

**BOROUGH OF CALIFON COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 19, 2020**

Mayor Charles Daniel called the regular meeting of the Borough of Califon Council 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, E. HAVERSANG, L. JANAS, M. MEDEA,  
C. SMITH  
ABSENT: J. COLLINS**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by L. Janas seconded by E. Haversang to approve the minutes from the meeting held on January 3, 2020 with the following corrections:

Page 54; under Councilman Janas’s committee report: sentence to read: “To date there has been no **“steering committee”** meeting this year and there is currently no meeting scheduled.

Page 55: correction to Dr. Ruberto’s name

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

Opposed: None

Absent: J. Collins

Abstain: R. Baggstrom

**MOTION CARRIED**

**LIST OF BILLS**

Motion was made by M. Medea seconded by L. Janas to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$17,993.55.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: J. Collins

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

\_\_\_ Hunterdon County Department of Health; Household Hazardous Waste collection will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2020; first electronic Waste Collection will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2020

\_\_\_ Monthly report for Califon Municipal Court for month of January, 2020

\_\_ e-mail from Kevin Pyatt, Public Works Director regarding concerns with the area between the dam and a tree being blocked with logs and debris causing the water to mover closer to River Rd. Mayor Daniel to call Bill Kibler to discuss dam status

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. RESOLUTION – AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR MAIN STREET ROAD IMPROVEMENTS TO TOP LINE CONSTRUCTION, THE LOWEST BIDDER, AT A COST OF \$385,591.42**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

#### **RESOLUTION 2020-37**

#### **RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR THE MAIN STREET ROAD IMPROVEMENTS TO TOP LINE CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Califon received sealed competitive bids on January 29, 2020 for performance of the Main Street Road Improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, seven (7) sealed bids were received by the Borough Clerk and Borough Engineer, opened and read aloud before the public on January 29, 2020, in accordance with the bid specifications, and summarized as follows:

1) Top Line Construction Corp.	\$385,591.42
2) Capital Paving & Contracting, LLC	\$387,574.10
3) Reivax Contracting Corp.	\$403,239.00
4) ADG Contracting Corp. dba Crossroads Paving	\$423,150.00
5) Black Rock Enterprises, LLC	\$429,819.64
6) Mark Paving Co., Inc.	\$459,845.50
7) Mike Fitzpatrick & Son, Inc.	\$489,914.00

; and

**WHEREAS**, said bids have been duly reviewed and analyzed by the Borough Engineer and the Borough Attorney; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law requires that competitive bidding contracts be awarded to the lowest, responsible, responsive bidder; and

**WHEREAS**, the bid received from Top Line Construction Corp. in the total amount of \$385,591.42 has been found to be in proper form and in compliance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. §40A:11-23.5 and the specifications as written; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available for this purchase.

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

1. The Borough Council hereby awards a contract to Top Line Construction, Corporation for the Main Street Road Improvements in accordance with the bid specifications in the total amount of \$385,591.42.
2. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with Top Line Construction Corporation in accordance with its bid for the Main Street Road Improvements.
3. The Borough's Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract.
4. This resolution and contract shall be available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by E. Haversang to adopt Resolution 2020-37 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: J. Collins

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **B. DISCUSSION – STATUS OF ADULT BASKETBALL AS RECREATION ACTIVITY**

Councilman Haversang led the discussion on the status of adult basketball at the school as a Recreation sponsored activity. Councilman Haversang reported that Tom Murin, who heads the Adult Basketball, was present at the last Recreation Committee meeting to discuss the membership and the collection of new fees to the school. Mr. Murin agreed that he would be responsible for the collection of fees from the participants; however, it remains unclear as to whether the fees will be paid directly to the school by Mr. Murin or whether the fees will be paid to the town to pay the invoice that will be generated by the school. The Clerk will call the school to determine if a direct payment to the school would be acceptable.

The Mayor and Council discussed the merits of sponsoring the basketball activity with this activity being covered under the town insurance policy. All agreed that if basketball is to continue, the activity should be open to any resident of the Borough and advertised as such in the Crier and on the website. This requirement will be communicated to Mr. Murin. All agreed that this activity be allowed to continue as is until June; as long as it is advertised as open to residents of Califon; fees are collected and paid to the school per school policy and waivers are signed by all participants to satisfy our insurance requirements.

It was the consensus of Council that a new Borough policy covering Recreation sponsored activities at the school will need to be developed and in place if adult basketball wishes to continue for the September, 2020 – June, 2021 school year.

