**BOROUGH OF CALIFON COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**OCTOBER 21, 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, L. JANAS, M. MEDEA,**

**C. SMITH**

**ABSENT: E. HAVERSANG**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by M. Medea seconded by C. Smith to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 7, 2019 with the following correction:

Page 129; 3rd paragraph; 1st sentence should read “meet with Board of Education on September 18th”; not October 18th.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: E. Haversang

**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 $11,819.12.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: E. Haversang

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

\_\_ Califon Municipal Court report for month of September

\_\_ Hunterdon County Dept. of Emergency Management: copy of letter from Major Bucchero, NJSP, approving the Borough of Califon’s Emergency Operations Plan

\_\_Contract amendment; Hunterdon County; increasing compensation amount from County to Califon from $200,000 to $300,000 for Island Park Bridge project

**MAYORAL PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Daniel welcomed Califon Fire Co. Chief, Richard Bergmann to the meeting tonight to honor him for his heroism having performed critical CPR on a Califon resident experiencing a heart attack and saving his life. Mayor Daniel reported that Chief Bergmann was the first responder on the scene and his quick actions performing CPR on the victim before any other responders came onto the scene were responsible for saving the life of this resident, who otherwise would not have made it. Members of Mr. Bergmann’s family and many members of the Fire Co. filled the meeting room to hear the proclamation as written and read by Mayor Daniel:

PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF RICH BERGMANN, BOROUGH OF CALIFON FIRE CHIEF

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Califon Governing Body would like to recognize Rich Bergmann for his honorable service to the Borough of Califon as Fireman and Fire Chief, and

**WHEREAS**, Rich Bergmann has demonstrated excellence in critical emergency first aid response to a life threatening situation on June 4th, 2019 at approximately 6:00 pm, and

**WHEREAS**, Rich Bergmann, upon receiving an emergency dispatch, immediately ran to the residence, and, being the first responder present at the scene, began first aid in the form of CPR and continued this life sustaining measure until additional emergency medical help arrived, and

**WHEREAS,** as later revealed by the emergency room doctor, that, if it was not for the immediate actions of Rich Bergmann, the person would not have survived the life threatening ordeal.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Califon, desire to express their appreciation of the Governing Body to Rich Bergmann for his act of selflessness in saving the life of a Califon resident, and for his many years of service as a fireman and fire chief for the Borough of Califon.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by Charles Daniel, Mayor of the Borough of Califon, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the appreciation of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon are hereby expressed.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that this Proclamation be duly embossed, signed by the Mayor, publicly presented to Rich Bergmann on October 21, 2019, and recorded in the official records of the Borough of Califon, as a tribute to Rich Bergmann by an appreciative and thankful Governing Body.

At the conclusion of the reading, all present rose and gave a standing ovation to Fire Chief, Rich Bergmann in honor of his heroic actions to save the life of a very grateful Califon resident.

**DISCUSSION – BRUCE MORROW – ROVING VETERAN’S WALL**

Bruce Morrow addressed Mayor and Council stating that he and the Car Show Committee

Would like the town’s blessing to arrange to have the roving Veteran’s Wall come to Califon to be placed in the Park for a weekend in the fall of 2021; tentatively scheduled for October of 2021. Mr. Morrow explained that it would give the Committee 2 years to fundraise for this event; the cost of which is $8,000.00. The installation would arrive and set up for Friday, Saturday and Sunday and be taken down on a Monday. Mr. Morrow would like to have the local schools visit the wall on Friday. The wall is approximately 288’ long and will need to be erected on platform on a level area; probably by the ballfields. Security will be needed so a couple of security guards will be hired to cover what the police cannot do and Rolling Thunder may help with security as well. Mr. Morrow has spoken with our Police Dept. who think it is a great idea and there will be no problem with insurance. Mayor Daniel urged Mr. Morrow and the Committee to work closely with the Califon Parks Committee during the planning stages.

Mayor and Council all agreed that this was a worthwhile pursuit and all were in favor of moving forward with this project. Mr. Morrow reiterated that a definite date has not been determined; however, October 14,15 and 16 of 2019 will be considered.

Mayor Daniel gave the floor to Mr. John Dwyer, resident of Farmersville Rd. in Tewksbury Twp., who gave the Mayor and Council some professional information regarding Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes (BANS). Specifically, Mr. Dwyer questioned if the Mayor and Council considered going out for Bonds instead of BANS and gave some reasons why it might be good idea to compare and contrast with regard to interest rates, time frames, saving money, etc. Mayor Daniel thanked Mr. Dwyer at the conclusion of the discussion and stated that he would be speaking to our Bond Counsel about the advantages/disadvantages of Bonds vs BANS.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **RESOLUTION – PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL ADOPTION – BOND ORDINANCE 2019-07**

The Clerk read Bond Ordinance 2019-07 by title: **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE RESURFACING OF MAIN STREET AND RIVER ROAD, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING $700,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING GRANTS RECEIVED OR EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE AMOUNT OF $390,000) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF $700,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF.**

Mayor Daniel opened the public hearing on Bond Ordinance 2019-07. Councilman Medea stated that one of the benefits of going out for BANS is that with a 10 year pay back timeframe, the bonds can be paid back earlier.

Mayor Daniel will ask Bond Counsel if there is any benefit to rolling all of the town’s debt into a Bond @ a fixed rate.

