

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Tuesday, September 26, 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; Mark Deuer, Police Chief; 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 Mel Levine to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Resolution R-196-17 Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes: A. Personnel – Borough Administrator, B. Litigation – Newark Bay was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously with five votes.

The meeting was re-opened to the public at 8:09pm.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Alessi shared details on upcoming Essex County recycling events including Household Hazardous Waste Day on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017; Computer & Electronics Recycling Day on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017; and Paper Shredding Day on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Mayor Alessi shared the success and the positive feedback from the Mayor's Ball which was held on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at Green Brook Country Club. He stated that approximately 300 people were in attendance. He stated that the Ball was a great event for the community and that monies raised would support the North Caldwell Recreation Foundation's plans for the improvement of recreational facilities. Mayor Alessi thanked Co-Chairs, Cynthia Santomauro and John Chiaia, and Councilman Josh Raymond for their help in planning the Ball.

### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Mayor Alessi opened the floor to the public.

No one from the public came forward.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Conference, Executive and Regular Meetings of August 8, 2017, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Councilman Astorino abstained. Said motion was passed with four votes and one abstention.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION**

Resolution R-185-17 Appointment of Tami Michelotti as Acting Borough Clerk was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously with five votes.

Resolution R-186-17 Authorizing Appointment of John Ritter as Roadman in the Public Works Department of the Borough of North Caldwell was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously with five votes.

Resolution R-184-17 Acceptance of Retirement of Borough Administrator Mel Levine was read. Motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Council President Santomauro. The Governing Body, professionals and staff present commended Mr. Levine for 41 years of providing guidance, mentoring and dedicated service. Said motion was carried unanimously with five votes.

### **LEGAL AND ORDINANCE**

Councilman Raymond moved to introduce Ordinance O-7-17 – An Ordinance Supplementing the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell by Establishing the Requirement to Obtain Landscaping Licenses, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said Ordinance is scheduled for approval at the Public Hearing and Final Reading to be held on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Resolution R-183-17 A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Amendment to the Developer's Agreement By and Between the Borough of North Caldwell and K. Hovnanian at North Caldwell IV, L.L.C. and Pulte Homes of NJ, Limited Partnership was tabled pending further discussion at the Conference Meeting on October 10, 2017. All Councilmembers were asked to provide Frank Zichelli, Borough Engineer, and Richard Mondelli, CFO, with questions prior to that meeting.

### **FINANCE**

Councilman Astorino offered the Collector's Report for the month of August 2017. Taxes collected for the month of August total \$7,124,766.89. Water Utility collected \$145,656.91. Pool Utility collected \$4,606.68. Councilman Astorino moved that the Collector's Report be accepted, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously with five votes.

Resolution R-187-17 – Approval to Pay Bills was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously with five votes.

Resolution R-188-17 – Governing Body Certification of the Annual Audit was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously with five votes.

Resolution R-189-17 – Approval of 2016 Corrective Action Plan was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously with five votes.

Resolution R-190-17 – Tax Lien Redemption – Block 2103, Lot 12 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously with five votes.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Police Department Public Safety Report for August 2017 was read by Councilman Chiaia. There were 801 calls received by dispatch and the Police Department issued 113 summonses. Police responded to 68 alarms. There was a total of 215.5

total overtime hours with 149 attributed to outside detail. Councilman Chiaia read a letter written to Chief Mark Deuer from the Chief of Police of Fairfield thanking him for assistance at Fairfield's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Night Out. Special thanks were given to Captain William Texas and Officer Sue DePoe for their assistance.

Fire Department Public Safety Report for August 2017 was read by Councilman Chiaia. There were 30 calls in August, including a tree falling into a house, kitchen fires, carbon monoxide alarms, malfunctioning house alarms, a dryer fire, gas odor, a dead battery and the hanging of two banners for the Mayor's Ball.

Resolution R-191-17 Authorizing Participation in LESO Program was read. Chief Deuer stated that the town would benefit from participation in this Federal program which allows the Police Department to secure surplus equipment. Motion was made by Councilman Chiaia, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion passed unanimously with five votes.

#### PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

Council President Santomauro offered the August 2017 Construction Report. Council President Santomauro stated that the total fees collected for permits are higher than in 2016. The 2017 YTD total is \$133,300.00 compared to the 2016 total of approximately \$121,000.00.

The recycling reports for July and August indicated 556 tons total year-to-date.

Resolution R-174-17 Establishing the Adopt-a-Spot Program and Authorizing the Procurement of Concessions for Landscaping Services for Public Properties within the Borough of North Caldwell was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded Councilman Raymond. Said motion passed unanimously with five votes.

Resolution R-192-17 Authorization to Enter Into an Interlocal Service Agreement with the Township of Fairfield for the Composting of Leaves was read. Motion was made by President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion passed unanimously with five votes.

Resolution R-193-17 Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for Roosevelt Boulevard (Section 2) Project was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion passed unanimously with five votes.

Resolution R-194-17 Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for Deer Trail Road (Section 3) Project was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion passed unanimously with five votes.

#### RECREATION

Councilman Raymond provided the September 2017 Recreation Report. He stated that pool membership increased over last year to 1,463 people registered which reflects 430 memberships. There were 20 new memberships this year. Since 2014, there have been 102 new memberships reflecting an increased revenue of 31%. Fall Recreation Soccer is underway with 209 boys and girls grades kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> participating, an increase over last year and the year before. Soccerfest occurred on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> celebrating the young athletes in a parade down Gould Avenue. Councilman Raymond thanked Chief Deuer and the Police Department for successfully coordinating traffic for the parade while a 5K race was also occurring in the area. The annual Town Picnic was held on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> and was well-attended by North Caldwell families.

Upcoming Fall programs include UK Elite Soccer and youth tennis. The Seniors' monthly meetings commenced on September 6<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center with a luncheon and guest speaker, Chris Rohde, North Caldwell resident and Financial Estate Attorney. Senior fitness begins on Tuesday September 26<sup>th</sup>, and Senior Men's Basketball 60 and over is looking for additional players. The Cub Scout Campout is scheduled for Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at Liberty Field with a rain date scheduled for Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. Recreation basketball registration will begin on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Travel basketball for boys and girls grades 5-8<sup>th</sup> will begin in mid-October. The Halloween dance for all 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Newcomer's night is scheduled for Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm in Borough Hall.

Councilman Chiaia congratulated the Mayor for having a sell-out Mayor's Ball event that raised funds for the North Caldwell Recreation Foundation.

Mayor Alessi invited former Councilwoman Fost to come forward to acknowledge Borough Administrator Mel Levine on his upcoming retirement. She thanked Mr. Levine for being a mentor, encouraging her to run for town Council and initiating change for the community. Mr. Levine thanked former Councilwoman Fost.

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 Raymond, that this meeting be adjourned at 9:02 pm. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami Michelotti  
Acting Borough Clerk