**C. DISCUSSION – ASH TREES TAKEN DOWN AT NELLIE HOFFMAN AND LOG CABIN – STATUS OF REMOVAL OF LOGS AND BRUSH**

Clerk, Laura Eidsvaag, reported that the NJWSA conducted the removal of 8 ash trees on both the Nellie Hoffman and log cabin properties that were found to be a safety concern. It was reported by Donald Freibergs that the logs and brush were left on the ground both on the properties and in one spot along the river. Mr. Freibergs also reported that there are two trees at the log cabin that have uprooted and fallen over into the crook of other trees. It is his opinion that both trees need to be taken down. Mayor Daniel passed around photos that he had taken of the trees removed at the Nellie Hoffman and log cabin properties; those along the river bank and also the two that need to be removed at the log cabin properties. All agreed that, except for the logs at the one site along the river bank and the logs lying in the front yard of the Nellie Hoffman property, the remaining logs and brush, at the various sites, can stay on the ground to naturally decay. Don Freibergs has offered to have someone cut up and take away the tree trunks lying on the front lawn. The Clerk will call Cold Spring Landscaping to chip the brush from these trees and haul away. Julie Shelley from the NJWSA will be contacted to work out an arrangement to have the logs along the river bank cut up and hauled away; offering to pay half the amount for the removal.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZATION TO JOIN MORRIS COUNTY CO-OP AND SIGN AGREEMENT**

The Clerk had provided a copy of the Agreement between the Morris County Cooperative and the Borough of Califon to Mayor and Council, along with a listing of all the products that are available through the Co-Op. Membership in the MCCPC will allow the Borough to purchase products at a substantial price reduction. All agreed to the annual fee of \$1250 for membership in the Co-Op.

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2020-38**

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MORRIS COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING COUNCIL TO BECOME A MEMBER FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

**WHEREAS**, The Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council (“MCCPC”) was created in 1974 to conduct a voluntary cooperative pricing system with municipalities, board of educations, and other public bodies located in the County of Morris and adjoining counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the MCCPC is to provide substantial savings on various goods and services to its members through the cooperative public bidding process; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Califon desires to enter into an Agreement with the MCCPC, which is administered by Randolph Township as Lead Agency, to become a member of the MCCPC for the period of October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2021; and

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Brough of Califon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Califon Borough Council of the Borough of Califon hereby authorizes the execution of an Agreement with the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council by the Township of Randolph as Lead Agency dated February 19, 2020 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5). Said Agreement is to become a member of the MCCPC for a five (5) year period from October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2021.
2. The Borough of Califon Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to submit a copy of this adopted Resolution, along with an executed Agreement to Randolph Township as Lead Agency of the MCCPC.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon final passage according to law.
4. All appropriate Borough of Califon officials are authorized and directed to perform all required acts to affect the purpose of this Resolution.

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by M. Medea to adopt Resolution 2020-38 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: J. Collins

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Medea reported that the Parks Committee will meet tomorrow. Councilman Medea has been working with Harrington to obtain an estimate for work on the basketball court at Island Park. Two estimates were received for a total of \$25,000. Councilman Medea stated that he may be able to purchase the basketball hoops separately which may save some money. Councilman Medea asked if the CFO could be asked for the amount in the Open Space budget and provide that amount for the next Council meeting, when he would ask that the Council approve this work to hopefully commence in March.

Nathan Snyder, who recently presented a proposal for a Califon Island Park & Columbia Trail Connector, has been invited to the Parks Committee meeting tomorrow to discuss his proposal. Councilman Medea reported that Jeff Dahl resigned from the Califon Board of Education.

Councilman Haversang had no further business for tonight's meeting.

Councilman Janas reported that the Planning Board will meet next Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Janas has not heard from the school Steering Committee members and, to date, no news about a scheduled Steering Committee meeting has been forthcoming.

Councilwoman Smith reported that there is a Board of Education tonight. One item on the agenda will include the elimination of the Principal position in favor of the Chief School Administrator position.

Councilman Baggstrom reported that there will be a DPW meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup> that he will attend along with the Mayor, Borough Engineer, DPW Director, Kevin Pyatt and Brian Connor. The resident at 101 Guinea Hollow Rd., Dina Diamond, has submitted photos of the areas on Guinea Hollow Rd. that are showing a deteriorated condition along the edges of the road in front of her property and on the other side. She has tried to remedy the area directly along the front of her property with mulch but her photos show that a truck encroached onto the mulch causing deep rutting. Kevin Pyatt has responded that he will personally go and take a look at the situation to determine possible remediation.

Councilman Baggstrom reported that skunks and raccoons are out already; perhaps with the warm weather; emerging out of the storm drains on Raritan Drive.

Councilman Medea reported that he saw on Facebook that the County plans to shut down a portion of County Rt. 513 in front of Hickory Run Road when the bridge replacement project at this site is underway in May. Traffic will be diverted down River Rd. and the bridge replacement project could take as long as 5 months.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Daniel had no further report for tonight's meeting.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

There being no further business to come before Council at this time, motion was made by C. Smith seconded by L. Janas and unanimously accepted to adjourn at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Laura G. Eidsvaag, RMC  
Municipal Clerk/Administrator

