

BOROUGH OF CALDWELL, N.J.
ORGANIZATION MEETING
MINUTES – January 6, 2009

The Organization Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Caldwell was called to order in the Council Chambers by Mayor Susan Gartland at 7:22 PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Gartland, Councilman Lawshe, Slattery, Dassing, Curley, Norton and Brennan

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Administrator, Maureen Ruane, Borough Attorney, Stuart Koenig, Esq. and Deputy Clerk, Beth Bush Telepan

ABSENT: None

MAYOR'S MESSAGE:

The year 2008 ended in financial chaos for the entire country. This collapse will impact New Jersey, Caldwell and each of us in our own way.

The Borough of Caldwell certainly did better than most towns in New Jersey by receiving \$150,000 in extraordinary aid which is applied directly to property tax relief. This was due to the efforts of Senate President Richard Codey, Assemblyman John McKeon and Assemblywoman Mila Jasey. Their support of Caldwell has always been extraordinary and hopefully Caldwell will be considered in 2009 for this assistance.

Caldwell continues to improve its infrastructure with grants from the New Jersey Department of Transportation. We upgraded six (6) roads in Caldwell this year: White Birch Terrace; Linwood Terrace; Arlington Avenue; Park Avenue; Whitfield Street and Ryerson Avenue. We also upgraded the water systems on Arlington Avenue and Linwood Terrace prior to paving the roads. We looped the water system on Arlington and replaced the entire water main on Linwood. This will improve the water pressure in this entire area.

Caldwell is the owner of a sewer plant that services five (5) communities in our area: Roseland; West Caldwell; North Caldwell; Essex Fells and Caldwell. In order to meet the Department of Environmental Protection's upgraded standards, Caldwell is about to proceed with substantial improvements of \$16 million dollars to our wastewater treatment plant. The money was obtained from the N.J. Infrastructure Trust Fund at a very low interest rate and is shared by the five (5) towns. The last major improvement took place almost 20 years ago. We will meet and exceed the Department of Environmental Protection's standards.

The Borough of Caldwell has almost completed a major upgrade of our police department and police desk. In fact, in 2008 we renewed our shared service with West Caldwell of police dispatching. This contract has worked well for the last three (3) years and now with the upgrades in Caldwell should be even more efficient.

After our water issue this summer Caldwell realized that we needed an emergency response system sooner rather than continuing to wait for Essex County to implement one. A contract was signed with Global Connect to notify the Caldwell residents of an emergency situation in town. It also offered many other advantages that we will further investigate in 2009.

Promotions were made in the Caldwell Police Department and two (2) new officers were hired to now bring our department to full complement. Caldwell was deemed one of the three (3) safest towns in New Jersey thanks to our very professional Police Officers under the leadership of Chief Kurt Dombrowski.

Our volunteer fire department brought to our attention the need for a new pumper ladder truck that fits into smaller more compact streets and spaces. The truck is called a "Quint". The administrator reallocated \$306,000 from other accounts to the purchase of a new fire truck. The Council voted on December 23, 2008 to award the contract to a company that will deliver the new fire truck in 2009. We in Caldwell are blessed to have the most dedicated volunteers serve on our Fire Department. Whatever we can do to make their jobs easier and safer in protecting our residents we will do so.

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If you look at our downtown, it is alive with activity. In 2008, Caldwell was granted by the N.J. Division of Community Affairs Main Street Partner status. The Caldwell Downtown Alliance is working with the Main Street partners to improve our downtown through programs, education and presentations. Our first magazine insert for Caldwell stores was placed in the Montclair Magazine in November, 2008. This is wonderful progress. The Caldwell Merchants Association is also working with the town and the merchants to promote special events that feature our downtown. The scarecrow contest was a big success and enjoyed by all.

Caldwell has installed all new parking meters in our downtown. It looks better and is necessary to keep the parking on the Avenue under control.

In 2007 I formed a Traffic Committee to begin to assess our needs in the community. In 2008 they evaluated each section of town and had signage replaced and some new signs installed. Line stripping was done throughout the town and areas were identified for more detailed discussions in 2009. The Committee works with the Police Department and the Department of Public Works to accomplish their goals. We should see some more goals accomplished by the joint efforts of residents, councilpersons and employees in 2009.

Our Open Space committee was hard at work in 2008 to purchase two (2) properties in Caldwell that will remain open space and not be built on. The town has closed on a property on Elm Road and hopefully in 2009 will close on the second property. I know that the Open Space Committee intends to hold open forums with Caldwell residents on the use of the property. These properties are for the benefit of Caldwell residents and you will decide what happens with them. Look for notices in the future months on a meeting to discuss their use.

Caldwell is a wonderful place to live and play. Our schools are the best, our recreation programs are excellent and our downtown is the heart of our community. We obviously need to improve our assistance to the merchants and hopefully in 2009 we will be able to accomplish meaningful things on Bloomfield Avenue and our side streets.

We will be looking at ways to curtail our taxes in these difficult times. The Governor has already put all towns on notice that aid to municipalities will be cut. We need to put state government on notice that all new mandates for towns must have funding to implement any programs.

I welcome our two (2) new Councilmen, Gordon Lawshe and Joseph Norton. I express my thanks to Peter Mescia and E. William "Bill" Edge for their years of service and dedication to Caldwell. I know that in 2009 all Council Members will work hard together for the good of Caldwell. I expect wonderful things from this Council in 2009. I thank all of our Department Heads that are here tonight. I think that is a great effort to show the Council and the town that we have very hard working and dedicated employees. I would like our Department Heads to come to one of our council meetings each month for updates on their departments. I am also recommending the possibility of having a conference meeting at the beginning of each month added to the council meeting schedule.

Election of Council President - Mayor Gartland opened the floor to nominations for Council President. Councilman Slattery nominated Councilman Curley, seconded by Councilman Brennan. On roll call vote for Councilman Curley for the position of Council President all members voted in the affirmative.

Various discussion ensued regarding the Mayoral Committee Appointments.

Mayoral Committee Appointments

* denotes Chairperson

- | | | |
|-----------|---|-------------------------------------|
| A. | Board of Education | <i>*Lawshe, Slattery, Dassing</i> |
| B. | Finance | <i>*Norton, Lawshe, Slattery</i> |
| C. | Community Center | <i>*Dassing, Slattery, Gartland</i> |
| D. | Police/Fire/Emergency Management | <i>*Curley, Brennan, Lawshe</i> |
| E. | Health & Senior Services | <i>*Slattery, Norton, Curley</i> |
| F. | Library | <i>*Gartland, Curley, Norton</i> |
| G. | Local/Public Assistance | <i>*Dassing, Lawshe, Brennan</i> |
| H. | Personnel | <i>*Brennan, Dassing, Slattery</i> |

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I. Public Works/Water	*Brennan , Curley, Norton
J. Recreation	*Slattery , Lawshe, Brennan
K. Technology	*Curley , Dassing, Gartland
L. Shared Services	*Dassing , Norton, Curley
M. Construction/Code Enforcement	*Gartland , Lawshe, Curley

ANNUAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Planning Board - Appointment by Mayor – Resolution 1-1*

Ms. Ann Finnegan Class IV Member – term expiration 12/31/12
Mr. Philip Kinzel Class IV Member – term expiration 12/31/12
Councilman Gordon Lawshe Class III Member – term expiration 12/31/09
Ms. Alyson N. Villano Filling Unexpired Class IV Member – term expiration 12/31/09
Mr. Kenneth Mihalik Filling Unexpired Class IV Member – term expiration 12/31/09
Ms. Ann E. Martin Alternate #1 – term expiration 12/31/10
Mr. Christopher Esposito Alternate #2 – term expiration 12/31/09
*(Mayor Gartland has requested the consent of the Council)

Moved by Councilman Slattery, seconded by Councilman Curley. Discussion ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative.
Resolution adopted 1/6/09

Zoning Board of Adjustment - Mayor, Consent of the Council – Resolution 1-2

Mr. Robert Colaizzo – term expiration 12/31/12
Ms. Frances M. DePalma-Iozzi – term expiration 12/31/12
Mr. Bruce Stieve – term expiration 12/31/12
Mr. Henderson Cole – term expiration 12/31/12
Mr. Joseph DeFuria – Filling unexpired member – term expiration 12/31/10
Mr. Lauren Olivieri – Alternate #1 Two Year Term – term expiration 12/31/10
Mr. Joseph Testa – Alternate #2 One Year Term – term expiration 12/31/09

Moved by Councilman Dassing, seconded by Councilman Brennan. Discussion ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative.
Resolution adopted 1/6/09

Library Board of Trustees - Mayor, Consent of the Council- Resolution 1-3

Mr. Peter W. Murray, Jr. – Five Year Term – term expiration 12/31/13
Ms. Cindy Kellenberger – term expiration 12/31/09
Mayor Susan Gartland, Council Representative

Various discussion ensued regarding the appointment of Peter W. Murray, Jr. Mr. Murray will have discussions with Karen Lembo, Library Director, regarding the appointment. Mr. Murray's name was withdrawn from the resolution for now pending his discussions with Ms. Lembo.

Moved by Councilman Slattery that Mayor Gartland is the Council Representative for the Library Board, seconded by Councilman Norton. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 1/6/09

Board of Health - Mayor, Consent of the Council - Resolution 1-4

Mr. Robert Bellasalma – term expiration 12/31/11
Ms. Cathy Wasserman – term expiration 12/31/11
Councilman Kay Slattery, Council Representative

Various discussion ensued regarding the appointment of Mr. Robert Bellasalma. A question was asked if there was a conflict with Mr. Robert Bellasalma being a Borough Employee. Councilman Joseph Norton reported that Bill Edge has expressed an interest to be appointed to the Board of Health. Mayor Gartland requested that Mr. Bellasalma be left on the Library Board. Borough Attorney Stuart Koenig advised that there was not a conflict to have a Borough Employee on the Board.

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Moved by Councilman Slattery, seconded by Councilman Brennan. On roll call vote Councilman Lawshe, Dassing and Norton voted in the negative. Councilman Slattery, Curley, Brennan and Mayor Gartland voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 1/6/09

Local Assistance Board - Mayor, Consent of the Council - Resolution 1-5

Ms. Iva Hemmel – term expiration 12/31/12
Ms. Evelyn J. Ponczek – term expiration 12/31/09
Councilman Ann Dassing, Council Representative

Various discussion ensued regarding Evelyn J. Ponczek. Councilman Dassing said she would speak to Ms. Ponczek to see if she was interested in serving on the Local Assistance Board.

Moved by Councilman Slattery, to appoint Iva Hemmel and Councilman Ann Dassing to the Local Assistance Board, seconded by Councilman Brennan. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 1/6/09

Rent Review Board - Mayor, Consent of the Council - Resolution 1-6

Ms. Catherine Daly – term expiration 12/31/11
Ms. Nancy Busby – term expiration 12/31/11
Mr. Jay Holland – term expiration 12/31/11
Mr. Joseph Donohue – term expiration 12/31/11
Councilman Jeff Curley, Council Representative
Michael S. Rubin, Esq., Rent Board Attorney

Various discussion ensued.

Moved by Councilman Slattery, seconded by Councilman Norton, Councilman Dassing voted in the negative, Councilman Lawshe, Slattery, Curley, Norton and Brennan voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 1/6/09

Environmental Commission – Appointment by Mayor - Resolution 1-7

[One of the members must be a member of the Planning Board]

Ms. Alyson N. Villano (Planning Board Member) - term expiration - 12/31/10
Ms. Doris Halprin – term expiration 12/31/11
Mr. E. William Edge – term expiration 12/31/09
Ms. Marguerite Kenney – term expiration 12/31/10
Mr. Donald Neil Aharra – term expiration 12/31/11
Councilman Jeff Curley, Council Representative

Various discussion ensued.

