

Council Meeting July 8, 2009

Comments:

I didn't comment on Inauguration Day, I was following protocol – on first reading there should not be that much discussion, on second reading now is the time for extensive discussion.

Inauguration Day I listened to your speeches knowing this Ordinance was on the agenda when three Council people asked to table the ordinance, and send it to committee the answer was no, the words sadly did not reflex your actions. This was totally inappropriate for Inauguration Day.

The Ordinance itself has Merit; this is the reason why it should go to committee. To the sponsor and co sponsor the tone seems to be blaming the new administration for the failures of the last administration that is unfair. Committee members this ordinance insults every board member who volunteers, devotes their time, efforts for non-paying positions to serve our city, furthermore on our boards sit many knowledge, civic minded residents who exhibit good judgment. While I do not always agree with some decision of all our boards, Planning, Zoning of Adjustment or Historic Preservation Commission, etc but to paint everybody with the same brush is wrong and sends a negative message please send this to Committee.

Mayor: it's no secret that Roberts was never my choice for Mayor, but thru the eight years and one term of Presidency, I managed to Co-exist. It is no secret that Peter was not my first choice, but he was elected as our Mayor. I believe he does deserve the opportunity for the ink to dry on his Oath of Office. Send this to committee with Peter, he maybe able to refocus the direction of the boards, if not send it back to the table.

Council: as for the Council, look at the Council who took on the previous Administration and fought tooth and nail to uncover the mis-management, united we were successful. Discourse occurred over the last few years because we knew something was not right, now it is not necessary, we have a clean slate take advantage of the opportunity to accomplish good things for our City with Co-operation and consensus live up to you words on Inauguration Day send this to Committee. Perhaps some suggestions from the public will be a good idea.

Theresa has served on many Volunteer boards. She has been elected President of several parent associations; she was instrumental in organizing and was elected first President of the Hoboken Business and industry association. She served as a Trustee on the Hoboken Historic Museum. In 1969, her parents Sam and Claire (Ferrante) opened the City Discount House Corp, while continuing to operate the Belvedere Bar & Restaurant, a business the family started in the 1930's. The Belvedere was sold in 1970 and the clothing store and several multi family building are presently owned & operated by Theresa.

Her career in Public Service began in the early 1970's, when she became a member of the Anthony Russo Civic Association. She held various positions throughout many years, since 1974. Through the Association, Theresa along with other members have made visits to St. Mary's Hospital Pediatrics Ward on Major Holidays. The Senior Flower Program delivers flowers to seniors on major Holidays. Sponsoring the Hoboken's Haunted House, which is free to children on Halloween, these events continue to date. Theresa and the members, have raised money for Aids through Faith Services, and became a drop off center for the Red Cross on 9-11, collected items & money for the WTC Disaster, Katrina rescue service. Theresa has been a civic volunteer on many issues.

She began her career in Politics in 1978 when she was appointed to the Hoboken Historic Preservation Commission, a position she still hold today and has chaired since 1991. Theresa was also appointed to the Zoning Board of Adjustment in 1990. She was then elected Chairperson and held two chair positions in the City.

In 1995 Theresa was asked to run for City Counsel-she was reluctant at first, just wanting to serve the City as a volunteer. She then made her decision to run and three terms later, she is looking forward to run the 4th term this spring.

She says, "Holding office is just an extension of what I did anyway, this seat is a natural progression". We are after all "Public Servants".

Theresa is a very active, involved hands on Councilwoman. Many of her constituents visit her at her shop, she answers all calls. If you hear anything about her it's "she will help you if she can or she'll send you to someone who can, but she'll never let you hang".

When asked why she aspired to be a "public servant", a term she uses as opposed to politician, Theresa says, "The City of Hoboken has given me so much a, wonderful place to grow up in and to raise my children in the same environment, great family, values and tradition that continue today and a successful business. Consider it an honor and a privilege to be able to give back to the community that has given me so much, what better way to say "Thank you Hoboken.

Being recognized by your family, friends and especially your peers in a priceless Validation of your life long accomplishments.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Christopher Columbus Foundation, the members and Chairman Anthony L. Grazioso, for choosing me for this great honor.