

BOROUGH OF CALDWELL, N.J.
COUNCIL BUSINESS/CONFERENCE MEETING
MINUTES -JUNE 10, 2008

The Council Business/Conference meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Caldwell was called to order in the Council Chambers by Mayor Susan Gartland at 7:08 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilman Mescia, Dassing, Curley, and Edge

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

ABSENT: Councilman Slattery and Councilman Gates

Adequate notice of this Council Business/Conference meeting was given on December 27, 2007. Notice was posted on the bulletin board on the first floor of the Borough Hall, One Provost Square, Caldwell, New Jersey on December 27, 2007. Four official newspapers of the Borough were notified of this meeting by mail on December 27, 2007. Notice was posted and all persons requesting notice were sent same.

Approval of Minutes: May 27, 2008

Approved by all members present upon a motion by Councilman Curley,
seconded by Councilman Mescia

Receiving of Bids: None

Introduction of Ordinances: None

Public Hearings: None

Resolutions:

6-123 Authorizing Payment of Bills and the issuance of checks for the period through June 10, 2008 in the total amount of \$1,552,105.61

Moved by Councilman Mescia, seconded by Councilman Curley.
No discussion. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 6/10/08

6-124 Authorizing the appointment of Leanne O'Hern as Deputy Court Administrator in the Caldwell Municipal Court

Moved by Councilman Mescia, seconded by Councilman Curley.
Discussion Ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 6/10/08

6-125 Authorizing the issuing of license for raffle to St. Aloysius Roman Catholic Church, Off-Premise – 50/50 Raffle, October 11, 2008 – 9:00 PM

Moved by Councilman Curley, seconded by Councilman Mescia.
No discussion. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 6/10/08

6-126 Authorizing a professional service agreement with Boswell Engineering for providing the preparation of construction plans and specifications and providing construction inspection for the Whitfield Street and Park Avenue roadway construction for a lump sum fee of \$15,000.00 for the design phase and \$28,000.00 for the construction phase

Moved by Councilman Mescia, seconded by Councilman Curley.
Discussion Ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 6/10/08

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6-127 Authorizing a professional service agreement with Boswell Engineering for providing the preparation of construction plans and specifications and providing construction inspection for the Ryerson Avenue roadway construction for a lump sum fee of \$4,500.00 for the design phase and \$8,000.00 for the construction phase

Moved by Councilman Curley, seconded by Councilman Mescia.
Discussion Ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 6/10/08

6-128 Authorizing appointment of Mr. Greg Chontow as acting Electrical Subcode Official/Electrical ICS Inspector for a period of thirty days effective June 2, 2008

Moved by Councilman Curley, seconded by Councilman Mescia.
No discussion. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 6/10/08

6-129 Approval of sewer connection application for Bryan Jones, 254 Runnymede Road, West Caldwell, New Jersey, for the construction of a single family house at 254 Runnymede Road, West Caldwell, New Jersey (Block 2500, Lot 7)

Moved by Councilman Curley, seconded by Councilman Mescia.
No discussion. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 6/10/08

Mayor Gartland reported the she attended a Community Development Block Grant meeting along with Councilman Dassing, Maureen Ruane and Mario Bifalco on Thursday, May 29th. The County explained the process of their CERP (Community Economic Revitalization Program). The CERP program is designed to assist participating municipalities in the revitalization of their central business districts by offering grants for exterior façade and building renovations. The ultimate goal is to assist in the creation of an architecturally and aesthetically pleasing central business district that will promote increased economic activity and instill civic pride. Some examples of eligible improvements are replacement of original architectural details, new storefront construction within an existing building, new signs and awnings, cleaning, repainting or residing of buildings, exterior lighting, and correction of code violations. Examples of ineligible projects include interior improvements, roof repairs, addition to part of the building, sidewalk repairs or replacements, planting or landscaping. The Borough will be hosting a meeting on Wednesday, June 25th at 7:00 P.M. in Council chambers. Mr. George Serio, Assistant Director of the Community Development Block Grant program will be in attendance to give an overview of the CERP program. Anyone from the public is invited to attend this meeting. The Borough will also be reaching out to the Caldwell Downtown Alliance, Caldwell Merchants Association and the North Essex Chamber of Commerce to attend this very informative meeting.

REPORT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS

Councilman Mescia – Thanked the OEM and the Fire Department and the Police Department, Maureen Ruane and Beth Bush Telepan and everyone at the Town Hall for their help during the power outage. Mayor Gartland reported that Patrolman Paul Stabile said that our citizens were outstanding; everyone that rode by the police officers offered them water and asked if they could get them anything. Our Police were outstanding and our citizens were wonderful.

Councilman Dassing – Wanted to add to Mayor Gartland's report regarding the CERP Program. This is federal money that has always been available it is just reallocated a little differently. They are structuring the Essex county office a little differently so it is opening up some funds to towns that previously may not have qualified for this program The meeting that we attended was a Steering Committee

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Meeting. We are actually creating the guidelines and creating the procedures in concert with the County. They are looking for all the towns to give their input. This is definitely a process that is doable and can make a big difference in our town. Councilman Dassing reported that she attended a hearing today in Millburn regarding the 6 violations that were issued to the Temple construction company. After 2 ½ hours of deliberations with the prosecutor it turned out that the Judge could not hear the case because of a conflict. Councilman Dassing also reported that Maureen Ruane, Kurt Dombrowski and Paul Milani were also at the hearing.

Councilman Curley – Read a report issued by Anthony Greci, Caldwell OEM Coordinator, which stated, “ Last night during the power outage, the Office of Emergency Management was dispatched at 1500 by coordinator Anthony Greci. Gary Garamella and Gerard Greci, Deputy Coordinators arrived at the Command Post (Caldwell Fire Depart) to organize the shelter according to the Caldwell Emergency Plan. Departments notified at that time were, Caldwell Police Department, DPW, Caldwell Fire, Health Department, Caldwell College administrators and the Essex County Office of Emergency Management. As per our discussion with the County OEM, we were notified that the incident may be as long as 24 hours. The Police Department was in charge of all traffic, as well as their daily responsibilities. Chief Dombrowski was in constant contact with the Borough Administrator throughout this incident. DPW assisted the Police Department in marking intersections for traffic flow, as well as setting up the first available shelter at the Caldwell Community Center. Betty Spittle was on standby with the Township senior bus for shuttle to the shelters as needed. Maria Burak was in charge of contacting the health department making them aware of the situation and have all food establishments inspected after the incident; she was also in contact with the president of the Caldwell Tenants Association for any shuttle needs of the tenants. Bill Ortman, Caldwell College Security, was notified and made available to us the dormitories as a second shelter if needed. Red Cross was notified by the County OEM and dispatched to the Community Center. Attempts to contact the Board of Education and Trinity Academy by OEM staff were not successful during this operation. The Caldwell Fire Department had two fire firefighters at the fire house on standby during the entire incident, all other members were available by page. At 1815 hours a meeting was held a Borough Hall meeting room to organize and give updates that were received from the County OEM. The following people were present at the meeting: Maria Burak, Department of Health, Mario Bifalco, Director of the Caldwell DPW and Brian Rupakus, Caldwell Fire Department. County OEM later on advised that the emergency was over”. Councilman Curley also reported that the Council has hired two new police officers, Brandon Hogan from Bergen County and William Roberts from Sussex County. Both are actually looking to perhaps relocate to the West Essex Area. Councilman Curley reported that Anne Marchioni of the Environmental Commission gave him information Monday, June 16, 2008, that Rev. Fletcher Harper, Director of Green Faith, will speak at the Caldwell Library from 7 to 8:30 PM. He is a dynamic speaker and she has invited all the houses of worship to attend so that they can continue to reduce their carbon footprint.

Councilman Edge – Councilman Slattery asked Councilman Edge to remind everybody that there is an event at the CCC on Friday, June 13, 2008 at 7:00 PM. Supreme Court Justice Helen Hoens will be the speaker regarding Autism. Karen Lembo, Library Director, encourages all to attend. The Board of Health did not have a quorum tonight, but the members asked him informally about the changes to the dog license fees. Councilman Edge requested that at our next Council meeting either in July or August to get something started regarding changing the fees. Councilman Edge also talked about the aspect of black bears and the impact to the town and the actions that were taken yesterday on the Board of Health side.

Mayor Gartland – Reported that she had contacted Senator Nia Gill’s office regarding Senate Bill S164 Additional Fines for Overcrowding, the bill was introduced in the Senate on January 8, 2008 and was referred to the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee. On February 14, 2008 it was reported from the Senate Committee with amendments and there was a second reading. They are not sure when it will be actually posted but they are also waiting for the assembly bill that is still in committee. Mayor Gartland said that we are interested in this bill and hope that it will move forward.

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Administrator Report – None

Attorney Report – None

OPEN MEETING: The Mayor declared the meeting open to the public at 7:33 PM. Anthony Abbaleo, liaison from Essex County, reported that on Saturday, June 21, 2008 there is the 6th Annual Essex County Open House at the Essex County Turtle Back Zoo. Mr. Abbaleo also reported that the resolution for the traffic improvements has been forwarded to County Executive Joseph DiVencenzo. Seeing no one else from the public wishing to be heard the Mayor closed the open public portion of the meeting at 7:35 PM.

There being no additional business to be conducted a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Curley, seconded by Councilman Mescia, unanimously affirmed by all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Prepared by:

Beth Bush Telepan, Deputy Clerk

Date