**BOROUGH OF CALIFON COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**NOVEMBER 4, 2019**

Mayor Charles Daniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:35 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, E. HAVERSANG, L. JANAS, C. SMITH**

 **M. MEDEA (arrived 8:45 pm)**

 **ABSENT: J. COLLINS**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by C. Smith to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 21, 2019.

For: R. Baggstrom, L. Janas, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: J. Collins, M. Medea

Abstain: E. Haversang

**MOTION CARRIED**

**LIST OF BILLS**

Motion was made by E. Haversang seconded by L. Janas to approve the list of bills in the amount of $11,819.12.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: J. Collins, M. Medea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

\_\_ photo of bicycle that was dumped at the Island Park and turned into the Municipal Bldg.

**POLICE REPORT**

Police Chief Jeff Almer reported that there was a report of speeding in the early morning hours on River Rd. which they will respond to with patrols.

Councilman/Police Commissioner Baggstrom reported to the Chief that, during a visit to S. Main St. with the Borough Engineer and Mayor Daniel, it was noted that there needs to be a 25 MPH sign on S. Main St., perhaps ½ of the way down, as there appears to be only one at the corner of S. Main St. and Academy St. The Chief stated that the WT DPW can make a 25mph sign if the Mayor and Council would like to proceed with this idea. Mayor Daniel reported that S. Main St. will be repaved in 2020 and there was a lengthy discussion on the idea of installing speed tables on the road as a traffic calming solution. The Chief prefers speed tables as opposed to speed bumps and is also in favor of rumble strips; perhaps center of the road rumble strips. Consideration of any of these traffic calming measures will need to be discussed with the emergency services organizations (Fire and First Aid) to determine a mutually agreeable plan.

Chief Almer reported good monthly statistics on the Police report for the month of October.

Chief Almer reported that Halloween and the curfew were quiet and uneventful this year.

Chief Almer also reported that Wilmark Builders filed a report of vandalism on their equipment that is being stored at the site of the 6-lot subdivision at the corner of Rt. 513 and Rt. 512.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **RESOLUTION – PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2019-08 – ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS LICENSING AND PERMIT FEES**

The Clerk read Ordinance 2019-08 by title: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS LICENSE AND PERMIT FEES IN THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

Mayor Daniel opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2019-08. There being no comments from the public, the public hearing was closed.

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTON 2019-84**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon that Ordinance 2019-08 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS LICENSE AND PERMIT FEES IN THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY** was hereby adopted upon final reading; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Notice of Final Passage will be published in the November 13, 2019 edition of the Hunterdon Review as required by law.

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by L. Janas to adopt Resolution 2019-84 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: J. Collins, M. Medea

**MOTION CARRIED**

1. **REVIEW OF 2019 BEST PRACTICES INVENTORY**

Clerk, Laura Eidsvaag, reported that she and CFO, Amy Monahan, completed and submitted to the State the 85 question 2019-20 Best Practices Inventory that was due on October 30th.

85 questions were answered, 30 of which were survey questions and not scored, with a score of 42 (Yes + NA + prospective answers); therefore, no percentage of state funding will be withheld

for Califon Borough. Califon will receive 100% of state funding for 2020 with no penalty.

1. **RESOLUTION – APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON TWP. FOR INFIELD GROOMING SERVICES – 2020 RENEWAL**

The Clerk reported that the 7th Renewal of the Interlocal Agreement for Infield Grooming Services between Califon and Washington Twp. was received from Andrew Coppola, WT Administrator, with a 2% increase from $2510 for 2019 to $2560 for 2020. The term of services will remain the same as past years; April 1, 2020 to October 31, 2020.

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2019-85**

 **WHEREAS,** the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon and the Township of Washington, County of Morris, desire to enter into an Interlocal Services Agreement for the provision by the Township of Washington to provide infield grooming 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 Borough Council of the Borough of Califon, in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. That the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Interlocal Services Agreement between the Borough of Califon, County of

Hunterdon, and the Township of Washington, County of Morris, for services by the Department of Public Works of the Township of Washington to groom the infields at Califon Island park for a term to commence April 1, 2020 and to terminate on October 31, 2020; and

1. A copy of this Agreement is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk for inspection by the public.
2. 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.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion was made by M. Medea seconded by E. Haversang to adopt Resolution 2019-85 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: J. Collins

**MOTION CARRIED**

1. **DISCUSSION – RENEWAL OF POLICE AND COURT INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS WITH WASHINGTON TWP.**

Mayor and Council reviewed the draft proposals for the renewal of Interlocal Agreements for Police and Court services with Washington Twp. The draft proposals were received from Andrew Coppola, Administrator of WT. The Police Interlocal proposes a term of 4 years with the following percentage increases: 1.95, 2,2, and 2%. Mayor Daniel asked if Council would consider a longer term. The following was proposed by Council; 5-year term with increases as follows: 1.50, 1.75, 2, 2, 2. This proposal will be transmitted to Mr. Coppola in Washington Twp. for their consideration. The Mayor will speak to the school Superintendent concerning the proposal to have a security police officer posted at the school with clarification on who will be responsible for payment. The draft Court proposal was then reviewed. Following a brief discussion on the proposal for the Court Interlocal, Councilman Baggstrom will contact Mr. Coppola to clarify some issues regarding the increases for court costs and fines. Both Interlocals will be considered for approval at the next Council meeting when terms and percentage increases have been finalized.

