

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at the Borough Hall, Gould Avenue, North Caldwell, New Jersey and began at 7:38pm.

Roll Call indicated the following present:

Mayor Alessi

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

Absent: Councilman Kessler

Also present were: Mr. David M. Paris, Esq., Borough Attorney; Mel Levine, Borough Administrator; Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer; Rich Mondelli, CFO; Nancy Bretzger, Borough Clerk and Tami Michelotti, Deputy 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 Tami Michelotti to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Alessi's report focused on Memorial Day quoting that "Freedom is not free" and "We cannot be the land of the free without being the home of the brave". Mayor Alessi announced that Cass Gilbert, a North Caldwell resident, will be the Grand Marshal of the Memorial Day Parade. Mayor Alessi stated that the VFW post typically goes to each of the West Essex towns but this year there is a combined ceremony at Essex Fells Town Hall at 8:00am on Monday, May 29. The Mayor will be issuing a reverse 911 reminding and encouraging residents to attend.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Alessi opened the floor to the public.

Emily Goldberg – 18 Old Farm Road

Ms. Goldberg stated she represents Moms Demand Action which is a movement of over 3,000,000 supporters that demand common sense solutions to gun violence. Ms. Goldberg noted there are chapters in every state with several chapters in New Jersey and she represents the West Essex Chapter. She stated they co-sponsor National Gun Violence Awareness Day which is on June 2, 2017, started in memory of 15 year old Hadiya Pendleton who was shot and killed in Chicago by a stray bullet. She noted that on this day, organizers and participants will wear orange to represent "don't shoot" as in hunting to honor all shooting victims of gun violence. Ms. Goldberg stated that she would like the Borough's elected officials to honor this day by adopting the resolution she submitted for review. She added that there are several communities in the area that are adopting the resolution. Ms. Goldberg noted that this is relevant to North Caldwell acknowledging silent victims of gun violence in our community and noting that gun violence awareness can lead to prevention. The Mayor acknowledged receipt of the proposed proclamation and stated the Council was not prepared to adopt it tonight as they had just received it.

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 Executive Session of March 29, 2017, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Conference and Regular Meeting and Executive Session of April 25, 2017, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was passed unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Conference Meeting and Executive Session of May 9, 2017, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Councilman Astorino and Councilman Rees abstained. Said motion passed with 3 votes in favor and 2 abstentions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGAL AND ORDINANCE

Councilman Raymond moved to Open the Public Hearing for 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 Councilman Astorino. Said motion passed unanimously.

Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Councilman Chiaia moved to Close the Public Hearing for 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 Councilman Raymond. Said motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Raymond moved to Adopt 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 Councilman Astorino. Said motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Raymond moved to Open the Public Hearing for 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 Councilman Astorino. Said motion passed unanimously.

Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Councilman Raymond moved to Close the Public Hearing for 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 Councilman Astorino. Said motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Raymond moved to Adopt 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 Councilman Astorino. Councilman Rees voted no. Said motion passed by a vote of 4 to 1.

Councilman Raymond moved to Open the Public Hearing for 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 Councilman Astorino. Said motion passed unanimously.

Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Councilman Raymond moved to Close the Public Hearing for 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 Councilman Astorino. Said motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Raymond moved to Adopt 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 Councilman Astorino. Said motion passed unanimously.

Resolution R-110-17 Library Fee Reimbursement Authorization was read. Motion was made by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

Resolution R-111-17 Resolution Authorizing Increase of Anna Crowell's Hours as Deputy Court Administrator of the Borough of North Caldwell Municipal Court was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-112-17 Resolution Authorizing Increase of Chris Basile's Hours as Recreation Assistant of the Borough of North Caldwell Recreation Department was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-113-17 Appointment of Allison Barth as Head Swim Team Coach of the Borough of North Caldwell Swim Team for the 2017 Season was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-114-17 Appointment of Emma Bossaert as Swim Team Coach of the Borough of North Caldwell Swim Team for the 2017 Season was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-115-17 Authorization to Hire Seasonal Employees for 2017 – Municipal Pool was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Councilman Astorino abstained. Said motion was carried with four votes and one abstention.

Resolution R-116-17 Authorization to Hire Seasonal Employees for 2017 – Summer Fun was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Councilman Astorino abstained. Said motion was carried with four votes and one abstention.

FINANCE

Councilman Astorino offered the Collector's Report for the month of April 2017. Taxes collected for the month of April total \$2,334,900.19. Water Utility collected \$88,439.80. Pool Utility collected \$13,334.87. Councilman Astorino moved that the Collector's Report be accepted, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-117-17 – Resolution To Read Budget By Title was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Astorino made a motion to Open the Public Hearing regarding the 2017 Municipal Budget, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Councilman Chiaia made a motion to Close the Public Hearing regarding the 2017 Municipal Budget, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-118-17 Resolution to Adopt the 2017 Municipal Budget was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, Seconded by Council President Santomauro. Councilman Rees voted no. Said motion was carried by a vote of 4 to 1.

Resolution R-119-17 – Approval to Pay Bills – Councilman Astorino made a motion for the approval to pay bills in the amount of \$3,357,199.40 was read, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-120-17 – Tax Lien Redemption, Block 1803, Lot 11 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Police Department Public Safety Report for April 2017 was read by Councilman Chiaia. There were 958 calls received by dispatch and the Police Department issued 106 summonses. There was a total of 150 total overtime hours, 98 of which were due to shift coverage and 52 of which are reimbursable. There were 79 alarms, one arrest for domestic violence and eight juvenile matters at West Essex High School. Maintenance on the ten vehicles in the fleet cost \$3,685.39 year to date.

The Fire Report for the Month through May 23 was read by Councilman Chiaia. There were five carbon monoxide alarms, two gas odor reports, one wire burning, one vehicle crash, one smoke investigation, one oil spill at the Food Truck Festival, one brush fire and one practice drill.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

Council President Santomauro offered the April 2017 Construction Report. Council President Santomauro stated that there were 48 permits issued in the month of April bringing the year-to-date permit total to 163 with \$56,282.00 in fees collected in that time. These figures are consistent with last year.

Council President Santomauro offered the April Recycling Report. There was a total of 1,107 tons of total solid waste collected year-to-date, of which 275 tons is recycling.

Council President Santomauro gave the Animal Control Report for the month of April 2017 which included a dog bite resulting in the dog being quarantined and the removal of two animal carcasses.

Council President Santomauro stated that the bid for furnishing regular unleaded motor fuel gasoline and diesel fuel was scheduled for May 18, 2017. There were no bids received so the rebid is now rescheduled for June 15, 2017.

RECREATION

Councilman Raymond offered the Recreation Report. Opening Day of Baseball and Softball was held on April 29 and had a great turnout celebrating the young athletes. There are 275 boys and girls from K-6 grades playing recreational baseball and softball. Travel baseball teams are finishing up games before the playoffs begin. The Track and Field season is winding down while Summer Fun, Tennis and Pool registrations are open. The tennis courts have been open since April 1 with 36 people registered. The Grand Opening of the tennis courts was postponed to May 19 due to rain and was well-attended by adults and children as well as by Mayor Alessi and Borough Administrator Mel Levine. The pool will open on May 27 on weekends and will open daily as of June 16. The Field Design Committee has been meeting with Borough Engineer Frank Zichelli and is making headway in designing improvements for Liberty Field.

Councilman Raymond stated that members of the Mayor & Council met with members of the North Caldwell Board of Education in response to citizens hoping for better communication between the entities. Dr. Freda, Mayor Alessi, Councilman Raymond, Mr. Paris, Mr. Zichelli and Police Chief Deuer met and decided to meet on a quarterly basis to keep communication open.

Councilman Raymond announced the dedication of the athletic complex at Essex County Brookdale Park in honor of Tom Fleming on June 5, 2017 at 6:00pm. Mr. Fleming was a marathon winner and a track and field coach at Montclair Kimberly Academy who passed away last month at a track and field event.

Resolution R-121-17 Fixing Fees Pertaining to Recreation Programs – Senior Tennis Membership was read. Motion was made by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro clarified age 62 as the age at which residents qualify for Senior status for pool and tennis discounted memberships.

Councilman Raymond raised for discussion an additional Summer Fun program offered by the Recreation Department to attract higher enrollment in the camp. For an additional small fee, children can attend sports clinics during the Summer Fun camp. Children would be organized into small group instruction of no more than eight children. Outside vendors who specialize in a sport would conduct 30 minute sessions for both the upper and lower camps. A fee of \$45 per child per week per sport would be charged for Summer Fun participants and a fee of \$60 per child per week per sport would be charged for children not participating in Summer Fun. The program would be open to children not participating in Summer Fun to provide additional participants to run the program as well as to attract children to join the Summer Fun program.

Council President Santomauro stated she would like a list of the vendors that would provide the instruction as well as verification that we have contracts with them. She also requested detailed arrangements regarding escorting the children to and from the sports instruction.

Mayor Alessi stated the Annual Fireman's Breakfast is on June 4, 2017 at 8:00am. He encouraged everyone to attend. Mayor Alessi acknowledged the productive meeting with the North Caldwell Board of Education. He read the notice from the Board of Education regarding the May 31 Open Forum regarding the proposed construction with the community and he invited all residents to attend. Mayor Alessi noted that the notice will be distributed as a Nixle alert.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution R-122-16 - Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes - Contract Negotiations -(1) Caldwell Sewer Utility; (2) Traffic Signal Cost Sharing Agreement (3) PILOT Program; B. Litigation - (1) COAH Declaratory Judgement; C. Personnel - Municipal Prosecutor; D. Nixle Alerts - Board of Education was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting was re-opened to Public at 8:58pm.

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 9:00pm. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk