

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at the Borough Hall, Gould Avenue, North Caldwell, New Jersey and began at 7:32pm.

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: Mr. David M. Paris, Esq., Borough Attorney; Mel Levine, Borough Administrator; Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer; Mark Deuer, Police Chief; and Nancy Bretzger, 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 Chiaia to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Alessi invited all to participate in the North Caldwell Recreation Foundation's Restaurant Week fundraiser at The Cloverleaf, Franklin Steakhouse, Runway 22 and Tierney's Copperhouse. A percentage of each purchase will be donated to the North Caldwell Recreation Foundation. Mayor Alessi reminded everyone of upcoming events: Opening Day for Baseball and Softball on April 29, Drug Take-Back Day on April 29, Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Day on May 6, Computers/Electronics Recycling Day on May 20, Tire Recycling on June 17 and the Essex County Open House at Turtle Back Zoo on June 3.

Mayor Alessi stated the Tree Seedling distribution was very successful as most of the seedlings were distributed to residents and that the Borough will request to be part of the program again next year.

### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Mayor Alessi opened the floor to the public.

Alex Opper - 8 Brentwood Drive

Mr. Opper questioned the effects of the Affordable Housing ruling on North Caldwell and asked for the number of units planned and for communication of its effects across town entities. The Mayor stated the Borough has been working on the Affordable Housing plans and that it is required by the State of New Jersey. The Mayor introduced two experts representing the Borough of North Caldwell on this matter:

Erik Nolan – Affordable Housing Counsel, Jeff Surenian & Associates

Joe Portelli – Vice President of Development, RPM Development Group

Mr. Nolan provided a history of the Affordable Housing mandate. Mr. Nolan stated that the Borough filed a Catalyst for Change Resolution in 2006 for immunity from Builder's Remedy lawsuits which can be filed against a town for non-compliance with Mt. Laurel obligations. Mr. Nolan explained that the Fair Housing Act and COAH were created to protect towns from excessive Builder's Remedy projects. Immunity is granted to a town if the town tries to voluntarily comply. In 2006, North Caldwell filed for a Declaratory Judgement Action requesting immunity due to its having filed plans to comply with its obligations. K. Hovnanian objected and a settlement was negotiated. A settlement agreement was reached in 2013 for a redevelopment plan with K. Hovnanian for 62 single family homes to be built and for five acres of the property to be deeded over to the Borough for Affordable

Housing development. This would keep the density of housing down with less impact on the town. The agreement was approved in court as fair and reasonable and the town now holds the deed for the 5 acre parcel of property. North Caldwell put out a RFP for a reputable 100% Affordable Housing developer; of the 17 RFPs received, four were selected for further presentation from which RPM was selected. The Borough of North Caldwell entered into a redevelopment agreement with RPM, in December 2016, and preliminary approval was granted to RPM from the Planning Board. May 2, 2017 is the deadline for the tax credit application for State funding of the project. The application requires the redeveloper's agreement, preliminary approval from Planning Board, a copy of deed restriction to show the HMFA that the town has site control over the property (since the five acres of property will not be given over to RPM until they receive the funding from the state), and finally the PILOT agreement. The tax credit application had to set the pilot at 5% to get maximum score for funding. Since these are family rental units, North Caldwell gets a two-for-one bonus where twice as much credit is given for the units. Since North Caldwell doesn't have a lot of land, a vacant land adjustment is filed which shows the vacant parcels available to reduce the number of units that the town can actually build to arrive at the realistic development potential. Although towns are responsible for the numbers of affordable housing units determined in the gap period from 1999-2015, North Caldwell does not incur as big an impact as towns with a lot of open parcels of land. We are only responsible for the realistic development potential and the town's effort made to reach that potential (unmet need) even if the total is not actually met. Our plan is to satisfy the originally mandated 14 units, part of the gap period 50 units, and all remaining units built will go toward showing effort made. It is possible that overlay zone is mandated on Bloomfield Avenue with another one to two units possibly mandated over the next ten years. Exposure from the sale of Green Brook Country Club should not be an issue in the short-term as it will be operating as a country club for the next several years and was not sold to a developer.

Mr. Opper stated his concern with rising taxes and the need for school renovations being underestimated if even more homes could be potentially be mandated in the next several years that would necessitate rebuilding yet again. Mayor Alessi noted that the popularity and attractiveness of North Caldwell contribute to the increase in residents and not just the mandated COAH units. Mr. Nolan added that the goal is to get the immunity which would insulate North Caldwell from developers for ten years.

