

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

MINUTES

March 25, 2003

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, March 25, 2003 at 8:00 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 200 Division Avenue, corner of the Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey.

Mayor Torre 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 1, 2003 and transmitted to The Observer, The Record and The Herald News on January 1, 2003.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor William J. Torre, Councilman Andrew Link III, Councilman Herbert D. Heeren, Councilwoman Marlene Verrastro, Councilman John Wassberg

Absent: Councilman DiPisa, Councilman Pepe

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

Mayor Torre introduced two new appointees to the Fire Department.

APPOINTMENTS: David M. Gumbrecht to Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department Engine Company 2

Robert S. Ainsworth to Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department Engine Company 1

On a motion by Mayor Torre, seconded by Councilman Link, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Appointments were accepted.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The following correspondence has been received as of this date:

1. Request from Bergen County's United Way for support of County homeless shelters.
2. NJ Department of Transportation announcement of the establishment of Municipal Welcome Sign Program, which allows counties and municipalities to

COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):

- fabricate, install and maintain decorative welcome signs on DOT highway rights of way.
3. NJ Army National Guard with information of the NJ National Guard Tuition program which offers members of the NJ Army National Guard a tuition-free college education at NJ Public Colleges and Universities.
 4. Susan H. McLaughlin, Supervisor - Education Unit, State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Bureau of Code Services announcing that Electrical Subcode Official Robert K. Rogers Jr. has been selected as the 2003 Electrical Inspector of the Year.
 5. From Dennis McNerney, Bergen County Executive, providing emergency first responders with personal protection ensembles.
 6. Release from Congressman Rothman calling for restrictions over NYC airspace including general aviation aircraft from flying within 15 miles of NYC, including those that operate at Teterboro Airport.
 7. From Bergen County Office of Emergency Management regarding Federal Reimbursement for winter storm of Feb. 16-17, 2003, of a meeting hosted by B.C. Executive Dennis McNerney on March 31.

A motion was made by Councilman Link, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, and unanimously carried, to accept the Correspondence. Mayor Torre asked that the letter on D.O.T. be forwarded to DPW Supt. Heck and asked for a report at the next council meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (February 11, 2003, February 18, 2003,
February 25, 2003 and March 11, 2003)

On a motion by Councilman Heeren, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, with Councilman Wassberg abstaining from the March 11, 2003 Minutes as he was absent, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Minutes were approved.

Parliamentary Law Month
Proclamation supporting Parliamentary Law was read into the record.

None

BILLS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the claims and accounts amounting to \$340,921.14 specified in the schedule hereto annexed, having been examined and approved by the Finance Commissioner, or his Deputy, be paid and that warrants be issued therefore.

Signed Herbert D. Heeren
Commissioner of Finance

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

REPORTS:

STREETS & TRANSPORTATION, SANITATION, AND FIRE:

Under Streets & Transportation, Commissioner Link reported the Public Works Department has started planting trees and to request a tree, the DPW should be called. He continued that 125 trees will be planted in the spring and 75 in the fall. These trees arrived on Dec. 1 and planting was held up. Work on Kipp Avenue reconstruction has resumed and hopefully completed by May. Under Recycling, he reported that the Bergen County Utilities Authority will hold the next Household Hazardous Waste Collection event on Saturday May 17 in Moonachie and additional information may be obtained by calling 201-807-5825. He read a report from Councilman DiPisa regarding the Senior Advisory Committee meeting of March 3. The decor and physical plan was discussed by Architect Anthony Iovino. Michael Kronyak discussed the financial perimeters to be followed. Rob Brady reported on new ideas for programs. The next meeting would be held on April 1. Under Fire, Deputy Commissioner DiPisa gave the Fire report for January: Fire Alarms: Hasbrouck Heights, 44 calls, year to date 64; Teterboro 9, year to date 15; mutual aid 1, year to date 3; total for the month 54, year to date 81. Ambulance calls for January: Hasbrouck Heights, 101, year to date 227; Teterboro, 17, year to date 31; mutual aid, 11, year to date 25; total 129, year to date 283.

FINANCE, HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:

Under Finance, Commissioner Heeren reported that the Current Fund Balance as of Feb. 28, 2003 was \$3,435,279.44 and at Jan. 31, 2003 was \$2,674,286.09, an increase of \$760,993.35, with the entire balance invested and earning approximately 1.75%. Cash receipts for the month of February totaled \$3,643,966.32 of which \$3,554,990.14 was for Current Taxes, \$25,455.22 was for Delinquent Taxes and \$63,520.96 was Miscellaneous Revenues. Cash disbursements for the month of February totaled \$2,881,276.97 of which \$1,468,192.17 was Local School Taxes, \$635,677.98 for County Taxes, \$448,213.29 for Salaries and \$329,193.53 for other expenses. He

FINANCE, HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES (cont'd):

continued the 2003 Municipal Budget was introduced March 11, with public hearing April 8. It calls for an 8 point increase and Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$700,000 was applied for. In addition the finance committee continues to review each line item to make modifications to reduce the tax increase. Under Social Services, he reported 12 interviews were held, 4 for unemployed persons who needed food, one homeless, and the rest miscellaneous needs. Referrals to County agencies were made and that a blind women needed assistance, with various agencies called. A frantic call from Bergen Regional for a \$400 bill of a Hasbrouck Heights patient before discharge. This was not covered, but the hospital was asked to contact physicians for samples. A quarterly meeting was held in February with officers re-elected, Marge Heeren as president and Lucretia White, secretary. A new member was welcomed. Under Health, Commissioner Heeren gave the following report for February: 5 births recorded, 2 male, 3 female; burial permits 68; certified transcripts 523; marriage 0; funeral directors requests 521; Fees collected: burial permits, \$68; certified transcripts, \$2,615; food licenses and late fees, \$125; vending machines, \$1,395; marriage licenses, \$140; with total fees collected \$2,978. Child Health Conference, \$30.00; Dog licenses, \$935, with \$240 of this for late fees. Total deaths recorded 69, residents in town 0, residents out of town 3; non resident 66. Food licenses issued 1, marriage licenses 5, marriages recorded 4; and a total of 79 calls to the office.

FIRE: No report.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: No report.

LAND USE AND RECREATION:

Under Land Use, Commissioner Verrastro reported 32 new permits were issued in February. She cautioned residents about gypsy construction people. All contractors should be registered. Parking on grass is not allowed. A permit is needed to resurface your driveway. Under Recreation, she congratulated the girls traveling basketball team who finished fourth and coach Laura Aurelli. The Recreation Department was host to the wrestling district tournament and the parents and volunteers were thanked. The Annual Awards Dinner would be held the following evening. The cheering team has been practicing, a new program with 25 girls involved who will enter competition. The Men's over 35 basketball, adult volleyball are continuing. Upcoming events include Girls softball, track and field, and traveling girls softball with programs starting soon. A new Adult running and fitness club will start. Summer camp registration will be mid April with trips sign up in May. Senior Olympics will train in April and May, with the event scheduled June 4 in Sparta. The commissioner had attended the airport meeting and reported finally the Port Authority had submitted reports (73 papers) that block grants is distributed through the D.O.T. and going to Teterboro. Regarding Indigo, the

LAND USE AND RECREATION (cont'd):

governor can put an injunction to stop it and she asked that he and legislative representatives be sent letters encouraging this. A health concern is primary.

POLICE AND PARKS:

Under Parks, Commissioner Wassberg reported clean up and repairs have been started. He continued that 174 pavers have been ordered for the Veterans Walkway in Veterans Park. Under Police, Commissioner Wassberg reported 845 calls in February, with 105 for 9-1-1. There were 55 accidents, with 13 injuries. The chief has commended the following officers: DWI: Patrolmen Paul Bassett, 14; Jeff Werner, Dan Kroncke and Michael Colaneri Jr., 11; and Scott Adamo, 10. Traffic summons issued: Michael Colaneri Jr., 1,360; Scott Adamo, 610; and Corey Lane, 420. Perfect attendance included Patrolmen Corey Lane, Alan Baker, Michael Colaneri Jr., Paul Albanese and Sgt. Thomas Tozzi. The DARE graduation was postponed due to a snow storm and will be held April 30. Chief Colaneri, Capt. Kroncke, Lt. DeLorenzo, Sgt. Mullins and DARE officers Patrolmen Paul Albanese, Kroncke, Werner, Bassett, and Sisto. The Hasbrouck Heights Jr. Police Academy has resumed. A letter of commendation was received from a resident for assistance received during the snow storm.

REPORT OF MAYOR:

APPOINTMENTS: Philip A. Tornetta, Esq., as Alternate Prosecutor

On a motion by Councilwoman Verrastro, seconded by Councilman Wassberg, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Appointment was approved.

The mayor noted that alternate prosecutors were needed with the increased court cases. He wished the troops success in their mission and a quick return to this country. He mentioned the passing of two residents, James Cotter, former DPW superintendent for 17 years, and Dick Nimmo, a consummate volunteer, local businessman and integral part of the community, who will both be sorely missed. He asked for a moment of silence. This month was very busy as he and Councilman Heeren attended a meeting with the commissioner of transportation in Little Ferry and they asked the commissioner to heed the litter on our highways, flooding problems and improvements of Route 17 in Hasbrouck Heights. The mayor wished Rick Urban the best of health, and noted his recent problems whereby he was stricken and revived by Rich Giarratana and is now doing well. More would be forthcoming. The mayor attended the Anti Drug rally at Lincoln and Euclid Schools and the enthusiastic programs presented. He attended the schools for Dr. Seuss' birthday, read to the

REPORT OF MAYOR (cont'd):

classes and answered their questions on Hasbrouck Heights. He noted a meeting of the Wood-Ridge Board of Adjustment on April 2 regarding the Curtis-Wright tract and that he or someone would be attending to object to the plan as was done before, that this type of development would not benefit Hasbrouck Heights. He would be speaking with Mayor Sarlo of Wood-Ridge regarding common interests with respect to recreation facilities. Regarding trees, double the amount would be planted this year.

RESIGNATIONS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSENT AGENDA: None

- RESOLUTIONS:**
- 55. Authorizing Refund of Taxes Overpaid
 - 56. Authorizing Change Orders No. 3-1 to 3-6 in Connection General Construction of New Municipal Complex
 - 57. Authorizing Change Order No. 2 in Connection with Foundations and Excavation of New Municipal Complex
 - 58. Authorizing Contract for Demolition of Structure on 302 Boulevard
 - 59. 2002 Appropriation Reserves Transfers
 - 60. Interfund Transfer

On a motion by Councilman Wassberg, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Resolutions were approved (Copies attached).

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2006:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS AND FITTINGS FOR USE THROUGHOUT THE NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING ON THE BOULEVARD EXCLUSIVE OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITIES THEREIN AND TO APPROPRIATE THE TOTAL SUM OF \$215,000.00 PROVIDED BY \$105,000.00 IN INSURANCE PROCEEDS AND \$110,000.00 IN INTEREST EARNED ON THE INVESTMENT OF INSURANCE PROCEEDS" was introduced this date be and the

ORDINANCE(S) ON INTRODUCTION (cont'd):

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 April 8, 2003.

ORDINANCE NO. 2007:

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled “**AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$245,000.00 TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS, SHELVING AND OTHER FITTINGS FOR THE NEW FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITY IN THE NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING 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 \$230,000.00**” was 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 April 8, 2003.

On a motion by Councilman Wassberg, seconded by Councilman Heeren, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinances were approved.

ORDINANCE(S) ON CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Torre opened the public hearing for anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2001. There being no one wishing to speak, the public hearing was continued until the Planning Board review.

ORDINANCE NO. 2001:

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled “**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED “ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**” be now continued on public hearing until the Planning Board review.

On a motion by Councilman Link, seconded by Councilwoman Verrastro, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Public Hearing was continued until April 8, 2003.

ORDINANCE(S) ON PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Torre opened the public hearing for anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2005. There being no one wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2005:

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

BE IT RESOLVED that an ordinance entitled **““2003 “CAP” ORDINANCE TO EXCEED INDEX RATE; INDEX RATE LESS THAN 5% LIMITATION FOR THE YEAR 2003 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)”** 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 Councilwoman Verrastro, seconded by Councilman Wassberg, and unanimously carried, the foregoing Ordinance on Public Hearing was approved.

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

Katherine Miller, 452 Jefferson Avenue, had come with several family members and questioned the property uphill next to her home. They were concerned about the wall and they were advised that according to a planning board resolution, the builder would not be able to get a certificate of occupancy for the new homes he was building there until a new wall was built and a new fence installed. The building inspector would be asked to look at the property.

Carol Skiba, 191 Field Avenue, regarding Teterboro Airport, had attended the Coalition meetings and had read about an environmental impact study in the Star Ledger. The mayor discussed a resolution urging the county to levy and fund such a study. She discussed flight patterns and noise issues.

Ann McGill, 139 Field Avenue, asked about the black helicopters at Teterboro.

CLOSE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RESOLUTION NO. 61: The meeting was closed for Executive Session for any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation or any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, disciplinary action unless individual requests a public meeting.

RECESS:

There being no further business to be conducted by the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

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 Regular Meeting held on March 25, 2003.

Rose Marie Sees, RMC
Borough Clerk