TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the West Caldwell Mayor and Council, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, was held in the public meeting room of the Municipal Building, 30 Clinton Road, West Caldwell, Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

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

PRESENT: Mayor Tempesta, Council Canale, Cecere, Wolsky, Docteroff, Crudele, and Schott

OTHERS PRESENT: Nikole H. Baltycki, Township Administrator/CFO
Joann DeBlasis, Township Clerk
Paul G. Jemas, Esq., Township Attorney
Chief Dennis Capriglione, Police Department
John Medina, Construction Official

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Docteroff

Council President Canale gave the invocation.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A-1 A communication from Nikole H. Baltycki, Chief Finance Officer, certifying funds are available under the 2025 Budget of Appropriations – February 3, 2026 Schedule; further certifying that there will be no over-expenditures of any line item in the Budget as a result of this schedule.

A-2 A communication from Nikole Baltycki, Chief Financial Officer, certifying funds are available for Resolution number 26-056, 26-057, 26-058, 26-067, 26-068, 26-076, 26-077, and 26-078.

Received and placed on file.

BILLS ORDERED PAID:

It was regularly moved by Councilman Docteroff, seconded by Councilman Schott that the Bill List as amended by the Chief Financial Officer be attached to the Minutes and be paid and that the Mayor and Treasurer be authorized to sign the necessary warrants for their payment.

Upon the vote being polled, Council Canale, Cecere, Wolsky, Docteroff, Crudele, and Schott voted in the affirmative.

SCHEDULE OF BILLS ORDERED PAID JANUARY 2026

	Checks	Amount
CURRENT ACCOUNT – VALLEY NATIONAL BANK	20282-20320	$5,199,531.59
GENERAL CAPITAL	0	$0.00
POOL	4059-4064	$24,956.64
POOL CAPITAL	0	$0.00
WATER CAPITAL	0	$0.00
WATER	12063-12069	$77,346.80
WATER WIRE ACCT	0	0
GENERAL TRUST – VALLEY NATIONAL BANK	7292-7293	$7,207.98

DOG TRUST	1182-1183	$4,719.81
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TRUST 1	0	$0.00
LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST	0	$0.00
DEVELOPERS' TRUST	1793-1796	$0.00
SUB-TOTAL		**$5,313,762.82**
LIBRARY	13947-13975	$115,170.49
TOTAL		**$5,428,933.31**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the recommendation of Councilman Schott seconded by Councilman Docteroff, it was regularly moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of December 16, 2025 and the minutes of the January 6, 2026 Reorganization Meeting be approved.

Upon the vote being polled, Canale, Cecere, Wolsky, Docteroff, Crudele and Schott voted in the affirmative on the minutes, however Councilman Cecere abstained from the January 6, 2026 minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Tempesta read the following statement: "Matters listed within the Consent Agenda have been referred to members of the Township Council for reading and study, are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Township Council with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired, the resolution may be removed and be subject to a separate roll call."

Administrator Baltycki reported that there was one item for closed session – Personnel – Sergeant Interviews for the West Caldwell Police Department.

It was regularly moved by Councilwoman Canale, seconded by Councilman Crudele that the twenty six Resolutions on the Consent Agenda this evening be approved. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor except Councilman Cecere abstained from Resolution 26-062.

Mayor Tempesta asked if there were any comments on the consent agenda from Council or the public.

Richard Wilcox asked about Resolution 26-057. Administrator Baltycki answered his question. He also spoke to the Council about some concerns he had with the new ShopRite. Mayor Tempesta told him that they will look into his concerns. He asked about Resolution 26-070. CFO Baltycki answered his question.

The following twenty six Resolutions by Consent were made part of these Minutes:

No. 26-054
By: Councilman Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING I.U.O.E. LOCAL 68 CHARITY FUND, INC. FOR AN OFF PREMISE 50/50 RAFFLE TO BE HELD ON APRIL 2, 2026, AND OCTOBER 1, 2026 LICENSE NO. 505, ID NO. 535-4-36302

WHEREAS, I.U.O.E. Local 68 Charity Fund, Inc. has submitted a Raffle License Application No. RA 505, ID No. 535-4-36302 for an off premise 50/50 raffle to be held April 2, 2026, and October 1, 2026 at 11 Fairfield Place, West Caldwell, NJ; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of West Caldwell, hereby approves Raffle License Application No. RA 505; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said license shall be issued subject to all rules and regulations of the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission of the State of New Jersey.

