

**COUNCIL BUSINESS/CONFERENCE MEETING  
MINUTES – November 22, 2011**

The council Business meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Caldwell was called to order in the Council Chambers at 7:01 PM

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

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

**ABSENT:** Councilman Norton absent at roll call

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**  
November 10, 2011

Moved by Councilman Hauser, seconded by Councilman Piazza. No Discussion. On roll call, all present voted in the affirmative. Minutes approved 11/22/11.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE**

**ORDINANCE #1243-11 -AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SALARIES AND COMPENSATION OF THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF CALDWELL FOR THE YEAR 2011**

Moved by Councilman Piazza, seconded by Councilman Hauser. No Discussion. On roll call, Councilman Murray, Hauser, Piazza, Coyle and O'Donnell voted in the affirmative. Councilman Norton was absent. Ordinance was introduced on 11/22/11.

**RESOLUTIONS - CONSENT AGENDA**

**Carla Marris, 20 Wakefield Place**, commended the Council on making a decision to make Jim Bongiorno acting chief.

**Councilman Hauser** asked the question about the payment that was on the check list for Televue.

**Councilman Murray** spoke about the position of chief and the interviewing process that was taken place. He thanked the Police Department on a great job.

**11-261:** AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH NOVEMBER 22, 2011 FOR 2011 BILLS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,850,104.15

**11-262:** RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RETIREMENT OF KURT DOMBROWSKI AS CHIEF OF POLICE EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND APPOINTING JAMES BONGIORNO AS THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE POLICE FORCE FROM NOVEMBER 19, 2011 UNTIL A SUCCESSOR CHIEF IS APPOINTED

**11-263:** RESOLUTION APPOINTING JAMES H. BONGIORNO AS THE CHIEF OF THE CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2011 WITH AN ANNUAL SALARY OF \$130,000

**CONSENT**

Moved by Councilman Murray, seconded by Councilman O'Donnell. Discussions Ensued. On roll call, Councilman Murray, Hauser, Piazza, Coyle and O'Donnell voted in the affirmative. Councilman Norton was absent. Resolutions approved 11/22/11.

**Councilman Norton arrived at 7:25PM**

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**11-264:** RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF CALDWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-49 FOR THE CLEARING, REPAIR AND/OR RECONSTRUCTION OF BOROUGH STREETS AND PROPERTY DAMAGED BY CERTAIN 2011 STORMS AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF EMERGENCY NOTES TO FUND SUCH EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION

**Marge Cherone** gives the Council a break down on the emergency appropriation

**Mario Bifulco, DPW Director**, spoke about how much they have done with just his people. He spoke about bringing in a contractor and should have everything cleaned up by Christmas week without any hurdles.

Moved by Councilman Murray, seconded by Councilman Coyle. Discussions Ensued. On roll call, all present voted in the affirmative. Resolution approved 11/22/11.

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

**Councilman O'Donnell** reported that after Thanksgiving he would like to set a meeting up with Marge, Paul, Mayor Dassing and Councilman Murray.

**Councilman Piazza** asked Marge if we could try and move forward with Comcast for the video and audio system.

**Marge Cherone** reported that if the money is pulled we will have to provide the resources.

**Councilman Hauser** reported the senior center had their Thanksgiving dinner and there were about 80 people who attended. Caldwell College we will be talking about as far as the agreement in Executive Session. I have not gotten a response or feedback from our friends in West Caldwell after several attempts.

**Councilman Murray** thanked the Council for the process of Police Chief. We are working out some scenarios with additional promotions for lieutenants and sergeants and Lt. Bongiorno will be in that process also.

**Mayor Dassing** reported that she attended the League Conference last week moderated a panel on Crisis Communication which was very illuminating, very good speakers and was well attended. The Mayor thanked the staff and all employees and wishing families a Happy Thanksgiving and a big thank you to the DPW.

