**BOROUGH OF CALIFON COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 16, 2021**

Mayor Charles Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm 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 conducted via the online platform Zoom, has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by publication of the legal notice in the Hunterdon Review and the Hunterdon County Democrat.”***

***“Due to the continuing Covid-19 pandemic and the State of Emergency imposed by Governor Phil Murphy, the Borough of Califon Council will hold their regularly scheduled monthly Council meetings conducted remotely through a web-based platform called Zoom until the Borough is fully opened and operational to the public. Public notification regarding access to the Zoom Council meetings will be posted on the Borough website and Facebook. Adequate notification of this change of format has also been provided to both the Hunterdon Review and the Hunterdon County Democrat.”***

**FLAG SALUTE**

**ROLL CALL: PRESENT: J. COLLINS, E. HAVERSANG, L. JANAS, M. MEDEA,**

**C. SMITH**

**ABSENT: R. BAGGSTROM**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by L. Janas to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 3, 2021.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: R. Baggstrom

**MOTION CARRIED**

**LIST OF BILLS**

Motion was made by M. Medea seconded by J. Collins to approve the list of bills in the amount of $155,517.87.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: R. Baggstrom

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

\_\_ Police report for month of January; total of 1045 cases

\_\_ Hunterdon County 2021 Free Electronic Waste Recycling Events; Saturdays, March 20th, June 19th and October 2nd from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

\_\_ Hunterdon County Health Department; Household Hazardous Waste Cleanup Day; Saturday, March 6, 2021

\_\_ e-mail from Edward Zimmerman; Town Hall Consultants; regarding Zoom meeting on February 23rd at 6:30 pm to discuss the re-creation of the Hunterdon County Governing Officials Association

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **RESOLUTION – RE-INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE 2021-01 COLA/INDEX**

**DUE TO ERROR IN ORIGINAL CALCULATION**

Clerk Eidsvaag explained that this Ordinance was originally introduced on January 4th and published anticipating that the public hearing and final adoption would be scheduled for tonight’s meeting. It was determined that there were a couple of miscalculations in the original Ordinance needing correction and requiring that Council start from the beginning again and re-introduce tonight with a public hearing and final adoption scheduled for March 15th.

The Clerk read the following Ordinance by title: **AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:40-45.14)**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2021-37**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon that Ordinance 2021-01 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:40-45.14**

is hereby introduced upon first reading; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Ordinance 2021-01 will be considered for final adoption on March 15, 2021 following the public hearing; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Notice of Ordinance 2021-01 will be published in the February 24, 2021 edition of the Hunterdon Review as required by law.

1. **DISCUSSION – PROCESS FOR MERGER OF RECREATION AND PARKS COMMITTEES**

Prior to tonight’s meeting, Mark Anderson, Borough Attorney, had provided Mayor and Council with a sample ordinance that merged the Recreation and Parks Committees of another town. Mr. Anderson recommended that, if Califon wishes to merge the now separate and informal Recreation and Parks Committees, the merger be made permanent by the adoption of an ordinance establishing same. Mr. Anderson explained that the sample ordinance offered for Council review this evening has portions that are not applicable to Califon, such as the establishment of a Recreation Director. Mr. Anderson suggested that the Califon’s ordinance

should establish the # of members (the minimum/maximum); staggered terms of membership; the position of “Secretary” should be established to ensure recorded meeting minutes; and all regulations of the Open Public Meetings Act should be adhered to. Mr. Anderson offered to draft this Ordinance when Mayor and Council decide what they want in the ordinance and what they don’t want. Mayor Daniel asked Councilmen Medea and Haversang, with their consent, to review the sample ordinance; make edits and forward to Mr. Anderson to draft an ordinance merging the Recreation and Parks Committees into one.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES FROM VARIUS MCCPC VENDORS FOR THE RIVER ROAD PROJECT, AT A COST OF $201,175.49**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2021-38**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF GOODS AND**

**SERVICES FROM VARIOUS MORRIS COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING**

**COUNCIL VENDORS FOR THE RIVER ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT,**

**FOR A TOTAL COST OF $201,175.49**

**WHEREAS,** the Borough of Califon ("Borough") desires to complete a roadway improvement project for the River Road improvements, ±2,643 liner feet (0.5 miles) long, beginning at the intersection of the Nellie Hoffman House and ending at the municipal boundary with Lebanon Township (the "Project"); and,

**WHEREAS,** the Borough has received a grant in the amount of $150,000.00 from the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation’s Municipal Aid Fund for the Fiscal Year 2019 to perform improvements within the limits of the Project; and,

**WHEREAS,** the Borough desires to use the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council ("MCCPC") in order to award contracts to various vendors to complete the Project; and,

**WHEREAS,** the Borough desires to purchase materials and services from the various vendors awarded contracts by the MCCPC as follows:

1. MCCPC Contract #6 to South State, Inc., located at 202 Reeves Road, Bridgeton, New Jersey, 08302, for road resurfacing, and resetting storm inlets;
2. MCCPC Contract #14 to Campbell Foundry Company located at 800 Bergen Street, Harrison, New Jersey, 07092; for stormwater casting materials;
3. MCCPC Contract #26 to Road Safety Systems, LLC located at 12 Park Drive, Shamong, New Jersey 08088; for beam guide rail and safety ends;