No. 26-055
By: Councilman Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN LOHMANN THERAPY SYSTEMS CORP. AND THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the Township of West Caldwell (the "Township") to obtain open space in conjunction with the Township's recreational and other activities; and

WHEREAS, Lohmann Therapy Systems Corp. ("LTS") 21 Henderson Drive, West Caldwell, NJ desires to allow the Township to use the property located at 15 Henderson Drive (the "Property") for use on weekday evenings and during weekend days and evenings for said recreational and other activities as enumerated in the attached agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Caldwell, in the County of Essex, as follows.

1. All Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

No. 26-056
By: Councilman Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH FREDERIC M. KNAPP OF LADDEY, CLARK & RYAN, LLP TO SERVE AS HEARING OFFICER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $15,000

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements under the Local Public Contracts Law, the following resolution be and is hereby adopted:

WHEREAS, there exists a need to retain the services of Fredric M. Knapp, Esq. to serve as hearing officer for the Township of West Caldwell. The hourly rate for services rendered will be two hundred fifty dollars ($250.00) per hour, not to exceed $15,000. The rate of compensation shall cover the hearing, research, conferences with counsel, motions, preparation of a report and all related hearing expenses.

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contract for "Professional Services" without competitive bidding must be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Caldwell, in the County of Essex, as follows.

1. The Township of West Caldwell will execute an agreement with Frederic M. Knapp of Laddy, Clark & Ryan, 60 Blue Heron Road, Suite 300, Sparta, NJ 07871, in accordance with the attached proposal.

2. Whereas, the contract was awarded through a fair and open process, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq., in that the vendor was awarded a professional services appointment for the year 2026.

3. All Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

No. 26-057
By: Councilman Cecere

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH COLLIERS ENGINEERING & DESIGN FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $39,500.00 FOR THE FEMA CULVERTS PROJECT

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements under the Local Public Contracts Law, the following resolution be and is hereby adopted:

WHEREAS, there exists a need to perform professional engineering services associated with the FEMA Culverts Project. The project includes construction administration and construction observation. The fee for the described services is $39,500.00.

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contract for "Professional Services" without competitive bidding must be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Caldwell, in the County of Essex, as follows.

1. The Township of West Caldwell will execute an agreement with Colliers Engineering & Design, 400 Valley Road, Suite 304, Mount Arlington, NJ 07856, in accordance with the attached proposal.

2. Whereas, the contract was awarded through a fair and open process, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq., in that the vendor was awarded a professional services appointment for the year 2026.

3. All Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

No. 26-058
By: Councilman Cecere

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH COLLIERS ENGINEERING & DESIGN FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $36,500.00 FOR THE WESTVILLE AVENUE SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements under the Local Public Contracts Law, the following resolution be and is hereby adopted:

WHEREAS, there exists a need to perform professional engineering services associated with the FEMA Culverts Project. The project includes construction administration and construction observation. The fee for the described services is $36,500.00.

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contract for "Professional Services" without competitive bidding must be publicly advertised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Caldwell, in the County of Essex, as follows.

1. The Township of West Caldwell will execute an agreement with Colliers Engineering & Design, 400 Valley Road, Suite 304, Mount Arlington, NJ 07856, in accordance with the attached proposal.

2. Whereas, the contract was awarded through a fair and open process, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq., in that the vendor was awarded a professional services appointment for the year 2026.

3. All Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

No. 26-059
By: Councilman Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE ESSEX COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2026

BE IT RESOLVED, on the recommendation of Mayor Joseph Tempesta, Jr. authorize the appointment of the following representatives to the Essex County Solid Waste Advisory Council for a one-year term through December 31, 2026.

