

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at the Borough Hall, Gould Avenue, North Caldwell, New Jersey and began at 7:34pm.

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: David M. Paris, 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 Council President Santomauro to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor congratulated the North Caldwell Fire Department on their upcoming Firemen's Dinner. He thanked them for extending an invitation to the entire Council and is looking forward to attending the event. He then spoke about Alec Miskulan who earned his Eagle Scout rank. Alec's Eagle Scout project took place at Notre Dame Church. Lastly, the Mayor said the lack of snow has been good to the residents and the budget. He hopes it remains that way for the rest of the season.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 22, 2015, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Re-Org Meeting of January 3, 2016, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Conference Meeting of January 12, 2016, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the 1st Executive Session Conference Meeting of January 12, 2016, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the 2nd Executive Session Conference Meeting of January 12, 2016, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 26, 2016, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Executive Session Meeting of January 26, 2016, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Conference Meeting of February 9, 2016, seconded by Councilman Kessler with Councilman Rees abstaining. Said motion carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to accept the minutes from the Executive Session Meeting of Conference Meeting February 9, 2016, seconded by Councilman Kessler with Councilman Rees abstaining. Said motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGAL AND ORDINANCE

Council President Santomauro moved to Open the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-2-16 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 23 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell Regarding Fees for Liquor Licenses, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously. Seeing no one from the public coming forward, Council President Santomauro moved to Close the Public Hearing for Ordinance O-2-16 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 23 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell Regarding Fees for Liquor Licenses, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro moved to Adopt Ordinance O-2-16-An Ordinance Amending Chapter 23 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell Regarding Fees for Liquor Licenses, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Council President Santomauro introduced Ordinance O-3-16 – Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14). Council President Santomauro moved to pass the Ordinance at first reading, seconded by Councilman Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously. Council President Santomauro stated that the Public Hearing for this ordinance will be on Tuesday, March 22, 2016.

Resolution R-49-16 – A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Municipal Services Agreement with the Four Seasons at North Caldwell Condominium Association – A motion was made by Council President Santomauro, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

Councilman Rees stated he has nothing to report at this time.

FINANCE

Councilman Astorino offered the Collector's Report for the month of January 2016 in the amount of \$2,260,745.87. The water account collected \$161,946.89 and the pool account collected \$7.22. Councilman Astorino moved that the Collector's Report be accepted, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-50-16 – 2015 Appropriation Reserves Transfers Approval in the amount of \$7,100.00 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-51-16 – Approval to Pay Bills – Approval to pay bills in the amount of \$3,457,567.10 was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Council President Santomauro. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-52-16 – A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Municipay Merchant Processing Terms and Agreement with Municipay D/B/A Nationwide Payments Solutions, LLC was read. Motion was made by Councilman Astorino, seconded by Councilman Raymond to approve with amendments. Said motion was carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

There were 938 calls to police dispatch for the month of January. There were 127 hours of overtime of which 55 hours will be reimbursed. There were 55 investigations, accidents and other matters for the month. Two of the 55 incidents resulted in arrests, one of those was for burglary.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

Councilman Kessler offered the January 2016 Construction Report. There were 38 permits issued for the month which is a 52% increase during the same period last year. There was a total of \$15,435.00 collected for these permits. Councilman Kessler read the Animal Control Report for the month of January 2016. There were four calls for the month. Two calls were for carcass removal, one lost dog and one feral cat.

Councilman Kessler offered the Recycling Report for January 2016. Total household waste for the month was 262.95 tons, of which 30% was recycling. Household waste collection was an 18% increase over the same time last year.

Resolution R-53-16 - Contract Award – Recycling Market was read. Motion was made by Councilman Kessler, seconded by Councilman Chiaia. Said motion was carried unanimously.

RECREATION

Councilman Raymond offered the February/March 2016 Recreation Report.

Basketball playoffs start in February. The boys and girls 6th – 8th grade teams are in the playoffs. The girl's 8th grade team is undefeated. The 2nd Annual Mayor's Cup will also take place at the end of the season. Kindergarten through 2nd grade basketball clinic ends in February. The 40 and over men's basketball open gym is every Wednesday at Gould School gym from 8:00pm to 9:30pm.

Explore science winter program currently has 20 participants. The 5th and 6th grade ski club has 50 enrolled.

The next scheduled date for monthly bingo for seniors will be on Wednesday, March 2nd at 1:00pm. Recreation baseball and softball registration began the first week of February. To date 96 boys and girls have registered. Registration ends on March 7th. Registration is now open for spring track and field. Other spring programs available are UK Elite, multi-sport class, fun and games, youth spring tennis and biddy basketball.

Opening day for baseball is set for Saturday, April 23rd. The parade begins at 9:00am.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Richard Verde – 8 Hickory Drive – Mr. Verde spoke about the sign ordinance for the town. He stated he saw a political sign displayed and feels it is too early to display as the primary election is not for three months. Many towns have time requirements on signs, i.e. 30-days prior to the election and removal two days after the election. He feels the Council should review this ordinance. Currently, the ordinance addresses commercial signs. Borough Attorney, David Paris stated political speech and commercial speech are very different. It is up to the Council to decide whether or not political signs are an issue.

Mr. Verde spoke about a sign that is on Wind Ridge Drive. He stated the sign states it is not a through street. Mr. Verde stated that Wind Ridge Drive is a through street.

Mr. Verde then spoke about the condition of Central Avenue. He stated he is aware that it is a county road, but would like to know the status of repaving the section in North Caldwell. Borough Engineer, Frank Zichelli, stated he has not yet received the spring paving schedule from the county.

Mr. Verde spoke about an OPRA request he had prepared with regard to the deer ordinance. He is requesting information such as how many deer have been killed/injured since 2013, location of the hunting areas, permits issued, who the hunters are, etc. He feels this is important as residents should be aware of this information for their safety. Mr. Verde handed the OPRA request to the Borough Clerk, but then stated that he is not concerned with the actual identity of the individual hunters.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution R-54-16 - Authorization for Executive Session for Certain Specified Purposes - Contract Negotiations – (1) Acquisition of Walker’s Pond Property; (2) Caldwell Sewer Utility; (3) Traffic Signal Cost Sharing Agreement (4) PVWC Contract (5) 2016 Tennis Courts Rehabilitation; B. Litigation – (1) COAH – Update on status of Declaratory Judgement Action; C. Personnel was read. Motion was made by Council President Santomauro seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution R-55-16 - Tabled

Re-Opened to Public Meeting at 8:12pm.

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 8:17pm. This motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy A. Bretzger, Borough Clerk