1. MCCPC Contract #28 to Newman Signs, Inc., located at 1606 6th Avenue SW, Jamestown, ND 58401, for traffic sign materials; and,
2. MCCPC Contract #36 to Denville Line Painting, Inc., located at 2 Green Pond Road, Rockaway, New Jersey 07866, for traffic striping.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, the following:

1. The Borough of Califon hereby authorizes the purchase of the following:

1. Road resurfacing services from South State, Inc., in the amount of $96,970.00;
2. Manhole castings from Campbell Foundry Company, in the amount of $580.00;
3. Guide rails and safety ends from Road Safety Systems LLC, in an amount not to exceed $96,729.50;
4. Traffic sign materials from Garden State Highway Products, Inc., in an amount not to exceed $1,477.99; and,
5. Traffic striping services from Denville Line Painting, Inc., in an amount not to exceed $5,418.00.

2. The Mayor and Clerk are authorized and directed to execute MCCPC Contract Nos. 6, 14, 26, 28 and 36, and said officers, together with all other officers, professionals and employees of the Borough are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all steps necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

3. The foregoing awards are subject to the certification of availability of funds by the Borough’s Chief Financial Officer.

4. This resolution and contract shall be available for public inspection in the office of the Borough Clerk.

5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately as herein provided.

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by L. Janas to adopt Resolution 2021-38 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: R. Baggstrom

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Medea reported that he hopes to have a Reorganization meeting of the newly formed Recreation/Park Committee sometime in March. Naming of the park in back of the post office will be on the agenda.

Councilman Haversang asked if the recently ordered picnic tables were delivered and Clerk Eidsvaag responded that they were delivered and stored in the bay’s downstairs.

Councilman Janas reported that the Planning Board will meet on February 24th. Mayor Daniel reminded Council that Barbara Davis from the NJ Land Conservancy is scheduled to make a power point presentation at the Planning Board meeting. The presentation will focus on the merits of having an Open Space/Recreation Plan. Members of the Environmental Commission are scheduled to be at this meeting. Mayor Daniel asked that the EC is careful about not having a quorum of the EC membership at this joint meeting.

Councilwoman Smith reported that the Board of Education will meet tomorrow 2/20. The enrollment at the school is currently at 93 students.

Councilman Collins reported that the Environmental Commission is considering developing an Open Space/Recreation Plan for Califon.

Twelve streetlights were completed by JCP&L in the first phase of the streetlight project initiated by EC member Jennifer Gross. Informal feedback has been good; residents report better illumination and color.

Borough Attorney, Anderson, reported that he did get a response from County counsel regarding the status of the Weis Dam. The County attorney indicated that it is not on their radar and have made no commitment. The Borough is only asking for permission to go onto the County property to conduct the Phase 1 Environmental Study in order to make a decision as to whether or not acquire the land donation. He assured County Counsel that the County would not be held responsible in any way for any remediation that may be found. Mr. Anderson recommended waiting for a response from County Counsel and, if there is none, then responding by asking to be in attendance at one of the H.C. Board of Commissioners meetings.

Mayor Daniel reported that he is in receipt of a report concerning a restoration plan and environmental assessment for the Cornell-Dublier Electronics, Inc. Superfund Site in S. Plainfield. The Coles Mill Dam was placed on the list of restoration sites, along with others, that have been determined to be subjected to areas of pollution along the Raritan river, resulting from this superfund site. Mayor Daniel reported that he would be speaking with Bill Kibler from Raritan Headwaters. Councilman Haversang stated that the Coles Mill Dam has been getting a good deal of attention lately.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Daniel reported that he, the Clerk, the CFO and Councilman Janas will meet next week to begin working on the 2021 municipal budget. The budget will be ready for introduction in March and will be adopted in April. The budget document will then be shared with Council for their input.

As a result of the two meetings with those affected by the recent flooding events, stormwater mitigation efforts have been determined and a local contractor will need to be hired to implement the mitigation strategy. This strategy will involve a backhoe to dig a deeper trench in the culvert in back of the firehouse; placement of large stone and dirt to level out the channel and funnel the water more efficiently into the culvert. Eric Metzler did decline his services due to a conflict of interest but did provide a list of other local contractors that the Mayor will contact to facilitate a meeting with him and the Borough Engineer. Councilman Medea suggested that the engineer develop a scope of work to distribute to interested contractors.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public however, Councilman Medea and Councilwoman Smith shared their experiences with brown water from their faucets a couple of days ago that lasted a couple of hours. It is likely that it was the result of one of the two water main leaks recently reported in town.

Mayor, Council and Borough Attorney, Anderson, briefly discussed the idea of resuming Council meetings in person. Mr. Anderson stated that the Governor’s latest Executive Orders must be adhered to and the size of our meeting room does not dictate adherence to the Executive Orders, therefore, Mr. Anderson recommended that Mayor and Council continue to meet via Zoom for the time being.

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 the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Laura G. Eidsvaag, RMC

Municipal Clerk/Administrator