



North Caldwell Community News

4th Quarter 2023

With the holiday season upon us, we look back on the year of accomplishments and look forward to continuing our efforts to improve the safety and quality of life for all North Caldwell residents. As we close out the year, we welcome our new Borough Administrator, Glenn Domenick. Glenn has hit the ground running and is thoroughly engaged with residents and their concerns while working to advance Borough projects, many of which are highlighted in this 4th Quarter Community Newsletter.

Gould School Project - Walker's Park: Mrs. Linden's and Mrs. Stomski's sixth-grade students at Gould School recently completed a poetry project inspired by Walker's Pond. The project was a collaboration between the Language Arts and Technology disciplines. The students' work is published on the following website for all residents to enjoy the submissions and the students' appreciation of a piece North Caldwell history: <https://sites.google.com/ncboe.org/walkerspond/home>.

Walker's Park Improvements: Moynihan Landscaping and Construction was awarded a contract to install walking paths, exercise pads, boardwalks, a viewing platform, parking area with ADA spaces, sitting benches, flagpoles, boat launches and a gazebo at Walker's Park. This project will commence, weather permitting, in early 2024. These additions will enhance Walker's Park for our residents to utilize for various activities, including passive recreation and exercise. Additionally, we anticipate moving forward with plans to renovate the house in the upcoming year. Proposed improvements will convert the Walker family home into a public facility for the community to enjoy. The facility will be able to accommodate community programs and a repository for North Caldwell's historic preservation. We also anticipate having a small library and reading room. We continue to welcome input and feedback from our residents as we move thru the planning process.

Recreation Improvements: Heading into winter, we are thinking warm thoughts for summer as we near completion on the community pool renovations. A new pool surface was installed as well as a cover that will protect the pool in the offseason. A new diving board will be installed in the spring.

We continue to plan for the future improvements at Liberty Park and we anticipate renovating the existing tennis courts to include pickleball courts and an all-purpose court. The Liberty Field restrooms will receive a facelift funded by a grant awarded by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. These improvements are part of a long-term renovation project of recreation facilities that began with the Liberty Field and Firemen's Field turf installation and field upgrades.

Public Works: The following roads were paved in 2023: Norwood Terrace, Soder Road, Birch Avenue, Pine Place, Squire Hill Road, Longview Avenue, Eton Drive, Byron Road, Park Avenue, Tanglewood Road and Glenview Road. Some of these projects were funded with grants from the New Jersey Department of Transportation. In 2024, we anticipate roadway improvements on Beachmont Terrace, Oak Place, Fox Run, Sleepy Hollow Court, and Jasmine Court among others. A cost-sharing project with PSE&G will allow the Borough to pave Maywood Court, Edgewood Court and Woodmere Court subsequent to completion of underground utility improvements.

Water main and lead line conversion continues to be a focus of infrastructure improvements. The Borough remains mindful of outdated infrastructure and is committed to replacing compromised pipes and lead lines, making stormwater drainage improvements, and adding catch basins and improved curbing to improve water flow. Recently completed projects include Sunset Drive, Longview Avenue,

Estella Avenue, Maple Drive, and Soder Road. We appreciate the Department of Public Works' quick response to emergencies and to maintain utilities services to our residents.

Water Meter Replacement: Replacement of water meters is required for every property within the Borough. Meter conversion is approximately 75% complete with the majority of homeowners reporting that the process took less than 10 minutes to complete. To those who have completed the conversion, thank you for your cooperation. If you have not already scheduled your meter replacement, we remind you to contact MeterTek Utility Services Monday through Friday between 8:00am and 4:30pm at 1-800-717-0974. You may also request an appointment by email at appointments@metertek.net or by visiting www.metertek.net. The deadline for meter conversion is March 31, 2024. Any properties who have not converted their meter by the deadline will incur quarterly penalties.

Green Brook Country Club: In a continuing effort to limit the impact on the eventual residential development of Green Brook Country Club, the governing body approved an ordinance that will limit the capacity as well as the height of the buildings to be built on that property, eliminated the proposal of an assisted living facility, restricts the development to a predominantly 55 years and older community, and furthers the Borough's compliance with Fair Share Housing requirements. We anticipate that the developer will submit an application submission to the Planning Board in the coming year.

Cellular Service: Cellular deficiencies exist throughout the Borough. The lack of cellular service is a public safety concern and reduces the quality of life for all residents, and especially those within the impacted areas. Two Borough-owned properties were identified for the installation of cellular towers which would fill these noticeable coverage gaps. These locations are on Mountain Avenue at Arbor Road (Block 204, Lot 1) and at the Skyline Drive Water Tower (Block 706, Lot 19). Lease agreements with T-Mobile for each site obligate T-Mobile to design and construct a cellular tower at each location at no expense to the Borough.

Residents' concerns, both in favor of the cell towers and against, have been heard by the governing body. The Mayor, Borough Council and Administration anticipate holding a public forum so that all questions and concerns can be presented with detailed responses provided. Please continue to look for specific announcements about this public forum, which will be publicly noticed and posted to the Borough website. We encourage all residents to attend so that their concerns can be addressed.

Technology: The Borough recognizes that technology is constantly changing and growing; therefore we are committed to providing our residents with the most advanced technological capabilities. In 2023, enhancements were made to the Borough website, as well as internal software and communication platforms. Additionally, enhancements to the water system, specifically to the new water metering platform, will provide efficiencies and benefits for years to come.

Public Safety: The increase in consumers turning to online shopping provides thieves more opportunities to steal packages. These thieves target neighborhoods, seeking to steal unattended packages delivered while you're away or at work. Here are some tips to avoid becoming a victim of package theft:

- Sign up for delivery alerts so you know when your delivery is scheduled and when the package has been delivered.
- If you're not able to be home when a package will be delivered, ask a trusted neighbor to hold it for you.
- Consider shipping packages to your place of work or use the ship-to-store option. Online marketplaces like Amazon also offer the option to ship to secure lockers.
- Be a good neighbor! If you see a package on your neighbor's doorstep, reach out and ask if they would like you to hold it until they are home.
- If you have a home surveillance system, monitor it more closely when packages are scheduled to arrive.

We are always thankful for the North Caldwell Fire Department volunteers. We encourage all residents to contribute to their annual fund drive. We appreciate all who have already supported this worthy

cause with donations. The NCFD is accepting applications for junior firefighters (ages 16-18) and probationary firefighters (ages 18+). Please visit northcaldwellfire.com/join-now for more information on this 101-year tradition.

REMINDERS:

Tree Removal Ordinance: Before removing any trees from your property, please note that a tree removal permit is required. Please call the Building Department, 973-228-6410 ext. 106 for more information.

Emergency Alert Notifications: We encourage all residents to register with the North Caldwell Emergency Alert Notification system. You will receive information such as road closure or water main breaks, as well as other public safety announcements. You can register for these notifications at <https://www.northcaldwell.org/home/news/sign-north-caldwells-emergencynotifications>.

Online Payments: As a reminder, you can pay your property tax, sewer and water bills online through the Borough website <https://www.northcaldwell.org/home/pages/online-payment>.

PSE&G Streetlight Outages: If you notice that a street light is out in your neighborhood, please report the outage by clicking on the map at: <https://psegni.streetlightoutages.com/public/default.html>.

Drainage Reporting Form: If you are experiencing an issue with water drainage, we want to know about it. You can submit your concern to the Borough at <https://form.jotform.com/221602966403048>.

Civic Rec: For any resident looking to participate in North Caldwell sponsored programs, please ensure you and your family are registered through the Civic Rec Registration site: <https://secure.rec1.com/NJ/north-caldwell-nj/catalog>.

Mayor's Office Hours: Mayor Raymond is available for open office hours on the first Wednesday of each month from 6:00pm to 8:00pm and additionally by appointment.

Upcoming Mayor and Council Meetings:

Friday, December 29, 2023 at 10:00am – Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council
Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 5:00pm – Annual Reorganization Meeting

Meeting dates, agendas and minutes are posted at <https://www.northcaldwell.org/mayor-council>. Meeting agendas are posted at least 48 hours before each meeting at <https://www.northcaldwell.org/mayor-council>.

Upcoming 2024 Borough Events:

Seniors Luncheon Meetings: Wednesdays, February 7th, March 6th, April 3rd, May 1st, June 5th at 1PM
Spring Spectacular and Easter Egg Hunt: Tuesday, March 26th (rain date Wednesday, March 27th)
Volunteer Fire Department Pasta Dinner: Friday, March 29th, seatings at 4:30PM and 7:30PM
46th Annual Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, June 2nd, 8AM - 12PM
North Caldwell Police Foundation Outing and Fundraiser: June date TBD, follow ncpolicefoundation.org

Happy holidays! Wishing a happy and healthy 2024 to all!

Mayor Joshua H. Raymond and the North Caldwell Borough Council

Council President Anthony Floria-Callori
Councilman Matthew Atlas
Councilman Robert Kessler
Councilman Arthur Rees
Councilman Kenneth Tilton
Councilman Stephen Weinstein