

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Thursday, March 26, 2015 at the Borough Hall, Gould Avenue, North Caldwell, New Jersey and began at 7:35p.m.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

Mayor Alessi

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

Absent: Councilman Chiaia

Also present were: David M. Paris, Borough Attorney, Mel Levine, Borough Administrator, Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer, Mark Deuer, Police Chief 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 the six Boy Scouts that were in attendance to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S REPORT

We are still waiting for Spring to arrive. Mayor Alessi spoke about the Easter Egg Hunt taking place on Thursday, April 2. He stated that Borough Hall will be closed on Friday, April 3. The Mayor spoke regarding Marine Captain Stanford H. Shaw III, who was a native of Basking Ridge and was killed during a Blackhawk helicopter exercise on March 10. In his honor, flags will be flown at half-staff on Monday, March 23. The Mayor also asked for a moment of silence to remember the fallen soldier.

The Mayor made a Mayoral Appointment to the Board of Adjustment for a Board of Adjustment Regular Member Appointment of Ashish Shah to replace Rosemarie DaSilva whose term expires 12/31/2016.

DJ Salvante, County liaison, stated that May 2 is Hazard Waste Day and May 16 is Electronics Recycling Day at the Cedar Grove DPW Garage. He brought with him copies of the Essex County Parks Catalogue and postcards detailing the Cherry Blossom Festival which begins in early April.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Re-Organizational Meeting of January 1, 2015, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.
- B. Council President moved to accept the minutes from the Conference Meeting of January 13, 2015, seconded by Councilman Raymond with Councilman Kessler abstaining. Said motion passed with all others voting yes.
- C. Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 28, 2015, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.
- D. Councilman Raymond moved to accept the minutes from the Special Meeting of February 18, 2015, seconded by Councilman Kessler, with Council President Santomauro, Councilman Astorino and Councilman Rees abstaining. Said motion was passed with others voting yes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGAL AND ORDINANCE

Council President Santomauro introduced Ordinance O-2-15 – Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and To Establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14). Council President Santomauro moved to pass the Ordinance at first reading, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously. Council President Santomauro stated that the Public Hearing for this Ordinance will be on Tuesday, April 21, 2015.

Resolution R-68-15 – Resolution Authorizing Execution of Deed of Easement and Easement Agreement Regarding Allen Road Developer’s Property. A motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

Councilman Rees stated there was nothing to report at this time.

FINANCE

Councilman Astorino offered the Collector’s Report for the month of February 2015 in the amount of \$5,936,982.76. The water account collected \$84,415.46 for the month with a yearly total of \$188,998.80. The pool account collected \$15.70. Councilman Astorino moved that the Collector’s Report be accepted, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously. Resolution R-52-15 - Payment of Bills – Approval to pay bills in the amount of \$1,282,943.21 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-53-15 – 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-54-15 – Cancellation of Capital Appropriation Balances Approval was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-55-15 – 2015 Municipal Budget Introduction was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-56-15 – Deferred Local District School Tax was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-57-15 – Deferred Regional High School Tax was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-58-15 – Resolution Computing 2015 Reserve for Uncollected Taxes Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-41c(2) was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-59-15 – Resolution for Self Examination of Budget was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-60-15 – Fixing Water Rates Pursuant to Ordinance O-1-09 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-61-15 – Approving the West Essex First Aid Squad Certified LOSAP List for the Year 2014 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The report was tabled until next month. Councilman Chiaia was unable to attend the meeting this month.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

Councilman Kessler offered the Construction Report announcing that construction permits for the month of February 2015 were 29 for a total cost of \$7,556 for a yearly total of 54 permits in the amount of \$15,377. In comparison, total permits issued the same time last year were 41 for a total cost of \$34,154, with year-to-date permits for 2014 of 69 for a total of \$45,298.

Councilman Kessler offered the Recycling Report for February 2015. Total solid waste for the month was 193 tons of material collected. That includes 161 tons of household waste, 16.81 tons of paper and 14.86 were comingled.

Councilman Kessler offered the Animal Control Report for February 2015 stating there were no animal control issues for the month. There were 410 dog licenses issued for the month and 20 cat licenses issued.

Resolution R-62-15 - 2014 Recycling Tonnage Grant Application was read. Motion was made by Councilman Kessler, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-63-15 - Resolution Authorizing Traffic Signalization Cost Sharing Agreement Between the County of Essex and the Borough of North Caldwell for the Intersection of West Greenbrook Road and Jay L. Hand Drive was read. Motion was made by Councilman Kessler, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-64-15 - Bid Acceptance & Contract Award – Mowing & Trimming Municipal Facilities was read. Motion was made by Councilman Kessler, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Kessler spoke about an ongoing issue with a portion of property that is leased by Verizon. The property includes approximately 15 feet of sidewalk, which is the sidewalk that connects Gould Avenue to Smull Avenue by the Gould School. Verizon is not clearing the sidewalk after snowfalls and there have been injuries reported as the snow turns into ice. It was suggested that a letter be drafted by the Borough Attorney, David Paris, reminding them of the township ordinance regarding snow removal.

RECREATION

Resolution R-65-15 - Fixing Fees Pertaining to Recreation Programs – Lacrosse Summer Camp, Multisport Camp, Senior Dance Class was read. Motion was made by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-66-15 - Authorization to Hire Seasonal Employees for 2015 Recreation Program/Events Instructors – Fireman’s Community Center Monitor was read. Motion was made by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Raymond stated that despite the weather, there was a full season of basketball. The basketball season was extended this year to include the First Annual Mayor’s Cup Games. Registration for spring and summer programs began on March 19. The baseball and softball practices begin this week. Baseball Opening Day is April 25 at 9am. It will be a fun-filled day with a parade, opening ceremonies, DJ, rides and free food.

He also stated that April 2 is the Easter Egg Hunt at 3:30pm, April 6 – 10 is the youth spring break tennis camp; May 23, the pool opens; May 30 will be the pool open house.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Since the Boy Scouts were given a brief description of each Committee as well as the job functions of some of the Borough employees, the Mayor encouraged the Scouts to take this opportunity to ask any questions they may have. One of the Boy Scouts asked if the town could pay a landscaping company to shovel the sidewalk by Gould School. It was explained to them by the Borough Engineer, Frank Zichelli and Council President Santomauro why that is not a viable option.

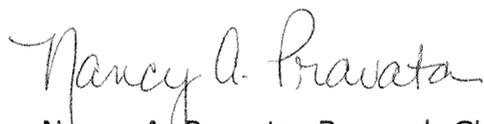
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution R-67-15 - Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes - Contract Negotiations – (1) Acquisition of Walker’s Pond Property; (2) Verizon Small Cell Tower (3) Caldwell Sewer Utility; Personnel – DPW Employee; Liquor License; Rental Property 137 Gould Avenue – Rental Price was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Astorino. 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 Kessler that this meeting be adjourned at 9:17pm. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy A. Pravata, Borough Clerk