

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Monday, September 21, 2015 at the Borough Hall, Gould Avenue, North Caldwell, New Jersey and began at 7:42p.m.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

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

Absent: Councilman Kessler, Councilman Rees

Also present were: David M. Paris, Borough Attorney, Mel Levine, Borough Administrator, Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer, Nancy Pravata, Borough Clerk

Council President Santomauro called the meeting to order announcing that notice was provided in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

Council President Santomauro asked Councilman Raymond to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S REPORT

In the Mayor's absence, Council President Santomauro thanked Councilman Josh Raymond who worked for hours grilling hamburgers and hotdogs for the residents at the town picnic.

Council President Santomauro also reminded residents that October 3 is Essex County Household Hazardous Waste Day. It will be held at 125 Fairview Avenue, Cedar Grove from 8:30am to 4:00pm.

Proclamations –

Council President Santomauro read the Proclamations for National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and National Sickle Cell Awareness Month

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Conference and Regular Meeting of August 11, 2015, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Councilman Astorino abstained. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Executive Session Conference and Regular Meeting of August 11, 2015, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Councilman Astorino abstained. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Special Meeting of August 18, 2015, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Councilman Chiaia abstained. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Executive Session Special Meeting of August 18, 2015, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Councilman Chiaia abstained. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Conference Meeting of September 1, 2015, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Executive Session Conference Meeting of September 1, 2015, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGAL AND ORDINANCE

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

FINANCE

Councilman Astorino offered the Collector's Report for the month of August 2015 in the amount of \$6,182,825.21, with a year-to-date total of \$27,494,903.61. The water account collected \$115,764.20 with a year-to-date total of \$1,403,200. The pool account collected \$5,243.27 with a year-to-date total of \$138,307.

Councilman Astorino moved that the Collector's Report be accepted, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-149-15 - Payment of Bills – Approval to pay bills in the amount of \$2,146,041.79 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-150-15 – Insertion of Revenue Item–Chapter 159–Drive Sober or Get Pulled over Crackdown Grant was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Chiaia gave the Police Public Safety Report for the month of August 2015. There were 1640 calls and responses for the month. The calls and responses consisted of motor vehicle stops, radar stops, burglar alarms and medical assists.

Councilman Chiaia gave the Fire Report for the month of August. There were 24 responses for that period consisting of false alarms and gas leaks.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

Councilman Chiaia offered the August Construction Report. There were 37 permits issued, three updates and one fee waived. The cost of construction was \$237,900, cost of alteration totaled \$202,406 and cost of demolition totaled \$3,100 for a total cost of construction in the amount of \$443,406. Current month's revenue for permits was 9,877, whereas last year at this time it was \$12,722. The year-to-date-total is \$96,236, which is down in comparison to last year's total of \$145,261.

Councilman Chiaia spoke about a \$75,000 grant to be used for a generator. Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer, Frank Zichelli, said the grant will be used for a generator for the municipal building and for the construction of a line from the police station to the community center and DPW building. This is being done so that those buildings can be connected to the police department's generator. It will also be in place for emergencies when residents may need their phones charged or to get cooled off, etc.

Resolution R-151-15 - Fuel Supply Agreement Authorization–Jack's Friendly Service, 152 Passaic Avenue, Fairfield, NJ was read. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Councilman President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-152-15 - Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with The New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Willowbrook Drive (Section 2) Project was read. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Councilman President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-153-15 – Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with The New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Winding Way and Highland Drive Project was read. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-154-15 – Resolution Awarding Bid for a 4WD Dump Truck with Snow Plow was read. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-157-15 - Resolution Approving a Professional Services Contract By and Between the Borough of North Caldwell and FSC Leak Detection was read. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

RECREATION

Councilman Raymond offered the August 2015 Recreation Report. The pool had a successful season with membership up 11% from last year.

The town picnic was held on September 12. There was a nice turn out with residents enjoying refreshments, a DJ, activities for the kids and the boy scouts selling snow cones. Councilman Raymond thanked Chief Deuer, Borough Administrator Levine, pool manager, Ms. Tomao and the entire pool staff for all their help in making the event a success.

The West Essex Cowboys held their pep rally on September 9. Both cheerleaders and football players participated in this event.

Soccer practice and games started for grades K-6. This year there are 165 registered participants.

Senior bingo has started and is being held once a month in Firemen's Hall. This event is free of charge. September 29 starts senior fitness classes.

Four new sets of bleachers have been installed at Mountain Avenue field.

Soccerfest is September 26 with the parade starting on Gould Avenue at 9am.

Cub Scout camp outing is October 10 at Liberty Field.

Newcomer's Night is October 20 at the Municipal Building at 7pm.

The 5th/6th grade Halloween Dance is October 22 from 7pm to 9pm.

Basketball registration and travel basketball tryouts begin at the end of October.

Resolution R-155-15 – Fixing Fees Pertaining to Recreation Programs – Youth Tennis (Fall) was read. Motion was made by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mara Dooskin – One Maywood Court – Mrs. Dooskin is concerned about the traffic on Gould Avenue with no sidewalks. The kids have to walk into the road in order to walk to and from school. She stated that she lives less than a quarter of a mile from school and her child should be able to walk to school. She has a petition with over 100 signatures in support of a sidewalk on Gould Avenue. Gould Avenue is striped as a pedestrian walking easement. She feels that people are parking in those striped areas. The Chief stated that most children get driven to school,

although busing is offered. Council President Santomauro stated that this issue will be put on the agenda for discussion at the next conference meeting.

Mr. Donald Merserlian – 264 Park Avenue – Mr. Merserlian had a suggestion for the previous speaker. He suggested signs that state no parking during certain hours or adding speed bumps.

Mr. Merserlian stated the recreation tennis courts have been closed all summer long, but there have been people playing on them. Councilman Raymond stated that three of the six courts were patched in the middle of the summer and the residents were notified. If residents were interested in using the courts, free of charge for the rest of the season, they should contact the recreation department for the passcode. They will be putting the project out to bid again as the bids came in over budget when initially done.

Mr. Merserlian spoke about Central Avenue, specifically the area heading south on Central Avenue from Grandview Avenue. There are no markings where the curb or bridge is, as the white line is missing and possibly creating a dangerous situation. The Chief stated that he has made several phone calls to the County since Central Avenue is a County road. Chief Deuer stated they do not know when or if the county is planning to address this issue. He also stated that the paving job done by the County between Gould Avenue and East Greenbrook is horrible. He stated there are no more potholes, but it was a terrible paving job. Chief Deuer said there are concerns about that area and the County has been contacted. It is up to the County when and if the paving will be re-done. Councilman Chiaia will call the County and ask for it to be fixed.

Mr. Merserlian complimented Council President Santomauro on the 9/11 ceremony. He asked the Council what they are resolving to do regarding 9/11. He then asked if anyone on the Council was interested in a resolution supporting his 9/11 conspiracy theories so that justice be done.

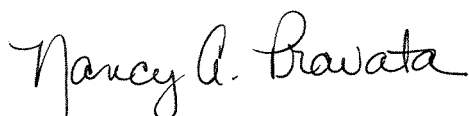
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution R-156-15 - Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes - Contract Negotiations – (1) Acquisition of Walker’s Pond Property; (2) Caldwell Sewer Utility; Litigation – COAH – Update on status of Declaratory Judgement Action was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Re-Opened to Public Meeting at 9:12pm

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Councilman Astorino that this meeting be adjourned at 9:14pm. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy A. Pravata, Borough Clerk