

**BOROUGH OF CALIFON COUNCIL  
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
JANUARY 23, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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 special joint meeting between the Borough of Califon Council and the Califon Board of Education has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by publication of the special notice in the Hunterdon Review and the Hunterdon County Democrat.”*

**ROLL CALL: PRESENT: K. ANDERSEN, R. BAGGSTROM, J. BEARD, M. MEDEA,  
J. SALISBURY, G. SMITH**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION – CALL TO ORDER**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION ROLL CALL**

**FLAG SALUTE**

**DISCUSSION OF THE 2012-2013 CALIFON SCHOOL BUDGET**

Mayor Daniel thanked the Califon Board of Education for making the time to meet with the Council to discuss their respective budgets and he asked the Board of Education to present their 2012-13 budget details. Board of Education member, Kim Schundler, reviewed the 2012-13 school budget details that have been worked on to date, explaining that the budget will not exceed the 2% cap. The discussion highlighted the areas of salaries (no increases for staff), benefits, payroll, evaluations, special education; choice school transportation; preschool (doing well at 11 students); 2% cap and the failing septic system. Council members had questions in the following areas: failing septic system, choice schools; choice school transportation and building maintenance.

Mr. Schundler and Susan Schaffner, Bus. Admin./Bd. Sec’y. discussed the new law just passed this week by the legislature to move the school elections to the general election in November.

Mr. Schundler explained that the decision to move the election to November is optional, not mandatory, but the caveat is that if the school budget does not exceed the 2% statutory cap, then the budget will not appear on the ballot to be voted on by the voters, but will be voted on by the Board of Education following a public hearing. The Califon Board of Education will vote whether to move the election to November at their meeting next week.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There being no comments from the public, Mayor Daniel closed this portion of the meeting.

## **DISCUSSION OF 2012 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Mayor Daniel opened by saying that this year's municipal budget will be tough and challenging. Citing a significant drop in revenue due to the loss of a line item entitled "sale of Municipal assets", Mayor Daniel explained that before starting work on this year's budget, \$60,000 had to be cut from last years line items. Mayor Daniel also cited a reduction in revenues due to the continuing reduction in state aid anticipated for this year. The budget will reflect a zero increase in salaries for the staff. Mayor Daniel outlined several important infrastructure projects that Council will need to fund for 2012: \$400,000 for the matching funding for the EPA stormwater grant; \$90,000-100,000 for the reconstruction of Railroad Ave. and funding for shelters and generators for Emergency Management. Mayor Daniel explained that he and Council are considering going out for Bond Anticipation Notes (BANS) to fund these projects; which will incur debt but will not increase the statutory budget cap.

Mayor Daniel thanked the Board of Education for meeting with him and Council this evening.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, motion was made by J. Beard seconded by R. Baggstrom and unanimously accepted to adjourn the special meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Laura G. Eidsvaag, RMC  
Municipal Clerk/Administrator