**BOROUGH OF CALIFON**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**June 15, 2023**

Mayor Daniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 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, J. Ruggiero, C. Smith**

**ABSENT: None**

**ALSO PRESENT: Mark Anderson, Borough Attorney**

Mayor Daniel moved to Public Comments on the Agenda

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bruce Morrow of 47 Academy Street advised that he has been down at the park several times in the last week cleaning up litter and broken glass. Mr. Morrow stated that he had gravel placed in the parking lot preparing for the upcoming car show and can see that someone is doing doughnuts in the parking lot.

B. Morrow also advised that the following:

\* Graffiti on the picnic tables and pavilion floor.

\* Picnic tables moved off the pavilion pad

\* Mulch spread about

\* New Plantings stepped on and some broken

\*Improper mowing and maintenance of the lawn

B. Morrow inquired about getting cameras posted in the park area and asked if police could increase patrols.

Discussion took place on measures we could take to curb destruction. Cameras may need to be considered again, however the first time we installed them they were vandalized.

Councilman Medea advised that we have had a long-standing problem with destruction at the park which is why we have had to remove things from the park or hesitate to purchase new items as they will probably end up getting vandalized or destroyed.

Suggested that we speak with Chief Almer again about his thoughts on what course we can take.

**MINUTES**

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by J. Ruggiero to approve the minutes of June 5, 2023.

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

Opposed: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS- HOUSEHOLD GOODS PICK UP & LEAF PICK UP**

Council members were advised that the budget committee budgeted for the Household Goods Pick Up. In 2022 we paid $6,000 for this service. There has a $200 per truck load increase this year and a $10.00 per ton increase.

For 2023 Household Goods Pick Up will be $2,100 per truck load and $118.00 per ton.

In 2022 we paid $1,900 per truck load and $108.00 per ton.

Councilman Haversang asked if there was a way, we could get dumpsters and have them available for residents to drop off their household items. Discussion took place on where we could stage this, who would be present to monitor what is being dropped off.

Clerk K. Mastro advised that Tewksbury provides this for their residents, and she did inquire with Kevin, DPW Supervisor, about this service. Kevin advised that they have this on a Saturday for their residents and he must have about ¾ of his staff scheduled to work this day. This service is not part of our interlocal with Tewksbury. Clerk Mastro advised she could inquire with Tewksbury to see if they would be interested in giving us an estimate of how much this would cost to include this in our interlocal. This would have to be for 2024.

The council moved to approve the Resolution for Household Goods Pick up on September 11, 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023-59 – Household Goods Bulk Item Pick Up; 9-1-23

Councilman Medea made a motion seconded by Councilman Janas to approve Resolution 2023-59 as read.

**RESOLUTION 2023-59**

**APPROVAL TO CONTRACT WITH INTERSTATE WASTE SERVICES FOR HOUSEHOLD BULK PICK UP**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon has approved the contract with Interstate Waste Services, for the removal of residential household bulk items on Monday, September 11, 2023; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the cost for this service will be $2,100 per load and $118.00 per ton disposal.

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by J. Ruggiero to approve the minutes of June 5, 2023.

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

Opposed: None

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*RESOLUTION TABLED UNTIL 7-20-2023**

Clerk Mastro advised that the budget committee did not specifically budget for leaf pick up this year as they wanted council members to review the cost and decide if we should continue to offer this service.

As far as providing bagged leaf pick up, Clerk Mastro advised that IWS was the only company that responded to our RFP. There are landscape companies that provide vacuum service, but we did not obtain any of these estimates as this service is known to be more expensive than bagged leaves.

Discussion regarding local farmers’ need for leaves and how we can connect residents with them took place. The Borough cannot sponsor a farmer for leaf pick up unless they have the permits required by the state, business registration ect. We could provide their information to residents, so residents know who to contact to arrange for their leaves to be picked up.

Councilwoman Smith stated that we should limit the number of bags that residents can put out. Councilman Baggstrom suggested cutting the number of pickups from four to two.

Councilwoman Smith suggested we begin to educate the residents of the benefits of composting leaves. C. Smith stated she would write a public service article on this subject so we could post to the web and Facebook.

Council members decided not to make any decision concerning the leaf pick up and decided to table Resolution 2023-59 until the July 20, 2023, meeting.

Hometown Hero Banners- Councilman Ruggiero

Councilman Ruggiero advised that he has noticed the Hometown Hero banners in neighboring communities and was thinking that this may be a nice addition to Califon. Councilman Ruggiero advised he would like the council’s permission to investigate the Hometown Hero program. Councilman Ruggiero advised that he like to speak with resident Bruce Morrow and head of the Califon Veteran’s Memorial who may want to be involved and assist.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**\_** Proclamation was given to past President of the Califon First Aid, Jay Klein for over 17 years of voluntary service.

\_email-6-13-23 from R. Ehrlich of River Road advising foliage is blocking views of Main Street when pulling out from River Rd.

\_ Phone Call received around 6-15-23 from a resident advising that foliage is blocking view when pulling out of Raritan Dr onto Main St.

Clerk Mastro contacted the County to report these two complaints.

\_ email- 5-31-23- Alpha Utility Contractors- status update on the lead line replacement project.

\_email- councilman Haversang regarding Spotted Lanternfly Grant Program for municipalities.

\_email-6-14-23- Kevin Pyatt-DPW- Main St storm water basin lid/ frame is cracked he will send out for estimate.

**LIST OF BILLS**

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by E. Haversang to approve the list of bills in the amount of $21,342.94.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Medea reported that the Parks and Recreation met last night. The Open House is still on for Saturday the 24th at 2pm at the Califon Island Park. Some members have volunteered to go through recreation supplies in the garage bays Saturday morning. Goal is to get supplies out of the garage and into the old police station OEM office.

They are looking for someone to take over the chairing of Califon Fun days for the first week in July.

Councilman Haversang reported that the Environmental Commission will come up with ideas and plans for the rain barrel and then chairperson, Lori Jenssen will meet with Councilman Medea to discuss.

Councilman Janas advised that the next Planning / Zoning meeting will take place on June 21st.

Councilman Medea asked Councilman Janas about procedure for placement of a gazebo in the Califon Commons. Councilman Janas and Councilman Baggstrom advised they would inquire with the Borough Planner who should be at the Planning Board meeting. There is interest in placing additional picnic tables at this park as well as a gazebo/bandstand.

Councilwoman Smith advised that the BOE has not met since the beginning of May. They will most likely be meeting next week. Mayor Daniel advised that he received a compliment from Dr. Cone the CSA at Califon School about Councilwoman Smiths attendance at all of their meetings.

Councilman Baggstrom advised he does not have anything to report.

Councilman Ruggiero reported that he met with Clerk Mastro today and that the new server has been installed and the kinks are being worked out.

Councilman Haversang stated that he wanted to mention that he noticed a patrol car parked on Main St, coming down from Academy, monitoring the traffic speed. This is in response to the complaint we received from a Main Street resident regarding speeders.

Clerk Mastro advised that she forgot to mention the following during correspondence: She received a call from a resident that a steel cap in the center of Main Street, by the hardware store was loose. Clerk Mastro advised that she contacted the DPW and Kevin called to confirm that it was the cap to the stormwater basin. Kevin advised that the frame that the lid screws into is broken and will need to be replaced. He will contact the foundry and obtain an estimate as well as contact a contractor he recommends completing the repair.

**MAYORS REPORT**

Mayor Daniel advised that he has nothing to report that has not already been covered.

Mayor Daniel asked if there was a need to go into executive session? M. Anderson advised that he would like to go over some updates on the Academy Street access dispute.

Mayor Daniel advised that we may need to go into executive session about another issue involving the Califon First Aid Squad’s coverage for Califon.

**RESOLUTION 2023-59**

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A MEETING NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN   
ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Califon that an Executive Session, not open to the public, shall be held immediately following the adoption of this Resolution for the purposes of

attorney-client and matters of litigation discussion with the Borough Attorney and

Matters as it relates to public safety.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session, the regular meeting may continue, and further public discussion and action may occur.

It is anticipated that minutes of the Executive Session may be disclosed to the public as to personnel issues, after action is taken or it is determined that action will not be taken;

as to discussions with the Borough Attorney, since the attorney-client privilege has no specific expiration date, the minutes may be disclosed by the Borough Council when it determines that the public interest no longer requires confidentiality.

Councilman E. Haversang made a motion to accept the Resolution as read and close the public meeting. Councilwoman Smith seconded this motion.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

Council meeting was closed for Executive Session at 8:35pm

The Public meeting was opened at 9:07 pm after the Executive Session. With no business to attend, Councilwoman Smith made a motion seconded by Councilman Baggstrom to adjourn the public meeting at 9:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Mastro, RMC

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