Margaret Pierce
Michael Tempesta

No. 26-060
By: Councilman Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MARGARET PIERCE AS REGISTRAR FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 26:8-11 through 26:8-22 requires a governing body to appoint a Local Registrar; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Pierce has agreed to fulfill the responsibilities as Registrar;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Township of West Caldwell hereby appoints Margaret Pierce as Local Registrar for a term concurrent with her term of office January 1, 2026 until December 31, 2028.

No. 26-061
By: Councilman Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOHN N. MEDINA AS FIRE OFFICIAL FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL

BE IT RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Legal and Personnel Committee and the Township Administrator that the appointment of John N. Medina, 8 Woodrow Place, West Caldwell, NJ by Mayor Joseph Tempesta, Jr., be and he is hereby appointed to the position of Fire Official that will commence on January 1, 2026 for a three (3) year term and is effective through December 31, 2028.

No. 26-062
By: Councilman Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBDIVISION BOND RELEASE TO SUNRISE REALTY, LLC FOR SHOPRITE REPLACEMENT WEST CALDWELL RIGHT-WAY IMPROVEMENTS FOR PUBLICLY DEDICATED IMPROVEMENTS, PERIMETER LANDSCAPING, AND SAFETY STABILIZATION IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL

WHEREAS, Sunrise Realty, LLC posted bond number 2350884, pursuant to the requirements of the Township of West Caldwell Engineer, performance guarantees, guaranteeing the site improvements in conjunction with the approved site plan improvements; and

WHEREAS, Sunrise Realty, LLC has completed said improvements and has requested a release of said performance guarantees; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer indicated that he has inspected the on-site improvements at the referenced sites and finds no deficiencies; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the inspection, the Township Engineer recommends that the total Performance Guarantee of $643,175.00 of which $578,857.50 is in the form of a bond and $64,317.50 cash, with accrued interest, be released; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Caldwell, in the County of Essex, as follows:

1. The Township Administrator and Chief Municipal Finance Officer, be and hereby are authorized and directed to release the performance bond held in connection with the Project as set forth herein.
2. All Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

No. 26-063
By: Councilman Docteroff

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF 2025 CURRENT FUND RESERVES – TRANSFER #1

WHEREAS, various 2025 bills have been presented for payment this year, which bills represent obligations of the prior fiscal year and were not covered by order number and/or recorded at the time of transfers between the 2025 Budget in the last two

months of 2025; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 40A:4-59 provides that all unexpended balances carried forward after the close of the fiscal year are available, until lapsed at the closed of the succeeding year, to meet specific claims, commitments or contracts incurred during the preceding fiscal year, and allow transfers to be made from unexpended balances to those which are expected to be insufficient during the first three months of the succeeding year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of West Caldwell, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, (2/3 of the majority of the full membership concurring herein) that the following transfers be made between the 2025 Budget Appropriation Reserves as follows:

TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL			
CURRENT FUND			
2025 ADOPTED BUDGET			
APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN CAPS			
General Government	**FROM**		**TO**
Insurance			
Employee Group Health	$ 30,000.00		
General Government			
Engineering Services and Costs			
Other Expense			$ 20,000.00
Utilities			
Natural Gas			$ 7,000.00
Street Lighting			$ 3,000.00
TOTAL CURRENT FUND APPROPRIATIONS	**$ 30,000.00**		**$ 30,000.00**

No. 26-064
By: Councilwoman Canale

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF RYAN PETER AS A PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICER IN THE WEST CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell desires to hire a Probationary Police Officer; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Peter, 63 Johnson Avenue, West Caldwell, NJ 07006, who is willing and able to serve as a Probationary Patrol Officer for the West Caldwell Police Department and;

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Public Safety Committee and the Police Chief to make this appointment, effective February 4, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the appointment of Ryan Peter as Probationary Officer is contingent upon successful completion of the appropriate medical and psychological testing to the satisfaction of the Township; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Caldwell, in the County of Essex, as follows:

1. Ryan Peter is hereby approved as a probationary police officer in the West Caldwell Police Department, at a salary of $136,105.00 in accordance with the salary guide.
2. All Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriately to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

