

Conference Meeting September 9, 2014

The Conference Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at the Borough Hall, Gould Avenue and began at 7:43pm.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

Mayor Alessi

Council Members: Councilwoman Patricia Fost, Councilman Joshua Raymond, Councilman Arthur Rees

Absent: Council President Cynthia Santomauro, Councilman Frank Astorino, Councilman John Chiaia

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

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 Mrs. Anderson to lead those present in the salute to the American flag.

The Mayor invited everyone to attend the 9/11 Memorial Service at Borough Hall on Thursday, September 11th at 8:46am.

Citizens to Be Heard

Mayor Alessi opened the floor to the public.

Kenneth and Mary Anderson, 8 Hillside Avenue – Asked the status of the parking stickers and whether Hillside Avenue would be paved. Mr. Zichelli stated that the street will be paved as soon as the contractor is able to put it on his schedule. They were advised that an Ordinance regarding permit parking on Hillside Avenue was moving forward.

No one else came forward.

Items for Discussion

- A. NJ DOT Roadway Improvement 2015 Grant – Mr. Zichelli explained that the DOT has asked us again to apply for a grant for roadway improvements. He recommends Willowbrook Drive and White Oak Drive to apply for the grants. Willowbrook Drive will be the primary. There will be two resolutions.
- B. Vacancy of Borough Rental Property – 137 Gould Avenue – Mr. Levine stated that the tenant will be leaving at the end of this month. The Council discussed several options for the property. They will review the options after the property has been looked at by the Borough Administrator and Borough Engineer.
- C. Hillside Avenue Permit Parking Ordinance – Chief Deuer has been to Hillside Avenue looking to see how many cars can be parked without causing problems. The absolute maximum for the seven homes on Hillside Avenue is 14. Every home should be given no more than two parking permits. Recommendation is to revisit this after six months and meet with the residents to see how it is working out. There would be a decal that would be issued to a car, not a home. There was discussion on the parking situation. The ordinance will be introduced at the next meeting.

- D. Magnusson Field Parking – Chief Deuer has first-hand experience with the parking situation at this field. There is a period of time that there will be 56 girls playing soccer at one time; therefore, there is a possibility of 56 cars at one time. A suggestion is to use part of the field that is not being utilized at this time. It probably would be able to get 25 cars at one time on that section of the field. There is potential for some problems with the ground if it is raining or wet. Magnusson field is very good right now for soccer. The biggest problem is the parking situation. There are no lights on the road so it is very dark when the players are done. Mr. Zichelli is concerned with so many cars and kids there at the same time. There should be some walkways, some lighting. There is not a quick fix at this point. Temporary lighting would help with the darkness for this soccer season. If the lights on the field can help with the lighting as the people are leaving, we could keep the lights on until 10:30pm every night. Suggestion was to use parking on Elm Street and Mountain Road. Another suggestion was made to put steps into the field from Elm Road. This will become a Capital Budget item in 2015 to make a parking area for this field. The Mayor stated that a timeline needs to be started. It was asked of Mr. Levine to put something together for this.
- E. Lock Box Ordinance – Mr. Paris stated that he has prepared a draft of The Lock Box Ordinance as requested by the Fire Chief D’Ascensio at the last meeting. He stated that the Chief, the Engineer and Police Chief have reviewed it. It is only for multi-family homes and commercial properties. The Ordinance will be on the agenda at the next meeting for introduction.
- F. Recent OPRA Request – Mr. Paris stated that all the municipalities in Essex County have received an OPRA Request asking for two year’s worth of resolutions and minutes for executive session. Mr. Paris explained the OPRA statute and what the statute requires. The public is entitled to know what items are being discussed.

Action to Be Taken

- A. Resolution R-137-14 - Resolution Approval to Pay Bills in the amount of \$259,098.32 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilwoman Fost. Said motion was carried unanimously.
- B. Resolution R-138-14 – Governing Body Certification of the Annual Audit was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilwoman Fost. Said motion was carried unanimously.
- C. Resolution R-139-14 – Approval of 2013 Corrective Action Plan was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilwoman Fost. Said motion was carried unanimously.
- D. Resolution R-140-14 – Authorization to Enter Into an Interlocal Service Agreement with the Township of Fairfield for the Composting of Leaves was read. Motion was made by Councilwoman Fost, seconded by Councilman Rees. Said motion was carried unanimously.
- E. (a) Motion was made by Councilman Rees to accept the Executive Session minutes of the Executive Session January 14, 2014, seconded by Councilman Raymond, with Councilwoman Fost abstaining. Said motion was carried unanimously.

(b) Motion was made by Councilman Rees to accept the Executive Session minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 10, 2014, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

(c) Motion was made by Councilman Rees to accept the Executive Session minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 19, 2013, seconded by Councilwoman Fost, with Councilman Raymond abstaining. Said motion was carried unanimously.

(d) Motion was made by Councilman Rees to accept the Executive Session minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 20, 2013, seconded by Councilwoman Fost, with Councilman Raymond abstaining. Said motion was carried unanimously.

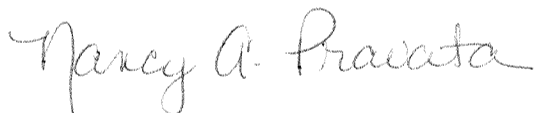
(e) The Executive Session minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 11, 2013 were tabled until the next meeting.

Executive Session

Resolution R-141-14 - Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes: Contract Negotiations – Acquisition of Walker’s Pond Property – Borough Rental Property Rental Price – 137 Gould Avenue – DPW Collective Bargaining Agreement - Personnel (1) Recreation Employee Salaries was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Raymond that this meeting be adjourned at 8:45pm. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy A. Pravata, Borough Clerk