

Budget Meeting March 10, 2015

The Special Budget Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at the Borough Hall, Gould Avenue and began at 5:23 pm.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

Mayor Alessi

Council Members: Council President Cynthia Santomauro, Councilman Frank Astorino, Councilman Robert Kessler, Councilman Joshua Raymond, Councilman Arthur Rees

Absent: Councilman John Chiaia

Also, present were David M. Paris, Borough Attorney, Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer, Mel Levine, Borough Administrator, Chief Mark Deuer, and Nancy Pravata, Borough Clerk, Richard Mondelli, CFO.

Mayor Alessi called the meeting to order announcing that notice was provided in accordance with the requirements of Chapter, 231, P.L. 1975.

Mayor Alessi asked Councilman Astorino to lead those present in the salute to the American flag.

Citizens to Be Heard

Mayor Alessi opened the floor to the public. No one came forward

Items for Discussion

The Mayor thanked everyone for coming in early for this meeting and to discuss the 2015 Budget.

A. 2015 Operating Budget – Richard Mondelli spoke regarding the Operating the Budget –

Pool Budget – Rich explained that the pool revenue was down again last year by about \$6,000.00.

There was discussion regarding what the recreation department had requested and what was on the budget.

Water Budget – Revenues were up last year but the appropriations fell short because the energy charges on the water purchase from Essex Fells had increase from the previous year. We still have \$50,000.00 in the capital fund. Rich feels that we need to raise the water rate this year because the 4% increase in Essex Fells water rate and Passaic Valley water rate increase to us. The Council decided to increase the water rate to \$5.70 effective April 1 since there was no increase last year. There will be a resolution at the Regular Mayor & Council Meeting in March.

Current Fund - We are under the 2% cap levy. As the Budget stands now there is a 8 tax point increase, which translates into a tax increase of \$54.16 to the average assessed home.

Rich spoke about the revenues that were down in 2014, which were court, recreation and the building department.

The Tax Assessor has asked for additional professional services in the amount of \$7,500.00. The council agreed that this will bring in additional revenue.

Legal services came in well under last year. The legal budget should be cut down to \$60,000.00.

Cut out additional services for construction code officials.

Police salary and wages reflect new contract.

Police operating include from new contract uniform allowance.

Fire Department is up \$2000.00 for mandatory training.

Roads are up because Frank has asked for a part-time employee.

The Trash Line will be decreased by \$5,000.00.

Frank Zichelli explained that the DPW took over janitorial services last year, because we were no longer happy with the cleaning service that we had. Now the cleaning of the buildings is not getting done on a regular basis since the DPW has been short-handed with illness and injury of the employees within the Department. He received some quotes from \$15,000 to \$60,000 a year. The Council decided to go with \$15,000 a year.

Caldwell Sewer System –The Borough is still waiting on the rates from Caldwell, we are anticipating a 3% increase.

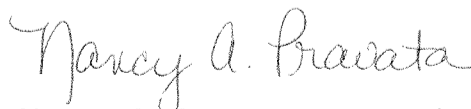
Executive Session

Resolution R-46-15 Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes of Personnel Issues was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Raymond. This motion was unanimously carried.

The public meeting was re-opened at 7:25pm.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Rees that this meeting be adjourned at 7:27p.m. This motion was unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy A. Pravata, Borough Clerk