Mr. Opper requested the Affordable Housing numbers mandated for North Caldwell. Mr. Nolan stated the Fair Share Housing requirements were 463 units as per the May 2016 report from the expert for the Fair Share Housing Center which was adjusted in July 2016 to 437 units and was recently increased to 607 units. Mr. Nolan stated we are in negotiations now to bring the number down to 360 units. Considering the Borough's realistic development potential of 14, our unmet need would then be 346. The Vacant Land Assessment has already been submitted to the Court. North Caldwell has been extended immunity until July during which settlement negotiations would end with a settlement, followed by a fairness hearing, a drafted plan, and a final Judgement of Repose for ten years of protection.

Julia Petrella - 611 Mountain Avenue

Mrs. Petrella stated her concern that new resident statistics be valid for appropriate planning of the North Caldwell school expansion and preparation of the Board of Education referendum. Councilman Rees responded that although the future is unsure, we know that 62 homes will be built on the Hilltop along with the 50 Affordable Housing units, four or five homes are being built in the Mountain Avenue cut, a couple of homes are being added on Grandview and four or five homes will be built on Walker's Pond property. Mrs. Petrella asked if any other land is available in town for additional development. Mr. Paris explained that we are careful about the Borough's potential exposure so that we can keep additional development down.

Mrs. Petrella expressed concern that the public is not informed as to redevelopment plans and the associated impact. She requested there be improved communication among the Mayor and Council, the Board of Education and the public. Councilman Kessler stated there is existing communication between the two boards and that the impact on the schools has been a concern since the demographic study was done in 2015 followed by the most recent study completed in preparation of the current referendum proposal. Mrs. Petrella asked for continued conversation with one forum keeping in mind those residents with no children in the North Caldwell schools, for example, a website for Facebook page, to address construction, impact to schools, potential for development, and tax increases. Mayor Alessi noted that although taxes are increasing this year, they have not been increased in the last three of four years. Mr. Opper noted the cost of improving the athletic fields, the purchase of Walker's Pond, the capital projects, still paying for the last school renovation. Councilman Raymond stressed that the Borough's Governing body comprises only 17% of taxes with a 2% cap.

Mrs. Petrella asked if the Borough is subject to a 1-2% Affordable Housing ordinance fee. Mr. Paris stated that there is a developer's fee ordinance which requires developers to make a payment into an Affordable Housing trust fund which is approved by the State to have funds available to support affordable housing neighborhood development. Mr. Paris stated that the Borough took action to head off obligations and have funds available to fend off remedies. Mr. Paris emphasized the negative impact of builders remedy lawsuits where zoning ordinances would not be followed which would be devastating to the character of the municipality. Mr. Paris stated that when we filed our Fair Share Housing plan, we filed a preemptive lawsuit and we are undertaking steps to satisfy our obligation. The Borough got a court order to get immunity during the process, and now our immunity is derived from the declaratory judgement action. Mr. Paris stated that this is a state wide problem and all other counties in New Jersey are involved too. Mayor Alessi stated that the Borough has been proactive through this process.

Mr. Opper expressed concern that if the Board of Education is planning expansion, should they just build more classrooms now in the event that our housing obligation is increased. Mr. Paris explained his experience as a Board of Education member and President in the past and saw the expansions of both Gould and Grandview Schools. He stated that the schools are in a quandary and need to make judgement calls to avoid building too big but allowing for expansion later on if needed. Mr. Paris complimented the Mayor & Council for the time and consideration they devoted to hiring the right developer, review, question and change the development plans to make for a neighborhood consistent with the character of North Caldwell. He stated the Council's goal is to preserve North Caldwell. Mr. Paris described the 50 unit neighborhood as beautifully done and consistent with the look of North Caldwell. Mr. Paris stated Councilman Chiaia's suggestion for garages which are not typical in Affordable Housing developments as well as self-contained washers and dryers in each unit. Mr. Paris mentioned that the construction of the 62 single-family homes is a result of an agreement with K. Hovnanian which reduced the initial plan of hundreds of units. He stated that the Borough did not control the county-owned land but we negotiated the donation of five acres from K. Hovnanian.

Councilman Chiaia expressed his appreciation for the participation of the residents at the meeting. Councilman Kessler invited the residents to attend more often to discuss concerns so the Council can better represent the town and what is in the best interest of North Caldwell.

Judith Dias - 11 Hillcrest Place

Ms. Dias disclosed that she is a member of the West Essex Board of Education according to disclosure number N.J.S.A. 18A-24 and is in attendance under her own personal volition and not as a West Essex Board member. Ms. Dias stated she has been a resident of North Caldwell for 14 years and appreciates the efforts of the Mayor and Council. She stated her concern for the impact of the proposed Board of Education referendum and the potential financial impact as recently experienced by other neighboring towns. Ms. Dias asked if the 50 Affordable Housing units would

be for rent or ownership and if there were any occupancy restrictions. Mr. Portelli stated the units were designated for families with no occupancy restrictions. Mr. Portelli stated that RPM is the property manager of the units as well as for a portfolio of 3,000 other units across New Jersey. He described that the residency selection guidelines include criminal background checks, credit checks, landlord references, and income limits as set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Mr. Portelli stated that applicants must submit pay stubs, tax returns and income/asset documentation to determine income qualification. Mrs. Dias requested a timeline for construction, applicant review and residency. Mr. Portelli stated that the application for tax credits is due May 2 followed by the State's processing of the application and announcement within 90 days. At that time, it would take up to six months for detailed construction drawings and documentation bringing the timeline to the first quarter of 2018 with approximately 12 to 15 months for building. He stated that marketing begins 90 days before the expected completion date so applications would be accepted around the end of 2018 for occupancy in early 2019.

Ms. Dias stated her preference for communication and transparency via social media as social interactivity offers multiple outlets and venues for greater conversation within the Borough and with surrounding towns. Mr. Paris noted the importance of the new methods of affirmative communication. Mayor Alessi stated we could explore the idea of a Facebook page for the town. Council President Santomauro stated some of the Councilmembers participated in classes offered through the League of Municipalities regarding social media for municipalities. She stated the need for towns to have a social media manager due to the time-intensive nature and requirement for proper management. Council President Santomauro stated that since North Caldwell is small and mostly residential, we do not have the ability right now to expand social media efforts to the extent that some of the surrounding municipalities have.

Councilman Astorino noted the uncertainty of the impact from the potential \$34 million Board of Education aid plan in addition to \$9 million in other projects. He noted the importance of the referendum timing and how the school should plan for an increase of 50 Affordable Housing units vs. potentially more once our COAH negotiations are finalized. Mrs. Petrella requested a summary of the COAH presentation and the timeline be posted online to put people at ease and provide information prior to voting on the referendum. Council President Santomauro invited attendance at Mayor and Council meetings every second and fourth Tuesday of each month and noted the phone numbers for the Council are posted. Councilman Raymond mentioned that the Mayor has office hours every other Wednesday. Ms. Dias stated the importance of more dialogue which will add more value to the town. Mayor Alessi noted there are certain restrictions on disseminating some of the information given the ongoing negotiations. Mrs. Petrella suggested preemptive action before the referendum is finalized prepare for the increase in students after the legal action is finalized. Councilman Astorino noted the Borough's financial strength as the credit rating was raised from AA2 to AA3 which is a high investment grade. This is partially due to the Borough's proximity to New York, demographics, financial trend, and liquidity.

John Colitto – 37 Ferndale Road

Mr. Colitto suggested the North Caldwell magazine as a venue for Mayor & Council announcements, topics, and updates. Mr. Colitto inquired as to what kind of affordable housing, age restrictions. Mr. Nolan stated the need for a certain amount of family rentals to get plan approved. Mr. Paris stated that to maximize the number of credits against our COAH obligation, family rentals give the most COAH credits for each unit of construction. Mr. Nolan explained that age restricted units only satisfy 25% of the obligation so more units would need to be added.

Mr. Colitto inquired as to the number of bedrooms for consideration of impact to schools. Mayor Alessi stated there will be one, two and three bedroom units. Mr. Portelli stated there will be 10 one bedroom units, 27 two bedroom units and 13 three bedroom units. Mr. Nolan stated the requirement of 20% designated three bedroom units. Mr. Portelli showed renderings of the exterior and interiors of the

proposed units to be built off of White Rock Road. He demonstrated that each unit includes at least one porch, one garage and one driveway pad. Mrs. Petrella asked what the acreage is for the development. Mr. Portelli stated that there are five acres of the 36 acre Hilltop property assigned for Affordable Housing as per the redevelopment plan.

