

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at the Borough Hall, Gould Avenue, North Caldwell, New Jersey and began at 7:41p.m.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

Mayor Alessi

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

Also present were: David M. Paris, Borough Attorney, Mel Levine, Borough Administrator, Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer 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 Edith Jenkins to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor wanted to express his good wishes to Henry Forstenhausler. Mr. Forstenhausler fell and broke his ankle; he is in a rehabilitation center at this time.

The Mayor gave a shout out to Frank Zichelli in appreciation for the work that was done during the storm this past week.

Proclamation for Father Anthony Randazzo – The Mayor also gave a few words about Father Anthony regarding his dedication to the community.

Historical Preservation Commission – The Mayor welcomed Joyce Pisani and Edith Jenkins along with Bryant Brue to the meeting. He explained that he is looking for pictures of all the Mayors from the inception of North Caldwell. The Mayor asked them to come forward and explain to the Council about the Historical Society and the Commission.

The difference between the two committees -- the society was founded in 1988 to enlightened residents of North Caldwell. They would designate the historical spots in town and mark them. They meet here once a month on the fourth Wednesday of each month. There is usually a speaker with an historic presentation. The attendance at the meetings is low. They are in the process of taking slides that will be transferred to digital form to be presented at Newcomers Night.

The Commission was established by the Mayor and Council. They too meet once a month, which is on the first Wednesday of the month. The Commission was founded to help save the Stagger House, which at one time was up for demolition. Through the cries of the residents and the forethought of the Mayor and Council, the Commission was created and ultimately saved the house from destruction. There was also discussion regarding the proper procedure to be followed when a house is demolished or major renovations are to take place.

DJ Salvante, County liaison – DJ spoke of the following deer management dates for South Mountain Reservation, which are January 29th, February 3rd and February 5th. Deer Management at Hilltop will take place February 17th, 19th, 24th and 26th.

February 23, 2015 is the scheduled date for the State of the County Address which will take place at the Hospital Center.

A job fair will be held at the Turtle Back Zoo on February 1st and 4th for anyone looking for a summer job.

MINUTES

- A. Councilman Chiaia moved to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting of October 28, 2014, seconded by Council President Santomauro, with

Councilman Astorino and Councilman Kessler abstaining. Said motion was passed with all others voting yes.

- B. Councilman Chiaia moved to accept the minutes from the Conference Meeting of November 10, 2014, seconded by Councilman Kessler, with Council President Santomauro and Councilman Rees abstaining. Said motion passed with all others voting yes.
- C. Councilman Chiaia moved to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 25, 2014, seconded by Councilman Raymond, said motion was passed unanimously.
- D. Councilman Chiaia moved to accept the minutes from the Conference Meeting of December 9, 2014, seconded by Councilman Raymond, said motion was passed unanimously.
- E. Councilman Chiaia moved to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 29, 2014, seconded by Councilman Raymond, said motion was passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGAL AND ORDINANCE

Resolution R-26-15 – Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle July 2014 – June 2019 was read. A motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

Councilman Rees stated that Mr. Greg Chontow, the Township Electrical Inspector has submitted his resignation effective February 13, 2015. A search for his replacement by Borough Administrator, Mel Levine and Building Inspector, Len Mendola is underway.

FINANCE

Councilman Astorino offered the Collector’s Report for the month of December, 2014 of \$817,520.34 in the general account for a yearly total of \$37,385,402.11. The water account collected \$178,463.30, for a yearly total of \$1,424,796.56. The pool account collected \$5.19 for a yearly total of \$129,445.96. Councilman Astorino moved that the Collector’s Report be accepted, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-27-14 – Payment of Bills - Approval to pay bills in the amount of \$1,468,126.80 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-28-15 – 2014 Appropriation Reserves Transfers Approval was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-29-15 – Tax Lien Redemption, Block 705, Lot 1 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Public Safety Report for December 2014 was read. There were 47 traffic stops with 29 summons and 18 warnings issued. Chief Duerer has drafted a 5-year plan, which will be reviewed and presented to the Mayor at the next meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

Councilman Kessler offered the Construction Report announcing that construction permits for the month of December 2014 was 40, with a year-to-date total of 564. This is a 20% reduction from 2013. The total cost of permits for the year is \$211,382, which is a 28% reduction from 2013.

Councilman Kessler offered the Recycling Report for November and December 2014. Total household waste for November was 169.39 tons. Total household waste including bulk and recycling was 257.55 tons. Total household waste for December was 250 tons. Total household waste including bulk and recycling was 333 tons. Year-to-date recycling total is 650 tons which is 17% less than 2013, which had a total of 823 tons.

Councilman Kessler offered the Animal Control Report for December 2014 with a total of four animal control issues. One issue pertaining to a dog at large, two deceased animals and one call regarding a hawk.

Resolution R-30-15 – A Resolution Authorizing the Borough of North Caldwell to Enter Into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission was read. Motion was made by Councilman Kessler, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-31-15 – A Resolution of the Mayor & Council of the Borough of North Caldwell Authorizing the Adoption of the 2015 Essex County All Hazard Mitigation Plan Update was read. Motion was made by Councilman Kessler, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-32-15 – Appointment of Anthony E. Romano, Jr. as a Temporary Part-Time Employee was read. Motion was made by Councilman Kessler, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

At this time, the Mayor made mention of J. Mautone who was injured during the recent ice storm while directing traffic. He also spoke of Anthony Romano, Jr. who is helping out and doing a great job while the DPW is working short-handed.

RECREATION

Councilman Raymond gave the Recreation Report. There were 80 participants of the Ski Club which runs through the end of February. Recreation basketball has over 300 participants which includes boys and girls in grades K-8. The end of February will be the First Annual Mayor's Cup basketball tournament. Councilman Raymond spoke of the "We Need Friends on Facebook" campaign. He asked to encourage residents to friend the Recreation Department on Facebook. It is a quicker and more efficient way of getting information out to residents regarding upcoming events, cancellations due to weather, as well as posting pictures.

Councilman Raymond stated Mr. Maranz is fully in place as the township's recreation director and that they are working very closely together. He already has some very good ideas on how to increase pool memberships for the upcoming season.

Resolution R-33-15 Fixing Fees Pertaining to Recreation Programs – Explore Science and Stretch Class was read. Motion was made by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

No one came forward.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution R-34-15 - Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes - Contract Negotiations –Acquisition of Walker’s Pond Property; Personnel; Potential Litigation – Anthony & Lauren Rainone vs. Borough of North Caldwell was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Re-Opened to Public Meeting at 9:15pm

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy A. Pravata".

Nancy A. Pravata, Borough Clerk