in town for Fire Prevention Week.
- The Fire Department ambulance provided first aid standby to numerous sports events, including junior and senior football, wrestling, track, etc.

Fire (cont'd): Department members provided fire safety and first aid training to the Boy Scouts. They also provided fire safety information to other youth groups. The Department continues to participate in town events: They include: The Easter Egg Hunt, Annual Street Fair, 5K Run, Fourth of July Children's Parade, Fourth of July Fireworks, Town Day, Halloween in the Park, Ragamuffin Parade, The Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting, and Santa Around Town. The Fire Dept. also participated in "Salute to Veterans" ceremonies at NJ Aviation Hall of Fame in Teterboro.

MAYOR HECK (CONT'D):

My Thanks to the entire Department for a fantastic year of Volunteerism and safeguarding the residents of Hasbrouck Heights.

There are so many people to recognize and to thank, not the least of whom are the talented volunteers who serve on the Planning Board, chaired so ably and professionally by Henry P. Dobbelaar and the ever busy Zoning Board chaired by Bill Kremer who does such a fine job. Both these Boards protect our Zoning and Master Plan for Hasbrouck Heights. These Boards are major contributors to our Borough and are truly appreciated.

Councilman Russell Lipari who serves on the Planning Board will give both reports along with the Building Dept. report.

PLANNING BOARD:

The members of the Planning Board have remained stable for the past several years and this has helped make the board very professional in their assessments of the planning aspects of the town. James Fordham of Boswell Engineering has also continued to be the Board Engineer so his expertise coupled with his knowledge of the Borough Code is very important in the decision making process. Joseph Rotolo has been the Board Attorney since 2011. The Planning Board has met 7 times this year. They had five meetings to discuss and write the Soil Movement Application. It is a very comprehensive application which will allow them to monitor soil movement within the borough as this is important to stop soil erosion and run off onto neighbor's property. It had met earlier in the year to reorganize and then heard two applications in December for site plans.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT:

The Board met 9 times this year. The Board heard 8 residential applications and are in the process of hearing a commercial application which has been carried through to the January meeting. We are fortunate to have the continued guidance of James Fordham of Boswell Engineering who has been the Board Engineer for eight years. Joseph Rotolo has also been the Board Attorney since it was reestablished in 2006 and therefore is well versed in the town ordinances. Our Planner Jay Petronogolo has been instrumental in giving us guidance regarding use variances. The applications heard by the Board were varied. The residential variances requested were: 5 with side yard and/or front yard deficiencies; one needed a wider driveway for handicap accessibility; two were for undersized lots. The commercial property is requesting a drive thru window with no pass through lane.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

The income for Building Permits for the past twelve months was \$168,000. This amounts to over 540 UCC permits and 190 Local Permits.

Our inspectors have been busy this year with inspections: The Fire Inspector completed 68, the Plumbing Inspector completed 245 inspections, the Electrical Inspector completed 253, and the Building Inspector completed 600. Of the total 1201 inspections 49 failed for a passing rate of 84.93%. The inspectors also went out on 89 inspections which were not ready and 26 where the contractor or the resident was not home.

The Property Maintenance Inspector continues to respond to complaints. The inspector's goal was to get residents to comply and keep our town looking proud. It is caring neighbors that make Hasbrouck Heights the special place it is and it is always rewarding to get neighbors to cooperate in making necessary repairs that were for the safety of the community. We are not always successful in this as there are some ten year disputes that will never be resolved but this office continues to try to mediate these disputes. The inspector made 552 inspections, made 147 follow up phone calls, 56 warnings were issued and 22 summonses were issued.

The Construction Code Official/Zoning Officer has office hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. The Property Maintenance Inspector has Office hours from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Monday and Wednesday. These office hours were established several years ago and they have been popular with the residents and contractors alike. In order to make the filing system more transparent, it is being converted from Lot and Block to address. This conversion will probably not be completed until 2016.

The Construction Code Official has 20 working days to give plan approval on permit applications and this department's goal has met the goal of getting the applications through the approval process in a much shorter time.

In addition to working with the all the departments of Hasbrouck Heights, this office has built relationships and works closely with Rebuilding Together (a nonprofit which assists the elderly and those in need of assistance to keep their homes in repair), FEMA, OSHA, the New Jersey Department of Motor Vehicles, the New Jersey Highway Department and county departments to keep Hasbrouck Heights compliant and up to date on the changes in regulations.