No. 26-065
By: Councilwoman Canale

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF LEONEL NORBERTO LOPEZ AS A PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICER IN THE WEST CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell desires to hire a Probationary Police Officer; and

WHEREAS, Leonel Norberto Lopez, 905 Broad Street Apt. B-1, Bloomfield, NJ 07003, who is willing and able to serve as a Probationary Patrol Officer for the West Caldwell Police Department and;

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Public Safety Committee and the Police Chief to make this appointment, effective February 4, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the appointment of Leonel Norberto Lopez as Probationary Officer is contingent upon successful completion of the appropriate medical and psychological testing to the satisfaction of the Township; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Caldwell, in the County of Essex, as follows:

3. Leonel Norberto Lopez is hereby approved as a probationary police officer in the West Caldwell Police Department, at a salary of $71,248.00, in accordance with the salary guide.
4. All Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriately to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

No. 26-066
By: Councilwoman Canale

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF NATHAN JAMES RAMALALL AS A PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICER IN THE WEST CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell desires to hire a Probationary Police Officer; and

WHEREAS, Nathan James Ramalall, 61 Williams Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07304, who is willing and able to serve as a Probationary Patrol Officer for the West Caldwell Police Department and;

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Public Safety Committee and the Police Chief to make this appointment, effective February 4, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the appointment of Nathan James Ramalall, as Probationary Officer is contingent upon successful completion of the appropriate medical and psychological testing to the satisfaction of the Township; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Caldwell, in the County of Essex, as follows:

5. Nathan James Ramalall, is hereby approved as a probationary police officer in the West Caldwell Police Department, at a salary of $71,248.00, in accordance with the salary guide.
6. All Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriately to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

No. 26-067
By: Councilman Cecere

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO D. TORLUCCIO LANDSCAPING, LLC, IN THE AMOUNT OF $227,263.97 FOR THE FEMA CULVERTS PROJECT IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell (referred to as the "Township") solicited bids for the FEMA Culverts Project (referred to as the "Project") in the Township pursuant to a fair and open process in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Notice to Bidders and the Bid Documents have been reviewed by the Township Governing Body, the Township's staff and the Township engineer, Colliers Engineering & Design; and

WHEREAS, the Township received ten (10) bids in response to the solicitation on January 8, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Colliers Engineering & Design has recommended to the Mayor and Council that the Township award a contract to D. Torluccio Landscaping, LLC., 4 Marion Court, Fairfield, NJ 07004 for the Base Bid for the Project in the amount of two hundred twenty seven thousand two hundred sixty three dollars and ninety seven cents ($227,263.97).

WHEREAS, the Township's Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funding is available for this Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this Resolution, the Bid Notice, the Bid Documents and applicable laws, as approved by the Township Attorney.

No. 26-068
By: Councilman Cecere

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO MESSERCOLA EXCAVATING CO. INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF $302,804.00 FOR THE WESTVILLE AVENUE SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell (referred to as the "Township") solicited bids for the Westville Avenue Sanitary Sewer Extension Project (referred to as the "Project") in the Township pursuant to a fair and open process in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Notice to Bidders and the Bid Documents have been reviewed by the Township Governing Body, the Township's staff and the Township engineer, Colliers Engineering & Design; and

WHEREAS, the Township received ten (10) bids in response to the solicitation on January 8, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Colliers Engineering & Design has recommended to the Mayor and Council that the Township award a contract to Messercola Excavating Co., Inc., 549 E. 3rd Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060 for the Base Bid for the Project in the amount of three hundred two thousand eight hundred four dollars and zero cents ($302,804.00).

WHEREAS, the Township's Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funding is available for this Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this Resolution, the Bid Notice, the Bid Documents and applicable laws, as approved by the Township Attorney.

