

**BOROUGH OF CALIFON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 17, 2019**

Mayor Charles Daniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the reading of the following Sunshine Law announcement: *“I would like to announce and have placed in the minutes that adequate notice of this regular meeting of the Califon Borough Council has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by publication of the annual notice in the Hunterdon Review and the Hunterdon County Democrat.”*

FLAG SALUTE

**ROLL CALL: PRESENT: R. BAGGSTROM, J. COLLINS, E. HAVERSANG, L. JANAS,
M. MEDEA (arrived 8:30 pm), C. SMITH
ABSENT: NONE**

**ZONING OFFICER – LEAVE OF ABSENCE – APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY,
ACTING ZONING OFFICER**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION 2019-93

WHEREAS, Borough of Califon’s Zoning Officer, William Skene, has submitted in writing that, for health reasons, he will be taking an unpaid leave of absence from his duties as Zoning Officer for a period from January 1, 2020 until April 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, there will exist a need for a substitute Zoning Officer to perform the duties of Mr. Skene, while on an unpaid leave of absence

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon that Tom Silvia, a certified Zoning Officer, is hereby appointed to serve as temporary, acting Zoning Officer while William Skene is on a leave of absence from January 1, 2020 thru April 8, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as compensation for the performance of his duties as temporary, acting Zoning Officer, Mr. Silva will receive a portion of the salary prescribed to Mr. Skene, for the time period he will serve.

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by C. Smith to adopt Resolution 2019-93 as read.

For: R. Baggstrom, J. Collins, E. Haversang, L. Janas, M. Medea, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Daniel addressed Matt Taylor, resident of 44 Hoffman Drive, who was in attendance at the meeting in the audience. Mr. Taylor asked for a status report on his continuing concerns about a rock wall that was constructed between his property line and his neighbors. Mayor Daniel responded that this issue has been brought to the attention of the Zoning Officer, the

Borough Engineer and the DPW. Mayor Daniel stated that we are waiting for the opinion from all three parties to determine a course of action.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by L. Janas seconded by E. Haversang to approve the minutes from the meeting held on 12/3/19 with the following correction:

Page 158; under "Committee Reports; Councilwoman Smith – "Councilwoman Smith reported that the BOE will meet on December 18th"; not the 19th as stated in the minutes.

For: R. Baggstrom, J. Collins, E. Haversang, L. Janas, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

MOTION CARRIED

LIST OF BILLS

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by L. Janas to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$34,790.74.

For: R. Baggstrom, J. Collins, E. Haversang, L. Janas, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

__ Califon Municipal Court report for the month of November, 2019

__ Agreement signed with Space Farms Zoo and Museum as the vendor for deer carcass removal in the Borough of Califon at a fee of \$38.00 per deer.

OLD BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTION – APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN CALIFON AND WASHINGTON TWP. FOR 6-YEAR RENEWAL OF POLICE SERVICES

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION 2019-94

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE FIFTH RENEWAL INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON AND THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON TO PROVIDE POLICE SERVICES TO AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON

WHEREAS, THE Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon and the Township of Washington, County of Morris, desire to have the Township of Washington continue to provide Police services to the Borough of Califon; and

WHEREAS, municipalities are permitted to enter into such agreements pursuant to the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Califon, in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Mayor and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Fifth Renewal Interlocal Services Agreement between the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon and the Township of Washington, County of Morris, for Police services for a 6-year term to commence on January 1, 2020 and to terminate on December 31, 2025.
2. A copy of the Agreement is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk for inspection by the public.
3. A copy of the Agreement shall be filed, for informational purposes, with the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the Director.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by J. Collins to adopt Resolution 2019-94 as read.

For: R. Baggstrom, J. Collins, E. Haversang, L. Janas, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

MOTION CARRIED

B. APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN CALIFON AND TEWKSBURY TWP. FOR A 1-YEAR RENEWAL OF DPW/PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION 2019-95

AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON AND THE TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY REGARDING THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES BY THE TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY TO THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON, PURSUANT TO THE INTERLOCAL SERVICES ACT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey is desirous of achieving economies by having the Township of Tewksbury in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, provide public works services to the Borough of Califon; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Tewksbury is willing to provide such public works services on the same basis as public works services are provided in the Township of Tewksbury if it is compensated for the cost of such services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Califon and the Township of Tewksbury have arrived at an understanding regarding the provision of public works services by the Township of Tewksbury to the Borough of Califon for a period of one year and this understanding has been embodied in an Interlocal Service Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the providing public works services by the Township of Tewksbury to the Borough of Califon is authorized by the Interlocal Services Act (NJSA40:8A-1 et seq.) and the Interlocal Service Agreement may be entered into between the Township of Tewksbury and the Borough of Califon if the same is authorized by Resolution of the Township of Tewksbury and by Resolution of the Borough of Califon.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

Section 1. Upon authorizing entering into the Interlocal Service Agreement by proper Resolution of the Borough of Califon pursuant to the Interlocal Services Act, the Mayor and Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Califon are authorized to sign and fully execute and deliver the Interlocal Service Agreement to the Township of Tewksbury; and such agreement shall take effect for a one-year period from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 between the Borough of Califon and the Township of Tewksbury.

Section 2. The Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Califon is hereby directed to maintain on file, in the office of the Municipal Clerk, a copy of the Interlocal Service Agreement, upon adoption of the enabling Resolution. The same shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk during regular business hours, which are from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

Section 3. A copy of this Agreement shall be filed, for informational purposes, with the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the Division.

Motion was made by L. Janas seconded by C. Smith to adopt Resolution 2019-95 as read.

For: R. Baggstrom, J. Collins, E. Haversang, L. Janas, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

- A. RESOLUTION – RELEASING THE TAX COLLECTOR FROM THE COLLECTION OF TAXES ON PROPERTIES OF UNKNOWN OWNERSHIP AND CANCELLING THE TAXES**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION 2019-96

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon that the taxes on the following properties of unknown ownership, as listed in the tax duplicate of the Borough of Califon, are deemed to be uncollectible, and, that being so and according to New Jersey law 54:91-2, the tax collector is hereby released from the collection thereof and these taxes are therefore cancelled:

BLOCK	LOT	AMOUNT
5	28	6.95
6	25	45.18
11	1.03	24.33
21	5.01	20.85
22	18	149.43
31	13	69.50

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by L. Janas to adopt Resolution 2019-96 as read.
For: R. Baggstrom, J. Collins, E. Haversang, L. Janas, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

MOTION CARRIED

B. MAYORAL PROCLAMATION – MONTH OF JANUARY AS “RADON ACTION MONTH”

The following Proclamation was read by Mayor Daniel:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that is the second leading cause of lung cancer; and

WHEREAS, prolonged exposure to radon can kill as many as 500 people in New Jersey each year; and

WHEREAS, families who reside in homes with elevated radon levels are at risk of developing serious health problems; and

WHEREAS, any home could have high levels, even when neighboring homes do not; and

WHEREAS, radon testing can be done with great ease at a relatively low expense to the homeowner, with the cost of reducing radon concentrations being comparable to a home repair; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the United States Environmental Protection Agency are collaborating during the month of January to promote the need for radon testing in an effort to protect the lives of our State's residents; and

WHEREAS, if all New Jersey homes with radon concentrations at or above 4 pCi/L were mitigated, about 78 lives could be saved this year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Charles Daniel**, Mayor of the **Borough of Califon**, on behalf of the **Califon Borough Council** and residents of Califon, do hereby proclaim the Month of January, 2020 as:

RADON ACTION MONTH

in the Borough of Califon and call upon all residents who have not yet tested to test their homes for radon and to reduce radon levels if elevated levels are found, to protect their families from the serious health risk of radon.

C. RESOLUTION – BUDGET TRANSFER

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION 2019-97

WHEREAS, IT APPEARS THAT THE UNEXPENDED BALANCE IN THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO PAY OUTSTANDING BILLS:

Public Health OE	\$410.00
Computerized Data Processing: OE	\$2,500.00
Telephone	\$ 110.00
Buildings & Grounds: OE	500.00

AND WHEREAS, IT APPEARS THAT THERE WILL BE AN UNEXPENDED BALANCE IN THE FOLLOWING 2019 ACCOUNT:

General Admin: SW

Planning Board: OE

Engineering Services: OE

Recreation: OE

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON THAT THE FOLLOWING TRANSFERS BE AUTHORIZED AND WITHIN RESOLUTION IS THE AUTHORITY OF THE BOROUGH TREASURER TO MAKE SAID TRANSFERS:

AMOUNT	FROM	TO	AMOUNT
\$2,000.00	General Admin: SW	Public Health: OE	\$410.00
\$ 760.00	Planning Board: OE	Bldgs. & Grds: OE	500.00
\$ 760.00	Engineering Services	Computerized Data: OE	\$2,500.00
		Telephone	\$ 110.00

Motion was made by E. Haversang seconded by L. Janas to adopt Resolution 2019-97 as read.
For: R. Baggstrom, J. Collins, E. Haversang, L. Janas, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Haversang reported that there were problems at the Christmas Tree lighting. The lights did not work despite the weeklong efforts of JCP&L assuring the Borough that they would be on. The Fire Co. saved the day by bringing a generator on a fire truck to the newly planted tree which enabled the lights to be lit for all those assembled for the tree lighting.

Councilman Janas reported that the Steering Committee meeting scheduled for 12/16 was cancelled due to weather.

The Planning Board meets tomorrow night; 12/18.

Councilwoman Smith reported that the Board of Education will hold their meeting on 12/18. On the 12th of December, there was a BOE meeting held in Executive Session to discuss the search for a new school Superintendent.

Councilman Baggstrom read the Police and Municipal court reports for the month of November. Councilman Baggstrom reported that the grate in back of #31 Main St. has been blocking up and causing overflow onto the property. Mayor Daniel explained what has been done in the past to keep the grate tipped to limit the amount of debris that blocks the grate. He will ask the Borough Engineer to investigate alternatives to the grate design currently used.

Councilman Collins reported that the County of Hunterdon removed the concrete slab at the Weis Dam. Councilman Collins is hoping to get Jim Holland and Brian Cowden to attend the next Environmental Commission meeting to discuss next steps toward taking down the Weis dam and acquiring the park land from the County.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Daniel reported that there will be the annual Spelling Bee held at Califon School on December 19th at 9:00 am.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Matt Taylor, resident of 44 Hoffman Drive, who spoke at the beginning of the meeting, expressed frustration with the response he received earlier with regard to his concerns about the rock wall erected between his property and his neighbors at 38 Hoffman Dr., that he would ultimately like removed. Mr. Taylor stated that he felt the rock wall encroaches into the town right of way and on a utility and he expressed concern that zoning regulations were not being enforced by the town. Mr. Taylor emphasized this statement by saying that his concerns are not just his but his attorney's as well.

Mayor Daniel explained that he and the Council will need to confer with the Borough professionals; attorney, engineer, zoning officer, etc. and get back to him with a status report.

There being no further business to come before Council at this time, motion was made by C. Smith seconded by R. Baggstrom and unanimously accepted to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura G. Eidsvaag, RMC
Municipal Clerk/Administrator