

Conference Meeting October 13, 2016

The Conference Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at the Borough Hall, Gould Avenue and began at 7:32pm.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

Mayor Alessi

Council Members: Council President Santomauro, Councilman Astorino, Councilman Chiaia, Councilman Kessler, Councilman Raymond, Councilman Rees

Also, present were David M. Paris, Esq., Mel Levine, Borough Administrator, Mark Deuer, Police Chief, Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer and Nancy A. Bretzger, 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 Council President Santomauro 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**

North Caldwell Partnership for Education – Request for use of Borough Hall Parking Lot for Food Truck Fundraiser – There was a discussion regarding this request. No one raised any problems with the NCPE holding this event. There will be a resolution at the next meeting authorizing the event.

Best Practices – Mel Levine, Borough Administrator explained the best practices questions and answers. There was discussion amongst the Council.

Sewer Penalty Reversal – Mel Levine, Borough Administrator explained that this is the first sewer penalty bill that has ever been granted. He stated that he does approve the waiver of Water Bill penalties including those of the fine for not reading your meter for 3 consecutive quarters. There was discussion amongst the Council regarding how the penalties should be handled. It was decided that a phrase should be added to the Sewer and Water Ordinances to provide for the 10% penalty to be waived at the Administrator's discretion not to exceed \$100.00 on a one time basis only.

Five Year Plan - DPW – The mayor complimented Frank regarding his Five Year Plan. Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer, explained the plan. Personnel – 6 full time with 2 funded part timers for the past 2 years. If one of the employees was to retire, we can replace that employee with 2 men. The Council members stated that they feel that there should be added a new man at this point whether someone was to retire or not. There was discussion about having a dedicated man for recreation. It was decided that by adding the extra employee at this time was sufficient.

Certifications – Mr. Zichelli stated that he is not planning on leaving in the near future but that there are different ways of the town having someone that has the certifications needed required by law.

Equipment – Replacement of trucks – Mr. Zichelli stated that they have rented a vac truck to clean out the basins for the last several years and that

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has worked out. He also explained that the Borough has hired a company to check the leaks of the water system throughout the Borough instead of purchasing the equipment to do it themselves. The equipment will cost approximately \$40,000.00 and the company charges \$7500.00.

Mr. Zichelli did state that CAD software and hardware should be purchased and he will be requesting it in his 2017 capital budget.

Recycling rate – 20% increase in the items that are recycled since 2012.

Master Plan – Mr. Zichelli explained that a memo has been sent to the Planning Board to start the Master Plan review since it has been approved by the Mayor & Council.

Walkers Property – Mr. Zichelli explained that the purchase of Walker's Pond is in progress.

Tax Maps – Mr. Zichelli stated that the upgrade of the tax maps and utility maps are in progress.

Mr. Zichelli also explained that Pulte Homes is purchasing the tract of land from Khov and in a meeting with them, they expressed the desire of the Council to start thinking of names for the roads.

Recreation – Basketball Program – Councilman Raymond explained the Basketball Program fee increase that was discussed at the last meeting. He explained that there is \$80.00 charge per night for the use of Gould School and Grandview School by the Board of Education for monitors. There was discussion as to the questions that were raised at the last meeting. It was decided that the increase was reasonable. There will be a resolution later in the meeting for the increase of fees.

### **Action to Be Taken**

Council President Santomauro moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-11-16 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 99-22 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell with respect to Traffic Regulations Effecting Borough Schools, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting was open to the public.

Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Council President Santomauro moved to Close the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-11-16 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 99-22 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell with respect to Traffic Regulations Effecting Borough Schools, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously

Council President Santomauro moved to Adopt Ordinance O-11-16- An Ordinance Amending Chapter 99-22 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell with respect to Traffic Regulations Effecting Borough Schools, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-12-16 – An Ordinance Adding Chapter 92-10 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell Regarding Retroactive Refunds of Property Taxes for Veterans Determined to be Totally Disabled, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

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Council President Santomauro moved to Adopt Ordinance O-12-16- An Ordinance Adding Chapter 92-10 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell Regarding Retroactive Refunds of Property Taxes for Veterans Determined to be Totally Disabled, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-170-16 – Resolution Approval to Pay Bills in the amount of \$1,351,720.07 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-171-16 – Resolution Exempting Property owned by Disabled Veteran from Taxation Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-172-16 Resolution Authorizing Refund of Taxes Previously Paid to the Borough of North Caldwell by Robert Milder was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-173-16 Resolution Authorizing Refund of Taxes Previously Paid to the Borough of North Caldwell by Eugene J. Jarvis was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-174-16 Resolution Appointing Nancy A. Bretzger as Clerk of the Borough of North Caldwell was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-175-16 Fixing Fees Pertaining to Recreation Programs – Basketball Program was read. Motion was made by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-176-16 A Resolution for Local Employers to offer an Incentive under the State Health Benefits Program was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

### **Executive Session**

Resolution R-177-16 - Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes: A. Litigation (1) COAH Declaratory Judgment B. Contract Negotiations – (1) Caldwell Sewer Utility (2) Traffic Signal Cost Sharing Agreement (3) Walker’s Pond – Environmental Issues (4) Police Radio System C. Possible Litigation (1) 137 Gould Avenue Rent Delinquency was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Re-opened to Public Meeting at 8:45pm

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Council President Santomauro that this meeting be adjourned at 8:47pm. This motion was carried unanimously.

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Respectfully submitted,

*Nancy A. Bretzger*

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk