

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at the Borough Hall, Gould Avenue, North Caldwell, New Jersey and began at 7:36p.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

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 Councilman Raymond, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor spoke about the Memorial Day Parade. He said that he and the Council were very fortunate this year as Verner Cadby offered them a car to ride in. The Mayor said it was a lot of fun.

The Mayor stated that he had a meeting with the residents of Four Seasons and felt was it very productive.

The Mayor asked for a moment of silence for former Councilman Richard Hampson. Councilman Hampson grew up in North Caldwell and served on the Council from 1989 through 2008.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 26, 2015, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Executive Session Meeting of April 21, 2015, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Executive Session of May 12, 2015, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGAL AND ORDINANCE

Council President Santomauro moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-3-15 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Improvements In and For the Borough of North Caldwell, In the County of Essex, New Jersey, Appropriating \$1,007,110 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$956,754.50 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously. Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Council President Santomauro moved to Close the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-3-15 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Improvements In and For the Borough of North Caldwell, In the County of Essex, New Jersey, Appropriating \$1,007,110 Therefore

and Authorizing the Issuance of \$956,754.50 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Adopt Ordinance O-3-15 - Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Improvements In and For the Borough of North Caldwell, In the County of Essex, New Jersey, Appropriating \$1,007,110 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$956,754.50 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-4-15 - An Ordinance to Provide for Various Capital Items As Enumerated Within for the Borough of North Caldwell, County of Essex and to Provide for the Funding Thereof seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously. Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Council President Santomauro moved to Close the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-4-15 - An Ordinance to Provide for Various Capital Items As Enumerated Within for the Borough of North Caldwell, County of Essex and to Provide for the Funding Thereof, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Adopt Ordinance O-4-15 - An Ordinance to Provide for Various Capital Items As Enumerated Within for the Borough of North Caldwell, County of Essex and to Provide for the Funding Thereof, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-6-15 - An Ordinance to Fix the Annual Compensation of Certain Members of the Police Department of the Borough of North Caldwell for the Years 2015, 2016 and 2017 seconded by Councilman Astorino.

Said motion was carried unanimously. Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Council President Santomauro moved to Close the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-6-15 - An Ordinance to Fix the Annual Compensation of Certain Members of the Police Department of the Borough of North Caldwell for the Years 2015, 2016 and 2017, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Adopt Ordinance O-6-15 - An Ordinance to Fix the Annual Compensation of Certain Members of the Police Department of the Borough of North Caldwell for the Years 2015, 2016 and 2017, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-7-15 - An Ordinance to Fix the Annual Compensation of Certain Members of the Public Works Department of the Borough of North Caldwell for the Years 2015, 2016 and 2017 seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously. Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Council President Santomauro moved to Close the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-7-15 - An Ordinance to Fix the Annual Compensation of Certain Members of the Public Works Department of the Borough of North Caldwell for the Years 2015, 2016 and 2017, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Adopt Ordinance O-7-15 - An Ordinance to Fix the Annual Compensation of Certain Members of the Public Works Department of the Borough of North Caldwell for the Years 2015, 2016 and 2017, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-8-15 - An Ordinance to Fix the Annual Compensation of Certain Officers and Employees of the Borough of North Caldwell seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously. Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Council President Santomauro moved to Close the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-8-15 - An Ordinance to Fix the Annual Compensation of Certain

Officers and Employees of the Borough of North Caldwell, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Adopt Ordinance O-8-15- An Ordinance to Fix the Annual Compensation of Certain Officers and Employees of the Borough of North Caldwell, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro introduced Ordinance O-5-15 – Amending Chapter 23 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell Regarding the Renewal Fee of Liquor Licenses. This item was tabled.

Resolution R-91-15 – Resolution of the Borough of North Caldwell, County of Essex, Authorizing (1) the Filing of a Declaratory Judgment Action, (2) the Filing of a Motion for Temporary Immunity and (3) Joining with Other Municipalities to Hire an Expert to Propose a Sensible Approach to Round 3 Allocations. A motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

Resolution R-92-15 - Establishing 2015 Employee Salaries was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

FINANCE

Councilman Astorino offered the Collector's Report for the month of April 2015 in the amount of \$1,985,753.09, with the water account collecting \$91,984.43 and pool account \$12,946.84. Councilman Astorino moved that the Collector's Report be accepted, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-93-15 - Payment of Bills – Approval to pay bills in the amount of \$2,397,086.17 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-94-15 – Insertion of Revenue Item – Chapter 159 – Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Chiaia will give a combined April and May Safety Report at the June meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

Councilman Kessler offered the Construction Report announcing that construction permits for the month of April 2015 were 36, for a yearly total of 121 permits issued which are three more than at the same time last year. Total permits issued year-to-date are 85 for a total cost of 10,244.00.00 with a yearly total of \$34,541.00. In comparison, total permits issued the same time last year were 52 for a yearly total of 149 with a total cost of \$91,296.00.

Councilman Kessler offered the Animal Control Report for April 2015 stating there were eight animal control issues for the month. In the month of April, there were 70 warnings issued for non-renewal of animal licenses.

RECREATION

Councilman Raymond thanked Chief Deuer for the department watching over the fields and the pool for the young residents. He also thanked Frank Zichelli and the DPW for the well maintained fields and the pool being ready for opening this past weekend.

There are 268 boys and girls playing recreation baseball/softball this year. The tennis courts are temporarily closed as they are going to be repaired and resurfacing all six courts.

Baseball Opening Day was April 25 with over 500 resident attending. There was a DJ, rides, food and activities.

The spring after school programs are underway. There is fun and games, multi-sport, youth tennis and petite soccer. Currently, there are 120 participants. Summer Fun and Kiddy Kamp registration is 30% higher than this time last year.

Senior dance classes and senior fitness classes are underway as well as men's adult basketball.

Fall soccer registration begins soon.

The baseball and softball pool party is scheduled for Monday, June 8th.

The pool opened on Saturday, May 23rd, the start of Memorial Day Weekend. The two new water slides appear to be a great success. The pool open house is scheduled for this Saturday, May 30th.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

DJ Salvante - County liaison, spoke about the Open House at Turtle Back Zoo on May 30. There will be free admission from 10am to 2pm. The zoo's Muckfest is scheduled for June 13 and 14. The recreation complex will host a mini golf outing on June 20 to raise money for the zoo. Brew at the Zoo scheduled for June 27 is sold out.

Donald Meserlian – 264 Park Avenue – Wants to compliment the Mayor and Council, Town Engineer and Police Department for doing an excellent job. He thinks the Council does a great job keeping costs under control. He says that Frank Zichelli is the best Engineer around.

Mr. Meserlian had a few points he wanted to be addressed. He asked what the steep slope ordinance was? Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer, gave a brief description and explained that he should come in and see the ordinance. Mr. Meserlian feels that there should not be any more development on Mountain Avenue.

He asked when the tennis court lights go on and off and what the kilowatts usage is. Frank Zichelli explained that they get turned on when someone is using the courts and shut off around 10pm. There is a bypass box so they cannot be turned on if it is light out. Frank answered his question on kilowatt usage and the cost of using the lights at night. Mr. Meserlian questioned the time frame on fixing the tennis courts. Frank explained that it was going out to bid on June 3 and hopefully the repairs will begin at the end of the month.

He complimented Chief Deuer, that he finally agreed with him on something. It was the discussion they had about Mountain Avenue and Rt. 23 regarding the lane size at that intersection. Mayor Alessi spoke and said that this issue needs to be addressed with the county, since Mountain Avenue is a County Road.

He asked if everyone had a chance to look at the article in his Soverign newspaper. He spoke about an article that was in the newspaper regarding police pensions in San Jose, CA, which are going to be cut almost in half. He feels that everyone's pensions should be cut in half.

He spoke with the Recreation Director to see if seniors can bring an outside senior resident with them to the free senior day on Wednesday's at the pool. The Council said they will discuss the issue amongst themselves and the Recreation Director and get back to him.

Mr. Simoes - Attorney for Maria Periera, owner of 707 Main Street. Gerald Novak, Architect for Maria Periera. Mr. Simoes explained that there is a perspective tenant that would like to rent the commercial space. He stated the issue that brings us before the Mayor and Council is the parking on Hillside Avenue. There are three parking spaces that we are asking the commercial tenants of the building to use and to have proper signage.

There is approximately 70 - 80 feet, from the street corner to the driveway of the back of the building. The area used for drop off and pick up for the dog groomers would still be there and the rest of the area be used for tenants of the building, either with permits or signage. There was discussion on the merits of parking on the side of the street. The Council stated that they can clarify the parking signs as to not cause any further confusion. The Council agreed that this issue will be discussed at the next conference meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution R-95-15 - Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes - Contract Negotiations - (1) Acquisition of Walker's Pond Property; (2) Caldwell Sewer Utility; Potential Litigation (1) Mr. and Mrs. A. Rainone vs. Borough of North Caldwell; Personnel - Police Department; Galaxy Recycling was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Re-Opened to Public Meeting at 9:18pm

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 Astorino that this meeting be adjourned at 9:20pm. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy A. Pravata, Borough Clerk