No. 26-069
By: Councilman Docteroff

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

WHEREAS, there appears on the tax records overpayments or otherwise as shown below; and

WHEREAS, the overpayments were created by the reasons indicated below, and the Collector of Taxes recommends the refund or transfers of such overpayments;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of West Caldwell that the proper officers be and they are hereby authorized and directed to transfer funds or issue checks refunding such overpayments as hereafter shown below:

CODE OF REASONS

1. Incorrect Payment-Refund
2. Duplicate Payment-Refund
3. Vets, Senior Citizen, Exempt Prop Refund/Allow
4. Apply Overpayment to Next Year
5. Cancellation of Balance of Less than $5.00
6. Assessment Changes
7. Tax Appeal
8. Overpayment-Refund
9. Tax Title Lien Redemption
10. Homestead Rebate/NJ Saver
11. Apply Overpayment to Current Year
12. Cancellation of Credit of Less than $5.00
13. Cancellation of Taxes
14. Other-Cancellation of Credit Balance over $5.00

Block	Lot	Qual	Owner Name	Amount	Year	Reason
1002	30		Kauper, Joseph & Khristina 111 Fairfield Avenue	$ 1,093.95	2025/4	3
1901	9		Emery, Jeffrey R & Bridget M 2 Essex Place	$ 1,462.71	2025/4	3
2604	12		Gurung, Priya & Sherap, Tenzin 238 Westville Avenue	$ 249.38	2025/4	3

Total Overpayment Refunds - $ 2,806.04

No. 26-070
By: Councilman Docteroff

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS AMENDMENT #1

WHEREAS, an emergent conditions has risen with respect to payment of salary and wages, insurance and contracted services and no adequate provision has been made in the 2026 temporary appropriations for the aforesaid purpose, and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of an emergency temporary appropriation for the purpose above mentioned; and

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in the year 2026 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total $9,784,594.49 in the Current Fund, $1,314,750.00. in the Water Utility Fund and $285,589.00 in the Pool Utility Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20.

1. An emergency temporary appropriation in the Current Fund be and the same is hereby made for the following appropriations in the amount of $2,365,869.19.
2. An emergency temporary appropriation in Water Utility Fund be and the same is hereby made for the following appropriations in the amount of $193,000.00.
3. An emergency temporary appropriation in Pool Utility Fund be and the same is hereby made for the following appropriations in the amount of $30,000.00.
4. That one certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services.

TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL
CURRENT FUND
2026 TEMPORARY BUDGET
APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN CAPS

General Government	**Emergency #1**
Administrative and Executive:	
Other Expense	$ 60,000.00
Elections/Municipal Clerk	
Other Expense	$ 2,000.00
Financial Administration	
Other Expense	$ 3,000.00
Mayor and Council	
Other Expense	$ 1,000.00
Legal Services and Costs	
Other Expense	$ 20,000.00
Public Buildings and Grounds	
Salary and Wages	$ 20,000.00
Other Expense	$ 40,000.00
Environmental Commission	
Other Expense	$ 500.00

Insurance		
Employee Group Health	$	250,000.00
Public Safety		
Fire		
Other Expenses	$	46,000.00
West Essex First Aid Squad	$	16,250.00
Streets and Roads		
Road Repair and Maintenance		
Other Expenses	$	25,000.00
Snow Removal		
Other Expenses	$	20,000.00
Municipal Services		
Other Expenses	$	4,585.69
Sanitation		
Garbage Collection and Disposal		
Other Expenses	$	3,000.00
Health and Welfare		
Board of Health		
Salaries and Wages	$	40,000.00
Other Expenses	$	2,000.00
Recreation and Education		
Parks and Playgrounds		
Other Expenses	$	20,000.00
Utilities		
Gasoline	$	20,000.00
Terminal Leave	$	20,000.00
Statutory Expenditures		
Social Security System	$	20,000.00
Public Employees Retirement System	$	490,408.26
Police & Fire Retirement System	$	1,239,125.24
DCRP	$	3,000.00
TOTAL CURRENT FUND TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS	***$***	***2,365,869.19***

TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL
WATER UTILITY
2026 TEMPORARY BUDGET

Water Operating		
Salary & Wages		
Other Expense	$	100,000.00
Social Security	$	5,000.00
PERS	$	88,000.00
TOTAL WATER UTILITY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS	***$***	***193,000.00***

TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL
POOL UTILITY
2026 TEMPORARY BUDGET

