

**BOROUGH OF CALIFON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 4, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Mayor Charles Daniel 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: K. ANDERSEN, M. MEDEA, J. SALISBURY,
G. SMITH, T. WEILER
ABSENT: R. BAGGSTROM
ALSO PRESENT: ANTHONY ARDITO, AUDITOR**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by M. Medea seconded by T. Weiler to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 21, 2011.

For: K. Andersen, M. Medea, J. Salisbury, G. Smith, T. Weiler

Opposed: None

Absent: R. Baggstrom

MOTION CARRIED

LIST OF BILLS

Motion was made by K. Andersen seconded by G. Smith to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$7,757.26.

For: K. Andersen, M. Medea, J. Salisbury, G. Smith, T. Weiler

Opposed: None

Absent: R. Baggstrom

MOTION CARRIED

TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT

The Tax Collector’s Report was reviewed and filed.

CORRESPONDENCE

__ copy of deed and closing papers for purchase of Winters property, Block 20; lot 4 by Califon Boro, South Branch Watershed Assn. and N.J. Water Supply Authority

- ___ 1st quarter streets & roads report (dpw) received from Tewksbury Twp.
- ___ H.C. Dept. of Health re: information packet regarding County's mosquito control program
- ___ DEP; Highlands Applicability and Water Quality Management Plan Consistency Determination Application; Notice of Administrative Completeness for County project known as "Operational and Safety Improvements to CR 513 and CR 512 Intersection ___ Califon School; copy of Sample and Actual Ballot for school election on April 27, 2011
- ___ copies of letters regarding the public hearing on budgets for Califon School and N.H.-Voorhees H.S. with explanations for budget cuts and status reports on teacher's contracts.
- ___ letter from Quest Environmental; plans to install three monitoring wells on right of way of three properties; #1 & 3 Kellie Court and 100 Main St. to monitor ground water from gasoline pollution from site of Gilmartin property; once a gas station.

OLD BUSINESS

A. 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET – PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Daniel introduced Anthony Ardito, Borough Auditor, who was in attendance at tonight's public hearing for questions and answers.

Mayor Daniel opened the public hearing on the 2011 Municipal Budget introduced on March 7, 2011 and advertised on March 23, 2011.

There were no comments from the public and Mayor Daniel then asked Council if they had any questions regarding the budget. Councilman Weiler asked questions about the increase in the tax levy from last year and clarified that the total general revenues in the 2011 budget are \$1,073,584 and last year they were \$1,035,670. Mr. Ardito explained that this budget reflects a 5.5 cent increase or a \$26.00 increase in the municipal portion of taxes on an average assessed house of \$238,000. There being no further comments, the public hearing on the budget was closed.

B. RESOLUTION – ADOPTION OF THE 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION 2011-35

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon that the 2011 Municipal Budget as introduced on March 7, 2011 and duly advertised on March 23, 2011 as required by law, whose public hearing was held on April 4, 2011, with total General Revenues and Appropriations equaling \$1,073,584., be hereby approved and finally adopted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that two certified copies be forwarded to the Division of Local Government Services to be approved as to form and content.

Motion was made by J. Salisbury seconded by G. Smith to adopt Resolution 2011-35 as read.

For: K. Andersen, M. Medea, J. Salisbury, G. Smith

Opposed: T. Weiler
 Absent: R. Baggstrom
MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business for tonight's meeting

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Medea reported that the Parks Committee will meet on Thursday. Connor Daniel's Eagle Scout project is moving along. Quaker Memorial Works volunteered their efforts to move the monument and they have also offered to power wash it since it was soiled during the move. Councilman Medea stated that on April 17th he and Connor will begin to lay the pavers around the monument.

Parks Committee member, Jerry Andersen, reported to the Parks Committee that he met with the person from the County Parks and Recreation Dept. at Island Park to determine the location of the sign that the County has offered to build for the Borough.

Councilman Medea reported that there was a SWAC meeting on Tuesday that neither he nor the Recycling Coordinator was able to attend.