Ms. Dias requested the pricing of the rental units. Mr. Portelli stated the unit costs are approximately \$950 per month for one bedroom units, \$1,150 per month for two bedroom units and \$1,319 per month for three bedroom units. Mr. Portelli stated the household income requirements for eligibility for one bedroom units is under \$40,000 per year and under \$66,000 per year for the three bedroom units.

Mrs. Petrella asked if advertising for rental would be local or regional. Mr. Portelli stated that advertising would be initially local as most interest tends to be from a one to two mile radius of the development. Mr. Portelli also explained that they are bound by the Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan but many times word of mouth is the source of many applications. He then exhibited photos of the interior construction options including energy efficient appliances which are the hallmark of what RPM builds. Mr. Portelli clarified that the renters would be responsible for electricity, air conditioning and heat while water, sewer and trash collection fees are paid by the RPM.

Mr. Colitto inquired as to the occupancy per unit. Mr. Portelli stated that there is a maximum of two people per bedroom which is the standard set by fair housing group, therefore, there would be a maximum of six residents in a three bedroom unit. Mr. Colitto stated that the Curley Stone property is now empty and asked if this land would be protected from additional COAH development. Mr. Paris clarified this property as located on Bloomfield Avenue. Mr. Nolan stated that through their discussion with Fair Share Housing, they know there is a possibility of one to two COAH units being built here. Mr. Nolan noted that since the property is small, there should not be a significant impact.

Mayor Alessi stated the 62 single family homes will be built by Pulte.

Mrs. Petrella inquired about retroactively assigning already existing units in town as Affordable Housing units as people move out. Mr. Nolan stated that is not possible because of deed restrictions. Mr. Paris noted that deed restrictions are assigned for a period of 30 years.

Mayor Alessi asked for any other questions/comments with regard to this project and no other citizens came forward regarding this matter.

Carmine Campione – Whippany, New Jersey

Mr. Campione stated he was appearing on behalf of Renee Paladino, the owner of the property at 715 Main Street, regarding the issue of on-street parking near the property. Mr. Campione acknowledged the town ordinance that restricts commercial parking on the surrounding streets and only allows for permit parking for residents. Mr. Campione stated that business owners and their patrons cannot park and as a result, Mrs. Paladino's tenant, Sofia's Restaurant, closed. Mr. Campione asked to see if the town can consider providing relief, for example parking for commercial use during certain times. Mr. Campione stated his clients had been renting parking spaces across the street at the STS station but this option is no longer available since STS sold the property to Mavis. Mr. Campione stated that the absence of parking has hurt his client and the renting businesses, and his client is not able to rent the property as commercial enterprise without the promise of parking. Mr. Campione asked the Council to consider options to help these small businesses. Councilman Chiaia stated that the Council was in process of installing a light and a crosswalk at that intersection to facilitate parking across the street for the business' patrons but then Sofia's left. Councilman Chiaia asked how much Sofia's was paying in rent.

Mr. Glenn Paladino stated he is the husband of Renee Paladino and that his father-in-law owned the property for over 30 years and there was never an issue renting

the property when parking was not restricted. Mr. Paladino stated that he and his wife have absorbed the lost rent since Sofia's closed which was \$2,500 per month and that they did not increase the rent in over five years knowing that Sofia's found it difficult to maintain the business without access to parking. Mr. Paladino stated that when STS sold the property, it became difficult to work out a similar agreement with Mavis. Mr. Paladino stated he would be pleased to get parking at the Mavis location, but the litigation to get approval is lengthy. Mr. Paladino stated the commercial space is approved for 70 occupants (seats).

Councilman Chiaia stated that the commercial property which was formerly the Grandview Deli has 17 parking spaces and the property owner still couldn't find a tenant so the owner is trying to make it residential now. Mr. Paladino stated he never had an issue renting the space before. Councilman Raymond asked if Mr. Paladino had a proposal for what he would like from the Council. Mr. Campione requested an amendment to the ordinance allowing parking on Main Street. Chief Deuer stated that the Main Street roadway is actually the property of Little Falls and the no parking signs were erected by Little Falls. Mr. Paladino asked for parking on Hillside Avenue. Councilman Raymond stated the residents of Hillside Avenue had safety concerns with the public parking on the street. Councilman Raymond read Mr. Campione's letter requesting the parking ordinance revision and stated that the Council would take the request under advisement but with a focus on safety.