**REPORT OF ADMINISTRATOR**

**Paul Carelli**, reported that we had about 100 responses to the Emergency Broadcasting System.

**REPORT OF ATTORNEY**

**Greg Mascara** reported that he has handed out a copied and pasted article that deals with emailing and OPRA. He suggested that everyone looks at 1-5 which asses the parameters.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Councilman Norton** spoke about communication standard operating procedures. There was parcel use of the SOP with the last storm.

**Councilman Hauser** asked the status of revised or new netting system. Paul Carelli responded that he did discuss this with Gabe and he was aware of the change and he said this would not be an issue with the College.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Mayor Dassing** reported that she spoke to the Borough Administrator in regards to the meetings next year to possibly meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month instead of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday. Discussions Ensued.

**Councilman Murray** discussed the capital improvements that are needed. Discussions Ensued.

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**11-265:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR AND CERTIFIED FINACIAL OFFICER TO PROCEED WITH CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT.

Moved by Councilman Murray, seconded by Councilman Norton. Discussions Ensued. On roll call, all present voted in the affirmative. Resolution approved 11/22/11.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING**

**Jim Jorgensen, Liaison for Essex County**, wanted to congratulate and wish best wishes to Kurt Dombrowski in his retirement and congratulations to Jim Bongiorno. Holiday Light celebration at the Turtle Back Zoo will be having free nights again. On December 3<sup>rd</sup> the 2011 Green gift fair is at the Environmental Center in Roseland. There will be green gifts that you can purchase. The historic tours of buildings will be on December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> the houses will be lit up.

**Lenny Luciano, County of Essex County District 4 Freeholder**, he apologized for taken so long to show up. He is representing 11 communities and many meetings fall on the same day. On behalf of the County freeholders he congratulated the new Chief of Police, wished Kurt Dombrowski, who is a good friend of his, well in his retirement. There was discussion on the stream the Pine Brook that runs behind the homes on Westville Avenue. Councilman Murray asked Mr. Luciano if he could check about the traffic signaling and the traffic that is backing up on Roseland Avenue and Bloomfield Avenue.

**Mr. Brennan, 9 Oak Ridge Road**, was concerned about the Cedars and the condition that it is in. He wanted to know what the status was of the paving in the Cedars. Mr. Carelli responded that Gladding would be done as soon as streets are clear weather permitting. The other two streets are scheduled for the first quarter. Councilman O'Donnell responded that the cedars have been falling apart for years and for the record we have inherited the problem. He asked about the brush and when it would be picked up in the cedars. Mario Bifalco responded that Oak Ridge and Gladding have been done once already right after the storm. Councilman O'Donnell responded that there will be a crew out there tomorrow morning on Cherry Lane at 8:00am. The sign on Oak Ridge needs to be replaced there is no sign there.

**Bob Podvey, Bridge representative**, he spoke about the Bridge and that they have been a tenant there since 1986 at 14 Park Avenue. He asked that before the governing body does anything on this he requests that they be consulted as a long term tenant.

On a motion made by Councilman Coyle and seconded by Councilman Murray, unanimously affirmed, the Council moved into Executive Session at 8:28.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 Caldwell College Agreement, 14 Park Avenue, Caldwell College update on the DPW Contract.

The Executive Session was adjourned and upon a motion by Councilman Murray, seconded by Councilman Coyle, the Council Business Conference Meeting was opened to the public and the press at 8:54P.M.

**11-266** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNCILMAN HAUSER TO NEGOTIATE WITH TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL AND CALDWELL COLLEGE TO FINALIZE THE AGREEMENT FOR THE CALDWELL COLLEGE'S USE OF KIWANIS OVAL AND TO AGREE TO SPEND UP TO \$22,200.00 FOR THE COST OF IMPROVEMENTS THAT WERE MADE AND TO FINALIZE THE NETTING. IF AN AGREEMENT IS REACHED TO HAVE THE BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT.