There being no further comments from the public, the public hearing was closed.

**The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:**

**RESOLUTION 2019-82**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon that Bond Ordinance 2019-07 entitled: **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE RESURFACING OF MAIN STREET AND RIVER ROAD, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING $700,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING GRANTS RECEIVED OR EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE AMOUNT OF $390,000) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF $700,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF** is hereby adopted upon final reading; following the public hearing; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that “Notice of Final Passage” of Bond Ordinance 2019-07 is to be published in the October 30, 2019 edition of the Hunterdon Review as required by law.

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by J. Collins to adopt Resolution 2019-82 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: E. Haversang

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **RESOLUTION – CHAPTER 159 – SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE UNANTICIPATED; HUNTERDON COUNTY GRANT - $100,000 ISLAND PARK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

**RESOLUTION 2019-83**

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, CHAPTER 159, P.L. 1948 FOR HUNTERDON COUNTY GRANT – ISLAND PARK BRIDGE**

**WHEREAS,** N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87, Chapter 159, P.L. 1948 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

**WHEREAS,** said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for an equal amount; and

**WHEREAS,** Califon Borough has received a $100,000.00 Hunterdon County Grant, and wishes to amend its 2019 budget to include this amount as revenue.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Califon Borough Council of the Borough of Califon, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue n the budget of the year 2019 in the sum of $100,000.00 to be received as a revenue from:

Miscellaneous Revenues

Special Items of General Revenue anticipated with Prior Consent of the Director of Local Government Services:

Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:

Hunterdon County Grant; Island Park Bridge

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a like sum of $100,000.00 be appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations:

1. Operations Excluded from “CAPS”

Public and Private Programs Offset by Revenues:

Hunterdon County Grant: Island Park Bridge

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certification form be sent to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for his approval.

Motion was made by J. Collins seconded by L. Janas to adopt Resolution 2019-83 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: E. Haversang

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Medea had no report for the Parks Committee.

Councilman Medea is working on getting a Christmas tree for planting at the town’s newly acquired open space property in back of the Post office.

Councilman Janas reported that the Planning Board will meet on October 30th.

Councilman Janas reported that there was supposed to be a meeting on October 8th between the School Steering Committee and the Long-Range Planning Committee of the BOE however, the meeting did not occur due to lack of quorum. The Steering Committee will meet on November 12th hopefully with the long-range Committee members. There have been recent changes to the membership of the long-range Committee due to members leaving, resignations, etc. Some changes will be occurring on the Steering Committee but these are is yet to be determined.

Councilwoman Smith reported that the BOE met on the 16th of October. A new school Business Administrator has been hired and her name is Cheryl Zarra. The Police Chief has met with Dr. Roberto and has initiated safety procedures at the school such as scan cards and a panic button.

The NJ Advanced Media group made a presentation to the BOE targeting advertising and marketing for the school as well as promoting the school’s tuition plan since eliminating the school choice program.

Councilwoman Smith reported that the BOE has revised their school facility use policy. They had a first reading and for outside groups that wish to use the facility, such as volleyball and basketball, they can as long as they pay a newly instituted fee of $50.00 per hour. Two members of the volleyball group expressed their displeasure with the new policy citing the exorbitant fees. There will be a second reading at the next meeting.

Councilman Baggstrom read the Municipal Court report for the month of September; $450.00 which is low compared to last year.

Councilman Baggstrom reported that Kevin Pyatt, Supervisor of the DPW has given a few dates to meet for the discussion about renewing the DPW interlocal; which will expire Dec. 31st.

Councilman Collins reported that the Environmental Commission met on October 15th, reorganized and nominated Lori Jenssen as Chair of the Commission; she did accept.

Discussed at this meeting were the issues of formation of a Green Team; and an update on the status of the remnant of the Weis Mill Dam. Council liaison Collins updated the EC letting them know that the County of Hunterdon will soon be removing the concrete slab prior to the transfer of lands from the County to Califon.

Councilman Collins reported that he spoke with Borough Attorney, Peter Jost about the plans for the transfer of park lands and the eventual removal of the remnant of the dam. Mr. Jost was asked to do his due diligence with regard to any environmental issues such as conducting an Environmental Assessment/Phase 1.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Daniel reported that three interlocal agreements need to be renewed before the beginning of the new year; Police/Court and DPW. Meetings will be scheduled to discuss the terms of each renewal.

Mayor Daniel spoke with school Principal Dan Patton regarding the installation of a Special Class III officer in the school. All are interested in pursuing and the Police Dept. will make the arrangements. Discussions will be needed on which entity will assume the cost for this service.

Mayor Daniel reported that he was very pleased with the Street Fair this year and thanked all who made it such a great success.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Matt Taylor, resident on Hoffman Drive, stated that he worked with NJ Advance Media and they are very expensive. Mayor Daniel said he would relay this information to Dr. Roberto at the school. Mr. Taylor read that the Parks Committee is in need of new members and volunteered to be a member of the Parks Committee. Mayor Daniel will officially appoint at the next meeting.

Clerk, Laura Eidsvaag, urged Mayor and Council to view a video of the Hughesville Dam; one that has recently been taken down and undergone a river restoration project.

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 at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Laura G. Eidsvaag, RMC

Municipal Clerk/Administrator