

**BOROUGH OF CALDWELL  
COUNCIL BUSINESS/CONFERENCE MEETING  
MINUTES – January 25, 2011**

The council Business meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Caldwell was called to order in the Council Chambers at 7:05PM

**PRESENT:** Mayor Dassing, Councilman Murray, Norton, Hauser, Piazza, Coyle and O'Donnell

**ALSO PRESENT:** Borough Administrator, Paul Carelli, Acting Borough Clerk, Lisa O'Neill and Borough Attorney, Greg Mascera, Esq.

**ABSENT:**

Adequate notice of this Council Business/Conference meeting was given on January 1, 2011. Notice was posted on the bulletin board on the first floor of the Borough Hall, One Provost Square, Caldwell, New Jersey on January 1, 2011. Four official newspapers of the Borough were notified of this meeting by mail on January 1, 2011. Notice was posted and all persons requesting notice were sent same.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

December 30, 2010

Moved by Councilman Hauser, seconded by Councilman Murray. No Discussion. On roll call, Councilman Murray, Norton, Hauser, and Piazza voted in the affirmative. Councilman Coyle and O'Donnell abstained. Minutes approved 01/25/11.

January 4, 2011

Moved by Councilman Hauser, seconded by Councilman Murray. No Discussion. On roll call. On roll call, all present voted in the affirmative. Minutes approved 01/25/11.

**PRESENTATION:**

**CALDWELL COMMUNITY CENTER** – Presentation by: Robert Paterson  
Director – Caldwell Community Center

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**ORDINANCE #1229-11 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BOROUGH CODE, CHAPTER 230, TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, SECTION 230-62 SCHEDULE VII OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED, "STOP INTERSECTIONS".**

Moved by Councilman Hauser, seconded by Councilman Murray. Discussions Ensued. On roll call, Councilman Murray, Norton, Piazza, Coyle and O'Donnell voted in the affirmative. Councilman Hauser voted negative. Ordinance introduced on 1/25/11.

**ORDINANCE #1230-11 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BOROUGH CODE, CHAPTER 230, TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, SECTION 230-61 SCHEDULE VII OF THE BOROUGH CODE ENTITLED, "THROUGH STREETS".**

Moved by Councilman Hauser, seconded by Councilman Murray. Discussions Ensued. On roll call, Councilman Murray, Norton, Piazza, Coyle and O'Donnell voted in the affirmative. Councilman Hauser voted negative. Ordinance introduced on 1/25/11.

**RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA**

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- 1-38** AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT FOR EXEMPT CANVASSEER/SOLICITOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICATION FILED. APPLICANT AND APPLICATION HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE BOROUGH CLERK'S OFFICE.
- 1-39** AUTHORIZING THE ISSUING OF A SPECIAL LIQUOR PERMIT. APPLICANT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE CLERK'S OFFICE – GIBLIN Association
- 1-40** AUTHORIZING THE ISSUING OF LICENSE FOR RAFFLE. APPLICANT AND APPLICATION HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CLERK'S OFFICE – Washington School Association – Tricky Tray Raffle/ March 20, 2011 – 6:00PM – 10:00PM – Snow Date: March 23, 2011 – 6:00PM – 10:00PM
- 1-41** AUTHORIZING THE ISSUING OF LICENSE FOR RAFFLE. APPLICANT AND APPLICATION HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CLERK'S OFFICE – Washington School Association / On Premise – 50/50 Raffle / March – 6:00PM – 10:00PM – Snow Date: March 23, 2011 – 6:00PM – 10:00PM
- 1-42** DESIGNATING DATES AND TIMES FOR THE BOROUGH OF CALDWELL QUARTERLY SEWER BOARD MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR 2011
- 1-43** DISGNATING JANUARY AS RADON ACTION MONTH IN THE BOROUGH OF CALDWELL
- 1-44** AUTHROIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL LAROSA AS A FIREFIGHTER IN THE CALDWELL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- 1-45** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT MODIFICATION TO THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES, CONTRACT NO. 2007-1 – ADDITIONAL AMOUNT \$86,682.00 – NEW TOTAL AMOUNT \$11,942,450.20

**1-46** PULLED

**CONSENT**

Moved by Councilman Murray, seconded by Councilman Piazza. No Discussion. On roll call, all present voted in the affirmative. Resolutions approved 01/25/11.

