



BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

320 Boulevard

Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604

Tel: (201) 288-0195 Fax: (201) 288-6408

Leonard Introna
Council President

Anthony DiNanno
Councilman

Maryetta Saccomano
Councilwoman

Stephen Altobelli
Councilman

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Dear Neighbor:

We wanted to provide you with an update on recent events involving the Council and its appointment of certain professionals and volunteers. As you know, there has been a significant amount of controversy in town since the January 1st reorganization meeting.

First, with regard to volunteers, there are many people in town who have never had the opportunity to serve on a board or committee. We filled some of the expired terms with these new individuals. It is important for everyone to understand that no one was "fired." They simply did not have their terms automatically renewed as in years' past. That is a significant distinction. In addition, the overwhelming majority of the memberships of these different volunteer organizations, including the ones appointed this year, are individuals the mayor first selected. We did not arbitrarily "clean house."

A few of the professionals were changed because we felt there was a need for a fresh perspective and different skill sets. It is important to note that many professionals are committed to reducing by 6.5% the fees they charge the town versus their predecessors. We also hired one less attorney this year versus last year. These moves will help us save taxpayer dollars.

With the appointment process finally behind us, we can now move ahead with the agenda we first shared with you during last fall's campaign. Our priorities remain the same: stabilize, and reduce if possible, taxes; complete the Depken field project; and begin plans to improve our down town. Nothing has changed. If anything, the professional appointments recently installed by the Council will help us achieve all three objectives. They bring a wealth of talent, expertise and resources that we can leverage to help ensure each initiative is successful. And we welcome the ideas, enthusiasm and participation of any and all who would like to help.

Given all the recent debate, it is sometime hard to see the forest through the trees. And to the entire community we would simply say, have some patience. We are confident that in the weeks and months to come you will begin to see signs that we are, in fact, moving Hasbrouck Heights forward.

Respectfully,

Leonard Introna
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