

Mayor and Council Regular Meeting – May 24, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Tuesday, May 24, 2022. The meeting began at 6:35pm at Borough Hall and was held simultaneously via tele/video-conference.

Mayor Alessi 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 Joseph H. Alessi, Council President Astorino, Councilman Matthew Atlas, Councilman Anthony Floria-Callori, Councilman Robert Kessler, Councilman Kenneth Tilton.

Absent: Councilman Arthur Rees.

Also present were: Kevin O'Sullivan, Borough Administrator; Guenther Waldow, Borough Counsel; Rich Mondelli, Chief Financial Officer; Mark Deuer, Police Chief; and Tami Michelotti, Borough Clerk.

Mayor Alessi asked residents in attendance representing the North Caldwell Asian-American/Pacific Islanders community to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Alessi welcomed residents from the Asian-American & Pacific Islander community and presented a proclamation in honor of AAPI Heritage Month. Ms. Linda Liu spoke on behalf of the community about the importance of the recognition and thanked the governing body for acknowledging the community's importance in North Caldwell. Miss Caitlyn Liu thanked the Mayor and Council for the proclamation which will encourage minorities to share their culture with others. Ms. Latha Javhed expressed appreciation for fostering a multi-cultural community.

Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) Request – Mayor Alessi announced that the Borough submitted federal grant applications to harden drinking water infrastructure through replacement of water mains on Canterbury Drive and Mountain Place. He stated that the Borough received \$300,000 for the Skyline Drive water tank from the Homeland Security Committee in response to last year's request.

Primary Election – Mayor Alessi reminded the public of Primary Election Day on Tuesday, June 7th during which the polls would be open from 6AM thru 8PM and the mail-in ballot box would be open until 8PM in front of Borough Hall.

Annual West Essex Memorial Day Parade – Mayor Alessi welcomed all to view the annual West Essex Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 30th beginning at 9:30AM and ending with a ceremony at Crane Park.

NC Police Foundation Sporting Clay Classic Event – Mayor Alessi announced the second annual Sporting Clay Classic event on Tuesday, May 31st at the Hudson Farm Club in Andover, NJ.

NC Fire Department – Mayor Alessi announced the return of the annual Firemen's Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, June 5th from 8AM-Noon.

Mayor Alessi requested a moment of silence in remembrance of the lives lost in Ross Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas earlier that day. He stated his support of full-time law enforcement presence in the West Essex and North Caldwell schools.

Citizens to be Heard

Mr. Elliot Sommer of 143 Four Season Drive expressed appreciation for the "No Parking" signs installed on Hilltop Drive as requested by Four Seasons' residents. He requested that the median at Hilltop Drive and White Rock Road be reconfigured as it forces drivers to turn their heads 145 degrees to see if vehicles are coming down White Rock Road. Mr. O'Sullivan confirmed that White Rock Road is owned by Verona. Chief Deuer confirmed that the lower parking lot near Magnusson Field is owned by Four Seasons. The Council confirmed that no development of Magnusson Field is planned but confirmed that plans to turf Firemen's Field are underway.

Approval of Minutes

Councilman Floria-Callori moved to accept the following minutes (without release of Executive Session minutes), seconded by Councilman Kessler:

- Conference Meeting and Executive Session Minutes of April 12, 2022
- Regular Meeting and Executive Session Minutes of April 26, 2022

Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Committee Reports

Legal and Ordinance

Councilman Atlas made a motion to add Resolution R-112-2022 to the agenda, seconded by Councilman Floria-Callori. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Ordinance O-9-2022: Councilman Atlas opened the public hearing for Ordinance O-9-2022 An Ordinance Amending §10-1 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell Regarding Public Holidays. No one from the public came forward.

Councilman Atlas made a motion to close the public hearing and adopt O-9-2022 An Ordinance Amending §10-1 of the Code of the Borough of North Caldwell Regarding Public Holidays. Council President Astorino seconded the motion. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Ordinance O-10-2022: Councilman Atlas introduced Ordinance O-10-2022 An Ordinance to Amend and Supplement the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of North Caldwell, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, Chapter 50-6B Regarding Payment for Collection of Garbage and Debris, Chapter 77-7A(1) Regarding Property Maintenance Standards – Garbage and Chapter 137-3 Regarding Sanitation Standards – Restrictions Upon Garbage Accumulations. Councilman Atlas recommended further discussion on the amendment and moved to table the introduction of the ordinance. Councilman Kessler seconded the motion. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Bond Ordinance BO-4-2022: Councilman Atlas introduced Bond Ordinance BO-4-2022 A Bond Ordinance Authorizing Various Improvements in and for the Borough of North Caldwell, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, Appropriating \$2,013,411 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,537,488 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof. He stated that the public hearing would be held on June 28, 2022. Council President Astorino seconded the motion. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Bond Ordinance BO-5-2022: Councilman Atlas introduced Bond Ordinance BO-5-2022 A Bond Ordinance Authorizing Improvements to Firemen's Field in and for the Borough of North Caldwell, County of Essex, State of New Jersey Appropriating \$935,000 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$885,000 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof. He stated that the public hearing would be held on June 28, 2022. Councilman Floria-Callori seconded the motion. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes. Councilman Floria-Callori confirmed that the North Caldwell Recreation Foundation was prepared to accept donations for the project.

Resolution R-92-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Liquor License #0715-33-001-002 to Green Brook Liquor License, LLC was read. Motion was made by Councilman Atlas, seconded by Councilman Tilton. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Resolution R-93-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Professional Services Contract Between the Borough of North Caldwell and Solutions Architecture for Facilities Evaluation, Design Study and Budget Analysis of North Caldwell Police Department Headquarters was read. Motion was made by Councilman Atlas, seconded by Council President Astorino. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Resolution R-94-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Professional Services Contract between the Borough of North Caldwell and Ferriero Engineering, Inc. for Stormwater Infrastructure Management Engineering Services was read. Motion was made by Councilman Atlas, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Resolution R-95-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Professional Services Contract between the Borough of North Caldwell and Ferriero Engineering, Inc. for Stormwater Utility Study Engineering Services was read. Motion was made by Councilman Atlas, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Resolution R-96-2022 A Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Contract for Drainage Pipe Repair Services was read. Motion was made by Councilman Atlas, seconded by Councilman Kessler. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Resolution R-112-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Borough of North Caldwell to Enter into a Consent Order Joining the Caldwell Affordable Housing Litigation as an Interested Party was read.. Motion was made by Councilman Atlas, seconded by Council President Astorino. Councilman Floria-Callori abstained. Said motion was carried with four (4) affirmative votes and one (1) abstention.

Personnel and Technology

Committee Updates: Councilman Floria-Callori stated that cell service improvement efforts are ongoing, however, a commitment from service providers had not yet been secured.

The following resolutions were read by and moved by Councilman Floria-Callori as a Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilman Kessler:

- Resolution R-97-2022 A Resolution Establishing 2022 Employee Salaries
- Resolution R-98-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Kristen Koch as Deputy Tax Collector
- Resolution R-99-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Vincent Negri as Maintenance Worker in the Public Works Department of the Borough of North Caldwell
- Resolution R-100-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Tyler Johnson as Municipal Humane Law Enforcement Officer

Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Finance

Council President Astorino presented the Tax Collector's Report for April 2022.

The following resolutions were read by and moved by Council President Astorino as a Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilman Atlas:

- Resolution R-101-2022 A Resolution Approving the Payment of Bills
- Resolution R-102-2022 A Resolution Approving the Insertion of Revenue Item – Chapter 159 – Recreation Donations
- Resolution R-103-2022 A Resolution Approving the Funding for a Building Improvements Design Plan and Budget Analysis of the North Caldwell Police Department Headquarters

Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Resolution R-104-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of General Capital Appropriation Balances was read. Motion was made by Council President Astorino, seconded by Councilman Atlas. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Resolution R-105-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of Water Capital Appropriation Balances was read. Motion was made by Council President Astorino, seconded by Councilman Atlas. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Public Safety

Councilman Tilton presented the Police Department Public Safety and Detective Bureau Reports for April 2022 during which 757 calls were made to Dispatch and 81 summonses were issued. He encouraged residents to watch a You Tube video made available by the West Essex School District about social media.

Councilman Tilton presented the Fire Department Public Safety Report for April 2022 during which there were 23 calls of which three (3) calls were for mutual aid. He reminded all to support the NCFD by attending the Annual Pancake Breakfast on June 5th and the 100th Anniversary Celebration on September 24th.

Councilman Tilton announced two fundraisers for the North Caldwell Police Foundation including the Peter Hollander Clay Event and a golf outing on October 3rd.

Public Works

Councilman Atlas offered the Construction Permit Activity Report for April 2022 during which 39 permits were issued totaling 131 for the year to date.

Councilman Atlas offered the Animal Control Report for April 2022, during which there were two calls for response. The West Orange Animal Shelter was not used in April.

Recreation

Councilman Kessler offered the Recreation Director's Report for May/June 2022. He noted the success of the annual Baseball/Softball Opening Day parade and celebration. He announced the open registration for several spring and summer activities for youth and adults, including pool membership and Summer Fun Camp. Councilman Kessler announced summer job opportunities at the pool, for summer camp and an internship within the Recreation Department.

The following resolutions were read by and moved by Councilman Kessler as a Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilman Floria-Callori:

- Resolution R-106-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Council to Execute Agreements Between the Borough and the North Caldwell Pool Utility
- Resolution R-107-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Council to Execute Agreements for Extraordinary Unspecifiable Services

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- Resolution R-108-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of Part-Time Seasonal Employees for the 2022 Municipal Pool Season
- Resolution R-109-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of Additional Part-Time Seasonal Employees for Basketball Clinic – Instructors
- Resolution R-110-2022 A Resolution Fixing Fees Pertaining to Recreation Programs – Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth Post-Season Fees

Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) affirmative votes.

Executive Session

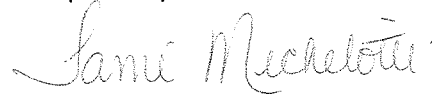
Resolution R-111-2022 A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell to Hold a Closed Session Meeting for Certain Specified Purposes:

A. Attorney/Client Privilege: (1) FSHC-Affordable Housing
was read. Motion was made by Council President Astorino, seconded by Councilman Atlas. Said motion was carried unanimously with five (5) votes.

The meeting was re-opened to Public at 8:51pm.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Councilman Atlas, seconded by Councilman Kessler, that this meeting be adjourned at 8:51pm. Said motion was carried unanimously with six affirmative votes.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami Michelotti, RMC
Borough Clerk