

**BOROUGH OF CALDWELL
BUSINESS/CONFERENCE MEETING
MINUTES- October 12, 2021**

The Special Council Business Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Caldwell was called to order via Zoom Meetings at 7:19pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Kelley, Council President Schmidt, Councilman Rodgers, Councilwoman DePalma-Iozzi, Councilman Lace, Councilman Cole (Joined at 8:03pm), and Councilman Gates.

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Administrator Tom Banker, Borough Attorney Vince Nuzzi, Deputy Clerk Kim Conlon, and Deputy Clerk Brittany Heun

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Adequate notice of this Council Business/Conference Meeting was given on January 7, 2021. Notice was posted on the bulletin board on the first floor of the 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 same.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 28, 2021

Moved by Council President Schmidt and seconded by Councilman Rodgers. Upon a roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative. Minutes approved on 10/12/2021

PRESENTATION

1. Street Fair

- Thanked the Kiwanis and Rotary for their hard work on a successful street fair on October 3rd.
- Councilman Gates thanked the committee that put planned and put together the Street Fair
- Councilman Lace spoke to the success of Council's initiative to have non-profits on Park Ave
- Council President Schmidt - Thanked Rotary and Kiwanis for holding supporting the Local businesses in Caldwell

2. Eric Lavin

- James Caldwell High School Teacher
 - Italian American Heritage Month
 - Italian language teacher whose students asked to have the Italian Flag flown on the green in the month of October for Italian Heritage Month - read statement by a student

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING-OPEN TO PUBLIC

Santa Rock, Park Ave, Asked about all the surveyors throughout Caldwell, and what they are doing in town.

Tom Banker said that there a 2 survey projects that have been approved by the Council. 1 project is the Bloomfield Ave realignment. There are surveyors on site to do their comprehensive study of the Bloomfield Ave area. 2nd is the Open space project around Caldwell University. Surveyors have been authorized to expand a preexisting survey of the area.

Barbara Buechner, 7 Park Lane, what is the current time table on the Community Center? Will 14 Park Ave be renovated so the food pantry can move out of the Community Center?

Tom Banker said that we have a bid out to do the interior demo of 14 Park Ave. That will be followed by a renovation of 14 Park Ave. The expended time line is to have the work done by the middle of 2022, and move the Health and Human Services and senior center department back to 14 Park Ave. The Community Center roof replacement is completed, and the A/C replacement is underway. The Detron Unit will not be available until next year. My expectation is that a Proposed renovation plan to the Community Center will be presented to the Council in December. Hoping to have a fully renovated Community Center open in January, 2023

Ms. Buechner, why has the opening time frame pushed back so far?

Tom Banker said that the Detron unit installation is still in the same time frame as it was before. The Community Center will be renovated to help mitigate historical flooding issues that the building has had.

Mayor Kelley asked Tom to check on the status of the Detron Unit at this time. Tom said that they have not gotten any communication regarding the time line being pushed back

Peggy Reinhardt, 42 Elm Road, Technological Issues with the Audio. Mayor asked Ms. Reinhardt to write a statement and deliver it to the Borough Clerk since her audio is not working at this time.

Ann Marchioni, 85 Brookside Ave, Co-Chair of Caldwell Environmental Commission. EC has received an award from ANJEC for their Rain Garden Work. Fall Earth Day this Saturday. Leaf bags will be given to Caldwell residents and pollinator seeds and produce bags will be given to non-residents. Email cec@caldwell-nj.com to enter to win either a rain garden or a tree.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE 1420-21 ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF CALDWELL, COUNTY OF ESSEX AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN AMENDED AND EXTENDED TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF CALDWELL AND RALF ASHLAND URBAN RENEWAL LLC PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 et seq. FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 7 ASHLAND STREET, WHICH PROPERTY IS IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 65, LOT 1.30 AS SHOWN ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE BOROUGH OF CALDWELL

A motion to defer any action on Ordinance 1420-21, until the next meeting and remove Resolution 10-237 from the agenda, was made by Council President Schmidt and seconded by Councilman Rodgers. Discussion ensued. Upon a voice vote, all Council members voted in favor. Ordinance deferred 10/12/2021

ORDINANCE FOR SECOND READING AND ADOPTION

ODINANCE 1419-21 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A STORMWATER SYSTEM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF CALDWELL, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$600,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$570,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

A motion to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance 1419-21 was made by Councilman Rodgers and seconded by Council President Schmidt. No discussion. Upon a roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative. Ordinance adopted 10/12/2021.

RESOLUTIONS - 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.

10-226	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FROM WHICH THE PUBLIC IS EXCLUDED For the Meeting of October 12, 2021
10-227	AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF THE BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD 09/28/2021 THROUGH 10/08/2021.
10-228	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH CIVIL SOLUTIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR BOROUGH TAX MAP MAINTENANCE
10-229	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUING OF LICENSE FOR RAFFLE. APPLICANT AND APPLICATION HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CLERK'S OFFICE -SAINT ALOYSIUS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OFF -PREMISE-CALENDAR: JANUARY 15, 2022, FEBRUARY 15, 2022, MARCH 15, 2022, APRIL 15, 2022, MAY 15, 2022, JUNE 15, 2022, OCTOBER 15, 2022, DECEMBER 15, 2022-
10-230	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUING OF LICENSE FOR RAFFLE. APPLICANT AND APPLICATION HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CLERK'S OFFICE -JAMES CALDWELL HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING CHIEFS OFF -PREMISE-50/50 RAFFLE FEBRUARY 20, 2021-3-8PM
10-231	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE A 2022 CHEVY TAHOE FROM GENTILINI MOTORS, 2703 FIRE ROAD, EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP, NJ 08234, FOR THE CALDWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR AN AMOUNT OF \$40,975.06 THROUGH NJ STATE CONTRACT T-2776S
10-232	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FROM MUNICIPAL EQUIPMENT, 2703 FIRE ROAD, EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP, NJ 08234, FOR THE CALDWELL FIRE DEPARTMENTS 2022 CHEVY TAHOE FOR AN AMOUNT OF \$23,221.18 THROUGH NJ STATE CONTRACT 17-FLEET-00758
10-233	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF VIRGINIA SCANLON AS A CROSSING GUARD IN THE BOROUGH OF CALDWELL EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AT AN HOURLY RATE OF \$17.00 PER HOUR

10-234	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MORRIS COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING COUNCIL TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP THEREIN FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2026
10-235	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH DYNAMIC TRAFFIC, LLC IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Councilwoman DePalma-Iozzi and seconded by Councilman Rodgers. Discussion ensued. Upon a roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative. Resolutions passed on 10/12/2021.

RESOLUTIONS

10-236	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH MOTT MCDONALD FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REGARDING STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
10-237	PULLED

A motion to approve Resolution 10-236 was made by Councilman Rodgers and seconded by Council President Schmidt. Discussion ensued. Upon a roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative, with Councilman Lace abstaining. Resolutions passed on 10/12/2021.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Members of the public are invited to comment at this time on the 2021 Municipal Budget

Barbara Buechner, 7 Park Lane, in the budget, under General Government, general administration there is a line item "other expense". What comprises of those other expenses?

Heidi Wohleb said that the "other expenses" include expenses such as office equipment maintenance, postage, advertising, consultants, etc.

June Cowell, 29 Brookside Ave, asked about the damaged material at the library and what their status is.

Mayor Kelley asked if Council President Schmidt knew the status. She said that they are still waiting for ballpark figures on the restoration process.

Robin Rockman, Library Director, said that they are waiting on Insurance and made that follow up call today. We were not able to get deep freezers, as the supply chain is very slim.

