

**BOROUGH OF CALIFON
REGULAR MEETING
February 15, 2024**

Mayor Charles Daniel called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 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, J. Ruggiero,
C. Smith
ABSENT: M. Medea**

**Borough Attorney M. Anderson was present via Zoom.
Chief J. Almer, WTPD**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- Meeting of February 1, 2024

Motion was made by C. Smith seconded by L. Janas to approve the meeting minutes of January 1, 2024.

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

Absent: M. Medea

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

LIST OF BILLS

A motion was made by L. Janas seconded by E. Haversang to approve the list of bills for \$223,052.89.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

2.14.24-email-NJLM-Daily Update- Assembly passes Affordable Housing Overhaul Bill

 email- Elizabethtown Gas Co Public Hearing on March 4th regarding a petition to approve new energy efficiency programs.

2.1.24-email-B. Fahey, Director Emergency Management- NJOEM has indicated they may pursue federal declaration for the January 9/10 rain event.

2.9.24-email- ordinance from Tewksbury Twp – Development Review Procedures.

-2.6.24- letter to River Rd and First St Residents from Califon Municipal Office offering sign-up for emergency notification.

_2.2.24-email from K. Pyatt regarding collecting figures for 1.9.24 storm clean-up costs.

_2.2.24- note from Bruce Morrow requesting to use Califon Commons to put up Car Show banners for 30 days before each show.

Mayor Daniel asked Chief Almer if he had anything to report. Chief Almer said they had a record-setting activity in January with over 1000 activity logs. Chief Almer advised that the police department had a good year overall.

. Councilman Haversang asked Chief Almer if there was any feedback on the speed signs. Chief Almer advised that the one that Califon bought years ago needs replacement. Clerk Mastro asked if this sign is used exclusively for Califon or is it used in Washington Township as well. Chief Almer advised that they have four speed signs that they move around throughout Washington and, if needed, will use in Califon. When Califon replaces the old sign, it will be used primarily in Califon but not exclusively. It will be stored in Washington Twp.

NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTION 2024-26- APPOINTMENT OF MARYANN MCCOY, JE, TO CALIFON MUNICIPAL COURT FOR THE REMAINDER OF JUDGE LEANZA’S UNEXPIRED TERM.

The following Resolution for adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-26

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPOINTING HONORABLE MARYANN MCCOY, J.M.C. AS THE JUDGE OF THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON MUNICIPAL COURT TO FULFILL THE REMAINDER OF JUDGE LEANZA’S UNEXPIRED TERM.

WHEREAS, there is a need within the Borough of Califon for the appointment of a Municipal Court Judge to fulfill the remainder of Judge Leanza’s unexpired term, an

WHEREAS, Maryann McCoy has served as the Municipal Prosecutor for the Califon Municipal Court Shared Court in Morris County, NJ, since 2010, and

WHEREAS, by the Mayor of Califon and the Califon Administration, the Borough of Califon hereby appoints the Honorable Maryann McCoy J.M.C. to serve as the Borough of Califon Municipal Court Judge for the remainder of Judge Leanza’s unexpired term, which expires on December 31, 2025.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Califon, in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, that the Honorable Mary Ann McCoy, J.M.C. is hereby

appointed as the Municipal Court Judge of the Borough of Califon Municipal Court for the remainder of Judge Leanza's unexpired term until, December 31, 2025.

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by J. Ruggiero to adopt Resolution 2024-26.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

Motion Carried

B. RESOLUTION 2024-27- APPROVAL OF RAFFLE LICENSE 2024-01 FOR THE CALFON FIRE COMPANY'S SUPER RAFFLE ON JULY 18, 2024.

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION 2024-27

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following Raffle License Application has been approved:

NAME AND TRADE NAME	LICENSE NO.	ADDRESS
Califon Fire Co.	2024-01	P.O. Box 178 41 Main St. Califon, N.J. 07830

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the original application, along with our Findings and Determinations, will be transmitted to the Legalized Games of Chance Commission with the applicant's fee for their final approval and

BE IT RESOLVED that license 2024-01 will be issued to the Califon Fire Company by March 8, 2024, if the Borough has not heard from the LGCCC.

Motion was made by R. Baggstrom seconded by J. Ruggiero to adopt Resolution 2024-26.

