**BOROUGH OF CALIFON**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**April 17, 2023**

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 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, J. Ruggiero C. Smith**

**ABSENT: L. Janas, M. Medea**

**ALSO PRESENT: Mark Anderson, Borough Attorney** (via Zoom)

**Anthony Ardito, RMA** (Via Zoom)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by J. Ruggiero to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2023, meeting.

For: R. Baggstrom, E. Haversang, J. Ruggiero, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: L. Janas, M. Medea

**LIST OF BILLS**

Motion was made by E. Haversang seconded by J. Ruggiero to approve the list of bills in the amount of $284,440.49.

For: R. Baggstrom, E. Haversang, J. Ruggiero, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: L. Janas, M. Medea

**TAX COLLECTOR REPORT**

The Tax Collector report for March 2023 was reviewed and filed.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

\_3/30/23-email- NJ Watershed Restoration and Adaption Planning Application- Survey

\_4/4/23-email- DCA- 2023 ARP Project & Expenditure Reports with DLGS

\_4/4/23-email- Statewide Insurance Fund – Payroll Audit

\_4/5/23-email New Jersey Fire Equipment- invoice

\_4/5/23-email-Tewksbury Construction Official- 38 Hoffman Drive Status of Inspection

\_ 4/6/23-email-NJDEP Privately owned Salt Storage Model Ordinance & Draft Tree Removal/Replacement Model Ordinance

**\_**4/11/23-Hunterdon County- Needs Assessment Flyer

\_ 4/11/23-email-Family Promise Outreach Flyer

\_4/12/23-email-Califon EC Secretary- seeking volunteers to water tree seedlings and pollinator garden.

\_4/12/23-email-K.Pyatt- re: repair needed on Bank Street.

\_4/12/23-email DCA- LFN 2023-08- FDS can now be filed.

\_4/14/23-letter- Saul Ewing, Esq Re: Aqua’s application to BPU for cost deferment regarding the lead line replacement program.

\_4/14/23-email- Director of Hunterdon County Economic Development & Tourism, re meeting here in Califon on Thursday, April 19th.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **RESOLUTION- ADOPTION OF THE 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

**Public Hearing**

Mayor Daniel asked if there were any questions from the Council or public concerning the 2023 budget. There being no questions the following Resolution was adopted;

**RESOLUTION**

**2023-40**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon that the 2023 Municipal Budget as introduced on March 20, 2023, and whose public hearing was held on April 17, 2023, with total Appropriations and Revenues equaling $1,466.053 is hereby approved and adopted upon final reading; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that one certified copy of the adopted 2023 Municipal Budget will be forwarded and filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Roll Call Vote:

Motion: Councilman R. Baggstrom Seconded by: J. Ruggiero

For: R. Baggstrom, E. Haversang, J. Ruggiero, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea, L. Janas

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

(Adoption upon Roll Call)

“Consent Agenda items are considered to be routine and will be enacted with a single motion. Any items that require expenditures are supported by a certification of funds; any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda; all Consent Agenda items will be reflected in the full minutes.”

1. **RESOLUTION- APPOINTMENT OF MATT LOPEZ OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP AS FIRE MARSHAL FOR CALIFON**

The following Resolution was adopted as read;

**RESOLUTION 2023-41**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Califon has applied to enter into a shared services agreement with Washington Township (Morris County) to provide fire code services in the Borough of Califon; and

**WHEREAS**,the Borough of Califon has designated the Washington Township (Morris County) Office of Fire Prevention as the local enforcing agency for fire code services in the Borough of Califon; and

**WHEREAS** Matt Lopez is the Fire Official for Washington Township (Morris County);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Califon Borough Mayor and Council that Matt Lopez is hereby appointed as Fire Marshal for the Borough of Califon; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that in the absence of Matt Lopez any licensed Fire Marshal employed by the Washington Township (Morris County) Office of Fire Prevention may serve as acting Fire Marshal for the Borough of Califon.

1. **RESOLUTION – RENEWAL OF COOPERTIVE PRICING SYSTEM-HUNTERDON AREA ENERGY COOPERTIVE**

The following Resolution was adopted as read;

**RESOLUTION 2023-42**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON**

**AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF A COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM KNOWN AS THE HUNTERDON AREA ENERGY COOPERATIVE**

**AND TO ENTER INTO COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENTS**

**WITH OTHER CONTRACTING UNITS**

**WHEREAS** *N.J.S.A.* *40A:11-11(5)* authorizes two or more contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement for its administration; and

**WHEREAS**, in Resolution 2017-84, the Borough of Califon established a Cooperative Pricing System known as the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative and entered into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Califon is desirous of renewing said Cooperative Pricing System and renewing said Cooperative Pricing Agreement with other contracting units; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Califon has agreed to continue to serve as Lead Agency for the Cooperative Pricing System known as the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council of the Borough of Califon has duly considered the renewal of a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that permission is granted to renew the Cooperative Pricing System known as the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative, ID# 270HAEC, with the Borough of Califon in serving as Lead Agency; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor of the Borough of Califon is hereby authorized to enter into separate Cooperative Pricing Agreements with the participating contracting units and said Agreement shall be deemed a single Agreement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a single certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Division of Local Government Services as part of the application for the renewal of this Cooperative Pricing System; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

1. **RESOLUTION – STIGMA FREE COMMUNITIES RESOLUTION**

The following Resolution was adopted as read;