- 1-47** AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH JANUARY 25, 2011 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,410,574.55

Moved by Councilman Murray, seconded by Councilman Piazza. Discussions Ensued. On roll call, Councilman Murray, Norton, Hauser, and Piazza voted in the affirmative. Councilman Coyle and O'Donnell abstained. Resolutions approved 01/25/11.

- 1-48** AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MARGARET NORTON TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Moved by Councilman Murray, seconded by Councilman Piazza. No Discussion. On roll call, Councilman Murray, Hauser, Piazza, Coyle and O'Donnell voted in the affirmative. Councilman Norton abstained. Resolutions approved 01/25/11.

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

Paul Carelli reported that he reached out to Everton Scott from PSE&G on the situation on Hatfield Street. He did send me an email stating that it has been fixed. I sent an email back saying that what I was really looking for was more specifics of exactly what was fixed. I have not received that yet but when I do I certainly will let Council know.

Councilman Norton stated that everything has been good and he would like to publicly thank the individuals from PSE&G especially Mr. Carlos Regierio who drove from Vernon every morning.

Councilman Norton reported on community relations. The first meeting was on the 11<sup>th</sup>. The minutes are circulating around and as we stated we are going to try a new process of getting communication out there hopefully everyone was able to review concepts that were discussed. We would like to set up meetings with Department heads.

Councilman O'Donnell reported that the Finance committee is pleased to report that we have been in constant communication with Mr. Carelli. In February Councilman Murray, Marge Cherone, myself and Mr. Carelli will be getting together to discuss the Budget in details. Mayor Dassing responded that the date for introduction has been pushed back to March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Piazza reported that we the first meeting was on the 19<sup>th</sup>. We touched on various different subjects. We touched on technology pretty heavily and we will be having a lot of changes happening which we will be bringing forth to Council. We are looking at possible things such as parking. Also, I had my first Local Assistance board meeting and there is nothing to report. I wanted to touch on the radon awareness week. The radon kits that are part of this program, people may not realize that radon is a natural gas that comes up out of the ground. A lot of people probably when they first purchase their home, will test their home as part of a home inspection. The Essex County Coalition is offering this radon kit. Any resident of Caldwell can stop by and see Maria Burak, director of Health and Human Services office and you can pick up one of the kits and there is no cost to this. You open the canister and put it in your basement and let it sit there for a few days then seal it back up drop it in the envelope and then mail it. We have 30 kits available on a first come first serve basis.

Councilman Hauser reported that the Personnel committee has been focusing on four different areas. One is health insurance costs particularly looking at the retiree course of that roughly half of a million dollars are spent on just the retiree's. We talked about a flex planning plan. It would be a pre-tax basis that money would be taking out of the employees pay. We talked about creating a plan that the employees will have an incentive for opting out of health insurance if their spouse has insurance. We are also talking about the Employee Handbook. As far as the Library Board we had a discussion with some trustee's from the board along with myself and we got together and the discussion was around the Library is they are looking to monetize some of the things that have been received, largely part of the Gene Collard collection. They are looking to raise money through that and other documents they have and it was a discussion around what would be the best way in doing that. We want to make sure that the Library foundation doesn't do something improper. Councilman Hauser reported that their will be discussion about Recreation later this evening. Councilman Hauser asked Jim Jorgensen, County Liaison about the Grover Cleveland Park that residents have reached out to him as to why there is no skating this year at the pond. Mr. Jorgensen said he would bring it to Parks and Recreation and then I will email it to Paul the information I find out.

Councilman Murray reported about Public safety committee met with Chief Grenci and most of what we went over was his capital items that he was looking to purchase. I

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would like to also thank Chief Greci and Andrew Pollara. One of the things needed to get a badge with the Cub Scouts was to visit a firehouse and Chief Greci accommodated us. As far as Chief Dombrowski we are trying to set up a meeting because we do want to discuss the e-tickets.

Councilman Coyle reported on Public works/Utilities committee. There were a large number of people who attended the pre-construction meeting with Essex County Public Works to talk about the Bloomfield, Roseland and Westville Avenue project. This is a federally funded project that will start in April and last for approximately eight weeks to complete. All of the work will be conducted between 9AM - 4PM. Notification to property owners and residents will be done through website and channel 35 and there will be signs posted around the work that will be done there. I would like to thank Mario and his crew for keeping in front of all these snow storms that we have been having. I will speak to him first thing in the morning to see if he is ready for the next one coming.

Mayor Dassing reported that she would like to acknowledge Jake from the DPW we had received a call from a Gladding resident who would like to thank Jake and the DPW for all there tireless efforts. I attended the pre-construction meeting as well. I received a call from Trinity Academy and their opening ceremonies for Catholic schools week begins on January 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:00AM. I and everyone on the Council is invited to attend. I drafted a proclamation which I would like to circulate to everybody and I would like to bring the proclamation to Trinity on that morning. We have also been invited into their classrooms to speak about Local Government any afternoon that week around 2:00. If anyone is interested please let me know. The Caldwell Merchant Association would like to invite myself and the Council to their Holiday decompression party which is scheduled this Thursday at 6:00pm at Flowerland.

**REPORT OF ADMINISTRATOR:**

Paul Carelli reported that our website and channel 35 have been updated with Mayor and Council members, boards and commissions. That information is available to the residents. Also, all of our tax maps are on the website. Marge did our budget roll over last week in Edmunds and now we are ready for this year. I would like for her to possibly come to the next meeting to give a presentation on the Borough's dept status. In addition to that she is also working on putting out a new procedure for purchasing with requisitions before we issue purchase orders. The bid threshold has been reduced under \$17,500.00 anything over that has to go out to bid and the new quote threshold is 2605.00. It will go back up once we have a qualified purchasing agent.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mayor Dassing received a request from the Rotary Club of the Caldwell's in recognition of their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in our community this year they would like to request permission to hang their flag on our flag pole for one month.

Tom Cachiano, 14 Forest Avenue, an idea came up about a month ago from a West Caldwell resident who approached the Mayor and the Mayor said we will fly the flag for 30 days. We start with West Caldwell, Caldwell, Essex Fells and we thought to go to all the towns and ask to fly the flag for 30 days.

Councilman President Murray reported that Lieutenant Driggs had mentioned that some revenue generating ideas would be our fee ordinances which we have control over. These fees have not been looked at or raised in 12 to 15 years. My understanding is Marilyn Reeve our Court Administrator would need to go to an Assignment Judge to get a list of our fees and what they are. This is something that we should definitely look into. I thank Lieutenant Driggs for looking into this. Greg Mascera, Borough Attorney responded that

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Judge O'Connor also needs to be aware of this. Councilman President Murray also said that another scenario that the Lieutenant brought up was there have been recurring complaints from residents about snow removal on properties that are in foreclosure. Can we have the DPW clean this up and then place a lien on these properties? Greg Mascera responded that you can place a lien on the properties before the properties are sold the lien's would need to be satisfied.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING:**

Bob Christensen, 3 Ravine Avenue, spoke about Islands on Ravine Avenue. He talked about the pools in West Caldwell and how the residents of Caldwell and West Caldwell built them.

On a motion made by Councilman Piazza, and seconded by Councilman Norton, unanimously affirmed, the Council moved into Executive Session at 8:41 P.M.

Mayor Dassing read the following statement: **BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:12 and 13, the public shall be excluded from the Executive Session of the Governing Body which is being held for the discussion of the following subject matters: 1. Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation; 2. Personnel matters; 3. This Executive Session shall continue for an indefinite period of time and upon termination of the Executive Session, the Governing Body may choose to resume the public portion of the meeting. The discussion, which shall be conducted in closed session, shall be disclosed upon termination of litigation or contractual matter, upon resolution of the personnel matter with consent of said person or persons and as provided by N.J.S.A. 4-12 but in no case later than two (2) years from this date. These minutes shall be available as soon as the matter is resolved or not later than two years hence. Greg Mascera responds that the Executive Session will be discussion of shared services contract with Caldwell/West Caldwell recreation, personnel issues will be discussing Retiree benefits, the Faloni 1 and Faloni 2, and Gleason litigation.

The Executive Session was adjourned and upon a motion by Councilman Norton, seconded by Councilman Coyle, the Council Business Conference Meeting was opened to the public and the press at 10:07 P.M.

There being no additional business to be conducted a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Norton, seconded by Councilman Coyle, unanimously affirmed by all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 P.M.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa O'Neill, Acting Borough Clerk