Mayor Alessi suggested renting the space to an office to reduce the need for as much parking. Council President Santomauro stated that the residents of Hillside Avenue do not have garages in which to park, that the street only has about five or six available street spots and that the ordinance was enacted to provide safety to the residents. She stated that the Council studied the situation for a long time and gathered much input but will look into the Paladino's request. Councilman Chiaia asked if there was available parking in the back of the property. Mr. Paladino stated there is a residence behind the commercial space so the space in the rear is unusable for the business. Council President Santomauro suggested Chief Deuer speak with Little Falls regarding parking but noted that parking on the county road could be dangerous. Mr. Paladino confirmed that he continues to work with the new owners of the STS property but has no response yet. Chief Deuer stated that original ordinance was amended to allow a small parking area on Hillside Avenue up to the first driveway. Mr. Paladino stated that the owner of the corner property on Main Street and Hillside Avenue claims that she was given the two spaces since she has a side door entrance on Hillside Avenue. Chief Deuer confirmed that those spaces are not designated to any property owner in particular. Mr. Paladino stated that the availability of any parking could facilitate him obtaining a renter and asked that the Council consider any other parking options to help him utilize the property. Councilman Astorino suggested contacting the owners of the Grandview Deli property to see if they would rent parking spaces. Mayor Alessi suggested Mr. Paladino continue to look for a renter other than a restaurant that would have considerable parking needs and that the Council would give the issue further consideration.

Mayor Alessi asked for any other citizens to be heard. No other citizens came forward.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Budget Meeting, Conference Meeting and Executive Session of March 20, 2017, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 29, 2017, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was passed unanimously.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **LEGAL AND ORDINANCE**

Councilman Raymond moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-2-17 – An Ordinance of the Borough of North Caldwell Authorizing the Granting of a Long Term Tax Exemption and the Execution of a Financial Agreement with White Rock Urban Renewal Associates, L.P. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 et. seq., seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Councilman Raymond moved to Close the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-2-17 – An Ordinance of the Borough of North Caldwell Authorizing the Granting of a Long Term Tax Exemption and the Execution of a Financial Agreement with White Rock Urban Renewal Associates, L.P. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 et. seq., seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Raymond moved to Adopt Ordinance O-2-17- An Ordinance of the Borough of North Caldwell Authorizing the Granting of a Long Term Tax Exemption and the Execution of a Financial Agreement with White Rock Urban Renewal Associates, L.P. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 et. seq., seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Raymond introduced Ordinance O-3-17 – 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 Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously. Councilman Raymond stated that the Public Hearing for this ordinance will be on Tuesday, May 23, 2017.

Councilman Raymond introduced Ordinance O-4-17 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Improvements in and for the Borough of North Caldwell, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, Appropriating \$2,413,226 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,292,564 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried with 5 votes. Councilman Rees voted no. Councilman Raymond stated that the Public Hearing for this ordinance will be on Tuesday, May 23, 2017.

Councilman Raymond introduced Ordinance O-5-17 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Improvements and Purposes for the Swimming Pool Utility in and for the Borough of North Caldwell, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, Appropriating \$150,000 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$150,000 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously. Councilman Raymond stated that the public hearing for this ordinance would be on Tuesday, May 23, 2017.

Resolution R-94-17 Resolution Adopting Policy for the Placement of Advertising Banners on Borough Property Pursuant to the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell §17-12 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Raymond thanked the members of the North Caldwell Recreation Foundation for their work to make improvements as well as Mr. Paris, Councilman Kessler, Councilman Chiaia and Mr. Levine for their efforts in the process.