Pool Operating		
Other Expense	$	20,000.00
PERS	$	10,000.00

TOTAL POOL UTILITY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS ***$ 30,000.00***

No. 26-071
By: Councilman Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL OF INTENT TO BOND IN THE EVENT THAT THERE IS A SHORTFALL IN FUNDING TO EFFECTUATE CERTAIN AFFORDABLE HOUSING MECHANISMS IN ITS HOUSING ELEMENT AND FAIR SHARE PLAN

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell desires to create a realistic opportunity for the creation of affordable housing within the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township voluntarily brought a timely declaratory judgment action pursuant to the procedures set forth by Administrative Directive #14-24 seeking approval of a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan that satisfies the Township's obligation to provide for its fair share of the regional need of low- and moderate-income housing; and

WHEREAS, the West Caldwell Planning Board has adopted a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan for the Fourth Round pursuant to the Municipal Land Use Law at N.J.S.A. 40:55D-1, et seq., which addresses the requirements of NJAC 5:93-1, et seq., as amended and supplemented, NJAC 5:80-26.1, et seq. as amended and supplemented, and the New Jersey Fair Housing Act; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan provides for a municipally-sponsored Rehabilitation Program and a new alternative living arrangement (group home); and

WHEREAS, the Township has adopted a Development Fee Ordinance in order to generate revenue for the Township's Affordable Housing Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell anticipates that monies collected and deposited in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, along with other permitted funding sources, will be sufficient to effectuate the above-referenced mechanisms; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell is committed to securing approval of its Housing Element and Fair Share Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell acknowledges the affordable housing rules and regulations that provide that, although utilization of a mandatory development fee ordinance is an appropriate mechanism to raise money for the purpose of off-setting the expenses incurred in connection with the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, there must be an alternative funding source in the event that insufficient monies are derived from the mandatory development fee ordinance or other resources, or the funds are not received in a timely fashion, for the purpose of effectuating the municipally-sponsored Rehabilitation Program and a new alternative living arrangement (group home); and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell wishes to express its commitment to cover such funding shortfalls and to fully implement the mechanisms set forth in its Housing Element and Fair Share Plan through bonding or other lawful means.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 3rd day of February 2026, by the Council of the Township of West Caldwell, Essex County, State of New Jersey, that it does hereby confirm its intent that in the event that the projected funding from the mandatory development fee ordinance the Township has adopted is insufficient to complete the aforementioned affordable housing mechanisms, it is the intention of the Council of the Township of West Caldwell to adopt appropriate bond ordinances in order to provide the requisite funding in an appropriate time frame.

No. 26-072
By: Councilman Crudele

SUBJECT: ENABLING RESOLUTION FOR SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING REQUEST STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GREEN ACRES PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program ("State"), provides loans and/or grants to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition and development of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell has previously obtained a Green Acres grant of $1,500,000.00 from the State to fund the following project(s):

 # 0721-25-040 Grover Cleveland Field Improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell desires to further the public interest by requesting an additional Green Acres grant of $1,325,000.00 to fund the project(s); and

WHEREAS, the State shall determine if the supplemental funding request is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Green Acres Program, and notify the applicant of the amount of the funding award; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the State's funds in accordance with its rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an Amendment of the Agreement with the State for the above-named project;

NOW, THEREFORE, the governing body/board resolves that:

1. Nikole Baltycki or the successor to the office of Township Administrator is hereby authorized to:
   (a) request such a loan and/or such a grant,
   (b) provide additional information and furnish such documents as may be required, and
   (c) act as the authorized correspondent of the above-named applicant; and

2. The applicant agrees to provide the local government/nonprofit share if a match is required.

3. The applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

No. 26-073
By: Councilman Crudele

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NJDCA LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE GROVER CLEVELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL FIELD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately $75,000.00 to carry out part of a project to install a multi-sport synthetic turf field, backstop, new scoreboard, rehabilitate existing asphalt driveway, fencing and gates, new baseball bases and Homeplate, associated site work and improvements, new soccer goal system, dugouts with fencing, shelter and benches, fenced, double bullpen, double batting tunnels, a 2-story field house that will contain a concession stand, storage area, bathrooms, and coach's box, bleachers and sportsfield lighting as part of the Grover Cleveland Middle School Field Improvements (2026 LRIG).

