

Conference Meeting September 13, 2016

The Conference Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at the Borough Hall, Gould Avenue and began at 7:31pm.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

Mayor Alessi

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

Absent: Councilman Astorino, Councilman Kessler, Police Chief Deuer

Also, present were David M. Paris, Esq. Borough Attorney, Mel Levine, Borough Administrator, Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer, Richard Mondelli, CFO and Teresa King, Administrative Assistant

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 Detective Michael Credico 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

Policy – Permanently Disabled Veteran – Real Estate Taxes – Borough Attorney, David M. Paris spoke about the statute regarding totally disabled veterans. He stated the veterans who are deemed fully disabled due to their service are exempt from paying real estate taxes. The statute, however, does not require municipalities to make retroactive reimbursements. Mr. Paris stated the issue before the Governing Body now is addressing retroactive reimbursements. After discussion, the Council decided the veteran will be reimbursed no more than four quarters from the date the Borough receives their application for exemption. Mr. Paris stated an Ordinance needs to be in place going forward, and he will prepare one.

Police Department – Communication System – Detective Credico gave an update on the communication system project. Detective Credico said the cost of the study is \$10,000, which the Borough will then have the rights to. He has spoken with the Essex Fells Chief Financial Officer/Borough Clerk who agrees we should move forward with the project. The total cost of the project for North Caldwell would be approximate \$500,000, as Essex Fells would be responsible for two-fifths of the cost. The Council asked if there is a possibility to share this upgrade with other surrounding towns. Detective Credico said this is not advisable as other towns operate on different frequencies. He then spoke about potential radio sites. Currently, the best location seems to be at the top of Summit Drive in the Hidden Ridge Condominium complex. Borough Attorney, David Paris, said Hidden Ridge will most likely want to know some preliminary details if this site were to be chosen. This information might include where on the property it will be placed and how large will it be. Mr. Paris asked if it would be possible to obtain this information prior to the study being done. Detective Credico said he doesn't foresee this being an issue.

Grandview Avenue Crosswalk – Borough Engineer, Frank Zichelli, spoke about the crosswalk. He stated that PSE&G upgraded the lighting. He stated that the County is amenable to installing the crosswalk, but the Borough would be responsible for the installation. He stated that due to the location, two crosswalks are needed. Sidewalk extension may be necessary, handicap ramps would need to be installed and the possibility of the need for easements from two property owners. This upgrade would be a capital improvement and he is not recommending this improvement for this year.

No Stopping & Standing on Gould Avenue (Times to Coincide with No Parking on Knollwood Drive – The two signs across from the school on Gould Avenue state No Parking from 2:30pm to 3:30pm. The signs will be change to coincide with the Knollwood Drive parking signs. The North Caldwell Partnership for Education has suggested they have the funds to pay for the signage, which is approximately \$4,000. Borough Engineer, Frank Zichelli, stated he will email Councilman Raymond who will contact the NCPE.

Banner/Marquee Lawn Signs For Zombie 5K Run/Walk on October 29, 2016 - Beth Tanelli is requesting if a banner could be placed across Gould Avenue two weeks prior to the race. She is also requesting if lawn signs could be used to advertise the event. The Council agreed the banner could be hung and signs are to be kept to private property.

Action to Be Taken

Council President Santomauro moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-10-16 – An Ordinance Authorizing a Special Emergency Appropriation for Master Plan Reexamination and Map Upgrades, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. 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-10-16 – An Ordinance Authorizing a Special Emergency Appropriation for Master Plan Reexamination and Map Upgrades, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Adopt Ordinance O-10-16- An Ordinance Authorizing a Special Emergency Appropriation for Master Plan Reexamination and Map Upgrades, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-155-16 – Resolution Approval to Pay Bills in the amount of \$1,583,525.04 was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-156-16 – Bid Acceptance & Contract Award – Municipal Building Emergency Generator & Automatic Transfer Switch was read. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Councilman Rees. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-157-16 – Bid Acceptance & Contract Award – Community Center/DPW Building Manual Transfer Switch was read. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-158-16 Resolution Approving a Professional Services Contract By and Between the Borough of North Caldwell and Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc. was read. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-159-16 Resolution Approving a Professional Services Contract By and Between the Borough of North Caldwell and Boswell Engineering was read. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-160-16 Resolution Supporting the Drive Sober or Get Pulled over 2016 Statewide Crackdown was read. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Councilman President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-161-16 Chapter 159 Insertion of Revenue Item – Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Crackdown Grant was read. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-162-16 – A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Municipal Services Agreement with the Four Seasons at North Caldwell Condominium Association was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Chiaia.

Resolution R-163-16 – A Resolution Authorizing and Ratifying the Sale of North Caldwell Designated Apparel and Donation of Net Proceeds to the North Caldwell Recreation Foundation, a New Jersey Not for Profit Corporation was read. Motion was made by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Council President Santomauro.

Executive Session

Resolution R-164-16 - Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes: A. Litigation (1) COAH Declaratory Judgment B. Contract Negotiations – (1) Caldwell Sewer Utility – Sewer Rates (2) Traffic Signal Cost Sharing Agreement (3) Walker’s Pond – Environmental Issues (4) Hidden Ridge – Pump Station (5) Update on Online Credit Card Payments C. (1) Reappointment of Borough Clerk (2) DPW Employee (3) Recreation Department was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Re-opened to Public Meeting at 9:16pm

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 Chiaia that this meeting be adjourned at 9:17pm. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa King, Administrative Assistant