Resolution R-95-17 Resolution Granting Authorization to the North Caldwell Recreation Foundation, A Non-Profit Corporation, to Place Advertising Banners on Borough Property was read. Motion was made by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

### **PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION**

Resolution R-96-17 Resolution Confirming Appointment of Samantha A. O'Neill as Part-Time Recreation Program Director of the Borough of North Caldwell was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-97-17 Acceptance of Resignation of Police Department Dispatcher – Nicholas Macaluso was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-98-17 Authorizing Employment of Paul J. Cicchetti as Police Department Dispatcher was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-99-17 Appointment of Fred Giordano as Assistant Manager of the Borough of North Caldwell Municipal Pool for the 2017 Season was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

### FINANCE

Councilman Astorino offered the Collector's Report for the month of March 2017. Taxes collected for the month of March total \$282,183.17. Water Utility collected \$162,873.55. Pool Utility collected \$43.12. Councilman Astorino moved that the Collector's Report be accepted, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-100-17 – Approval to Pay Bills – Councilman Astorino made a motion for the approval to pay bills in the amount of \$2,113,266.34 was read, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-101-17 – Tax Lien Redemption, Block 2102, Lot 6 C0103 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-102-17 – Approving the Revised West Essex First Aid Squad Certified LOSAP List for the year 2016 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-103-17 – Approving the Borough of North Caldwell Volunteer Fire Department Certified LOSAP List for the year 2016 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

Police Department Public Safety Report for March 2017 was read by Councilman Chiaia. There were 1,013 calls received by dispatch and the Police Department issued 82 summonses. There was a total of 269 total overtime hours. The ten vehicles in the fleet logged 18,809 miles and maintenance on those vehicles cost \$1,670.

Fire Department Public Safety Report for March 2017 was read by Councilman Chiaia. There were 21 calls in February, 19 calls in March and 17 calls in April. In March, the firefighters participated in a drill at Caldwell Airport that focused on extrication from airplanes.

Mr. Chiaia added that an appreciation letter was sent to the Police Department for their competence, efficiency & help provided to the Rescue Squad. Mr. Chiaia noted that there is a significant amount of false alarms activated by contractors doing

work on homes. He stated that residents should call their central service providers to avoid the false alarms.

#### PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

Council President Santomauro offered the March 2017 Construction Report. For the month of March, total permits are a significant decrease from this time last year. Council President Santomauro stated that the Year-to-Date permit total as of the end of March 2017 is \$33,753.00 which is much less than the year prior.

Council President Santomauro offered the March Recycling Report. There was a total of 207.99 tons of recycling in February 2017. Mr. Zichelli stated the increase over past years may be attributed to new vendors for both collection and disposal who are doing a better job.

Council President Santomauro gave the Animal Control Report for the month of March 2017 where there were two incidents of dogs running at large which were returned to their owners and 2 deceased animals retrieved.

#### RECREATION

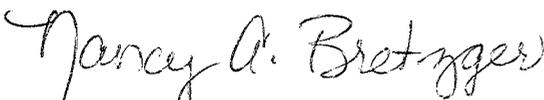
Councilman Kessler reported on the April-May 2017 Recreation Report. Track and Field practices are underway with 35 children from North Caldwell grades 4 through 8 participating. Baseball and Softball practices have started with a total of 25 teams representing grades K through 6 and Travel Baseball games are underway. Registration is open for Summer Fun, tennis, and the pool. The tennis courts opened on April 1. The pool opens on May 27 for weekends and weekdays as of Friday, June 16. The first day of Summer Fun is June 26. The Spring Spectacular was rescheduled to Thursday, April 19. Also in progress are Quick Start Tennis, Petite Soccer, Move Your Feet, and Multi-sport programs. Open Tennis Night will be held on Friday, May 5 from 6 to 8pm at which there will be tennis pros available, refreshments and a ribbon cutting ceremony. The Spring Youth Tennis Clinics are different this season in that registration is for a particular day of the week over several weeks instead of registering for an entire week as in the past. Cardio Tennis for Adults is held on Tuesdays from May 9 through June 6 from 10-11 am and Senior Fitness runs until May 11. Opening Day for Baseball and Softball will be Saturday, April 29 starting off with a parade at 9am down Gould Avenue to Liberty Field. There will be a Seniors luncheon on May 3 and a Spirit Cruise on May 25. Open House at the pool will be held on June 3 from 1-5pm with a rain date of June 4. The Multi-sport program will run from June 19-23 from 9-1. Councilman Kessler invited all to participate in Restaurant Week which supports restaurants with proceeds going to the North Caldwell Recreation Foundation for field improvements.

Resolution R-104-17 Authorization to Hire Seasonal Employees for 2017 – Summer Fun was read. Motion was made by Councilman Kessler, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Councilman Astorino abstained. Said motion was carried with 5 votes and one abstention.

Councilman Chiaia stated appreciation for the Tree Seedling program on Earth Day and that given the good turn out, it would be a great annual tradition.

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 9:29pm. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk