

**BOROUGH OF CALDWELL
COUNCIL BUSINESS/CONFERENCE MEETING
MINUTES – March 1, 2022**

The Council Business Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Caldwell was called to order on Zoom at 7:22 PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Kelley, Councilman Cole, Councilman Lace, Councilwoman DePalma-Iozzi, Councilwoman Buechner, Council President Gates, and Councilman Alonso.

ALSO PRESENT: Deputy Clerk Kim Conlon, Borough Administrator Tom Banker, and Borough Attorney Brian Block

ABSENT:

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Adequate notice of this Council Business/Conference Meeting was given on January 20, 2022. Notice was posted on the bulletin board of the first floor of Borough Hall, One Provost Square, Caldwell, New Jersey. Official newspapers of the Borough were notified of this meeting by mail. Notice was posted and all persons requesting notice were sent the same.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Moment of Silence for the passing of the Borough Attorney, Vince Nuzzi, was held.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 15, 2022

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Lace and seconded by Councilman Alonso. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative. Minutes approved 3/1/2022.

Mayor and Council recognized John Hamer and congratulated him on his retirement, after 17 years of service to the Borough of Caldwell. Director of Public Works, Mario Bifalco, said a few words of thanks and congratulations to John.

PRESENTATION

1. Recommended schematic designs for the Municipal Facilities Improvement Program
 - *Bob Cozzarelli, Eli Goldstein, and Glenn Beckmeyer gave a presentation on the schematic designs for the new Municipal Hall Complex, 14 Park Avenue, Caldwell Community Center, and the plans for the Temporary Office Trailers.*

REPORT OF COUNTY LIASON

Patricia Keenan

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS OR ANY TOPIC

Jen Natt, 7 White Birch Terrace, concerned about the traffic, and if these two groups are going to be working together on this plan. Concerned specifically about the Roseland Ave intersection. The issue is that the HPC was not consulted on this. They ask that the façade be kept. We should celebrate our past and not tear it down.

Mayor Kelley- there are 2 different groups that are working on these projects. The traffic will be addressed at another meeting. There are considerations on how to preserve the history of the library.

Gates - Local history room can be used to highlight the former library

Frank Godlewski, 249 Runnymede in Essex Fells, Architecture expert for the HPC. Like the design of the building and feels that it will fit with the community and the downtown. Recommends maintain the historic façade of the existing library. The rest of the library doesn't need to remain. The local history room can be moved to the front of the building and sealed off.

Mayor Kelley suggested having a follow up meeting with to discuss these ideas, as Mr. Godlewski is an architect and can provide some great ideas and insight.

Peter Byrne, 72 Westville Avenue, thanked all those who have put their hard work into this process. Emphasized, on behalf of the CCC Advisory Board, that the plans brought tonight does not include the suggestions of the board. We would like to review the plans again and have further discussions before the plans are set in stone.

Mayor Kelley said that they absolutely will continue those conversations.

Valerie DePiro, fells manor, enjoyed the presentation given tonight, and commend the vision of the Council. Concerned about new projects taking president over current matters. Status of Fells Manor

Mayor Kelley said that during executive session the Borough Engineer will discuss his report with the Council. We will be getting back to you with more information

Jennifer Natt, wanted to add that they like the way Verona has incorporated their history into their new building.

Doug Piazza, Erwin Place, routing the traffic via the Calandra's entrance. Has any consideration been made into the archway that Calandra's constructed, as it already makes visuals hard.

Mayor Kelley said, yes, that will be taken into consideration as these plans progress. Our Tax Collector and Administrator have come up with 2 proposed plans, that we need to review. You can expect the new plan at the next meeting.

Beverly Crifasi, 1 Claridge Drive, Verona. Chairperson of the HPC and historian. In the 1890's the church deeded the green to the town with restrictions because they didn't want it developed. Those restrictions may still be in place. Upset that the HPC wasn't consulted. There are 2 plaques on the library dedicated to veterans, and I hope those are preserved

Mr. Banker said they are working on an exchange that would satisfy those restrictions with the deed.

ORDINANCE FOR SECOND READING

ORDINANCE 1426-22 ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 150 ("NOISE") OF THE BOROUGH CODE

Moved by Councilman Alonso and seconded by Councilwoman Buechner. Discussion ensued. On a roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative. Ordinance was adopted on 3/1/2022

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless members of the Council request specific items to be removed for separate action.

