

BOROUGH OF CALDWELL
COUNCIL BUSINESS/CONFERENCE SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES – May 19, 2020

Page 1 of 4

The Council Business meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Caldwell was called to order on Zoom at 7:20PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Kelley, Councilman Rodgers, Councilman Cole, Councilman Lace, Councilwoman DePalma-Iozzi & Councilman Gates

ALSO PRESENT: Deputy Clerk Kim Conlon, Borough Administrator, Thomas Banker, Borough Attorney, Vincent Nuzzi, Police Chief James Bongiorno, Fire Chief Andrew Pollara, Office of Emergency Management Officer Mark Guiliano,

Adequate notice of this Council Business/Conference meeting was given on January 1, 2020. Notice was posted on the bulletin board on 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 ALLIGENCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 5, 2020

Moved by Councilman Lace seconded by Councilman Rodgers No Discussion. On roll call, all voted in the affirmative. Minutes approved 05/19/2020.

COVID-19 Update

- OEM Officer Mark Guiliano
 - End of week 9 of the COVID-19 emergency
 - Thank you to all those who are helping with the fight against the COVID-19 Emergency; COVID-19 team, DPW crew, and municipal employees
 - Please continue to be vigilant
 - Begun FEMA application for reimbursement
 - Anticipate a 75-95% reimbursement
 - Thank you to the Mayor, Administrator, and members of the Council for all your support
 - Councilman Gates:
 - Why the downward trend while still having confirmed deaths and positive cases?
 - Positive cases get reported every evening and contract tracing takes a little longer. Therefore the number can sometimes fluctuate. We also share zip codes with W. Caldwell and N. Caldwell which can sometimes make the tracing difficult
- Chief Bongiorno
 - Executive Orders #142
 - Bans on non-essential businesses and non-essential construction have been have been lifted, so please continue to be careful as more people are drawn out of their homes and continue to practice social distancing.
 - Please continue to support local businesses but be sure to wear masks when doing so.
 - Gatherings of vehicles, still no more than 10. If vehicles are less than 6ft apart than windows and sun roofs must remain closed.
 - Executive Order #147 in effect Friday (5/29/20200
 - Outdoor activities such as tennis courts, private clubs, golf courses, horseback riding, etc can open.
 - Waiting for the county to decide what they want to do with Grover Cleveland Park Courts
 - PPE equipment is still being found on the ground around the Borough
 - Please do not walk in the lanes of traffic when exercising around town.
 - Must wear masks in parks
 - Councilman Gates:
 - Memorial Day barbecues.. Any guidance from the Governor on outdoor socializing?
 - Chief: Social distancing policies still need to be observed, and no more than 10 people.
- Chief Pollara
 - Thanks the Mayor and Council for support
 - Thank you to the community for all of the donations
 - Call volume is down, but as the weather warms the calls do tend to go up
 - Councilman Cole: Is PPE becoming more readily available?
 - Yes, supplies are coming in faster now.
- Mayor Kelley:
 - Maria Burak, we are thinking of you and look forward to having you back soon.
 - Thank you to the citizens of Caldwell for keeping the town safe and clean thus far
 - Mobile testing is available on Eagle Rock Ave in Roseland
- Councilman Cole:
 - Please consider donating your anti-bodies if you have had and recovered from COVID-19

**BOROUGH OF CALDWELL
COUNCIL BUSINESS/CONFERENCE SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES – May 19, 2020**

Page 2 of 4

PRESENTATION

- Councilman Lace:
 - Grover Cleveland Birth Place Memorial Association notified Councilman Lace that Alice w. Gibson passed away on May 6, 2020. She served as chair of the Grover Cleveland Birth Place committee, Founded Gibson Galleries, and served her communities in numerous other ways. She was a kind woman who was generous in so many ways and was always happy to share her knowledge and expertise with those around her. Mrs. Gibson will be greatly missed.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS OR ANY TOPIC

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

- **David Black- Captain of the West Essex First Aid Squad,**
 - Thanks Caldwell Community for their support via signs, 7pm applause, and food.
 - They've had great communication with the COVID-19 Task Force
 - Encouraged social distancing
 - Over 60% of people with no symptoms are being tested by the County, are coming back positive
- **Barbara Beuchner, 7 Park Lane, Caldwell residents are being mindful and doing what they are supposed to be doing.**

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS

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.