MAYOR HECK CONTINUED:

I want to recognize Mimi Hui our super special Library Director for the outstanding work she does in making the Library A Community Hub. She and the Trustees are always on target when it comes to making our Library one of the, if not the best in the area.

Councilwoman Sonya Buckman will give the Library Report:

The Free Public Library of Hasbrouck Heights continues to serve and meet the needs of a dynamic community. Y2014 marked the celebration of 35 years of resource sharing, collaboration, and service among 75 member libraries of the Bergen County Cooperative Library System (BCCLS). Our residents have access to over 7 million items with a library card.

Library (cont'd): Annual Circulation Stats (as of December 28)

- * 128,326 items circulated to date. We are 745 items away of beating last year's highest circulation recorded at 129,071.
- * 323 people use the computers each week.
- * 106,734 people walked through the doors of our library.
- * 6,897 residents have a Hasbrouck Heights library card.
- * 7,038 reference questions were answered.

Library services include circulating a variety of books and media to the public, educational programs for residents, professional research help, out-of-state interlibrary loans, free internet access, delivery to the homebound, notary public service, proctoring of exams and computer training classes. We keep abreast of current trends and cutting edge technology. We offer free support and downloading of audiobooks and e-books to smartphones, readers, and tablets.

Programming

Our library programs draw in people of all ages. To date, 6,695 people attended 359 library sponsored activities. We have book discussion groups for children, teens, and adults. We offer a variety of self-help and educational seminars, music concerts, job search assistance, and cross generational craft programs throughout the year.

Our popular Crafts-to-Share Club draws a dedicated following under the direction of Head of Reference Melissa Singlevich. The ladies from the Craft-to-Share program have continued to volunteer their time, materials, and talent to knit and crochet blankets, hats and other items to be donated to the Hackensack Medical Center. A total of 2,485 hours of donated time was given in 2014.

The attendance for the Young Adult Programs continues to grow. We offer a variety of programs, such as movie screenings, author visits, and craft sessions. The Library has an established Teen Advisory Group. We have a core gathering of 15 to 20 teens that meets once a month to help plan activities for their peers and volunteer for library events.

Our children's activities draw in high attendance. There are always exciting and creative year round programs being sponsored in the Children's Area starting at birth through 6th grade. Our Children's Librarian Marie Joyce is hard at work trying to cultivate the love of reading. She has given class tours, regularly visits the classrooms at the elementary public schools and Corpus Christi, promotes summer reading at school assemblies and at summer camp at Woodland Park, and partners up with local organizations such as the Junior Woman's Club and local businesses such as Eye Level Learning to do critical thinking challenges.

In one year, the Library has supervised and helped 51 students complete 1,174.5 community service hours. The Library facilities continue to offer a haven for local organizations to meet – 202 groups used the meeting rooms this year. A total of 2,517 people met at the Library for meetings.

The public can register for various library programs from the comfort of their homes by going to the library's website – <http://hasbrouckheights.bccls.org>.

Get the latest up-to-date news when you follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

2014 Memorable Moments

In August, the Library held its annual family summer bash. This year's theme was called—*It's a Mad, Mad, Mad World of Science*. Special thanks to all the borough agencies and individuals involved in making it a success. 350 people were in attendance. A great line-up of family friendly activities was planned throughout the evening which included special guest appearances of costumed characters, themed foods were served, hands on science experiments for boys and girls, special performance by award-winning singer/songwriter Patricia Shih, a comet show from the Newark Museum, and a black light extravaganza room.

In October, the Library warmly hosted an international dignitary visit from the Dalai Lama's sister, Jetsun Pema. She wanted to meet with the Tibetan families of Hasbrouck Heights as she completes her tour of the United States.

In collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce in late October, the Library held its first annual Taste of Hasbrouck Heights & Friends. Twenty eateries participated by donating their signature dishes. 200 people attended this affair. Our heartfelt appreciation to Chip Dee Music Academy for providing the entertainment.

In November, the Library celebrated its 25th Annual Lego Night. 120 children and their parents came.

Friends Of The Library

The Library receives steadfast support from the Friends of the Library, presided over by Judy Mascis. The Friends help finance all programs (including the summer bash), and pay for all the refreshments and prizes. Only one book sale was held this year. To date, about \$ 18,500 has been donated to support ongoing programs. This year, the Friends of the Library purchased movie licenses for the Library to have public movie screenings and paid for speakers and entertainment.