- 3-57** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FROM WHICH THE PUBLIC IS EXCLUDED For the Meeting of March 1, 2022
- 3-58** AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF THE BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS
- 3-59** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF A BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBER
- 3-60** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUING OF LICENSE FOR RAFFLE. APPLICANT AND APPLICATION HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CLERK'S OFFICE –Mount Saint Dominic Academy OFF –PREMISE-50/50 RAFFLE, June 6, 2022 - 8PM
- 3-61** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUING OF LICENSE FOR RAFFLE. APPLICANT AND APPLICATION HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CLERK'S OFFICE –Caldwell Hadassah Inc. OFF –PREMISE- MERCHANDISE RAFFLE, March 31, 2022 – 6:30pm – 9 pm
- 3-62** AUTHORIZING THE ISSUING OF CANVASSER AND/OR SOLICITOR PERMIT. APPLICANTS AND APPLICATION HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE APPROPRIATE MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS- Power Home Remodeling, 2147 Route 27 South, Edison, NJ 08817
- 3-63** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUING OF LICENSE FOR RAFFLE. APPLICANT AND APPLICATION HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CLERK'S OFFICE –Mount Saint Dominic Academy ON –PREMISE-50/50 CASH RAFFLE, April 8, 2022 - 10PM
- 3-64** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUING OF LICENSE FOR BINGO. APPLICANT AND APPLICATION HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CLERK'S OFFICE –Mount Saint Dominic Academy ON –PREMISE- BINGO, April 8, 2022 – 6pm - 10PM
- 3-65** RESOLUTION APROVING A TOW OPERATOR'S FOR LICENSE AJACO TOWING, INC In ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF BOROUGH ORDINANCE 1201-09
- 3-66** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS TANKS FOR USE BY THE CALDWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT
- 3-67** AUTHORIZING AN SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES AND MUNICIPAL HUMANE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SERVICES BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMFIELD AND THE BOROUGH OF CALDWELL EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024
- 3-68** AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF ONE (1) TAXICAB LICENSE TO Sezai Gurses, Metropolitan Limousine, 806 MURRAY STREET, AVENEL, NJ. APPLICATION AND APPLICANT HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY APPROPRIATE MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS.
- 3-69** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE THE ISSUANCE OF PAYMENTS DUE FOR 2021 PARKING LOT LEASES, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,484.73

A motion to amend Resolution 3-69, to exclude mention of the Broadway Trip, was made by Councilwoman Buechner and was seconded by Councilman Alonso. Upon a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion was accepted on 3/1/2022.

A motion to remove Resolution 3-66 was made by Councilman Lace and Councilwoman Buechner. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative. Motion 3-66 was removed from the agenda on 3/1/22

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Councilman Lace and seconded by Councilwoman Buechner. Discussion ensued. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted in the affirmative. Consent agenda passed 3/1/2022

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made to approve Resolution 3-66, was made by Councilman Alonso and seconded by Councilwoman Buechner. Discussion ensued. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative. Resolution 3-66 passed on 3/1/22.

Mayor Kelley read resolution 3-70 in full. A motion to approve resolution 3-70 was made by Councilman Lace and seconded by Councilman Cole. Discussion ensued. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative. Resolution 3-70 approved 3/1/22.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Saint Peter's Episcopal Church Request to put Signage on the Green
 - Councilman Lace recommends that the Council develop a consistent policy for signage and or flags on the Green. Recommends a subcommittee for this purpose.
 - Mayor Kelley asked Councilman Lace to head the committee to which he agrees. Councilman Alonso has offered to work with Councilman Lace. Mayor Kelley asked that they work with the Construction Department as they receive sign applications.

2. Council President Gates
 - Caldwell Bagels had an issue with a plumber who left a pipe running for months on end which resulted in an extremely high-water bill. They are working to rectify this and are requesting to set up some kind of payment plan with the Borough to allow more time to pay off this extremely high bill.
 - Mayor Kelley said that we are aware of this issue and need to work with them to satisfying the bill.
 - Mr. Banker said that we have agreed in concept but will go back with Brad and check in with this to rectify this issue. We will try to help him with repayment so he can stay in business.
 - Council President Gates offered his assistance with this.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Councilwoman DePalma-Iozzi: Grover Cleveland Birth Place/Communications
 - GCBPMA - March 18th is Grover Cleveland's birthday and doing programming all week
 - Interviews, quizzes, informational videos, story time for kids, herb garden discussed.

Newsletter- going out tomorrow. Sign-up On the website

2. Councilwoman Buechner: Board of Health
 - Board of Health
 - COVID 19 vaccine clinic for kids 5-11 on March 10th from 3-5pm.
 - Parking in the circle
 - Information will be sent to the schools
 - Channel 35 is up and running

3. Councilman Cole:
 - Food Pantry update from Maria
 - Maria Burak stated that we are no longer accepting donation for the pantry. We are currently trying to move the stock out so we have less to move to the new facility. Once we are in 24 Small Ave, we will do another food drive to fill our stock again

REPORT OF MAYOR

John Kelley

REPORT OF BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR

Thomas Banker

REPORT OF BOROUGH ATTORNEY

Brian Block

Brian Block reported:

- Carelli litigation is being argued on March 15th. Soon after that we should hear what the outcome was
- Statement regarding Vince

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Kelley 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. The Executive Session will be discussion Contracts Potential Litigation

A motion to go into executive session was made by Councilwoman Buechner, and seconded by Councilman Alonso. Upon a voice vote, all voted in favor. Council left the public meeting and entered executive session.

Open public meeting resumed at 10:55pm.

A motion to approve resolution 3-71 was made by Councilman Gates and seconded by Councilman Alonso. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted in the affirmative. Resolution approved 3/1/2022

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business to be conducted , the meeting was adjourned at 10:58PM.

Prepared by: Brittany Heun
Brittany Heun, Deputy Borough Clerk

3/1/2022
DATE