Moved by Councilman Slattery, seconded by Councilman Lawhse, Councilman Dassing voted in the negative, Councilman Lawshe, Slattery, Curley, Norton and Brennan voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 1/6/09

Open Space Trust Committee – Mayor Consent of the Council – Resolution 1-8

Ms. Maureen Ruane, Borough Administrator – term expires 12/31/09
Councilman Kay Slattery, Council Representative – term expires 12/31/09
Ms. Ann Finnegan, Planning Board Member – term expires 12/31/09
Ms. Sally Garson, Environmental Commission Member – term expires 12/31/10
Mr. Michael Rubin, Resident Member – term expires 12/31/11
Mr. Peter Mescia, Resident Member – term expires 12/31/10
Mr. John Coyle, Alternate #1 Member – term expires 12/31/09
Ms. Donna Lombardi, Alternate #2 Member – term expires 12/31/10

Various discussion ensued.

Moved by Councilman Slattery, seconded by Councilman Brennan, Councilman Lawshe, Dassing and Norton voted in the negative, Councilman Slattery, Curley, Brennan and Mayor Gartland voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 1/6/09

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Annual Appointments.

A. Mayor's Advisory Council on Senior Citizens - Appointment by Mayor.

Ms. Mary Ferrara
Mr. Manny Ferrara
Ms. Gloria Corrado
Mr. Henderson Cole
Mr. Thomas J. Gartland
Mr. Stanley C. Bestys
Councilman Kay Slattery, Council Representative

Mayor Gartland requested that if anyone else is interested in being involved with the Mayor's Advisory Council On Senior Citizens to please submit their name to her.

B. Board of Education - Appointment by Mayor.

Ms. Eva Ogens
Councilman Gordon Lawshe, Council Representative

C. Camp Wyanokie - Appointment by Mayor.

Mr. Jeffrey Weinman
Councilman Joseph Norton, Council Representative

D. The Bridge - Appointment by Mayor.

Councilman Gordon Lawshe, Council Representative
(The mayor changed the Council Representative from Kay Slattery to Gordon Lawshe)

E. Community Development - Appointment by Mayor.

Councilman Joseph Norton
Ms. Maureen Ruane, Administrator
(The Mayor changed the Council representative from Councilman Curley to Councilman Norton)

F. Official Borough Photographer - Appointment by Mayor.

Mr. Louis J. Ginefra

G. Borough Arborist - Appointment by Mayor.

Ms. Doris Halprin

H. New Jersey Council Motion Picture Development - Appointment by Mayor.

Ms. Lisa O'Neill

I. Liaison to the Grover Cleveland Birthplace - Appointment by Mayor.

Dr. David Cowell

J. Senior Citizen Transportation Committee – Mayor, Consent of the Council.

Mr. Manny Ferrara
Mr. Demetrios Arvanites
Mr. Peter Pirrello
Councilman Kay Slattery, Council Representative

Moved by Councilman Slattery, Seconded by Councilman Brennan. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative.

K. Tree Removal Committee - Mayor, Consent of the Council.

Ms. Doris Halprin (Arborist)
Mr. Edward Broheimer (Tree Expert)
Councilman Gordon Lawshe
Councilman Ann Dassing

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Mr. Donald Neil Aharrah (Environmental Commission)
Ms. Maureen Ruane, Borough Administrator

Moved by Councilman Slattery, Seconded by Councilman Curley. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative.

Annual Professional Appointments – Mayor, Consent of the Council.

- 1-09 Counsel for Litigation and Special Projects - Stickel, Koenig, & Sullivan

Moved by Councilman Slattery, Seconded by Councilman Brennan. On roll call vote Councilman Lawshe, Dassing and Norton voted in the negative. Councilman Slattery, Curley, Brennan and Mayor Gartland voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

- 1-10 Municipal Attorney - Stuart R. Koenig, Esq.

Moved by Councilman Slattery, Seconded by Councilman Brennan. On roll call vote Councilman Lawshe, Dassing and Norton voted in the negative. Councilman Slattery, Curley, Brennan and Mayor Gartland voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

- 1-11 Borough Prosecutor - Stephen Cannavale, Esq.

