

**TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL
MARCH 18, 2014**

A Regular Meeting of the West Caldwell Mayor and Council, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, was held in the Public Meeting Room, 30 Clinton Road, West Caldwell, New Jersey, on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 7:15 P.M.

The Township Clerk announced that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

PRESENT: Mayor Tempesta, Councilmen Otterbein, Cecere, Wolsky (arrived 7:50 pm) Hladik, and Docteroff.

ABSENT: Councilman O'Hern

OTHERS PRESENT: Adam W. Brewer, Business Administrator
Paul G. Jemas, Municipal Attorney
Nikole H. Monroig, Chief Financial Officer
Mary S. Donovan, Township Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

COMMUNICATIONS:

A-1 A communication from Nikole Monroig, Chief Financial Officer, certifying funds are available under the 2014 Budget of Appropriations – March Bill Schedule; further certifying that there will be no over-expenditures of any line item in the Budget as a result of this schedule.

Received and placed on file.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the recommendation of Councilman Michael Docteroff, seconded by Councilman Hladik, it was regularly moved that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, March 4, 2014 be accepted as presented.

Upon the vote being polled, Councilmen Cecere, Hladik and Docteroff voted in the affirmative with an abstention by Council President Otterbein because of absence.

BILLS ORDERED PAID:

It was regularly moved by Council President Otterbein, seconded by Councilman Hladik, that the Amended Bill List as submitted by the Chief Financial Officer be attached to the Minutes and be paid and the Mayor, Clerk and Treasurer be authorized to sign the necessary warrants for their payment.

Upon the vote being polled, Councilmen Otterbein, Cecere, Hladik and Docteroff voted in the affirmative.

SCHEDULE OF BILLS ORDERED PAID

| | <u>Checks</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---|---------------|-----------------|
| CURRENT ACCOUNT – VALLEY NATIONAL BANK | 1173-1360 | \$ 3,340,308.08 |
| WATER OPERATING ACCOUNT- VALLEY NATIONAL BANK | 9036-9062 | \$ 68,924.49 |
| POOL UTILITY ACCOUNT | 2315-2320 | \$ 10,797.69 |
| GENERAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT | 2206-2211 | \$ 12,025.59 |
| WATER CAPITAL | 8002-8003 | \$ 2,387.42 |

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| | | | |
|---|-----------|----|-----------|
| GENERAL TRUST – VALLEY NATIONAL BANK | 5014-5023 | \$ | 41,300.92 |
| DOG TRUST | 1528-1529 | \$ | 5,025.30 |
| DEVELOPER’S TRUST | 261-265 | \$ | 3,497.50 |

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA:

It was regularly moved by Councilman Hladik, seconded by Councilman Docteroff, that the fifteen Resolutions on the Agenda this evening be read by consent.

Upon the vote being polled, Councilmen Otterbein, Cecere, Hladik, and Docteroff voted in the affirmative.

The Township Clerk read the following fifteen Resolutions by Consent, attached and made part of these Minutes:

No. 9365
By: Mr. Cecere

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – REAPPOINTMENT OF CONSTABLE – JOSEPH V. ESPOSITO.

No. 9366
By: Mr. Otterbein

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – REJECTING ANY AND ALL BIDS FOR CLEANING SERVICES IN VARIOUS MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS FOR THE YEAR 2014.

No. 9367
By: Mr. Cecere

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – APPOINTING NICHOLAS STEFANELLI AS A REGULAR FIREFIGHTER OF THE WEST CALDWELL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

No. 9368
By: Mr. Cecere

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – APPROVING THE WEST CALDWELL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION LIST FOR LOSAP FOR THE YEAR 2013.

No. 9369
By: Mr. Cecere

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – APPROVING THE WEST ESSEX FIRST AID SQUAD, INC. CERTIFICATION LIST FOR LOSAP FOR THE YEAR 2013.

No. 9370
By: Mr. Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING REFUNDS, OVERPAYMENTS OR CANCELLATIONS IN THE TAX OFFICE.

No. 9371
By: Mr. Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING CANCELLATIONS OF GENERAL CAPITAL RESERVE BALANCES.

No. 9372
By: Mr. Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING CANCELLATIONS OF GRANT FUND RESERVE BALANCES.

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No. 9373
By: Mr. Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING CANCELLATIONS OF CERTAIN ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE.

No. 9374
By: Mr. Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING CANCELLATIONS OF TRUST FUND RESERVE BALANCES.

No. 9375
By: Mr. Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – APPOINTING ELEMENT ARCHITECTURAL GROUP FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL.

No. 9376
By: Mr. Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BY AND BETWEEN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL.

No. 9377
By: Mr. Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR USA FOOTBALL FIELD GRANT FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL.

No. 9378
By: Mr. Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING HSA JAMES CALDWELL HIGH SCHOOL OFF PREMISE MERCHANDISE RAFFLE, MAY 29, 2014, LICENSE NO. 359, ID NO. 535-5-30031.

No. 9379
By: Mr. O'Hern

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FROM WHICH THE PUBLIC IS EXCLUDED.

It was regularly moved by Councilman Hladik, seconded by Councilman Docteroff that the fifteen Resolutions read by consent be adopted as read.