The SWAC breakfast meeting was rescheduled for Friday, April 15th after it was cancelled due to snow.

Councilwoman Salisbury reported that CAMPA met on March 30th with only a few members in attendance. Councilwoman Salisbury reported that this year only 18 members have paid their dues as opposed to last year's 48 members at this time last year. CAMPA will host a Columbia Stomp again in August of this year.

CAMPA is working on plans for their annual Harvest Fest.

Councilwoman Salisbury reported that the Sustainable Jersey Green Team will meet tomorrow evening 4/5/11.

The Board of Health will meet on the first Wednesday; 4.6.11.

Councilman Weiler reported that the Environmental Commission met for a joint meeting with the Planning Board on March 23rd to vote on approving the revised ERI and the Master Plan revisions prepared by Michael Mueller from Group Melvin Design. This work was done as a requirement of the Highlands Plan Conformance and will be forwarded to them now that both entities have approved the completed work.

Councilman Smith reported that he received the 1st quarter DPW report from Tewksbury Twp. The report indicates that the Borough has expended \$28,750 to date, probably due to the heavy snow and ice this winter. The streets & roads annual budget is \$67,000. Councilman Smith and Mayor Daniel will meet with the DPW Director and Tewksbury Twp. Administrator, Jess Landon, to review this report and determine the course of action for the remainder of the year.

It has been reported that there are ATV tracks on the Nellie Hoffman property. Mayor Daniel will speak to DPW Director, Hayden Hull about putting up signs on the trail end

prohibiting ATV use on the property and if this does not work, then they will be asked to put down logs prohibiting access onto the property.

Councilman Smith reported that the Recreation Committee sponsored Movie Night at the school was a success with approximately 50 people in attendance. The Committee members worked hard to make it a success and offered popcorn and water for refreshments. Councilman Smith wanted to express a special thank you to George Fox, school custodian who set up the gym for the event.

Councilwoman Andersen reported that the school held the public hearing on the 2011-12 budget. She was in attendance as well as Councilmen Baggstrom and Medea.

Councilwoman Andersen reported that they had a very good power point presentation with questions asked by about 12 people in attendance.

Councilwoman Andersen reported that she sent information to the Columbia Gas representatives concerning the ongoing research on the Christmas tree issue.

Councilwoman Andersen reported that she and members of the Califon Preservation Committee met with Max Kane to discuss plans for his Eagle Scout project at the Nellie Hoffman property; possibly designing a sidewalk/brick walkway. Councilwoman Andersen reported that Charles Buzby and Jerry Andersen have been busy installing a wood floor on the second floor of the Nellie Hoffman house and leftover wood may be used to do the floor downstairs where the kitchen is located. The next projects, that will most likely require volunteer help, will be the painting of the rooms on the second floor and then painting of the outside.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Daniel reported that he and Councilman Smith attended the H.C. Planning Board Design Awards ceremony. Both Connor Daniel and a young man from High Bridge were awarded a Youth in Planning Award for their respective Eagle Scout projects. Mayor Daniel stated that it was a very nice affair with about 300-400 in attendance and he was happy to report that both boys gave a fantastic speech when given their award.

Mayor Daniel stated that, next year, the Borough should submit the Nellie Hoffman house as a nomination for a Historic Preservation Award.

Mayor Daniel reported that he and Councilman Baggstrom will attend a seminar, hosted, once again, by Freeholder Rob Walton, on shared services among municipalities. This seminar will be held on Thursday, April 7th at 7:30 p. m.

Mayor Daniel reported that the purchase of the Winter's property closed on March 31st with no problems. Mayor Daniel would like to now move forward with our STAG grant and will be in touch with John Mello from the EPA very soon to set up a meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Deb Dawson, editor and reporter from the Hunterdon Review, asked if she could receive a copy of the Quest Environmental letter.

There being no further business to come before Council at this time, motion was made by T. Weiler seconded by G. Smith and unanimously accepted to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Laura G. Eidsvaag, RMC
Municipal Clerk/Administrator