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

Opposed: None

Absent: M. Medea

Motion Carried

C. BLUE LIGHT PERMIT- ZAK BERGMANN, MEMBER OF CALIFON FIRE COMPANY AND CALIFON RESCUE SQUAD.

Councilman E. Haversang motioned to approve the Blue Light Permit for Zak Bergmann seconded by Councilman L. Janas.

All in Favor

Clerk Mastro advised that the Califon Fire Company has invited the governing body to the firehouse for a tour of the new PPE equipment they received through the 2022 ARP Grant. The Mayor and Council agreed to March 11th at 6:00 pm. Councilman Haversang suggested we contact the First Aid Squad to see if they would like to provide a facility tour on the same date after the firehouse visit. Clerk Mastro advised she would contact the First Aid Squad.

D. DISCUSSION TIER A ORDINANCES- DRAFTS

The governing body discussed the following draft ordinances that need to be adopted by May 1, 2024, to comply with the Tier A requirements: 15th, or 22nd. -

Ordinance 2024- – Pet Waste Ordinance

Ordinance 2024-- Wildlife Feeding Ordinance

Ordinance 2024--Litter Control Ordinance

Ordinance 2024--Yard Waste Ordinance

Ordinance 2024--Private Storm Drain Inlet Retrofitting Ordinance

Ordinance 2024-- Privately Owned Salt Storage Ordinance

Ordinance 2024- – Illicit Connection Ordinance

Ordinance 2024- Tree Removal/Replacement Ordinance

Clerk Mastro advised that most of these Ordinances are enforced by the Zoning Officer except for Pet Waste, which the Health Department enforces, and the Litter Control Ordinance is enforced by the Police Dept. Borough Attorney M. Anderson suggested we speak with the County Health Department concerning the Pet Waste Ord to determine if they could respond.

It was also suggested that we meet with the Zoning Officer to discuss his role in enforcing these ordinances, especially the Tree Removal/ Replacement Ordinance.

Most of the draft Ordinance's penalties fall under the general penalty for Califon, code 1.08.010. The violation penalty under this code is a fine of no more than \$1000.00 and imprisonment for a term not exceeding 90 days at the judge's discretion.

A discussion on the Tree Removal / Replacement Ordinance took place.

Mayor Daniel asked that the council spend additional time reviewing this draft ordinance and that we discuss this again at the March 7th meeting with the Zoning Officer.

Councilman Baggstrom advised he would like to share his Committee Report now as it directly relates to the Tier A requirements. CM Baggstrom shared that he received a report from our DPW advising that 16 catch basin grates need to be replaced to be compliant with Tier A requirements. These grates cost \$4,500 each. They do not all have to be done at once and should ideally be done when the road is scheduled for re-pavement. Kevin also reported that we need to replace 26 emblems on our basins, which cost about \$10.00 each.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

_ Councilman Haversang reported that USA Today recently reported that the use of plastic has tripled since the bag ban went into place, which is directly tied to the increase in the use of polypropylene bags. Cm Haversang commented that since the plastic bag ban, the visible litter of plastic bags has been remarkable.

_ Councilman Janas reported that the next Planning Board meeting will occur on February 21st. The subject matter of Air BnB's will be on the agenda.

_ Councilwoman Smith reported that the Califon Board of Education meeting was last night. The enrollment is 83 students, and the Kindergarten Round-Up will occur on March 20th. They already have nine students registered for kindergarten. The Pre-K program already has 13 registered, and there seems to be a lot of interest in the Pre-K program.

_ Councilman Ruggiero reported that the Parks and Recreation held an open house on Monday evening. Three residents came to learn more about the committee, and all said they would like to volunteer to help. One resident said she was interested in running the Califon Fun Days this summer.

CM Ruggiero reported that he placed an additional camera at the pavilion and checked the footage of the present cameras. No vandalism was noted, and the cameras seem to be working well.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Daniel reported that he attended the last Environmental Commission meeting, where there was a discussion on reducing the amount of garbage trucks and the times the garbage trucks travel in Califon. One of the ideas was for Califon to form a utility. Mayor Daniel advised that he is looking into this matter and will have more to report at the next meeting. Mayor Daniel advised that there are many things to consider when looking into this, and the research must be done.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Daniel opened the meeting up for public comment. With no comment, Mayor Daniel Asked for a motion to adjourn.

Councilwoman Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:37, seconded by Councilman Baggstrom.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Mastro