Mayor and Council Special Budget Meeting – March 14, 2023

The Special Budget Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of North Caldwell was held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. The meeting began at 5:34p.m. at Borough Hall and was held simultaneously 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 (arrived at 5:48pm), Councilman Robert Kessler, Councilman Arthur Rees, Councilman Kenneth Tilton, and Councilman Stephen Weinstein.

Also present were: Kevin O'Sullivan, Borough Administrator; Rich Mondelli, CFO; Karl Strodthoff, Police Chief; Captain Michael Credico; Fire Chief Tim Peterson; Court Administrator, Ashley McMillion; DPW Director Bill Stickles; and Tami Michelotti, Borough Clerk.

Mayor Raymond asked Municipal Court Administrator Ashley McMillion to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizens to be Heard

No one from the public came forward.

Items for Discussion - Capital Budget

Shared Municipal Court – Ashley McMillion presented requests for technology needs for the integration of Verona in the proposed Shared Court of North Caldwell and Essex Fells. She noted that a grant application was submitted which, if awarded, would reimburse the expenses to the Borough.

Police Department – Chief Strodthoff reviewed the needs for new and updated software, radios for two (2) vehicles, and building additions and upgrades. He noted that vehicle leases were including in the Operating Budget requests.

Fire Department – Chief Peterson presented the request for a ladder truck, turnout gear and a pickup truck for transportation of members and equipment to training facilities.

Administration – Mr. O'Sullivan stated that the current administrator's vehicle could be used for Animal Control but was not critical for this year. Ms. Michelotti reviewed the additional server needed for capture and storage of video footage required by the State for all mail-in ballot boxes. Records retention and digitization was deferred to next year.

Technology – Captain Credico reviewed information technology needs including license plate reading (LPR) camera expansion and associated pole installation. He noted that a grant application was submitted to Congresswoman Sherrill for endorsement. A secondary ID/badge printer was requested for the Recreation Department.

Streets/Roads - Mr. Stickles presented roads in need of improvements and paving and requested the installation of decorative lighting poles for Gould Avenue.

Discussion of capital requests for Public Works, the Water Utility and the Pool Utility were tabled to a subsequent meeting yet to be scheduled.

There being no other matters to be addressed by the Governing Body at this time, a motion was made by Council President Floria-Callori, seconded by Councilman Kessler, that this meeting be adjourned at 6:25pm. Said motion was carried unanimously with six (6) affirmative votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Tami Michelotti, RMC

Borough Clerk