1. **MAYORAL APPOINTMENT – MATT TAYLOR AS MEMBER ON THE PARKS COMMITTEE**

Mayor Daniel formally appointed Matthew Taylor, resident at 44 Hoffman Dr., as an official member of the Parks Committee. Mayor Daniel thanked Mr. Taylor for his offer to volunteer his time to this committee, whose membership has greatly reduced.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **COMPLETE STREETS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITY – MAIN ST. STREETSCAPE**

Mayor Daniel spoke of his interest in this program as a possible resource for obtaining funds for a streetscape on S. Main St.; once the resurfacing project of S. Main St. is completed in 2020. The Clerk contacted Tara Shepherd at Go Hunterdon to ask about details of this program. Ms. Shepherd explained that this program, sponsored by Rutgers and the NJ Transportation office, offers only “technical assistance” with no grant funding associated. Ms. Shepherd recommended that the Borough go onto the new NJ Dept. of Transportation website to research grants that might be available for streetscape projects.

1. **RESOLUTION – 2021 MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT**

Mayor and Council reviewed the most current resolution that the Voorhees Municipal Alliance is asking Califon to adopt for the 2021 grant year. A short discussion ensued highlighting the funding for 2021 and confirming that Councilman Richard Baggstrom will be the governing body representative for the 2021 grant year.

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2019-86**

**WHEREAS,** the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS,** the Borough Council of the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore, has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and

**WHEREAS,** the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

**WHEREAS,** the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Hunterdon;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that the Borough of Califon hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Voorhees Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2021 in the amount of:

 DEDR $18,206.00

 Cash Match 4,551.50

 In-Kind 13,654.50

2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the

 Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit

 requirements

3. The Borough Council further acknowledges that the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission shall act as Fiscal Agent to all Hunterdon County Municipal Alliance Consortiums to provide a streamlined process for the reimbursement of expenditures.

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by L. Janas to adopt Resolution 2019-86 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: J. Collins

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Haversang reported that the Recreation Committee had a wrap up meeting for

The Street Fair event and all agreed it was a great day and all went well.

The next Recreation meeting will be held on November 13th. The Christmas Tree Lighting event

will take place on Sunday, December 8th. Councilman Medea is looking into getting a

Christmas tree to be planted on the town property in back of the Post Office.

Councilman Janas reported that the school Steering Committee is supposed to meet on Tuesday,

November 12th but to date he has not heard whether this is definitely confirmed. The Board of

Education is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, November 13th.

The Planning Board met on October 30th and did not conclude until 11:00 pm.

On the agenda was a variance application for 2 Coolidge Court; requesting a waiver for the

Construction of a one family home on an undersized lot, contiguous to the lot on 9 Pershing

Ave. The variance was approved with 2 conditions having to do with drainage and side-yard

setbacks. Neighbors attended the meeting with concerns about water runoff, appearance,

blocking of sun and light, etc. One neighbor had a petition signed by other neighbors in

opposition to the construction of this home.

Following the approval of this variance, various members of the Board brought up concerns

about the recently adopted Ordinance which negates the merger doctrine for non-conforming,

contiguous lots in the Borough. Some members felt the Planning Board had not been given

adequate notice that this ordinance was being considered by the Council. The Planner, James

Kyle outlined a full analysis showing that there are only 6-7 merged lots for which this ordinance

applies. One member of the Planning Board, Peggy Ctibor, resigned from the Board effective

immediately.

Councilman Janas reported that the Board did approve an emergency roof repair for the United

Methodist Church. There will be no November meeting and the meeting for December will be

held on Wednesday, December 18th.

Councilman Medea arrived at 8:45 pm and reported that he did receive an estimate from Justin

Pill for the mulch for the Island Park playground; $5,500 for labor and materials. There was

a short discussion on where to place the plaque, dedicating the new bridge, that Peter Jost,

Borough Attorney and Engineers Keller & Kirkpatrick jointly donated to Califon. Perhaps

a dedication for the bridge can be held in the spring and the plaque can be erected then.

Councilman Medea reported that there may be a new member for the Parks Committee; Mr.

Bergeron. Plans are underway to resurface the basketball court at the Park.

Councilman Medea is working on getting a Christmas tree to be erected on the Borough

property in back of the Post Office. Councilman Medea reported that there is interest to

join with Trout Unlimited to plant new trees in the Park along the river.

Councilwoman Smith reported that the next Board of Education meeting is on November 13th.

Councilman Baggstrom had no report for tonight’s meeting.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Daniel reported that he, Councilman/Road Commissioner and Borough Engineer, Tom

Boorady met to walk and discuss the upcoming S. Main St. resurfacing project. Mayor Daniel

reported that after viewing the curbing on S. Main St., it appears that 90% of the curbing does

not need to be replaced, ultimately saving money on the project cost.

Mayor Daniel also reported that the Aqua NJ Water Co. fixed the drainage problem in front of

their property on S. Main St.; as well as repairing the broken sidewalk at the site where the

drainage problem existed.

Mayor Daniel reported meeting with Mayor Michelle Lee from High Bridge, who is interested in

joining our Hunterdon Area Energy Co-op. Mayor Daniel will give Mayor Lee the contact

information for Lisa Hibbs of the Commercial Utility Consultants, Inc. High Bridge is also

looking to possibly join forces with our Environmental Commission/Green Team.

Mayor Daniel met with the bus tour of Hunterdon County that was coordinated by Marcia

Karros for Hunterdon County’s 300th birthday celebration and that arrived last Saturday at the

Historical Society’s Museum. It was a good visit with approx. 60 people in attendance. Patty

Nanna and Annette Danziger of the Califon Historical Society hosted the event at the museum.

Marcia Karrow gave a check for $200.00 to the Historical Society.

There being no further business to come before Council, motion was made by C. Smith seconded

by L. Janas and unanimously accepted to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Laura G. Eidsvaag, RMC

Municipal Clerk/Administrator