Councilman Cole asked Heidi to give everyone a sense of when we would be going through this process in a normal year.

Heidi said that normally the introduction occurs during March and gets adopted in April. Tom has already started the conversation with Chris, the CFO, regarding the 2022 budget

ADOPTION OF THE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

A motion to adopt the budget was made by Councilman Rodgers and seconded by Councilwoman DePalma-Iozzi. Mayor Kelley read aloud the resolution on page 42. Discussion ensued. Upon a roll call vote, all voted in the affirmative. The 2021 budget was adopted on 10/12/2021.

NEW BUSINESS

Council President Schmidt – Halloween

- Friday before Halloween for trick-or-treating on Bloomfield Ave.
- Spoken with Chief Bongiorno and Merchants on the Avenue.
- We may need to get the word out to all of our merchants. A flyer to all would be helpful

Mayor Kelley - Italian Flag on the Green

- Supports the request and wants to discuss it with the Council
- Councilman Gates - in concept yes. If we allow this, what other groups will want to have their flags raised on the green.

- Mayor Kelley asked Vince Nuzzi - President was already set by putting the gay pride flag up. Doesn't see a problem with putting the Italian flag up as well.
- Flag would be raised 3-4 days.
- Council President Schmidt pointed out a part of the sign ordinance that does allow for temporary decorations approved by the Council.

A motion to approve the hanging of the Italian Flag on the green was made by Councilwoman DePalma-lozzi and seconded by Councilman Lace. Upon a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion carries.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Borough Council Members

1. Council President Schmidt
 - Caldwell Community Center
 - Advisory Board held their first in-person meeting which was very successful
 - So far early looks at the designs have gone over quite well
 - Discussed the many rumors that have circulated regarding the Community Center
 - The Board discussed doing regular communications with the public and possible inclusion in the newsletter.
 - Board is working on setting up a charity arm for more tax deducted donations.
2. Councilman Cole
 - Board of Health
 - Flu Clinic on October 18th from 2-4pm at the CCC lobby.
 - No appointment necessary
 - 18+ and free for Medicare participants
 - \$25 for non-Medicare participants
 - Free COVID shots are available
 - Pfizer Booster shots available as well.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Kelley

Mayor Kelley Reported:

- Temporary relocation of the library to 24 Smull Ave.
 - Glenn Beckmeyer has said he will get a structural engineer out there to do a study. I would like the results of that
- PSE&G was working on connectivity to the building, so I would like to know what we can do to help get that along.
 - Can Mario and DPW do anything to help the process along.
- Road paving over the last 2 weeks has been finished.
 - Took on some additional roads on this project because streets like Bowers were in desperate need for repair.
 - Francis place needs to be finished as soon as we can.

REPORT OF BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR

Thomas Banker

Tom Banker Reported:

- We are reviewing the final version of the I/I Study
- Budget has been adopted now
- Survey for the Open Space issue is moving forward.
- Several Redevelopment projects that are in early stages of planning
- Will discuss the Francis Place issues and the library project with the Borough Engineer.
- Mayor Kelley asked about getting the brick redone on parts of Bloomfield Ave.
 - Tom - I don't think we can get the brick redone, but I will walk the areas with Mario and Glenn to get a better understanding of the situation.
- Councilman Gates asked Tom about getting Cifelli back in town to finish the paving of Ward Place
 - Tom said that he is the same contractor they are trying to get back in for Francis Place. I will update you once I get more information

REPORT OF BOROUGH ATTORNEY

Vincent Nuzzi

Vince Nuzzi reported:

- Courts have scheduled oral arguments on the Carelli vs. Caldwell for mid-October.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business to be conducted, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Lace and seconded by Councilwoman DePalma-Iozzi. Upon a voice vote, all voted in the affirmative. The meeting adjourned at 9:54 PM.

Prepared by: Brittany Heun
Brittany Heun, Deputy Borough Clerk

10/18/2021
DATE