**Stigma Free Communities Resolution**

**RESOLUTION 2023-43**

***WHEREAS*** *it is widely recognized that untreated mental health issues have contributed to the numerous violent events around the nation, where so many have been randomly killed, wounded, or traumatized and that one of the key factors in preventing violent actions from occurring in the first place is to provide greater access to mental health services that includes breaching the barrier of the stigma associated with mental illness, and*

***WHEREAS,*** *while a very small percentage of those in need of mental health care will ever turn violent, the stigma associated with the disease of mental illness is identified as the primary reason individuals fail to seek the help they need to recover from the disease, and*

***WHEREAS******Stigma-Free Communities*** *aim to inspire public interest and open dialogues about stigma, raise awareness of the disease of mental illness, and create a culture wherein residents who have the disease of mental illness feel supported by their community and neighbors, and feel free to seek treatment for the disease without fear of feelings of shame or disgrace, being stigmatized, and*

***WHEREAS,*** *the**Governing Body of Califon Borough wishes to lead our community in recognizing the need to eliminate the stigmatization of mental illness by designating Califon Borough as a Stigma Free community,* *promoting awareness that there can be no “health” without mental health, breaking down barriers, and encouraging residents of all ages to be mindful of their mental health and to ask for help when needed, so recovery can begin, hope is inspired, and tragedies are avoided,*

***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*** *that* *Califon Borough hereby designates Califon Borough as a Stigma-Free Community,* *raising awareness of the resources available and encouraging those who may have need for mental health services to engage in care, as soon as the need is identified, and for all residents to demonstrate compassion, understanding, and support through the elimination of the stigma towards those* *suffering with mental illness.*

***Be It Further Resolved that*** *Califon Borough**joins with Hunterdon County and many of the communities in the county in becoming Stigma Free By ’23.*

1. **RESOLUTION – OFFICIAL NAMING OF THE CALIFON COMMONS PARK**

The following Resolution was adopted as read;

**RESOLUTION 2023-44**

**WHEREAS,** 2 Academy Street, Block 19, Lots 4, 6 & 7 on the tax map of the Borough of Califon, was donated to the Borough on July 12, 2018;

**WHEREAS,** the Borough has held a contest, solicited suggestions from its’ residents for name suggestions to this additional space in our downtown area.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Califon Council members unanimously agreed that the name of this little park will now be called: Califon Commons.

1. **RESOLUTION – APPROVAL OF CROSSWALK PAINTING PROPOSAL**

The following Resolution was adopted as read:

**RESOLUTION 2023-45**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has received a quote from Beckage Sealcoating and Paving for line striping of pavement at the crosswalk locations of:

* Bank St & Main
* Mill St and Main
* River Rd and Main
* Second St & Main
* School Entrance on School Street
* Philhower and Main

**WHEREAS Beckage** Sealcoating has submitted a proposal for $3,975.00 for this job to be done before the fall 2023 school year begins.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Beckage Sealcoating & Paving will be hired to complete the crosswalk painting as described.

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by C. Smith to approve Resolutions 2023-41 through 2023 -45 as read.

For: R. Baggstrom, E. Haversang, J. Ruggiero, C. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea, L. Janas

**MOTION CARRIED**

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **DISCUSSION NOISE ORDINANCE**

Council members reviewed various other municipalities ordinances and discussed the differences between theirs and Califon’s current noise ordinance 2013-03/ code 9.16.

After much discussion, council members unanimously agreed that only two changes should be made to this code at this time: the penalty/ violation amount and the hours of operating/playing any machines. Currently our violation of the noise ordinance is not lass then $2.00 but not more than $100.00. It was agreed to change the penalty to nothing less than $100.00 and no more than $1000.00.

The hours when playing or operating any machine that emits noise could be considered a violation should be changed to Monday to Thursday10:00 pm to 7:00 am and on Friday, Saturday and Sunday 11:00 pm to 8:00 am.

Council members agreed that when and if a resident contacts the municipal offices to complain about noise from the neighbors we should advise what their options are.

We can advise they can call the police but also explain that they can take their complaint to the municipal court. The council suggested that we place this information on our website so that residents have a resource of where to go and how to proceed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Medea advised that the Parks and Recreation had a long meeting and spoke about the budget, budget process and how to allocate money.

There will be a membership drive on May 6th.

They recapped the Easter Egg hunt.

Councilman Medea advised he met with the Chairman of the Environmental Commission, L. Jenssen, to discuss the location of the pollinator garden they want to install at the park.

Also advised that the tree removal was completed, however he would like to investigate getting the tree stumps ground down and placing a handful of established trees within the park to replace some of the ones we had to take down.

Councilman Haversang stated that the Trout Fest was held on Saturday from 12 pm to 3pm when it was forced to end an hour early due to rain. There was no damage to the park and the dumpster was used very little. Councilman Haversang advised that it was a nice event and South Branch Outfitters hopes to continue the Trout Fest next year.

Councilwoman Smith reported that the Board of Ed meeting is this coming Wednesday.

Councilman Baggstrom reported that the police had 660 calls in March with 28 summonses.

Councilman Ruggiero advised he had nothing to report.

**MAYORS REPORT**

Mayor Daniel advised that he received a request from a resident who lives on River Road to have a mirror installed on the corner of Mill and Main so people who are pulling out of River Rd can see if there is a car on the bridge. Discussion about how difficult it is pulling out from River Rd onto Main St. Agreed we would ask our engineer if this can be installed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

There being no further business to come before Council at this time, motion was made by C. Smith seconded by R. Baggstrom and unanimously accepted to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Mastro, RMC