

**COUNCIL BUSINESS/CONFERENCE MEETING
MINUTES -- July 26, 2011**

The council Business meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Caldwell was called to order in the Council Chambers at 7:02 PM

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Borough Administrator, Paul Carelli, Acting Borough Clerk, Lisa O'Neill and Attorney, Alan Trembulak, Esq.

ABSENT:

Borough Attorney, Greg Mascera

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:

July 12, 2011

Moved by Councilman Piazza, seconded by Councilman Hauser. No Discussion. On roll call, all present voted in the affirmative. Minutes approved 07/26/11.

PUBLIC HEARING OF THE 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

None

ADOPTION OF THE 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Moved by Councilman Piazza, seconded by Councilman O'Donnell. Discussions Ensued. On roll call, all present voted in the affirmative. 2011 Budget was adopted on 07/26/11.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS:

Ann Marchioni, supports Resolution 7-181 and she reads a statement from the Environmental Commission; The Caldwell Environmental Commission thanks the Commissioners who for the past 6 years have donated their time to review applications and to encourage the Planning Board and Council to purchase the Faloni Property for open space, in addition to their efforts – a thank you to the Open Space Committee of 2009 who worked to develop a contract for the property. And thank you to the residents of Caldwell who voted to have an Open Space Trust Fund which has allowed the town to purchase this property with the assistance of funding from Green Acres.

RESOLUTIONS - CONSENT AGENDA

7-179: AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH JULY 26, 2011 FOR 2010 BILLS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$29,758.50

Moved by Councilman Norton, seconded by Councilman Piazza. No Discussion. On roll call, Councilman Norton, Murray, Hauser and Piazza voted in the affirmative. Councilman Coyle and O'Donnell abstained. Resolution approved 07/26/11.

7-180: APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR LICENSED OPERATOR INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

7-181: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE A STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT AND DISMISSAL IN THE MATTER OF FALONI V. CALDWELL, et al, ON BEHALF OF THE BOROUGH AND ALL DEFENDANTS IN THE ACTION FILED IN SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, HAVING DOCKET NUMBER L-8992-10

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7-182: AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH JULY 26, 2011 FOR 2011 BILLS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$675,790.93

7-183: AUTHORIZING THE ISSUING OF A SPECIAL LIQUOR PERMIT. APPLICANT AND APPLICATION HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE CLERK'S OFFICE

7-184: AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE COLLECTION AND/OR DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE TO CALI CARTING INC

CONSENT

Moved by Councilman Norton, seconded by Councilman Piazza. Discussions Ensued. On roll call, all present voted in the affirmative. Resolutions approved 07/26/11.

Councilman Norton reported that there will be a new project and a new endeavor at the Community Center and it is called Dive Heart and it is training for people that are paralyzed paraplegics that will have the ability to scuba dive in our pool. It will run August 24th – August 28th. On August 20th there will be amateur boxing coming to the Community Center. There will seating and attendance for 250 people. On October 15th there will be MMA coming to Caldwell Community Center Mixed Martial Arts

Councilman O'Donnell spoke about putting up a zero and he doesn't know of any other Municipality that has been able to do this. The last three years on average we increased the Municipal tax levy by \$60,000. If you go back the previous six years the average was close to \$550,000 so we have done the same job close to \$500,000 less.

Councilman Piazza reported that for Long Range Planning the Caldwell Merchants Association has started a Parking Committee which they have asked that I participate in. This group has some great ideas. The Caldwell Farmers Market is having its big event this week, Farmable. Lots of activities, it is one of our biggest event. The Farmers Market is a drop off for the Food Pantry.

Councilman Hauser reported on the Recreation Committee as of yesterday a quote was received for putting higher netting 75' high down the right field line for \$65,000.00. There will be a Joint Advisory Committee meeting on August 16th with discussions around Caldwell College and their usage of the field.

Council President Murray reported that on Friday there will be a Police committee meeting. There will be 14 to 15 different items to talk about. The chief contacted me about the excessive heat and asked if the Police could go into polo shirts (yellow) when it is 90 or higher. The Finance Committee did an unbelievable job.

Councilman Coyle reported that there will be a meeting on this Thursday morning to discuss the DPW and summer helps attention. Discuss a development of a five year Road replacement and repair plan. We will also be talking about an update on the progress of sewer plant.

Mayor Dassing reported that our Director of Health and Human Services, Maria Burak, has reported that the lunch numbers are up. The seniors have the ability at their new location to hold water coloring classes, yoga classes, stretching and exercise classes and we have a new class in August which will be flowering arranging held by Frank Del Santi from Caldwell Flowerland. The Mayor thanked the Rotary club for their special donation, a playground, which is right outside and this will entertain campers and those children and families who are watching other family members playing at the Kiwanis Oval. She also thanked our County Executive for helping to preserve our pond at Grover Cleveland Park. The new drainage project is finished and myself and Councilman Piazza went to that ribbon cutting yesterday. The Grover Cleveland Park Conservancy also deserve a big thanks for over 10 years of their diligence working continually to upgrade and maintain the

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park. They are celebrating their 10th anniversary this year I believe their event is September 17th at Luce. Next year the park itself is 100 years old. A special thanks to our Finance Committee and to Councilman O'Donnell, Council President Murray, Borough Administrator and our CFO. I would also like to thank the hard work of all of our employees. I just want them to know that we appreciate their service and dedication to their positions. Our Town Attorney is not here this evening but if he was I would thank him for working through all the details for the Faloni Property purchase to make it a reality. The land was originally donated to the Town in the early 1900's and now will remain in the Town's possession and will be a green space for everyone to enjoy. I would like to thank the Green Acres for their funding portion of the purchase and to the residents of Caldwell who voted in 2005, to approve an open space tax for the purchase of green space in Caldwell. A special thanks to our Environmental Commission and our Open Space Committee.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATOR

Paul Carelli reported that he received confirmation from the State of New Jersey Health Benefits Plan as of October 1st we will be enrolling in the State. There will be an enrollment seminar next Wednesday at 9:30 for the retirees and 11:30 for the Employees. Marge and Paul will be meeting with the fix asset consultant tomorrow. I met with teamsters Local 97 and I will be discussing that in Executive Session.

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilman Hauser asked about the Town's long term debt. He would like to pursue that at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fee Ordinance Discussion

Paul Carelli spoke about the fee parking permits and senior discounts. When the ordinance fees were changed the senior discounts were omitted. Councilman Murray responded that if we can find out what was on it, what were the discounts given in the past, where was it given and how much was it taken advantage of. Discussions Ensued.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING:

June Cowell, 29 Brookside Avenue, she is here representing the Merchants Association and they would like to have some input with the committee about the new regulations. We have been hearing that the public is feeling that the \$70 parking fee is business unfriendly.

David Cowell, 29 Brookside Avenue spoke about the recycling truck and how they leave the containers in the street and it will cause an accident. This is a public safety thing and someone needs to talk to them. Councilman Coyle responded that he will talk to the Occupational Center.

Ann Marchioni, 85 Brookside Avenue spoke about the Recycling crew that since we changed the schedule maybe they are new and not familiar with putting the bins on the curb.

Hilda Moore, 23 Personette Street, spoke about her water bill that she received and how can it be so high when she doesn't use the water. I have a person trespassing on my property again. Public works wants to change my water meter and I say no not until you change everyone else in Town. Mayor Dassing responded that the bill is a minimum estimated bill. The last couple of years there have been no water usage at all at your house that was recorded. You have been paying the water meter charge of \$13.00 which means your water meter is broken.