Moved by Councilman Brennan, Seconded by Councilman Slattery. On roll call vote Councilman Lawshe, Dassing and Norton voted in the negative. Councilman Slattery, Curley, Brennan and Mayor Gartland voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

- 1-12 Borough Engineer - Anthony Marucci, P.E.

Moved by Councilman Brennan, Seconded by Councilman Slattery. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

- 1-13 Public Defender - Alexander Lee, Esq.

Moved by Councilman Slattery, Seconded by Councilman Brennan. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

- 1-14 Borough Bond Counsel - Carella, Byrne, Bain, Gilfillan, Cecchi and Stewart Esqs, Arthur Vanderbilt, Esq.

Moved by Councilman Slattery, Seconded by Councilman Brennan. On roll call vote Councilman Lawshe, Dassing and Norton voted in the negative. Councilman Slattery, Curley, Brennan and Mayor Gartland voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

- 1-15 Municipal Auditor - John L. Ezyske, C.P.A., R.M.A

Moved by Councilman Slattery, Seconded by Councilman Brennan. On roll call vote Councilman Lawshe, Dassing and Norton voted in the negative. Councilman Slattery, Curley, Brennan and Mayor Gartland voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

- 1-16 Licensed Sewer Operator - Edward Sandve, P.E.

Various discussion ensued.
Resolution 1-16 was put on hold pending further investigation.

- 1-17 Licensed Water Operator - William Frint

Moved by Councilman Slattery, Seconded by Councilman Curley. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

- 1-18 Municipal Zoning Officer - Michael Rubin, Esq.

Moved by Councilman Brennan, Seconded by Councilman Slattery. On roll call vote Councilman Lawshe, Dassing and Norton voted in the negative. Councilman Slattery, Curley, Brennan and Mayor Gartland voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

New Business.

- 1-19 - Designation of Official Depositories

Moved by Councilman Dassing, Seconded by Councilman Curley. Discussion ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009

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1-20 – Designating a partial list of Official 2009 Holidays

Moved by Councilman Norton, Seconded by Councilman Curley. Discussion ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009

1-21 - Temporary 2009 Municipal Budget

Moved by Councilman Slattery, Seconded by Councilman Brennan. Discussion ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009

1-22 - Schedule of Meetings/Order of Business Observed

Discussion ensued regarding adding an additional meeting date each month to be used as a conference meeting. All members present agreed to add an additional meeting date to be the first Tuesday of each month starting in February. Moved by Councilman Curley, seconded by Councilman Slattery. All members present voted in the affirmative. Amended Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

1-23 Establish Interest for Non-payment of Taxes or Assessments

Moved by Councilman Slattery, Seconded by Councilman Lawshe. Discussion ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

1-24 - Designation of Official Newspapers

Moved by Councilman Slattery, Seconded by Councilman Curley. Discussion ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

1-25 - Establish Times, Dates and Conduct Meetings

Moved by Councilman Brennan, Seconded by Councilman Norton. Discussion ensued regarding setting the reorganization meeting date for January 2010. The Mayor requested that we discuss the reorganization meeting date for January 2010 at the first conference meeting in February. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution Adopted January 6, 2009.

1-26 - **PULLED**

1-27 - **PULLED**

Mayor Gartland opened the meeting to the public at 9:00 PM, Ms. Rebecca Roth, Deputy Tax Collector of the Borough of Caldwell had questions regarding the two PULLED resolutions and the effective date of the appointment. Peter Murray of 61 Arlington Avenue had questions regarding the appointment of Alyson Villano to the Planning Board and the Environmental Commission and the expiration dates of her terms. Mr. Murray wanted to know if the town had a contract with a tree removal company. Mr. Murray also wanted to know if the town had to go out to bid for tree removal service. Upon hearing no one from the public the meeting was closed to the public at 9:06 PM.

There being no additional business to be conducted a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Brennan, seconded by Councilman Curley, unanimously affirmed by all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

Prepared by:

Beth Bush Telepan, Deputy Clerk

Date