

**BOROUGH OF CALIFON COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 2, 2015**

Mayor Charles Daniel called the regular meeting to order at 8:00 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: K. DEBLASIO, P. FARMER, T. FORRESTER, M. MEDEA,  
M. RICCIO  
ABSENT: G. SMITH**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by M. Medea seconded by T. Forrester to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 17, 2015.

For: K. DeBlasio, P. Farmer, T. Forrester, M. Medea, M. Riccio

Opposed: None

Absent: G. Smith

**MOTION CARRIED**

**LIST OF BILLS**

Motion was made by P. Farmer seconded by M. Riccio to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$512,720.65.

For: K. DeBlasio, P. Farmer, T. Forrester, M. Medea, M. Riccio

Opposed: None

Absent: G. Smith

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

\_\_\_ e-mail from Bianca Madzarova from Senator Cory Booker’s office; request for mobile office to be set up in Califon

\_\_\_ J. Peter Jost, Borough Attorney; letter to Honorable Patrick DeAlmeida, P.J.T.C. regarding Califon Borough vs. United Telephone Co. and request to hold this case in abeyance pending resolution of Verizon v. Hopewell as concerns potential liability of phone companies for payment of Business Personal Property Taxes

\_\_\_ N.J. State League of Municipalities; 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & William G. Dressel, Jr. Retirement Banquet on May 7, 2015 at the Hilton in East Brunswick

**OLD BUSINESS****A. RESOLUTION – INTRODUCTION OF 2015 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2015-39**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Califon is holding a meeting on March 2, 2015, for the purpose of introducing the 2015 Municipal Budget and conducting other matters; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Califon, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, that the Borough of Califon hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2015 Local Municipal Budget be introduced and approved on March 2, 2015.

**SUMMARY OF REVENUES**

	<b><u>2015</u></b>
1. Surplus Anticipated General Revenues	\$115,000
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenue	140,151
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	37,500
4. (a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	766,599
(b) Addition to Local District School Tax	
Total Amount to be Raised for Taxation	
For Support of Municipal Budget	<u>766,599</u>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 1,059,250</b>

**SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS**

	<b><u>2015</u></b>
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
1. Operating Expenses	
Salaries & Wages	\$ 206,042
Other Expenses	685,708
2. Deferred Charges & Statutory Expenditures	-
3. Capital Improvements	15,000
4. Debt Service	45,000
5. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	107,000
<b>Total General Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 1,059,250</b>

Motion was made by T. Forrester seconded by P. Farmer to adopt Resolution 2015-39 as read.

For: K. DeBlasio, P. Farmer, T. Forrester, M. Medea, M. Riccio

Opposed: None

Absent: G. Smith

**MOTION CARRIED**

**B. RESOLUTION – SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE – CLEAN COMMUNITIES  
ENTITLEMENT**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2015-40**

**BOROUGH OF CALIFON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION 2015-40**

**WHEREAS**, the 2015 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2015, and;

**WHEREAS**, during the fiscal year 2015 the Borough of Califon has been allocated a state grant for various programs in the amount of \$4,000

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2015 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of **“Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services – Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:”**

<b>Clean Communities Program</b>	<b>\$ 4,000.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>

Motion was made by M. Medea seconded by P. Farmer to adopt Resolution 2015-40 as read.

For: K. DeBlasio, P. Farmer, T. Forrester, M. Medea, M. Riccio, G. Smith

Opposed: None

Absent: G. Smith

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. RESOLUTION – APPROVAL OF ROAD OPENING PERMIT #2015-01RO – GAS  
SERVICE AT 31 ACADEMY ST. (O’DELL)**

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2015-41**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Califon that approval is granted to lift the 3 year moratorium on road openings on newly paved Railroad Ave. to allow for the approval of Road Opening #2015-01RO as submitted by Elizabethtown Gas to install gas service to the resident at 31 Academy St. (Helen O’Dell); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to issue the permit for Road Opening 2015-01RO per the application submitted by Elizabethtown Gas, conditioned on the “special” and “standard” conditions as outlined in the Borough Engineer’s letter dated February 20, 2015.