Thirty-five local businesses have signed up for the Friends Merchant Program for 2015. All have agreed to offer discounts off purchases when an individual presents his/her Friends membership card. This is the sixth year the Friends has been able to develop a solid and growing collaboration with our business community. It is deeply appreciated. Consider joining the Friends of the Library and the continuation of quality and educational programs.

Funding

The Library received the following grants:

Monies used for operating expenses from per capita state aid -- \$5,147.

New Jersey Council for the Humanities-Multicultural Celebration -- \$2,400.

In conclusion, the Library continues to provide the community with outstanding public service. Your local public library is the community center where there is a wealth of resources being offered and an opportunity for lifetime learning. Thank you for your ongoing support. You help to make this Library what it is today.

MAYOR HECK CONTINUED:

I can't say enough about our hardworking and efficient Department of Public Works. My gratitude goes to DPW Supt. Bill Spindler and Asst. Supt. Jim Schneider and the members of their department for all of their hard work.

Commissioner David Gonzalez will give the DPW year-end report.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

The DPW provides a variety of services to our Borough residents all year long. The department is comprised of DPW Superintendent William Spindler, DPW Assistant Superintendent James Schneider, and Administrative Support Judy Deitchman along with 19 members on our Road Crew and nine members of our Sanitation/Recycling Department.

The Department of Public Works provides many services under several different headings such as Buildings & Grounds, Shade Tree, Leaf Removal, Recycling, Road Repairs/Maintenance, Garbage and Trash Collection, Sewer Maintenance, Parks and Playgrounds.

Shade Tree

The DPW performs all tree services needed for the entire town. On staff are Tree Foreman and a Tree Trimmer. These employees in conjunction with the Assistant Superintendent determine the priority of hazardous trees to be taken down or trimmed. The department also provides a Tree Replacement Program which replaces 50-60 trees every year. The Shade Tree crew responds immediately to hazardous conditions arising from any and all severe weather condition.

The Shade Tree Crew was sent to Rutgers University for continuing education classes every year for trimming techniques, hazardous identification, and safety training. So far this year 38 hazardous trees were removed, (not including trees that PSEG removed), 130 trees were trimmed and approximately 50 more are still on DPW list to be done.

Recycling

State Law requires that all municipalities recycle or suffer penalties. Hasbrouck Heights Recycling Program continues to be successful and we continuing to encouraging all our residents to commit to recycling. The importance of recycling and the savings for our community will have a positive impact.

On April 29, 2014 the Recycling Tonnage Report was filed with the State of New Jersey – Department of Environmental Protection. The report details the amount of tons recycled by our residents and schools. 1,000.29 tons was generated in the year 2013. We received funds in the amount of \$34,553.40 from our recycling vendors, Atlantic Coast Fibers (ACF) and Cinelli Iron & Metal Company. The avoided costs of Solid Waste due to recycling were \$65,368.95, for a total savings of \$99,922.35 to our Borough.

** eWaste does not produce revenue nor does it cost anything for the Borough to dispose of it with eRevival.

Vehicles and Equipment purchased with Recycling funds:

A rebuilt engine in the amount of \$29,000.00 was installed on an eight year old Roll-Off Truck.

A new Street Sweeper was purchased this year to replace the old one with 15 years of service.

Our Recycling Center is open Monday-Friday from 7AM to 11AM and the 3rd Saturday of every month to drop off recyclable items only. (Refer to our 2015 Recycling Calendar.) Please remember that our "Satellite Recycling Drop-off Area" located in the Central Ave. Parking Lot, is open the first Saturday of every month from 7 AM to 12 PM

Road Repair and Maintenance

The following roads were resurfaced as part of the Road Resurfacing Plan:

Columbus Avenue from Boulevard to Summit Avenue, Columbus Avenue from Wood Street to Woodland Drive, Harrison Avenue from Summit Avenue to Terrace Avenue, Hasbrouck Avenue from Hillside Avenue to Madison Avenue, Lincoln Avenue from Boulevard to Terrace Avenue, Paterson Avenue from Boulevard to Oak Grove Avenue, Woodside Avenue from Franklin Avenue to Jefferson Avenue, Main Street – entire length, Church Street – entire length, and Prospect Avenue from Williams Avenue to Dead End (north).

Garbage and Trash

As part of a Cooperative Agreement for Solid Waste Collection, the Borough entered into a contract for a savings of \$5.42 per ton on dumping fees. The new transfer station is located in Totowa and is a smaller facility from the previous location which tends to alter our turnaround time; therefore, our residents may be experiencing a delay in their garbage/trash and grass collection time. We are asking the residents to be patient until they become accustomed to the change. The Borough always strives to save the taxpayer dollars.

Sewer Maintenance

At the Franklin Avenue Sanitary Pump Station, two (2) rebuilt pumps were installed and three (3) new starter motors. A second sump pump was incorporated on the dry side of the station as a backup.

The annual New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Stormwater Report was filed with the State by Bill Spindler, DPW Superintendent. The Stormwater Report requires mandatory inspections and cleaning of all catch basins, proper labeling, inspection of outfall pipes that flow to Riser's Ditch, tracking miles of street sweeping and debris amounts along with several other aspects of compliance.

As part of the Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Program, the DPW completed root-cutting the main lines on the Boulevard in our Business District. This procedure consists of using a device with a round saw tooth blade that cuts through any roots, grease build up and other debris such as rags in the pipes. Then the Jet-Vac Sewer Truck removes the debris through its vacuum system. **Under NJ State Law the DPW inspects and cleans all 144 basins once a year.**

Parks and Playgrounds

The Borough has within its boundaries several parks, Woodland, Veterans, Polify, and Miers that the DPW maintains. There are also many other areas that are also maintained such as Policeman's Memorial, Fireman's Memorial, Little League, and 32 other locations throughout the town. Woodland Park was filled with 27 picnics this year for picnics. The DPW performs services for picnics such as cleaning restrooms, turning on water, and electric, and removing trash. Some of our maintenance duties are seeding, fertilizing, watering, grass cutting, weeding, and planting of flowers.

Veterans Memorial Park has undergone a number of improvements this year. New sidewalks and ADA compliance curb ramps were installed.

New playground equipment and improvements are also planned at Woodland Park. This project should get underway in the Spring of 2015.

Environmental Report

The Hasbrouck Heights Environmental Commission along with the Hasbrouck Heights Recycling Program and the combined efforts of the New Jersey Clean Community Council and Bergen County Utilities Authority has organized several items to give away at Town Day on September 27 at Woodland Park. Some of the giveaway items are grocery bags, clips, key chains, coloring books, pencils and leaf bags. Four (4) mulching mowers will be raffled for to our resident as part of the "Cut it and Leave it" endeavor.

Two free shredding events were held from 9am to 1pm at the Borough Hall Parking Lot on Central Avenue. This event is co-sponsored by Bergen County Utilities Authority and the Hasbrouck Heights Recycling Program. The satellite recycling container was also available from 7am to 12 noon as it usually is on the first Saturday of every month. A total of 13,240 Tons was collected from both events.

The Borough has within its boundaries several parks, Woodland, Veterans, Polifly, and Miers that the DPW maintains. There are also many other areas that are also maintained such as Policeman's Memorial, Fireman's Memorial, Little League, and 32 other locations throughout the town. Woodland Park was filled with 27 picnics this year for picnics. The DPW performs services for picnics such as cleaning restrooms, turning on water, and electric, and removing trash. Some of our maintenance duties are seeding, fertilizing, watering, grass cutting, weeding, and planting of flowers. Veterans Memorial Park has undergone a number of improvements this year. New sidewalks and ADA compliance curb ramps were installed. New playground equipment and improvements are also planned at Woodland Park. This project should get underway in the Spring of 2015. Commissioner Buckman will report more on this at a special Saturday Morning Meeting to be announced in the Spring.

Our Tax Collector Chita Parker is the consummate professional and as always does an outstanding job. She hears it all from our taxpayers, but always remains calm, pleasant and professional. She has a very able assistant in Louise Balsamo who is her right hand person. We are proud to have them both in such a sensitive position.

MAYOR HECK CONTINUED:

Councilman Christian Semencz will give the Municipal Building and Grounds Report.

