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**BOROUGH OF CALIFON COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**AUGUST 16, 2021**

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 in person 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: C. DANIEL, M. MEDEA**

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

**PRESENTATION- BRUCE MORROW- CALIFON CAR SHOW COMMITTEE- VIETNAM TRAVELING WALL- OCTOBER 15TH THROUGH 17TH**

Resident and Chair of the Califon Memorial Committee and Califon Car Show Committee, Bruce Morrow, shared with the council their plans for having the Vietnam Traveling Wall come to Califon for a two-day exhibition at the Califon Island Park. B. Morrow advised that the wall will be placed on the ball field where it is level, facing parking lot. The Rolling Thunder will be escorting the wall from Rt. 78 to Califon and will provide 24-hour security while it is stationed at the park.

Opening Ceremony will take place on Friday October 15th at 10:00 am. Senator Doherty will be present to give a speech along with a decorated Vietnam Veteran. Also speaking will be the Mayor, and Reverend Chad Rodgers.

B. Morrow has invited and is expecting the middle school grades of Califon, Lebanon Township and Tewksbury to attend.

Quilts of Valor will also be part of the ceremony.

No food or drinks will be sold.

C. Smith asked how the fundraising for this event was going and how much needed to be raised? B. Morrow advised that they are about half way there and need a total of $9,000.00. They are and will be selling hats and tee-shirts and have donations boxes at area stores.

R. Baggstrom inquired when will the display be set up and if they needed any volunteers.

B. Morrow advised that it will be set up on Thursday. The area VFW groups will be present to assist in the set up and break down. Break down will be on Monday, October 18th.

B. Morrow has already contacted our police chief and he has advised they will be available for whatever they need.

Car show volunteers will be helping with the parking.

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Council members all thanked Mr. Morrow for organizing this event.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by C. Smith to approve the minutes from the meeting held on July 19, 2021 with the following correction: L. Janas to be listed as “abstained” in roll call vote as he was not present at the July 19, 2021 Meeting.

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: E. Haversang, L. Janas

Absent: M. Medea

**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 $69, 690.12.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

\_\_Affidavit of tax bill mailing; Tax Collector certified that the regular tax bills for the 3rd and 4th quarter installments for tax year 2021 and Preliminary 1st and 2nd quarters of 2022 was completed on July 14, 2021.

\_\_\_cc letter from the NJ DEP advising property owner of Coles Mill Dam that they have reviewed the report from the resident’s engineer who found the structure to be in poor condition. The DEP advised the resident that they should proceed with the recommendations of their engineer in accordance with the compliance schedule. Debris removal and maintenance should take place by November 1, 2021. Also, a dam safety permit must be submitted by November 1, 2021.

\_\_August 6, 2021 an email from Greenspot to Mayor Daniel advising new funding available for EV charging infrastructures from the NJ DEP. Greenspot is an EV Charger Installer and Operator based in NJ and has installed charging stations across the east coast to municipalities at zero cost. Municipal Clerk asked Borough Attorney if he has heard about this new legislation?

Attorney M. Anderson advised that there is new legislation regarding installing new charging stations for electric vehicles however there has not been any regulations established yet. Attorney

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Anderson suggested that we wait until the regulations have been established before we meet/speak with Greenspot.

\_\_ Califon Police Report was read.

\_\_Municipal Court Report was read.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **TRAIL- NELLIE HOFFMAN PROPERTY – STATUS**

Councilman Baggstrom advised that he spoke with Councilman Medea and this trail has not been discussed at a Parks and Recreation meeting yet. They are currently invested in the Califon Street Fair taking place in October. This matter will be reviewed at a later date.

Councilman Haversang advised that he walked the trail last week and there was no garbage or signs of mis use. He advised it is a nice walk and a beautiful spot.

Councilwoman Smith advised that she was running on the Columbia trail the other day and notice two women coming down from the trail.

1. **PROPOSAL FOR REMOVING 2 TREES ON PERSHING AVE & STATUS OF TREE REMOVAL AT PARK**

Clerk/Administrator advised that our arborist inspected both trees on Pershing Ave and they are both dying. We have received a verbal estimate from Woodglen Tree Service of $5000.00 to remove these trees. Councilwoman Smith asked if we have this in our budget? Clerk /Administrator advised that no, at this time we do not. Councilman Baggstrom suggested we hold off until the next meeting.

Discussion as to how to determine which trees at the park need to come down. Last year we had 65 Ash trees taken down at the park in three days. We have an inventory with photos but it is still difficult to determine exactly where the trees in the inventory are located at the park. Clerk/Administrator advised she will speak with Councilman Medea about doing a walk through the park and marking the trees that need to come down. We may need to place the County on notice if there are any dead, dangerous trees located on there property.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **RESOLUITON- INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE 2021-09**

The clerk read Ordinance 2021-09 by title: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON, HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, APPROPIATING THE SUM OF**

**$15,000 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND OF THE GENERAL CAPITAL FUND OF THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON FOR AN UPGRADE TO THE MUNICIPAL FIRE ALARM SYSTEM, COMPUTER UPGRADES AND UPDATE TO THE CODIFICATION OF ORDINANCES.**

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The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2021-75**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon that Ordinance 2021-09 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON, HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, APPROPIATING THE SUM OF $15,000 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND OF THE GENERAL CAPITAL FUND OF THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON FOR AN UPGRADE TO THE MUNICIPAL FIRE ALARM SYSTEM, COMPUTER UPGRADES AND UPDATE TO THE CODIFICATION OF ORDINANCES** is hereby introduced upon first reading; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Ordinance 2021-09 will be scheduled for final adoption following a public hearing on September 13, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Notice of Ordinance 2021-06 will be published in the August 25, 2021 edition of the Hunterdon Review as required by law.

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by L. Janas to adopt Resolution 2021-75 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

**MOTION CARRIED**

1. **RESOLUTION 2021-76- EMERGENCY APPROPIATION**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**Resolution 2021-76**

**Emergency Resolution per NJSA 40A:4-48**

**WHEREAS,** an emergency has arisen with respect to an unexpected legal matter for the Borough of Califon and no adequate provision was made in the 2021 budget for the aforesaid purpose, and N.J.S. 40A:4-46 provides for the creation on an emergency appropriation for the purpose mentioned above, and

**WHEREAS,** the total amount of the emergency appropriations created, including the appropriation to be created by this resolution is $$44,298.00 and three (3) percent of the total operating appropriations in the budget for 2021 is $ 30,192.00 and

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**WHEREAS**, the foregoing appropriation together with prior appropriations does not exceed three (3) percent of the total operating appropriations (including utility operation appropriations) in the budget for 2021.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Califon in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey (by not less than 2/3 of all governing body members affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with NJS 40A:4-48:

1. An emergency appropriation is hereby made for Legal Expense – Other Expense in the amount of $44,298.00
2. That said emergency appropriation shall be provided for in full in the 2022 budget, and is requested to be excluded from CAPS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53c(1).
3. That two (2) certified copies of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by R. Baggstrom to adopt Resolution 2021-76 as read.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

**MOTION CARRIED**

1. **COUNCIL MEETING CANCELLED- SEPTEMBER 6TH**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, September 6th which is also Labor Day. Council members agreed to reschedule this meeting to Monday, September 13th. Clerk will

Notice the paper accordingly.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Janas advised that he attended the Planning/Zoning meeting last month which was held to approve meetings minutes. No other items were on the agenda. There is another meeting this Wednesday that Councilman Janas will be attending.

Councilman Haversang advised that the Parks and Recreation met and they are all busy working on the Street Fair. There will be live music from two local bands as well as a DJ. The Firehouse will be hosting a beer garden and there will be several food vendors.

Councilman Haversang advised that he and Diane (his wife) went down to the park and fixed the unsecured basketball rim. It is secure now.

The playground will be receiving new mulch from Cold Springs Landscaping at the cost of $5,800.

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The subject of possibly adding a pickleball court to the park was brought up at the Parks and Recreation meeting. Discussion took place on the huge increase in popularity Pickleball has become in the last few years.

Councilwoman C. Smith advised that there were two Board of Ed Meetings since the July 19th council meeting. There was one on July 21st where the Board of Ed advised that they received a $12,000.00 grant for security upgrades and $2,616 in unbudgeted special education aid.

The enrollment was at 83 as of the July 21st meeting. The Second meeting was August 12th and the enrollment went up to 88. There are 11 new resident students in Califon and they have 7 returning tuition students plus one new tuition student.

September first is the first day of school.

Councilman Collins advised he had nothing to report.

Councilman Baggstrom read the police report.

Councilman Baggstrom advised that filling in of pot holes will begin soon.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Jim Holland from Shannon’s Fly and Tackle shop asked Council if we have a status on the Open Space Plan? Clerk Eidsvaag advised that the proposal from our Planner, Jim Kyle was just received last week. Jim Kyle was going to go over this at the Planning Board meeting at the Wednesday, August 18th meeting.

George Casa advised that Stan Prater recently retired from JCP&L and stated that Carol Bianchi has taken over as the local government representative. Clerk /Administrator thanked Mr. Casa for this update. Mr. Casa also inquired as to the status of the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Chris Keiser of Academy Street advised that there is a tree on the property of 37 School Street that has a large limb that is looming over the pickup and drop off area on School Street. Mr. Keiser advised that this tree lost a huge limb a few weeks ago during a rain storm that fell on the resident’s house. Mr. Keiser feels that this tree is in poor condition and that the large limb hanging over the sidewalk is a public safety issue and the limb needs to be removed. Since the limb is not hanging over property owned by the school, he would like the town to look into getting the limb taken down.

Councilwoman Smith inquired as to the cooperation of the homeowner.

Councilman Baggstrom suggested we contact JCP&L to see if they will remove this limb as the power lines are right next to it. The Clerk/Administrator will call JCP&L tomorrow to ask them to go and inspect.

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was made by C. Smith seconded by J. Collins to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Mastro, RMC

Deputy Clerk