

City of Hoboken
Resolution No.10-317

Resolution Rejecting the Terms of a Successor Collective
Bargaining Agreement With the Hoboken Police Superior Officers
Association

I speak tonight as a Councilperson, a taxpayer and as the wife of a Hoboken
Police officer.

COUNCILPERSON: I have always voted as a fiscal conservative . Always voting on
behalf of the taxpayers wallet.

I see this as a tremendous gamble-risk to the taxpayers. We are in the worst fiscal crises
in the history of this City. We still have no idea what is around the corner, we are facing a
very critical period.

We have already invested 3 years in negotiations. Add to that another 1-2-3 years of
arbitration. Add to that Attorney fees (unknown). Add to that the risk of the Unions being
successful . Add these unknown factors and the City will be writing the retro check 3 or 4
times over.

Taxpayer:

Prolonging this contract is not in anyone's best interest . Not settling , also prevents us
from moving forward with the 2011 budget. We can start fresh with the last 3 years
behind us. Voting for this contract is the most prudent action this council can take.

With respect to the Audit findings and for all the discrepancies and false information, it is
not worth the paper it is written on.

Observations /comments:

“ We live in a safe City, we don't need this many cops.” Obvious answer, “Why do you
think we live in a safe City? Because our Officers do a tremendous job in keeping us
safe. The Hoboken Police answer an average of 200 calls a day in a very professional
manner.

Read the paper, just up the hill, we are surrounded by crime riddled cities Shootings,
stabblings, revenge arsons it is frightening. Hoboken is considered an affluent city, the
criminals are just waiting for the opportunity to get into our homes. By diminishing our
Police force you are essentially endorsing a private invitation to these criminals to come
into your home.

Police officer's Wife:

I get it, by some of your comments at the Council meeting, that some of you could't care less about the safety issues, it's all about dollars and cents. I've given you my dollars and cents comments. To discuss the public safety issues I need to get personal.

My husband has been a Hoboken Patrolman/Detective for some 30years+ , he has never aspired to make rank. I feel justified to speak on this subject as you can see it has never been about the money for us.

Everyone of us runs the risk of walking out the door and never returning. We also have the option of running away from dangerous situations. The Public Safety Officers run into life threatening events everyday.

And you are wrong if you think crime and danger doesn't happen here, it does . Below are examples of jobs my husband Robert got recognized for.

A few examples:

1. pulled many people out of burning car, seconds before the car explodes.
2. caught a rapist ½ hour after he raped a girl.
3. saved a 4 year old girl by getting her to the hospital minutes before she would have suffered brain damage or died.

These are everyday occurrences that the men and women in Public Safety face , all in our name.

In conclusion, a YES VOTE accomplishes;

1. settles the contract.
2. allows us to move forward on the 2011 contract.
3. making changes now would be much too risky with taxpayers money. We know the number/the unknown number could be a frightening figure.
4. settling the contract gives us the opportunity to move forward with accurate numbers with regard to the 2011 Municipal Budget.
5. settling the contract opens up the field with a clean slate. The 2011 contract is where we should consider all the suggestions and there is where the efforts to negotiate belong.