Municipal Building Use

The Municipal Building continues to be very well utilized by many organizations for various meetings and gatherings. Very often every available room is occupied with several requests for the same room taking place in one day at different times. This past year the Caucus Room was used for 88 events; there were 145 events in the Community Room; the Council Chambers was used for 54 meetings, the first floor Hallway was used for 9 sign-up events and the Senior Center 77 events. This was in addition to the regular Senior events that occur on a daily basis, and does not take into account the Recreation Center/Community Room nights. The Borough Clerk's office keeps a calendar to insure that each event is recorded and there is no double booking.

Buildings & Grounds

The DPW maintains the mechanical systems (heating, A/C, plumbing, and electrical) for the Borough Hall, Library, Senior Center, and all meeting rooms as well as the Public Safety Building which houses the Police Department, Fire Department, and Borough Courtroom. In addition, the DPW cleans the buildings and maintains all the landscaping of the grounds. The buildings are inspected annually by the New Jersey Department of Labor and are in compliance with all regulations.

MAYOR HECK CONTINUED:

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

In 2014 the Recreation Department offered 31 year round programs and activities for the residents to enjoy! We have seen our program's registrations grow to the highest numbers ever in recreation basketball, softball, and summer camp. The department also had a great 2nd year of our Special Needs Recreation Program.

In 2015 the Recreation Dept. will be offering adult and children theatre classes, the drama program will be a great place for residents to learn about acting as well as how to put on a small performance. The class will be taught by Adam Mucci, a successful theatre and movie actor that grew up in and now resides in Hasbrouck Heights.

In closing 2014 was a great year to be involved with the recreation department, we enjoyed the success of our traveling softball and basketball teams, we offered more senior programs in our senior center, had more kids participating in recreation activities than recent years, had a gorgeous day to enjoy one of the best attended Town Day celebrations, and we transformed our new pavilion and Woodland Park into the scariest place to be for over 600 children and parents at our Halloween in the Park event.

The Mayor and Council thank all the residents that help volunteer coach, and participate in our programs to make them the best they can be.

Our thanks to the man who truly cares and works professionally in so many areas, Rob Brady is a valued Department Head. And we know with his help 2015 will be even better than ever. Thank you Rob, your Committee and especially your Commissioner Sonya.

Councilman Lipari will now give the Board of Health Report.

Fees Collected for 2014: \$87,440.00

Health Inspections: 532 of various natures, by Mid-Bergen Health Commission

Dog Licenses: 1213 licenses

Dog License Fees: \$18,953.00

Animal Control Services: 662 responses of various natures

Births Recorded: 94 babies born to town residents.

Town Resident Deaths: 103 residents

Marriage Licenses Issued: 73 Couples Applied

Certified Transcripts: 2,537 issued (Death, Marriage & Birth)

The Board of Health continues to sponsor many programs, which are designed to educate the public. The AARP Safe Driver Program offers a refresher course teaching safe driving techniques and is open to all ages. The Blood Screening Program, which is offered twice a year and is an excellent opportunity to check on your body's internal

Health: wellness. Our Family & Friends CPR Course helps families learn specific CPR skills for an adult/child and infant. The Annual Senior Wellness Luncheon is always a well informative event. After a healthy lunch donated by Care-One of Wellington of Hackensack, the Kessler Rehabilitation Center at Heights Medical spoke about what senior citizens can do physically and to their homes to help prevent falls.

This year the Board of Health sponsored their Second Annual 5 K Run & Fun Walk, which was held on Sunday, April 27, 2014. Over 175 people registered to run in the race. Proceeds collected were donated to the participating organizations for scholarships to high school seniors and for the Seeing Eye Dog Foundation. The 3rd Annual 5 K Run has been scheduled for Sunday, April 19, 2015.

Our Public Nursing Staff from the H.A.R.P. provides residents with preventive health programs. The programs conducted during the year were our annual Senior & Child Flu Program, Monthly Health Consultations, and The Child Health Conference. These programs continue to be very popular with providing immunizations for children up to age 18 for preventable diseases and the health consultations, which focus on preventing & managing high blood pressure, managing stress, and weight control & life style changes.

The Registered Environmental Health Specialist provided by the Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission continued to provide many inspections of various nature of food surveillance to assure that wholesome foods are being prepared and sold in Hasbrouck Heights.

The Health Department issued over 1213 dog licenses. The Annual Dog Census Program was very successful. The Crossing Guards reported 181 unlicensed dogs. With Bergen County with the highest number of confirmed cases of rabies in the state it is important that every dog and cat in Hasbrouck Heights receive a rabies vaccine. The Board of Health is looking forward to 2015 with some new and exciting programs. These programs would not have been possible without the support of the members of the Board of Health and the governing body dedicated in promoting a healthier community through valuable services and education.

