**BOROUGH OF CALIFON COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**DECEMBER 20, 2021**

Councilman Richard Baggstrom 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,**

**C. SMITH**

**ABSENT: M. MEDEA**

**ALSO PRESENT: MARK ANDERSON, BOROUGH ATTORNEY**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by L. Janas to approve the minutes from the meeting held on December 6, 2021 with the following correction:

Tewksbury Twp. resolution approving the agreement with Califon for DPW services incorrectly states the term for “one year” and should correctly read for a term of “two years”.

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 L. Janas seconded by E. Haversang to approve the list of bills in the amount of $28,406.09.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT**

The Tax Collector’s Report was reviewed and filed.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

\_\_ correspondence from Mark Gibson regarding tribute to be paid to Jerry Sabatini, former baseball coach, who passed away recently. Some ideas are a plaque/sign, bench, and will work with the Parks & Recreation Committee.

\_\_ Police report for month of November

\_\_ Municipal Court report for month of November

**POLICE REPORT**

Police Chief, Jeff Almer, reported that this has been a busy week, the highlight of which was the prescription fraud incident that occurred at Walgreens pharmacy. Councilman Baggstrom that Chief Almer for having the Police respond to a false alarm on Kellie Court.

Chief Almer reported that he has recently been named Commissioner of the Chiefs of Police Association. Mayor and Council congratulated Chief Almer on this honor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **RESOLUTION – APPROVALOF LIST OF MEMBERS OF CALIFON FIRE COMPANY ELIGIBLE FOR LOSAP BENEFITS**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2021-101**

**APPROVAL OF LOSAP LISTS FOR 2020-21**

**WHEREAS,** the LOSAP program requires that a certified list of eligible volunteers from an emergency service organization be submitted for review by the sponsoring agency; and

**WHEREAS,** said required list of members eligible to receive LOSAP benefits for 2020-21 was received from the Califon Fire Company; and

**WHEREAS,** the sponsoring agency has 30 days to review the submitted list and request any records deemed necessary to ensure that the list is accurate; and

**WHEREAS,** the sponsoring agency has accepted the list as submitted.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough of Califon Council that the list, submitted by the Califon Fire Company is hereby approved; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of the eligible member list, together with a copy of this Resolution, be returned to the Califon Fire Company for the 30-day required posting.

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by J. Collins to adopt Resolution 2021-101 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **RESOLUTION – ADOPTING THE 2021 HUNTERDON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2021-102**

**AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE**

**2021 HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE**

**WHEREAS**, all jurisdictions within Hunterdon County have exposure to hazards that increase the risk to life, property, environment, and the County and local economy; and

**WHEREAS**; pro-active mitigation of known hazards before a disaster event can reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property; and

**WHEREAS**, The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390) established new requirements for pre and post disaster hazard mitigation programs; and

**WHEREAS**; a coalition of Hunterdon County municipalities with like planning objectives has been formed to pool resources and create consistent mitigation strategies within Hunterdon County; and

**WHEREAS**, the coalition has completed a planning process that engages the public, assesses the risk and vulnerability to the impacts of natural hazards, develops a mitigation strategy consistent with a set of uniform goals and objectives, and creates a plan for implementing, evaluating and revising this strategy;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Borough of Califon:

1. Adopts in its entirety, the 2021 Hunterdon County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (the “Plan”) as the jurisdiction’s Hazard Mitigation Plan and resolves to execute the actions identified in the Plan that pertain to this jurisdiction.
2. Will use the adopted and approved portions of the Plan to guide pre- and post-disaster mitigation of the hazards identified.
3. Will coordinate the strategies identified in the Plan with other planning programs and mechanisms under its jurisdictional authority.
4. Will continue its support of the Mitigation Planning Committee as described within the Plan.
5. Will help to promote and support the mitigation successes of all participants in this Plan.
6. Will incorporate mitigation planning as an integral component of government and partner operations.
7. Will provide an update of the Plan in conjunction with the County no less than every five years.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 20th day of December, 2021.

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by L. Janas to adopt Resolution 2021-102 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

**MOTION CARRIED**

1. **RESOLUTION – BUDGET TRANSFER**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2021-103**

**WHEREAS,** it appears that the unexpended balance in the following account will not be sufficient to pay outstanding bills:

10534099 Animal Control Services

**WHEREAS,** it appears that there will be an unexpended balance in the following 2021 account:

10510542 Human Resources

**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

$ 226.35 Human Resources Animal Control $ 226.35

Serv.

Motion was made by E. Haversang seconded by C. Smith to adopt Resolution 2021-103 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 he cut up the fallen tree is Island Park and there is plenty of firewood for the taking. Councilman Haversang reported that there are still some ash trees in the park that are dead and need to come down.

There is a need for a volunteer day at the park for clean-up of debris.

Councilman Janas reported that the Planning Board met on 12/15. The PB voted to memorialize the resolution of approval for sought for the site plan of Califon Group/Peter Near at 109-111 Philhower Ave. Mr. Near was present at the meeting to contest several of the conditions but the resolution was memorialized as drafted by the Planning Board Attorney and agreed upon by Mr. Near at the last PB meeting.

The Planning Board also reviewed the draft of the Re-examination Report as drafted by Planner Jim Kyle. The PB will look at it again in January and the final will be drafted for the February meeting. The Environmental Commission will be asked to review the draft after the January meeting. There are 17 recommendations; some of which are carried over from the 2007 re-examination report.

The Re-organization meeting of the PB will be held on January 19, 2022.

Councilwoman Smith reported that the Board of Education met on 12/15. Enrollment is still at 84 students. There have been some COVID breakouts that resulted in the holiday lunch being cancelled. There will be a hamburger lunch on 12/22. Funds obtained by the school through the American Rescue Plan will be used to sponsor a 2-week camp this summer.

Councilman Collins reported that the Environmental Commission will meet for their re-organization meeting on January 11th. On the agenda will be a discussion on joining the High Bridge Green Team for joint events in the summer.

Councilman Baggstrom read the Municipal Court report for the month of November. Councilman Baggstrom reported that the leaf pick-up has been completed at a cost of $10,500. Mayor and Council were surprised at the inflated cost and the Clerk will call Interstate Waste Services to see if an error has occurred with the calculation of costs.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

None

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Gill Smith addressed Council explaining that the 4 banners on the bridge, along with the hardware for hanging them, will need to be replaced. Mr. Smith offered to obtain a quotation for new seasonal banners with the appropriate hardware. Councilman Baggstrom stated that since the bridge is on a county road, it belongs to the County; who will need to grant permission to hang new banners.

Councilwoman Cathy Smith addressed Clerk Laura Eidsvaag, thanking her for her service to the town for 33 years and on behalf of the Mayor and Council, giving her a card and a gift and wishing her a happy retirement.

There being no further business to come before Council at this time, motion was made by C. Smith seconded by R. Baggstrom to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Laura G. Eidsvaag, RMC

Municipal Clerk/Administrator