

## Mayor and Council Regular Meeting – February 27, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Tuesday, February 27, 2024. The meeting began at 6:30p.m. at Borough Hall and virtually via tele/video-conference.

Mayor Raymond called the meeting to order announcing that notice was provided in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 231, P.L. 1975. He provided a statement regarding the conduct of the teleconference which would allow members of the public to participate and be heard during public comment.

Roll Call indicated the following:

Present: Mayor Joshua H. Raymond, Council President Anthony Floria-Callori, Councilman Matthew Atlas, Councilman Robert Kessler, Councilman Arthur Rees, Councilman Kenneth Tilton, Councilman Stephen Weinstein.

Also present were: Glenn Domenick, Borough Administrator; Jarriid Kantor, Borough Counsel; Karl Strodthoff, Police Chief; and Tami Michelotti, Borough Clerk.

Mayor Raymond asked Scotty Daly to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Raymond congratulated Councilman Rees and his family on a new grandchild. Mayor Raymond announced the installation of a traffic light at Gould Avenue and Mountain Avenue. He stated that Essex County bid the project for which construction was estimated to begin in approximately two months.

Mayor Raymond acknowledged the North Caldwell Multicultural Society for hosting a Black History Month event. He announced a Cell Tower Construction public meeting for discussion of the projects which would provide the public opportunity to make comments and ask questions. Mayor Raymond encouraged the public to visit the Borough website to sign up for emergency alerts.

### **Kiwanis 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration**

Mayor Raymond congratulated the Kiwanis Club on their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He presented a proclamation to members Dean Conner, Joy Scally, John Krug and Jessica Almeida.

### **Women's History Month Honorees**

Mayor Raymond acknowledged March as Women's History Month and presented proclamations to individuals who made significant contributions to the community including North Caldwell Police Department Dispatcher Sharon Kuta, North Caldwell Fire Department member and West Essex First Aid Squad member Janice Stickles, North Caldwell resident and Earth Day Celebration organizer Jenny Daly, and Historical Society member and former Zoning Board member Edith "Bunny" Jenkins.

### **Citizens to be Heard – Agenda Items Only**

On a motion by Councilman Kessler, seconded by Council President Floria-Callori, public comment was opened. Said motion was unanimously approved.

No one from the public came forward.

On a motion by Councilman Kessler, seconded by Councilman Tilton, public comment was closed. Said motion was unanimously approved.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Council President Floria-Callori made a motion to approve the following minutes, seconded by Councilman Atlas:

- Reorganization Meeting Minutes – January 4, 2024
- Conference Meeting and Executive Session Minutes – January 9, 2024
- Regular Meeting and Executive Session Minutes – January 23, 2024

Councilman Kessler abstained from voting on the January 9, 2024 meeting minutes. Said motion was carried with six (6) affirmative votes for the January 4, 2024 meeting minutes and the January 23, 2024 meeting minutes. Said motion was carried with five (5) affirmative votes and one abstention from Councilman Kessler with regard to the January 9, 2024 meeting minutes.

Mayor Raymond announced that meeting minutes are considered by the Council at the regular meeting of the following month.

### **Committee Reports**

The following reports were read into the record upon a motion from Councilman Weinstein, seconded by Councilman Kessler:

- Tax Collector's Report – January 2024
- Police Department Public Safety/Detective Bureau Reports – January 2024
- Fire Department Report – January 2024
- DPW Monthly Report – January 2024

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- Construction Permit Activity Report – January 2024
- Building Sub-Code Inspection Report – January 2024
- Animal Control Monthly Report – January 2024
- Recreation Director's Report –February/March 2024

Said motion was carried unanimously.

**Ordinances for Introduction**

**Ordinance O-2-2024:** Council President Floria-Callori made a motion to introduce Ordinance O-2-2024 An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 107, Section 6 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell Regarding Zoning Permit Fees, seconded by Councilman Weinstein. Said motion was carried with six (6) affirmative votes. A public hearing was set for Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 6:30pm.

**Ordinance O-3-2024:** Council President Floria-Callori made a motion to introduce Ordinance O-3-2024 An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 34, Section 3 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell Regarding Uniform Construction Code Fees, seconded by Councilman Weinstein. Said motion was carried with six (6) affirmative votes. A public hearing was set for Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 6:30pm. Council President Floria-Callori noted that the slight increase is consistent with the fees charged by other surrounding municipalities.