Motion was made by P. Farmer seconded by M. Medea to adopt Resolution 2015-41 as read.  
For: K. DeBlasio, P. Farmer, T. Forrester, M. Medea, M. Riccio

Opposed: None

Absent: G. Smith

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilman Medea reported that the Parks Committee will meet this Thursday and discuss plans for this year.

Councilwoman Riccio reported that the Recreation Committee will meet for their next meeting on March 10, 2015.

Councilwoman Riccio reported that she and Mayor Daniel met with the Police Chief and visited the Municipal Court. It was agreed that town ordinances will be reviewed and, if necessary, amended to maximize revenue that will come to Califon.

Councilwoman Riccio and the Mayor reported that the Police were made aware of the problem, reported by the DPW this winter, regarding cars parked on streets when streets are snow covered resulting in the DPW’s ability to adequately plow the roads. Council specifically discussed the recent incident on S. Main St. concerning the DPW sounding the horn on the plow and disturbing the neighborhood at an early morning hour. In lieu of sounding the horn, the DPW will be instructed to call the police, who will respond and either get the car moved or issue a summons for the violation of our ordinance.

Councilman Farmer suggested that the Fire Co. be reminded that the Borough has our DPW plow their parking lot when snow covered.

Councilman Farmer reported that, at their last meeting, the Planning Board approved, by resolution, the recommendations of the Historic Preservation Commission concerning the application before the HPC consisting of extensive renovations and improvements at 73 Academy St.

Mayor Daniel reported that the HPC and the Planning Board have a new secretary and that basically the HPC is working well together and making good recommendations. Mayor Daniel stated that the decisions and recommendations made by the HPC will become the basis for their guidelines.

Councilman Farmer reported that the Planning Board Attorney, Bill Gianos, counseled the Planning Board to defer to the recommendations made by the HPC and advised that there is no need to revisit their decisions.

Councilman Forrester reported that the Board of Education met on February 18<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting, there was the first reading of the school’s shared vision statement. Also discussed at

this meeting was the transition plan for the incoming Chief School Administrator. The school has approved a shared service agreement with Lebanon Twp. for the services of a CSA. The PARCC assessment/testing for grades 3-8 has begun and the BOE is discussing a University partnership for 2016-17.

Councilwoman DeBlasio reported that Tom McGee, Mayor of Lebanon Twp., has approached Councilwoman DeBlasio to discuss pursuing the idea of entering into a Police interlocal with Califon. Mayor Daniel stated that this would be taken under advisement; however, there are 2 more years until our interlocal with WT expires.

Councilwoman DeBlasio reported that there is a town in South Jersey that imposes large fines of between \$300-400 for summonses issued for cell phone use while driving; as a way of generating large sums of revenue for the town.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Daniel reported that he and Councilwoman Riccio discussed with the Police Chief the issue of speeding in town and that current numbers reflect that revenue for speeding is down. There was a brief discussion on generating revenue by issuing summonses for cell phone talking. Councilman Farmer stated that it is his opinion that texting while driving is a worse offense, however, it is harder to identify.

Mayor Daniel reported that the schedule for rebidding the Stormwater project is tentatively set for March 30<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Daniel explained that if all bids have to be rejected a second time for whatever reason, then the town can negotiate the price.

Mayor Daniel has determined that; per the tentative schedule for the project, the date for Memorial Day Parade and celebration, can remain on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>; as it does not appear that construction will impede the path of the parade.

Councilman Medea asked why the engineer's estimate and the contingency amount is apparently so off. Mayor Daniel will ask the engineer's and the Bond Counsel to a Council meeting to explain the progress of the project. Right now, the engineers are being asked to determine the final, final project cost for the EIT application that will close in May of 2016 and whose deadline is Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public tonight.

There being no further business to come before Council at this time, motion was made by T. Forrester seconded by P. Farmer and unanimously accepted to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Laura G. Eidsvaag, RMC  
Municipal Clerk/Administrator

