

BOROUGH OF CALDWELL, N.J.
COUNCIL BUSINESS/CONFERENCE MEETING
MINUTES – December 27, 2007

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 7:07 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Gartland, Councilman, Slattery, Dassing, Mescia, Curley and Gates

ALSO PRESENT: Maureen Ruane, Borough Administrator, Beth Bush Telepan, Deputy Clerk

ABSENT: Councilman Edge, Stuart Koenig, Esq., Borough Attorney

Adequate notice of this Council Business/Conference meeting was given on March 22, 2007. Notice was posted on the bulletin board on the first floor of the Borough Hall, One Provost Square, Caldwell, New Jersey on December 19, 2007. Four official newspapers of the Borough were notified of this meeting by mail on December 19, 2007. Notice was posted and all persons requesting notice were sent same.

Introduction of Ordinances: None

Public Hearings:

Receiving of Bids: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 18, 2007

Approved by all members upon a motion by Councilman Slattery,
seconded by Councilman Gates.

Resolutions:

12-243 Resolution authorizing redemption of Tax Lien Certificate #07-00005,
Block #16, Lot #6, 293 Bloomfield Avenue, B.A.L. Realty, LLC

Moved by Councilman Gates, seconded by Councilman Slattery. No Discussion. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 12/27/07

12-244 Resolution authorizing redemption of Tax Lien Certificate #07-00021,
Block #71.01, Lot #16, 31 Bowers Road, Nicholas & Mary O'Rourke

Moved by Councilman Slattery, seconded by Councilman Gates. No Discussion. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 12/27/07

12-245 Resolution authorizing award of a contract to The Morris Land Conservancy for the purpose of assisting the Borough Council and the Open Space Committee with a variety of Open Space services including the preparation of the N.J. Green Acres Grant Application of the possible acquisition of open space

Moved by Councilman Mescia, seconded by Councilman Slattery. Discussion Ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 12/27/07

12-246 Authorizing the execution of the indemnity & trust agreement with the Garden State Municipal Joint Insurance Fund for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010

Moved by Councilman Mescia, seconded by Councilman Gates. Discussion Ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 12/27/07

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12-247 Authorizing the execution of an agreement between Fairview Insurance and The Borough of Caldwell for professional risk management services January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2007

Moved by Councilman Gates, seconded by Councilman Slattery. Discussion Ensued. On roll call vote all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution adopted 12/27/07

REPORT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS

Mayor Gartland – Reported on the response to the fire at 145 Westville Avenue by the Fire Department, Police Department, Office of Emergency Management and the West Essex First Aid Squad. They all did a wonderful job. Unfortunately the home was highly inhabited. Mayor Gartland reported that she took a tour of the home with the Fire Department after the fire was contained. The living conditions were less than desirable. Mayor Gartland had conversations with Tony Greci, Fire Chief and Paul Milani, Construction Official. Mayor Gartland reported that Paul Milani did a full inspection of the home, PSE&G shut down the electric to the house and closed it off and told the owner that the individuals who were living in the house were not allowed to go back into the house. Mayor Gartland reported that there was an illegal apartment in the basement and the attic and the home was obviously not within code, and the unfortunate thing is there are such restrictions for our professionals to go into these homes whether they suspect the number of people living in the home is beyond what is considered advisable or appropriate unless they go in for a specific violation. This home obviously has numerous violations. I went through the violations with Mr. Milani and Mr. Greci and I have encouraged them to do whatever is necessary to bring this home into compliance with our law. Mayor Gartland requested that the Borough Attorney look into preparing an ordinance regarding the number of inhabitants allowed to safely live in a dwelling. Mayor Gartland also reported on the power outage and thanked Mr. Greci and Office of Emergency Management for getting PSE&G to respond so quickly.

Councilman Slattery – Thanked the Fire Department and the Police Department, West Essex First Aid Squad and the Office of Emergency Management. Councilman Slattery wished all the employees and the residents a Happy New Year. Councilman Slattery reported that the reorganization meeting is January 1, 2008 at 12:00 PM in the Council Chambers. Councilman Slattery also reported on the interviews for Police Chief.

Councilman Dassing – Wished everyone a Happy New Year. Thanked the Mayor for taking the lead on looking into ordinances regarding the number of inhabitants allowed in a dwelling. Councilman Dassing requested that in the interest of the safety of our Fire Department and Police Department and First Aid Squad, as well as our residents and those tenants who may be living in potentially life-threatening situations, that the Borough Administrator and Borough Attorney look at a sample dwelling ordinance from the Borough of Bergenfield, which I (Councilman Dassing) researched and gave to the Borough Administrator.

Councilman Mescia – Wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked Maureen and Beth for the Christmas Party on December 21, 2007.

Councilman Curley – Wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilman Gates – Reported on the Department of Public Works. Councilman Gates also wished everyone a Happy New Year.

OPEN MEETING: The Mayor declared the meeting open to the public at 7:51 PM. Seeing no one from the public wishing to be heard the Mayor closed the meeting to the public at 7:52 PM.

On a motion made by Councilman Curley, and seconded by Councilman Mescia, unanimously affirmed, the Council moved into Executive Session in order to discuss Police

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Chief Interviews. Said motion was unanimously approved and the Council went into Executive Session at 7:52 PM. All those previously in attendance were present.

The Executive Session was adjourned and upon motion by Councilman Mescia, seconded by Councilman Gates the Council Business/Conference Meeting was opened to the public and the press at 9:50 PM. All those previously in attendance were present.

There being no additional business to be conducted a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Mescia, seconded by Councilman Curley, unanimously affirmed by all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51 PM.

Prepared by:

Beth Bush Telepan, Deputy Clerk

Date