Upon the vote being polled, Councilmen Otterbein, Hladik, Docteroff voted in the affirmative and Councilman Cecere voted in the affirmative on all resolutions, abstaining on Resolution No. 9365.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC SAFETY:

REPORTS – POLICE CHIEF-JUDGE AND DETECTIVE BUREAU – FEBRUARY 2014

On the recommendation of Councilman Cecere, the reports submitted by the Police Chief, Judge and Detective Bureau for the month of February 2014 as received, be placed on file. Fines in the amount of \$22,499.76 were collected and apportioned as follows (copy attached to minutes).

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REPORTS – VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS – FEBRUARY 2014

On the recommendation of Councilman Cecere, the reports submitted by the Fire Chief of West Caldwell Volunteer Fire Department for the month of February 2014 as received, be placed on file.

REPORTS – CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2014

On the recommendation of Councilman Cecere, the reports submitted by the Construction Official for the month of February 2014 as received, be placed on file.

Councilman Cecere reported on the following:

1. There is a sports and music community swap scheduled for March 22, 2014 at Harrison School.
2. Kara Handley is the winner of this year's Environmental Commission poster contest.
3. Carmen Cecere won the State Championship in parallel bars.

PUBLIC WORKS & WATER:

Council President Otterbein reported on the following:

1. After a thorough discussion with Frank Russo of Omland Engineering, it was recommended that the Kirkpatrick Pump Station be totally rebuilt and to accomplish it at one time and not in stages as previously decided. It is a vital part of the infrastructure and hasn't been updated since the 1970s.
2. Work will begin work soon on the water mains on Francisco Avenue and repaving and reconstruction on Richard and Franklin Avenues.
3. Tests have been ongoing on the water interconnections with Caldwell and North Caldwell.
4. Mayor Tempesta was recently elected to the Elected Officials Hall of Fame on March 12, 2014.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Councilman Hladik reported on the following:

1. The baseball and lacrosse teams practiced on the Kiwanis Oval this week
2. The 7th and 8th grade girls won the Essex County Basketball Tournament.
3. Three Caldwell High boys, Ray Iodice, Dean Garamella and Joseph Bongo, went to the state wrestling championship and they were three out of only 6 wrestlers that went from Essex County high schools.
4. The pool registrations are being sent out on April 1, 2014.
5. The pool committee will meet again on April 15.

LEGAL AND PERSONNEL:

In lieu of Councilman O'Hern's absence, Council President Otterbein reported on the following:

1. Evaluations are complete and open positions will be filled soon.

Mayor Tempesta requested that certain items in the use of the West Caldwell Fire House be changed. The item requiring use of the fire house "by resolution" should be changed to "at the discretion of the Administrator and/or Mayor and Council. The proposed changes will be reviewed by the Legal and Personnel Committee.

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FINANCE AND WELFARE:

Administrator Brewer stated that Finance and staff took another look at the budget and there is a zero percent increase to the tax levy on the average assessed home in West Caldwell. The two utility budgets are balance and the Municipal Budget will be introduced on April 1 and adopted on May 6.

Mayor Tempesta approved the 0% increase and said it was the right thing to do for the residents of West Caldwell and thanked Administrator Brewer, Chief Municipal Financial Officer Monroig and Councilman Wolsky for their hard work.

Administrator Brewer reported that it was the first time for staff in using the Edmunds Software for the budget and congratulated the staff on their hard work.

Council President Otterbein thanked Administrator Brewer and Chief Financial Officer Monroig for their hard work.

COMMUNITY PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY:

Councilman Docteroff reported the following:

1. Simplified Alert system will be used in alerting Recreation users of any cancellations or other important announcements via text messages.
2. Comcast will be installing wifi at the two pools at no cost.
3. The Recreation department will use key fobs to allow swimmers to enter the two pools and to keep track of use. The committee will continue to work with Capture Point software to keep the cost down for the software. Edmunds software doesn't have a pool module, so the committee will use Capture Point software.
4. Camp Wyanokie had its first meeting and plans are being made for the season.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Tempesta reported on the 4th annual Mayors' Breakfast on Saturday, March 22, 2014 at 9 am and the public is invited to hear Congressman Frelinghuysen speak about the Affordable Health Care Act. There will be a public meeting concerning the Passaic River Basin in Fairfield on March 25, 2014 at 7 pm.

Councilman Wolsky arrived at 7:50 pm and took his place on the dais.

ADVISORS' REPORTS:

Office of Emergency Management Larry Peter reported that the Township has received \$200,000 for 2010 and they are expecting an additional \$30,000 from FEMA. The Hazard Mitigation plan will be updated every five years. Mr. Peter will talk with Health Officer Bill Wallace about the grant application for the municipal building generator. Mr. Peter further reported that the Township is still working on the application for further funds for Superstorm Sandy.

INVITATION TO CITIZENS FOR DISCUSSION

The Mayor recognized Alan Abramowitz, Essex County representative.

Mr. Abramowitz announced the following:

1. There is an Essex County pothole number: 973-239-3366.
2. The Cherry Blossom Festival will take place April 2-3, 2014 in Branch Brook Park.

George Stafford of the NJ Highlands Coalition discussed the concerns of the Highland residents and asked the Council to pass a resolution to support a fee or tax paid by West Caldwell residents to counteract the inability for Highlands farmers to sell their lands for development

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Mayor Tempesta stated he is not in favor of any fee or tax paid by West Caldwell residents.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business, it was regularly moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Upon the vote being polled, Councilmen Otterbein, Cecere, Wolsky, Hladik and Docteroff voted in the affirmative.

Council adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Mary S. Donovan
Township Clerk