

Organization Meeting January 1, 2017

The 2017 Organization Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Sunday, January 1, 2017 and began at 12:03pm.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Joseph H. Alessi, announcing that notice of the date, time and location was provided in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

Mayor Alessi asked Max Raymond, the son of Councilman Raymond to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rabbi Silverstein from Congregation Agudath Israel gave the Invocation.

Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk, presented the Certification of Results of the November 8, 2016 General Election wherein it is stated that the following were duly elected:

Joshua Raymond, Council Member – 3-year term
Arthur Rees, Council Member – 3-year term

Honorable Ned Rosenberg, Retired Superior Court Judge administered the Oath of Office to Joshua Raymond.

Judge Rosenberg stated that it was his pleasure to be with Max, Haley and Alisa Raymond today and swear in Josh. He has had the pleasure of working with Josh since April when he retired from the bench. He stated that the people of North Caldwell should be happy to have someone of Josh's caliber to be on the Council.

Councilman Raymond stated that his wife, Alisa and his two children Max and Haley, love living in North Caldwell. He feels that serving on the Council is his small way of giving back to the community. Councilman Raymond thanked Rabbi Silverstein and Senator Pennacchio for participating in and attending the ceremonies today. He thanked his partner Richard Trenk for encouraging him to become involved with the community.

Councilman Raymond wanted to thank Judge Rosenberg for his advice and friendship since he has joined the Councilman Raymond's firm 6 months ago and will enjoy working with him for many years to come.

Councilman Raymond thanked his fellow Council members and the Mayor for all of their hard work and their time given generously to the community. He stated that he is honored to serve along every one of them.

He thanked his children, Max and Haley, for understanding why Dad is not always there at night to tuck them in and for talking with residents at the town pool when they would like him to be playing with them.

Then he thanked his wife, Alisa, for everything that she does as a mother and wife and to let her know that it does not go unnoticed. He appreciates everything.

The Mayor said that he has known Councilman Raymond since he was 16. He was hardworking back then and still is a hardworking person at work as well as on the Council. We are very lucky to have him working along side

Honorable Joseph H. Alessi, Mayor administered the Oath of Office to Arthur Rees.

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Councilman Rees stated that he is not one for speeches so he will make this short. He would like to thank his wife, Judy, and his family for supporting him through all of the late nights.

Councilman Rees said that one thing that he has learned recently is that a lot of the residents do not know who the Council is, but what they do see is the improvements that are done such as, the new tennis courts, upgrades to the pool and with taxes not increasing. He spoke to the Council and said that in the next coming year there will be a lot on their plates with the purchase of Walker's Pond, traffic light at the high school, field upgrades, 62 new single family homes and 50 affordable housing units. The residents will see these improvements as well and this will all be based on the decisions we make.

The Mayor stated that the best way to sum up Councilman Rees is common sense. He expressed that the Council is very lucky to have Art on the Council. He thanked him for all that he does.

A roll call was conducted with the following in attendance:

Mayor Alessi
Councilman Astorino, Councilman Raymond, Councilman Rees,
Councilwoman Santomauro

Absent: Councilman Chiaia, Councilman Kessler

Also in attendance Mel Levine, Borough Administrator, David M. Paris, Esq. Borough Attorney, Mark Deuer, Police Chief, and Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk,

MAYOR'S ANNUAL ADDRESS

Mayor Alessi wished everyone in attendance a Happy New Year. He stated that he would like to elaborate on what Councilman Rees said about the taxes, he stated that 3 of the last 4 years there was no municipal tax increase. He explained that the Council works very hard on keeping taxes in line. He said he is very lucky to be working with 6 very bright and hardworking people.

Mayor Alessi announced that the Borough purchased Walker's Pond on Friday, December 23, 2016 after approximately 20 years in the making. He said that he cannot wait to see the children of the Borough ice skating on the pond hopefully at this time next year.

The Mayor explained that the Council has been working with the North Caldwell Recreation Foundation on improvements to the Borough's fields. He did explain that the Council would be looking very hard at the numbers and would work on a plan to do the improvements in the next several years.

Mayor Alessi said that he wanted to single out 2 individual people, Peter Schwartz who was the Chairman of the Board of Adjustment who has stepped down this past year. He wanted to thank Peter for his years of service on the Board.

Next he wanted to thank Frank Zichelli for his 30 years of service to the Borough. He stated that Frank does an excellent job and wears many hats.

The Mayor thanked the residents for allowing him to be their Mayor.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A motion was made by Councilman Raymond to elect Councilwoman Cynthia Santomauro as Council President for the year 2017, seconded by Councilman Astorino. This motion was carried unanimously.

Council Committee Designations by Council President Santomauro were announced as Legal Ordinance Chair – Councilman Raymond; Personnel Chair - Councilman Rees; Public Safety Chair – Councilman Chiaia; Finance Chair – Councilman Astorino; DPW Chair Council President Santomauro; Recreation Chair – Councilman Kessler.

Resolution R-1-17 - Authorizing the Award of Professional Services Contract for the Borough of North Caldwell – David M. Paris, Esq. of Piro, Zinna, Cifelli, Paris & Genitempo, LLC, Borough Legal Counsel was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously. Mayor Alessi thanked Mr. Paris for his service to the Borough and Mr. Paris thanked the Mayor and Council for their confidence in him.

Resolution R-2-17 - Authorizing the Award of Professional Services Contract for the Borough of North Caldwell – Joseph Faccone of Samuel, Klein & Co., Borough Auditor was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-3-17 Authorizing the Award of Professional Services Contract for the Borough of North Caldwell – John Draikiwicz of Gibbons, PC, Bond Counsel was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-4-17 - Authorizing the Award of Professional Services Contract for the Borough of North Caldwell – Jeffrey R. Surrenian & Associates, LLC, Special COAH Counsel was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-5-17 – Authorizing the Award of Professional Services Contract for the Borough of North Caldwell – John Cesaro, Esq. Municipal Prosecutor was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-6-17 – Authorizing the Award of Professional Services Contract for the Borough of North Caldwell – Burgis Associates, Inc. Borough Planner was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-7-17 – Authorizing the Award of Professional Services Contract for the Borough of North Caldwell – M. Trevor Lyons of Walsh, Pizzi, O'Reilly, Falanga, LLC Labor Attorney was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Alessi appointed the following Borough Officials with the advice and consent of Council, which are on a consent agenda. Hearing no objection to move by one motion, Council President Santomauro moved to adopt all of the resolutions, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously.

R-8-17 – Appointment of Public Defender, James Pomaco.

R-9-17 – Authorizing Appointment of Ashley Nolen as Municipal Court Administrator for the Municipal Court of the Borough of North Caldwell & Essex Fells.

R-10-17 - Confirmation of Appointment of Water Superintendent and Water Operator – Frank Zichelli.

R-11-17 - Confirmation of Appointment of Crossing Guards – Thomas Towne and Michael Wrobel.

The following are Mayoral Appointments, with no confirmation required.

Planning Board:

Class III, Regular Member – Carl Spinelli – 4 year term to expire 12/31/2020

Class III, Regular Member – Scott Fishbone – 4-year term to expire 12/31/2020

Class II, Regular Member – Mel Levine – 1-year term to expire 12/31/2017

Class IV, Alternate #1 – Joseph Barba – 2 year term to expire 12/31/2018

Mayor Appointments with Council Consent:

Camp Wyanokie Commission:

John Gakos – 1-year term to expire 12/31/2017

George Press – 1-year term to expire 12/31/2017

Historical Commission:

Michael Cuozzo – 2 year term to expire 12/31/2018

Fred Jenkins – 2 year term to expire 12/31/2018

Brant Braue – 2 year term to expire 12/31/2018

Planning Board (Council Appointment):

Motion by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Astorino to appoint Councilman Arthur Rees to serve as Class III Member of the Planning Board. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Board of Adjustment (Council Appointment):

Regular Member Hershel Salan – 4-year term to expire 12/31/2020

Regular Member Joseph Angelo – to fill unexpired term of Peter Schwartz to expire 12/31/2017

Alternate Member #1; Anthony Floria-Callouri, to fill unexpired term of Asish Shah to expire 12/31/2017

Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Raymond to appoint members of the Board of Adjustment as listed above. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Alessi read the following Resolutions, which are on a consent agenda. Hearing no objection to move by one motion, Council President Santomauro moved to adopt all of the resolutions, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

R-12-17 - 2017 Annual Schedule of Meetings

R-13-17 - 2017 Depositories Authorization

R-14-17 – 2017 Official Newspapers Designations

R-15-17 - 2017 Petty Cash Funds Authorization

R-16-17 - 2017 Temporary Budget Adoption

R-17-17 - Resolution Appointing a Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.)

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R-18-17 - Resolution of the Borough of North Caldwell, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, Fixing the Rate of Interest to be Charged on Delinquent Taxes of Assessments

R-19-17 - Authorizing Specific Payments that can be Made Outside of a Meeting

R-20-17 - Authorization to Approve Professional Service Contracts for Recreation Programs

R-21-17 - Authorizing Appointment of Fund Commissioner and Alternate Fund Commissioner

R-22-17 - Resolution of the Borough of North Caldwell Waiving the Appointment of a Risk Management Consultant and Indemnifying and Holding Harmless the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund as a Result of any Claims Arising from said Action

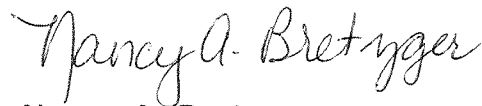
R-23-17 - Authorizing Appointment of 2016 Officers for the North Caldwell Volunteer Fire Department

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Alessi opened the floor to the public, seeing no one come forward he closed this portion of the meeting.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Mayor and Council, a motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Raymond that the meeting be adjourned was carried unanimously at 12:46pm

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy A. Bretzger
Borough Clerk