5-127 PULLED

5-128 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH 5/2/2020 THROUGH 5/15/2020

5-129 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE APPROVAL OF THE CARES MEMORENDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE COUNTY OF ESSEX

- Mr. Banker commented
 - Money provided for expenditures by local government; we are eligible to apply for reimbursements
 - FEMA first – then to the County.
 - This will not pay for lost revenue, but will pay for supplies.
 - PPE out of pocket expenses.
 - Authorizing Mr. banker to oversee the application process and report to the Council

5-130 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT FOR PEDDLER LICENSE IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICATION FILED. APPLICANT AND APPLICATION HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE BOROUGH CLERK'S OFFICE – The Towne Scoop

5-131 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ESTIMATED TAX BILLS

5-132 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REDEMPTION OF TAX TITLE LEIN #19-0000

5-133 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF REFUNDS FOR VARIOUS CALDWELL COMMUNITY CENTER PROGRAMS AND FEES

- Mr. Banker Commented:
 - 100% refunds (reimbursements)
 - Camp enrollees were issued checks
 - This is the 2nd installment:
 - Party registrations, swim lessons
 - Next installment will be membership reimbursements

**BOROUGH OF CALDWELL
COUNCIL BUSINESS/CONFERENCE SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES – May 19, 2020**

Page 3 of 4

5-134 RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE WEEK

- Read by Councilman Lace
- 1978 West Essex First Aid Squad answered their first call
- May 15th – 21st, 2020 = National EMS Week

Discussion ensued. Motion to vote on the consent agenda was made by Councilman Lace and seconded by Councilman Gates Roll call vote taken was unanimous. Resolutions passed 5/19/2020.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Borough Council Members

Councilwoman DePalma-Iozzi

- Read a report from Council President Schmidt
The library staff is currently working on logistics for starting to come back to the library and increasing services on a very limited basis, such as opening the drop box, followed by curbside pick-up.

In the meantime, please go to the library's Facebook page to see your library team's creativity at work. Some of the upcoming and ongoing events include

- Art for Caldwell's Heroes: visit the library website for more details
- Miss Kris is offering story times, including bedtime stories, Monday mysteries and lunchtime stories with guest readers
- There is a Zoom book club meeting June 15th
- There is a Cooking group meeting on May 28th
- Also, upcoming are talk on Irving Berlin and a healing webinar,

Those are just a few of the many virtual library happenings. You also can find all of this on their website which also includes a survey they are doing. Please take a few minutes to help the library by filling out this survey which will provide them with valuable information on how best to serve our community.

- Environmental Commission
 - Free Webinar is tomorrow night
 - By Doug Tallamy called "Nature's Best Hope"
 - 640 people already signed up
 - Go to Borough website to sign up
 - This event is part of the Earth Day celebrations
 - Ann Marchioni would like to thank the Mayor

Councilman Cole

- Thank you to the Caldwell Residents as well as neighboring towns for Community Center Task Force
 - Members have been selected
 - Town Hall meeting Thursday Night

Councilman Rodgers

- Historic Preservation Commission met last Tuesday
- Site Survey in Final stages

REPORT OF MAYOR

John Kelley

Mayor Kelley Reported:

- The Smull Lot: Not moving forward with the plans for a parking structure. Plan is to increase surface parking instead.

REPORT OF BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR

Thomas Banker

Thomas Banker reported:

- T.V. inspection of storm sewer- Roseland ave to Park
 - Sewer is clear
 - Waiting for PSE&G and the County to do repairs
- Proceeding with CCC refunds
- Reviewing revenue and expenses incurred this far this year
- Waiting for State guidelines before presenting 202 budget
- Water main improvements
- Sewer consultants will be providing information for a future meeting

**BOROUGH OF CALDWELL
COUNCIL BUSINESS/CONFERENCE SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES – May 19, 2020**

Page 4 of 4

Councilman Lace asked about the status of the 5 year tax abatement, and if it is still on the agenda this year

Mr. Banker Responded:

- Yes- he will be meeting with redevelopment consultants and then he will have some recommendations for the Council.

Councilman Gates asked about the paving of Wakefield, Ward, and Personette.

Mr. Banker Responded:

- We are waiting for a sequence of events that we must follow.
- If there is curbing placed already, then paving should start in June
- Contracts are in place for those streets

REPORT OF BOROUGH ATTORNEY

Vincent Nuzzi

Vincent Nuzzi Reported:

- In the process of purchasing 26 Smull Ave

REPORT OF COUNTY LIASON

Patricia Keenan

On a motion made by Councilman Lace, seconded by Councilwoman DePalma-Iozzi unanimously affirmed, the Council moved into Executive Session at 8:43PM.

Councilman Rodgers announced that there will be no Memorial Day Parade this year but we will still be placing the Memorial Wreath on the Green

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Lace, seconded by Councilwoman DePalma-Iozzi unanimously affirmed by all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57PM.

Prepared by: _____
Brittany Heun, Deputy Borough Clerk

DATE