MAYOR HECK CONTINUED:

I am proud of the work done by the people in every department and believe me, not a day is slow or quiet in the Municipal Building with phones ringing, people stopping by for various needs, and taxpayers dropping by to seek advice from our Tax Collector Chita Parker. There are people needing permits, licenses, and information from Planning and Zoning Board Secretary Dorothy Bernice and Board of Health Office Secretary/Registrar Laura French and Rob Brady's office, especially on Monday mornings with 70 people coming to the Food Pantry.

Again my thanks to the hundreds of wonderful volunteers in every area. They serve on our Boards; volunteer on the Mayor's Celebrations Committee; they serve on our special committees, and it would take me forever to mention each and every one of you. Your expertise and help is priceless. As always my thanks and compliments as you continue to keep our wealth of extra services top notch and fun happenings the best they can possibly be.

Each of you in conjunction with our staff is responsible for all that we achieve such as the honor of being named the 10th Best Place to Live in New Jersey. Of course, we

know Hasbrouck Heights is the Best Place to Live. Keep an eye on our Hasbrouck Heights Message Board for special events, and announcements. And Keep checking our Web Site www.hasbrouck-heights.nj.us and the Police Dept. Web site www.hhpd.com.

In closing I want to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year! Again Thank you everyone!

Rose Heck, Mayor

MISCELLANEOUS FROM COUNCIL:

Mayor Heck invited the Council to speak:

Councilman DiPisa thanked Mayor Heck for being so supportive, a true leader in Hasbrouck Heights and helping to always have the right direction and focus and right reasons. He complimented her on being so spunky. He thanked his family who support him, that we don't serve alone, we serve with our families. He thanked his colleagues on the Council who are hard workers and sincere about keeping Hasbrouck Heights the great town it truly is, we have differences, but together we are a team. He also thanked Dr. Kovatis who recently took care of him personally. He thanked the audience for coming and the residents who voted for him.

Councilwoman Buckman wished everyone a Happy New Year, and it is tough to get here on January 1, she thanked the Council for their support in the last month when she had a health issue, her family and that she was happy to be here today. She was happy to have Pam and Justin on the council again.

Councilman Gonzalez wished everyone a Happy and Healthy 2015. The year 2014 brought a lot of good things to our town, he thanked the Police and Fire Departments, all employees and residents who support the programs that make them successful. He said we should call Hasbrouck Heights "we get things done." The Mayor and department heads say we will get it done. He congratulated Pam and Justin.

Councilwoman Link thanked her family who supports her, her friends, borough employees who work together as a team which makes Hasbrouck Heights #1. She said this her heart, her home, and enjoy and thank all the residents for giving her the honor and privilege for serving again. Happy New Year.

Councilman Lipari congratulated Justin and Pam on being re-elected, the Mayor and Council for nominating him as Council President. He thanked Dorothy Bernice and Lori French for their reports every month. He said the best part of being a council person is being the Mayor's Liaison between the Senior Citizens, it is one of the best jobs he has ever had. Last year we had to make major decisions, which he hoped benefitted the town.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM THE COUNCIL (cont'd):

Councilman Semenech wished everyone a Healthy and Happy New Year, and although we do fight up here on the Council, he thanked every member of this Council for their support for his family who had gone through some trouble this year, when we go back into the back room, everybody looks out for everybody else, he appreciates that, thank you Mayor.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM THE PUBLIC:

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

Former Councilman Andrew Link thanked the Mayor and Council, speaking from experience and professionalism, in their abilities to carry out the government of this borough, and thanked the residents of this Borough who maintain their homes and properties in beautiful condition. When people drive they see the love and affection that people have in their home. He also thanked the businesses who maintain their properties very well. Properties are brought up to a new stance, it is important because it makes you feel better.

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

BENEDICTION: Mayor Heck invited Pastor Eric Dammann of Bible Baptist Church to offer the Benediction thanking him for coming today.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, Mayor Heck asked for a motion to adjourn which was made by Councilman Gonzalez, seconded by Councilman Semenech, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

Council President Lipari invited everyone into the Senior Center for refreshments.

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 Reorganization Meeting held on January 1, 2015.

Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk