

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**320 Boulevard****Hasbrouck Heights, NJ****And via livestream <https://www.aaliveevents.com/events>****REGULAR SESSION MINUTES****January 9, 2024**

A Regular Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at 320 Boulevard.

Mayor Kistner declared the meeting in Session and advised that Pam Grisafe would be helping out with the meeting due to Acting Borough Clerk, Michelle Sery attending a Municipal Clerk class. Pam stated that the meeting complied with the Sunshine Law, Adequate notice of this meeting has been made to all members of the Council on December 31, 2023, and transmitted to The Record and The Herald News on January 2, 2024, in accordance with the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act", Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

ROLL CALL: Present: Councilman Michael Sickels, Councilwoman Charlotte Sodora, Councilwoman Susan McGuire, Councilman Robert Bing, Councilman Thomas Meli

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

Mayor Kistner requested everyone remain standing for a moment of silence to honor Mrs. Nesbitt, a lifelong, active, first-class lady and resident of the town.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Sickels

APPOINTMENTS: Louis J. Sedlmeir – Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department
Probationary Police Officer – John S. Mullins, Hasbrouck Heights Police Dept.
Daniel Sickels – Mayor's Youth Committee
John Baratta – Library Board of Trustees – 5 years
Ginny Santano – Library Board of Trustees – 2 years

Mayor Kistner asked Pam to read the list of appointments. Mayor Kistner then requested a motion to approve the appointments, which was made by Councilman Bing, seconded by Councilman Meli and unanimously approved.

Mayor Kistner invited Louis J. Sedlmeir up to recite the oath of office.

Mayor Kistner invited John S. Mullins up to recite the oath of office. Councilman Sickels gave a brief overview of the onboarding process and background to John S. Mullins.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1. Communication from the Land Use Board with annual board appointments

**PLANNING BOARD OF THE
BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS
RESOLUTION JANUARY 3, 2024**

ORGANIZATION RESOLUTION 2024

WHEREAS, a quorum of the Planning Board of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights and its current membership having been otherwise duly appointed for their respective terms as prescribed by law, this Body has convened for its reorganization meeting of the year 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Planning Board of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights that it does hereby appoint as its officers for this year the following members respectively:

Chairman: HENRY DOBBELAAR

Vice Chairman: ERIC MASON

SECRETARY: GINO TESSARO

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it does hereby point the following to serve in the respective capacities to this Board for the year 2024.

Attorney: JOSEPH J. ROTOLO, ESQ.

Stenographer: BETH CALDERONE

Engineer: JEFFREY MORRIS, BOSWELL ENGINEERING

Planner: BURGIS ASSOCIATES

Dated: January 3, 2024

HS
HENRY DOBBELAAR, Chairman

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY
JOSEPH J. ROTOLO, ESQ.

Dated: January 3, 2024

HS
GINO TESSARO, Secretary

S:\2023 HASBROUCK HEIGHTS\ORGANIZATION RESOLUTION 2024.wpd

Councilman Kistner asked Pam to read the list of communications. When done, he asked if anyone would like to have the communications read. Councilman Sickels requested the communications be read. After being read by Pam, Mayor Kistner asked for a motion to approve the communications as read, which was made by Councilwoman Sodora, seconded by Councilwoman McGuire and unanimously approved.

BILLS:

WHEREAS, claims and accounts amounting to \$ 3,238,151.95 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.

Mayor Kistner asked Pam to read the Bills resolution. When done, he requested a motion to approve the resolution which was made by Councilman Meli, seconded by Councilwoman Sodora and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

19. Re-appointing Joseph Jones as Municipal Court Judge for 3-year term
20. Payment of Fees to State – Marriage/Civil Union Licenses
21. Payment of Fees to State – State Training Fees
22. Authorizing agreement with BCUA for certified recycling Professional Tonnage Grant Assistance Program
23. Authorizing Raffle Licenses for:
 - HH Parents for Athletes (Event: 6/5/24)
 - Corpus Christi Church (Event: 2/10/24)
 - Paramus Sunrise Rotary Foundation (Event: 2/2/24)
24. Authorizing Support of Bergen County Chief's Association Mutual Aid Plan and Rapid Deployment Force
25. Authorizing Certain Professional Contracts pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and 19:44A-20.5 et seq.
26. Authorizing a Professional Contract with Joseph J. Rotolo, Esq., as Land Use Board Attorney pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.
27. Authorizing a Professional Contract with Boswell Engineering, as Land Use Board Engineer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq and 10:44A-20.5 et seq.
28. Authorizing a Professional Contract with Burgis Associates, as Land Use Board Planner pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq and 10:44A-20.5 et seq.
29. Payroll

Councilman Kistner asked Pam to read the Consent Agenda. Pam stated that the Consent Agenda contained Resolution 19-29 as identified specifically in the agenda as laid out in the back of the room and also posted on the website for this meeting.

When done, Mayor Kistner requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda which was made by Councilman Sickels, seconded by Councilman Bing and unanimously carried.

ORDINANCES ON INTRODUCTION:

Mayor Kistner asked Pam to read Ordinance No. 2545 by title. When done, Mayor Kistner asked for a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2545 which was made by Councilwoman McGuire, seconded by Councilman Bing and unanimously carried.

ORD No. 2545 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2492 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARY AND COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN OF THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY, FOR THE YEAR 2021”

Mayor Kistner then asked Pam to read the notice of introduction.

Be it resolved that ORD. 2545 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 January 23, 2024, at 7:00pm

MISCELLANEOUS FROM PUBLIC:

Councilman Kistner requested a motion to open the meeting to the public which was made by Councilman Bing and seconded by Councilman Meli and unanimously carried.

Councilman Kistner asked if anyone else would like to speak. Seeing no one, he requested a motion to close the public portion of the meeting, which was made by Councilman Bing, seconded by Councilman Sickels and unanimously carried.

WORK SESSION:

Mayor Kistner advised that the work session portion of the meeting would commence.

He invited Borough Engineer, Norberto from Neglia Engineering to give his update. The Borough Engineer gave an update on following up with the DOT and is awaiting response as they were out of the office. He updated that the Bergen County Mosquito Division had inspected by the basin for mosquito larvae and advised that they are not responsible for the maintenance. After the engineer update, Mayor Kistner updated that the DOT has acknowledged receiving all the requests for maintenance on the basin and will be addressing the issue. Mayor Kistner also stated he would like to implement a system to grade the streets in town and will work with Public Works Superintendent, Lenny Masucci and Borough Engineer, Norberto Hernandez to establish.



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JANUARY 9, 2024
BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS
ENGINEER'S REPORT



1. Woodland Park Basketball Court Improvements (Bergen County Open Space Trust Funded)

On January 3, 2024, our office was informed that the Borough received a total matching grant award of \$121,000.00 from the Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund for the Woodland Park Basketball Court Improvement project. Our office previously assisted the Borough's grant writing consultant in preparing a 2023 Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund grant application which was submitted in May 2023. The scope of this project consists of the reconstruction of the basketball courts located at Woodland Park which includes, but is not limited to, the replacement of the existing basketball goals posts/hoops, reconstruction of the existing basketball court surface, and restriping the basketball courts.

2. New Department of Public Works Facility

As requested by the Borough, our office has coordinated with various architectural firms to provide proposals for a new public works facility. These proposals would provide necessary services to prepare conceptual level floor plans and renderings for a potential new public works facility as well as provide a preliminary estimate for the proposed facility based on the Borough's needs.

On May 4, 2023, our office submitted a proposal to provide professional architectural services through our sub-consultant, Arcari + Iovino Architects for proceeding with the conceptual level evaluation of the DPW property and preparation of conceptual floor plans, renderings, and probable cost. Our office has scheduled a project kickoff meeting between our office, the project architect, and the appropriate Borough officials to be held on June 15, 2023.

On June 15, 2023, our office met with the project architect and Borough officials to discuss the prospects of a new DPW facility and subsequently performed a walkthrough of the existing facility. Based on the information gathered to date, our architect has submitted preliminary documents detailing potential layouts and building programming to the Borough for review. Once we receive comments from the Borough, we will coordinate with our architect and begin finalizing the conceptual documents. We will continue to provide updates on this project, as appropriate.

3. 2023 Municipal Road Program

The Contractor successfully completed all roadway repaving improvements during the week of November 20 with the exception of Burr Place, between Division Avenue and the dead-end cul-de-sac, due to necessary drainage improvements. The Contractor is currently working to complete the remaining drainage improvements on Burr Place with final roadway repaving to follow in Spring 2024.

4. Woodside Avenue Roadway Improvements – Phase 1 (FY 2022 CDBG Funded)

The Contractor has successfully completed all outstanding punchlist items and our office is currently working on preparing the final closeout documents. At this time, we expect the final payment and change order (deduct) to be included on the January 23 council meeting agenda for consideration by the Governing Body. Once all final closeout documentation is approved by the Borough, our office will submit all necessary documentation to Bergen County for final grant reimbursement.

LYNDHURST

34 Park Avenue
PO Box 426
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071
p. 201.939.8805 f. 201.939.0846

MOUNTAINSIDE

200 Central Avenue
Suite 102
Mountainside, NJ 07092
p. 201.939.8805 f. 732.943.7249

5. 2023 NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant Application

On June 30, 2022, our office successfully submitted a New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) FY2023 Municipal Aid grant application regarding roadway improvements to Kipp Avenue (between Woodside Avenue and Oldfield Avenue). The proposed improvements include but are not limited to, milling, repaving, partial curbing, drainage improvements, and ADA curb ramp reconstruction within the project limits. The total requested funds for this grant application were approximately \$1.3 million which is the estimated cost for this project. The estimated cost includes costs associated with construction, engineering design, construction inspection, and material testing.

On November 23, 2022, NJDOT provided our office with notification of a grant award in the amount of \$248,240.00 for the above-referenced application which must be awarded a contract for construction by November 23, 2024. Due to capital commitments to the current 2023 Municipal Program, this project will be reconsidered for inclusion in the 2024 Municipal Road Program.

6. 2023 NJ DCA Local Recreation Improvement Grant Application

Neglia was recently informed that the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) is accepting applications for the Local Recreation Improvement Grant program. The Local Recreation Improvement Grant (LRIG) is a competitive grant that supports the improvement and repair of public recreation facilities including local parks, municipal recreation centers, and local stadiums. Neglia has reviewed this grant opportunity with Borough officials and the Borough has determined it most appropriate to request funds for improvements to Miers Playground located within the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights. The proposed improvements will consist of the removal of existing playground equipment and the installation of new state-of-the-art playground equipment. Our office has begun working on completing all required documents associated with this grant application and estimates this project will cost approximately \$121,900.00 to construct.

On April 13, 2023, our office was notified that the DCA awarded \$75,000.00 to the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights for this project. At this time, this project is currently planned to be completed during the 2024 calendar year.

7. 2022 Municipal Road Program

At this time, this project is substantially complete and our office is working on project closeout procedures. Our office will continue to provide updates on the status of this project, as appropriate.

8. Paterson Avenue Roadway Improvements (NJDOT Funded)

On June 22, 2022, our office was authorized to proceed with surveying, engineering design, and construction management services for the Paterson Avenue Roadway Improvements project. This project is funded by a FY2022 NJDOT Municipal Aid grant and received funding in the amount of \$201,000.00. The planned improvements for this project include but are not limited to, full curb-to-curb milling and paving, spot repairs for concrete curbs, ADA ramp reconstruction, and installation of traffic stripes, on Paterson Avenue, between Terrace Avenue and Oak Grove Avenue.

Our office is currently working with the Contractor to address punch list items before commencing project close-out procedures. Our office will continue to provide updates on this project, as appropriate.

9. 2024 NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant Application

Our office was recently notified that the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is now accepting applications for this year's municipal aid grant program. After reviewing the Borough's needs for roadway improvements with the Administrator and Borough DPW Superintendent, it was determined that Wood Street (from Lincoln Avenue to Passaic Avenue), Washington Place (Oak Grove Avenue to Boulevard), and Collins Avenue (from Route 46 to Coolidge Avenue) are appropriate roadways for funding consideration by NJDOT under this grant program. Anticipated improvements to these

roadways include milling and repaving of the roadways, ADA curb ramp construction, and tree removals/plantings (as necessary) within the project limits noted above.

Our office has assisted the Borough's grant writer in preparing this grant application package in support of the above-mentioned roadways. Kindly note that this grant application was submitted prior to the due on July 1, 2023, and copies of the authorizing resolution approving the submission of the grant application were submitted to NJDOT.

On November 1, 2023, the NJDOT announced that the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights received a total grant award of \$249,252.00 for the above-referenced project with a deadline to award a construction contract by October 31, 2025. Our office will continue to provide updates on this project, as appropriate.

10. Bergen County ADA Curb Ramp Improvement Project (Bergen County Contract #3)

The remaining ADA curb ramps along Terrace Avenue will be completed Spring 2024. Our office will continue to coordinate with Bergen County to ensure the completion of these improvements and provide updates on the project, as appropriate.

11. 2024 Bergen County Community Development Block Grant Application

Our office is currently assisting the Borough's grant writers with the submission of a 2024 Bergen County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application. Upon further discussion with the Borough Administrator and Department of Public Works Superintendent, it was determined that Collins Avenue is the most appropriate roadway to be included for this funding request based on the current condition of the roadway and the available areas that are eligible for funding. The proposed improvements include, but are not limited to, ADA ramp reconstruction, signage replacements, roadway resurfacing, and roadway striping along Collins Avenue, between Williams Avenue and NJ Route 46.

This application was successfully submitted on Thursday, December 14, 2023. We will continue to provide updates on the status of this grant application once we receive additional information.

We trust you will find the above in order. Should you have any additional questions, comments, or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Neglia Group



Norberto A. Hernandez, P.E.
For the Borough Engineer
Borough of Hasbrouck Heights

Mayor Kistner invited Borough CFO, David Sireci to give his finance update.

FINANCE REPORT FOR THE JANUARY 9th 2024 MEETING

The Current Fund cash balance at December 31st is \$3,393,606 and at November 30th was \$7,257,045 which represents a decrease of \$3,863,439. The entire balance was invested and earning 5.25%.

Cash receipts for the month of December totaled \$885,198 consisting of:

- \$250,788 for current 2023 taxes
- \$209,318 in reimbursements from Trust Fund for Outside Police overtime
- \$146,374 in reimbursements from Payroll Agency Trust for employee medical deduction contributions
- \$63,655 in hotel fees
- \$58,554 in prepaid 2024 taxes
- \$57,876 in Energy Receipt Tax State Aid
- \$39,486 in interest earned
- \$10,561 in interest on delinquent taxes
- \$10,081 from Teterboro for fire, ambulance & 9-1-1 service fees
- \$9,865 for fees/permits & miscellaneous other revenues
- \$7,843 in municipal court fines
- \$7,500 in Spotted Lanterfly Grant reimbursements
- \$7,142 in construction code fees
- \$2,863 in State LEA (Fire Safety) rebates
- \$2,292 in Body Armor Grant Funds
- \$1,000 in Auto Wholesale permit fees

Cash disbursements for the month of December totaled \$4,748,637 of which \$2,744,549 was for local School taxes (58%), \$1,418,228 was for salaries – 3 pay periods (30%), and \$585,860 was for other budgeted expenses (12%).

Other Items/Projects:

- The Finance Officer has received notice from the Division of Local Government Services that the date for the submission of the Annual Financial Statement has been extended from February 10th to March 8th and the date for the introduction of the budget has been extended from February 10th to March 29th or the next regularly scheduled meeting of the governing body.
- Preparation of the 2024 budget continues. Trenton released 2024 forms and data entry is in process.
- The CFO has completed and filed the Annual Debt Statement due 1/31/24 and has started the preparation of the Annual Financial Statement. Debt Statement reflects a 0.570% debt to valuation percentage which is extremely low. State allows up to 3.50%.
- Excellent job by Chita, Louise, Candace & Pam in the Finance Department which allowed for closing the year with no issues and all accounts reconciling. We have already rolled the system over and are processing transactions for 2024.
- Cash collections remain steady in anticipation of the 1st quarter bills due 2/12/24.

Mayor Kistner invited the Department Commissioners to give their updates.

Councilman Sickels gave report on Transportation & Public Works Department – see attached

Councilwoman Sodora gave report on:

***Board of Health:** Board of Health Reorganization Meeting scheduled for January 10, 2024. They are seeking approval from the Mayor and Council for the Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission. They have attained approximately \$28,000 in grants for the Borough/Board of Health. They are also working on a resolution to increase the cost of licenses issued to be presented at a later date.

***Library:** The Library Board of Trustees honored Eagle Scout Patrick Lambe for acquiring a collection of Spanish books to be housed in a Bookcase that they also held a dedication for in honor of Tom Verrastro on January 6, 2024. There are many events planned for the month of January.

Councilwoman McGuire gave report on the Police Department & Land Use – see attached

Councilman Bing gave report on:

***Recreation:** See attached

***Social Services:** See attached and also need to assess services we have and see other opportunities we can offer

Councilman Meli gave report (see attached) on Fire Department and gave tremendous commendation for all the work done in the past month especially with the fireball tanker truck incident.

Transportation Report for December 2023

The Senior Bus is currently used to provide transportation for our Senior Citizens, (age 62 and older) living in Hasbrouck Heights to certain Supermarkets and Malls.

During the month of December 2023, the bus traveled to Shop Rite on Wednesdays with an average of 8 Bus riders each week.

The bus also traveled to Stop N Shop & Aldi's twice this month with 3 riders each week.

On 12/6/23 the Leisure Club had their Christmas Party at the Fiesta where the bus provided transportation for 4 residents.

The seniors enjoyed a trip to the Bergen Mall on 12/14/23.

To register, senior residents may reserve a seat by calling our Senior Bus Driver, Marty at 201-693-8124 or The Borough Clerk's Office 201-288-0195.

Michael Sickels

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS

STREETS

- The storm on 12/18/23 brought 4 inches of rain to the area and 4 large trees fell. The DPW responded to flooding on roads and set up barricades to block flooded streets.
- The DPW responded to the Franklin Avenue Pump Station due to alarms going off and stayed to monitor the pumps that were overheating.
- The Tree Dept. responded to numerous calls about broken branches and dangerous limbs.
- The DPW cleared 300 catch basins that were filled with debris from the storm.
- Tree trimming and street sweeping continue daily weather permitting.
- All salt trucks have been plowed up and chained ready for winter.
- Due to the 2 inches of rain that fell on 12/28/23, the DPW cleaned a total of 68 storm catch basins.
- The DPW removed the decorations from the tree the town decorated at Van Saun Park Winter Wonderland. The town gets to keep the tree and plant in one of our town parks.
- The DPW assisted Rapid Pump at the Franklin Avenue pump station to take out the burnt-out pump and replace it with a brand-new pump.
- On 1/6/24 a winter storm that brought 1-3 inches of a wintry mix blanketed the town. The DPW had a total of 16 trucks to clear all the Borough and County roads and properties.
- On 1/8/24 the DPW assisted the Fire Dept. with two salt trucks for the Rt. 17 building fire because of icy conditions.

PUBLIC FACILITIES

- The entire first floor of Borough Hall was painted. The Council room and hallway by the courtroom were also painted.
- The DPW assisted Confire with the annual sprinkler inspection at the Fire Dept. and Borough Hall.
- The DPW assisted Lanzo Plumbing on an inspection of back flow prevention water system, which is required by the State, at the PD and Borough Hall.

LM/tg

*cc: Mike Sickels, Commissioner of Public Works
Charlotte Sodora, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works
Michelle Sery, Borough Clerk*



HASBROUCK HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT
248 HAMILTON AVENUE
HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY 07604



Joseph Rinke
Chief of Police

Headquarters 201-288-1000
Fax 201-288-4006

TO: Mayor R. Kistner
Comm. R. Bing
Comm. S. McGuire

FROM: Chief J. Rinke

DATE: January 8, 2024

SUBJECT: Police Department News

The Hasbrouck Heights Police Department answered 1,186 calls for service for the month of December

Officers responded to 60 medical/ambulance calls.

There were 3 DWI arrests.

There were 93 motor vehicle crashes and 76 motor vehicle stops. Over 811 summonses and warnings issued to drivers.

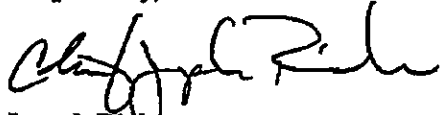
Recently within our town; as well as, surrounding communities, along with vehicle burglaries, residents have been the target of burglaries, even while the families are home. It is believed that their goal is to obtain keys/ key fobs to the cars that are in residents' driveways. They occur mostly in am hours before sun up.

Residents should continue to lock the doors to their vehicle, do not leave key fobs in vehicles and remove all items of value from their vehicles. Lock doors and windows to your homes activate your burglar alarms, ensure the exterior lights are working.

Residents are urged to contact the Hasbrouck Heights Police by 201-288-1000 or 9-1-1 if they observe anything suspicious; such as, vehicles parked at an early morning hour outside their or their neighbor's residence that do not belong there. Any unusual noises such as breaking glass, windows, loud bangs/noises, please call the HHPD. Even if you're out for your morning walk, or walking your dog and you see any suspicious activity, please contact the HHPD. The residents are the eyes and ears of this Community. If you do see anything suspicious, do not post on social media, please contact the Hasbrouck Heights Police immediately.

On Monday, January 8, 2024, we held our first South Bergen Crime Clinic (Detectives Meeting) after a lengthy break due to Covid shut downs in 2020. The meetings are held in collaboration with other Departments in our area to discuss current crime trends and share information. In attendance were the following Departments: Carlstadt, East Rutherford, North Arlington, Rutherford and Wood-Ridge. I would like to thank their respective Chiefs and Detective Bureaus for attending. As we move forward, we expect more agencies to attend in the future.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Rinko". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "R".

Joseph Rinko
Chief of Police

MONTHLY REPORT BUILDING DEPT – JANUARY, 2024

Permit totals from December were \$7570.00. We continue to process both Residential and Commercial Permit Applications, as well as solar permits and early pool applications for next spring and summer. Work on the new duplexes on Kipp Ave is nearing completion.

The Land Use Board held a meeting December 6, 2023. There was a review of proposed ordinances for the 2023 Master Plan. There was a Resolution approving drive through restaurants in the B-2 zone, and a Resolution for denial of the application at 259 Lawrence Ave.

In Property Maintenance, from 12/15/23 to 1/5/24, seven complaints were received, all of which were answered. Eight warnings were issued, and one contractor was notified regarding working without a permit. Homeowners have been notified concerning winter maintenance of property as well as trash pickup. Business owners on the Boulevard have been notified regarding maintenance of their property as well.

Hasbrouck Heights Recreation Department

Monthly Report January 2024

Submitted by: Robert Brady, Director of Recreation

- **Recreation Youth Basketball-** the 2024 season has begun! We have 28 recreation teams from grades 3rd -8th for boys and girls, all have played their first games last week. The season runs approx. 12 weeks and championship games are in March for 5th-8th grade divisions.
- **Recreation Basketball Clinics-** our 1st & 2nd grade clinics for boys and girls just completed their 3rd session, they have 4 more left for the season. We have over 70 children in the program, all children receive a rec clinic t-shirt and at the completion of the program they will receive a trophy.
- **Recreation Travel Basketball-** the recreation department offers 12 travel teams for boys and girls in grades 3rd-8th, all of our travel teams have been practicing since early December and all have started their game schedules. The girls play in the NWBP League and the Boys play in the NNJL League.
- **The Recreation Wrestling Program-** Councilman Bing can provide a detailed summary of this program.
- **The Rec center is open every Friday night for boys and girls in grades 6th-8th, the cost is \$25/school year.**
- **The Senior Center hosts a variety of classes and games including yoga, line dancing, Zumba, stretch/flex, mah jon, cards, and much more. For a detailed schedule you can go on the towns website or stop by the center and pick one up.**

Any questions about any of our recreation programs please call the rec dept at 201 288 4143.

Social Services Report for December 2023

For the month of December 2023, we had 70 residents who accessed the Food Pantry. The Pantry was closed on Monday, December 25, 2023 in observance of the Holiday.

The Food Pantry is open on Mondays from 9:00am to 11:00am with approximately 23 residents each week.

Turkeys along with \$25.00 Gift Cards were distributed to the Food Pantry Patrons on Monday December 18, 2023 to help with the Holidays.

There is a Link on the Hasbrouck Heights website for the Food Pantry which will bring you to the Amazon sign on screen where you can create an account if you don't already have one.

We update the Amazon Wish List regularly by request of our Food Pantry volunteers.

When Donating you can choose your quantity, anything is much appreciated. Please make sure the ship to address is HH Food Pantry or Rob Brady 320 Boulevard Hasbrouck Heights NJ 07604.

Our Food Pantry Volunteers continue to do an amazing job organizing and stocking shelves, as well as packing bags and distributing the food on Monday mornings. We appreciate all their help.

Thank you also to the residents and various organizations who continue to donate food and gift cards. Hasbrouck Heights is a strong community and it is comforting to know that we can count on our fellow residents for support during these uncertain times.

Paper bags and reusable bags are also needed so we can redistribute the food.

Donations are also accepted at the Borough Clerk's Office, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9am and 4:30pm.

Hello Mayor Kistner and Fire Commish Tom Meli. From the Night of our Santa around town until yesterday afternoon the HHFD has been extremely busy and successful. The First incident which is of we all know, the baby being taken to HUMC by myself. The Second Incident occurred after our santa around town where we had a major storm. The HHFD rescued approx. 20 people from flooding cars throughout the entire night.

The Third incident occurred on Christmas Eve where we had a serious fire on the exterior of the home . The fire broke a window and started to involve the home. The HHFD arrived at the fire , put the fire out and saved the home from burning on Christmas Eve which I found very Special.

The Fourth Incident Occurred with a tanker crash resulting in a 1 story commercial to be fully involved in fire. The HHFD was able to control the Fire while attacking the self storage warehouse to keep fire out of that structure which was a major success. The fact that there was no injuries to any firefighter nor any civilian deaths is remarkable. We went to a 5th alarm fire bringing in resources to aid us but the HHFD was able to contain and save the exposure buildings within 10 minutes of arrival.

Tonight we expect to be busy with the storm predicted. Our members are prepared and have preplanned certain areas of town and target hazard buildings. It is our goal to keep up this great run of success

Respectfully Submitted

Chief M. Greco

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Kistner delivered his Mayor's Report stating that his first week in office had been very busy. He has met with the Chamber of Commerce and noted that they have parking availability concerns. He met with the Library – Board of Trustees. He mentioned that Friends of the Library have a donation card where if one donates to acquire it, there are approximately 40 restaurants offering percentages off. He attended the dedication ceremony of the Spanish Language Bookcase donated in memory of Tom Verrastro & Material Collection by Eagle Scout Patrick Lambe on Saturday, January 6th, 2024. Mayor Kistner thanked everyone on the Council and all the Department Heads and Borough employees for making his transition very smooth and positive. New Jersey Governor Murphy had contacted Mayor Kistner to see if any assistance was needed with the fireball explosion caused by a tanker truck and a vehicle and Mayor assured him that we had it all under control. He thanked and spoke about the tremendous contribution by all departments in assisting with that incident.

ADJOURN:

Councilman Kistner requested a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was made by Councilman Bing, seconded by Councilman Sickels and unanimously carried.

I, Anne Michelle Sery, Acting 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 9, 2024



Anne Michelle Sery
Acting Borough Clerk