**Ordinance O-4-2024:** Council President Floria-Callori made a motion to introduce Ordinance O-4-2024 An Ordinance of the Borough of North Caldwell Authorizing a License Agreement with PSE&G, seconded by Councilman Weinstein. Said motion was carried with six (6) affirmative votes. A public hearing was set for Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 6:30pm. Councilman Rees requested a copy of the exhibits referenced in the ordinance and proposed agreement.

**Action to be Taken**

Council President Floria-Callori requested Resolution R-55-2024 A Resolution Fixing Fees Pertaining to Recreation Programs for 2024 be removed from the Consent Agenda. Councilman Kessler requested Resolution R-57-2024 A Resolution Authorizing a Permit for On-Street Parking for the Residence of 2 Henry Avenue, Borough of North Caldwell.

Councilman Atlas made a motion, seconded by Council President Floria-Callori, to approve all remaining items listed below as a Consent Agenda. Said motion was carried unanimously with six (6) affirmative votes.

- Resolution R-44-2024 A Resolution Approving the 2024 – 2026 DPW Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamsters Local 469
- Resolution R-45-2024 A Resolution Approving the Payment of Bills
- Resolution R-46-2024 A Resolution Authorizing for Redemption and Cancellation of Record of Tax Lien #23-04– Block 2100, Lot 7, C0061
- Resolution R-47-2024 A Resolution Cancelling Grant Funding and Budget Appropriations
- Resolution R-48-2024 A Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of General Capital Balances
- Resolution R-49-2024 A Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Water Capital Balances
- Resolution R-50-2024 A Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Pool Capital Balances
- Resolution R-51-2024 A Resolution Authorizing the Disposition of Used Firearms at Private Sale to North Caldwell Police Officer
- Resolution R-52-2024 A Resolution Approving the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025
- Resolution R-53-2024 A Resolution Approving the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse – New Jersey Department of Human Services/Division on Mental Health and Addiction Services Youth Leadership Grant
- Resolution R-54-2024 A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Council to Execute Agreements for Extraordinary Unspecifiable Services
- Resolution R-56-2024 A Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of Part-Time Seasonal Employees – 2023/2024 Recreation Basketball Scorekeepers and Trainers/Instructors

Council President Floria-Callori made a motion, seconded by Councilman Kessler to approve Resolution R-55-2024 A Resolution Fixing Fees Pertaining to Recreation Programs for 2024. Council President Floria-Callori noted that the Recreation Committee and the Recreation Director are emphasizing the renewal of pool membership registration and encouraging residents to reconnect with the activities offered by the Community Pool. He added that the significant capital improvements were recently made with hopes to revitalize the pool and encourage residents to join their community. He announced that lower registration fees in the form of an "Early Bird Special" is being offered for in-town registrations prior to May 1, 2024. Councilman Kessler confirmed that April 30, 2024 would be the last day for which the 20% membership discount would be offered. Said motion was carried unanimously with six (6) affirmative votes.

Councilman Kessler made a motion, seconded by Councilman Atlas, to approve Resolution R-57-2024 A Resolution Authorizing a Permit for On-Street Parking for the Residence of 2 Henry Avenue. Councilman Kessler requested information regarding the resident's request for street parking and the associated hardship. Mr. Kantor reviewed the resident's testimony presented at the February 13, 2024 meeting. Chief Strodthoff reviewed the ordinance governing six-month street parking permits and noted that the frequency of such requests is rare.

**Citizens to be Heard** - Any Subject Matter (5 minute limit)

On a motion by Councilman Tilton, seconded by Councilman Weinstein, public comment was opened. Said motion was unanimously approved.

No one from the public came forward.

Council President Floria-Callori made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rees, to close public comment. Said motion was carried unanimously.

**Council Commentary**

Councilman Tilton requested that an addition be made to the Executive Session resolution and discussion for Potential Contract Negotiations regarding Walker's Park.

Council President Floria-Callori stated that the Council worked diligently to address cellular deficiencies and will provide an open forum for residents at a public meeting scheduled for March 6, 2024 at 6:30pm. He encouraged the public to attend.

**Executive Session**

On a motion by Council President Floria-Callori, seconded by Councilman Kessler, Resolution R-58-2024 A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell to Hold a Closed Session Meeting in order to discuss: A. Potential Contract Negotiations: (1) Farmstead Road/Mountain Avenue. Said motion was approved unanimously with six (6) affirmative votes.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Councilman Rees, seconded by Councilman Tilton, that this meeting be adjourned at 7:16p.m. Said motion was carried unanimously with six (6) affirmative votes.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami Michelotti, RMC  
Borough Clerk