

**BOROUGH OF CALDWELL
SPECIAL COUNCIL BUSINESS/CONFERENCE MEETING
MINUTES – March 29, 2022**

The Council Business Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Caldwell was called to order on Zoom at 7:15 PM.

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

ABSENT: Councilman Lace

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 March 25, 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

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 Councilman Alonso, and seconded by Councilwoman DePalma-Iozzi. Upon a voice vote, all voted in favor. Council left the public meeting and entered executive session at 7:20pm.

A motion was made to leave executive and return to the public session, by Councilwoman Buechner, and seconded by Councilman Alonso. Upon a unanimous affirmative vote, the Special Council meeting was open to the public at 8:30pm.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING – COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS OR ANY TOPIC

Max Time: 3min per speaker

Members of the public are invited to comment at this time on ANY issues, whether or not on the agenda

Giovanni Lima, 25 Smull Avenue. *Asked if there was any discussion on Smull in Executive, and if the project is moving forward.*

Mayor Kelley said that he cannot comment on what was said during executive since it is no open to the public. We are moving forward with the moving of Borough Hall temporarily. The design of the trailers and traffic flows are still to be determined. Information will go up on website when available.

Councilman Alonso asked if we can look into other alternatives. The trailers have been approved but not the locations.

Mayor Kelley said that there is not enough time for that, and that the Council does not necessarily have to approve locations. The Smull Ave lot is ideal for the sewer and water connections.

Kristen Gerard, 28 Smull Avenue. *Informed that a lot on Bloomfield Avenue was offered for Police Department. What is the status on that?*

Mayor Kelley said that consolidating all departments in once place is the best option. It is too expensive to have multiple locations, and we don't own the other property.

Chip Gardner, 55 Crane Street. *What is the approximate cost of building a new town hall, the trailers, and the new parking lot?*

Mr. Banker said the approximate cost includes the Library and Police Department. \$350 per square foot is the initial expectation. Construction costs are hard to predict but the approximate total for everything is about \$10,000,000. Still early on in the process and have not completed final plans. No bidding has been done yet. Can be more precise with numbers as the plans are finalized.

Mr. Gardner asked if the trees are coming down on Crane Street and if he can meet with Mr. Banker on that issue.

Mr. Banker said yes.

RESOLUTIONS

3-85 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LITIGATION AGAINST THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL FOR THE COLLECTION OF UNPAID SEWER INVOICES

Mayor Kelley read the resolution in full.

A motion to approve resolution 3-85 was made by Council President Gates, and seconded by Councilman Alonso. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted in the affirmative. Resolution approved 3/29/2022

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business to be conducted, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilwoman Buechner and Seconded by Councilman Alonso. Upon a voice vote, all voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

Prepared by: Brittany Heun
Brittany Heun, Deputy Borough Clerk

4/18/2022
DATE