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,

1) that the Council of the Township of West Caldwell does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and,
2) recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between Township of West Caldwell and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith:

(signature)	(signature)
Joseph Tempesta, Jr.	**Nikole H. Baltycki**
(type or print name)	(type or print name)
Mayor	**Township Administrator**
(title)	(title)

No. 26-074
By: Councilman Crudele

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS IN THE RECREATION OFFICE

WHEREAS, there is a need to issue refunds for Recreation Program Fees collected in the Recreation Office as shown below; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation Director recommends the refunds of these fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of West Caldwell that the proper officers be, and they are hereby authorized and directed to transfer funds or issue checks to clear the refunds as shown below:

CURRENT FUND

Name	Amount	Reason
Michael Barboza 10 Knoll Place West Caldwell, NJ 07006	$80.00	Refund- Basketball
Nicholas Rojas 97 Westville Avenue Caldwell, NJ 07006	$80.00	Refund- Basketball

TOTAL CURRENT FUND REFUNDS: $160.00

TRUST FUND

Name	Amount	Reason
Elizabeth Sullivan 49 Birkendene Road Caldwell, NJ 07006	$32.00	Refund- Senior Fitness Cardio Dance
Jacob Virella Hyman 30 Eastern Parkway Caldwell, NJ 07006	$120.00	Refund- Uniform

TOTAL TRUST FUND REFUNDS: $152.00

No. 26-075
By: Councilwoman Canale

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION APPOINTING YAIRA MICHELL BARRIENTOS AS DISPATCHER IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell desires to appoint a Dispatcher; and

WHEREAS, Yaira Michell Barrientos, 661 Stuyvesant Avenue, Irvington, NJ 07111 is willing and able to serve a Dispatcher in the Police Department for the Township of West Caldwell; and

WHEREAS, the appointment of Yaira Michell Barrientos as Dispatcher is contingent upon successful completion of the appropriate medical and psychological testing to the satisfaction of the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Caldwell, in the County of Essex, as follows:

1. Yaira Michell Barrientos is appointed as Dispatcher, effective February 16, 2026, at a salary of $60,000.00 in accordance with the salary ordinance.
2. All Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

No. 26-076
By: Councilman Cecere

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY CONTRACT WITH MONTANA CONSTRUCTION CORP. INC FOR WATER MAIN REPAIRS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6

WHEREAS, there was an emergent need to respond to a water main break and conduct the necessary repairs on Oakland Avenue on January 26, 2026;

WHEREAS, the Licensed Water Operator has determined that the break in the water main constitutes an emergency affecting the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Township of West Caldwell; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell has declared the need to enter into an emergency contract consistent with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 to repair and/or replace the portion of the water main affected; and

WHEREAS, Montana Construction Corp. Inc., 80 Contant Avenue, Lodi, NJ 07644, responded to the emergency and made the necessary water main repairs in amount not to exceed $27,750.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available for said purpose in the Capital Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Caldwell, Essex County, New Jersey that all Township officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

No. 26-077
By: Councilman Cecere

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH FRONTLINE INDUSTRIES, INC. FOR PUMP REPAIRS AT THE KIRKPATRICK PUMPSTATION IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL THROUGH THE NORTH JERSEY WASTEWATER PRICING COOPERATIVE

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell is a member of the North Jersey Wastewater Pricing Cooperative; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable from time to time to obtain materials, supplies, and equipment under Contracts for such materials, supplies and equipment entered into by the North Jersey Wastewater Pricing Cooperative without the necessity of advertising for bids or in the cases where no bids have been received; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that pumps and motors at the Kirkpatrick Pump Station in the Township of West Caldwell must be repaired and replaced; and

WHEREAS, Frontline Industries, Inc. has a valid contact through the North Jersey Wastewater Pricing Cooperative – Contract #B454-1 for Various Manufacturer Pumps and Motors Repair and Replacement and Installation; and

WHEREAS, this purchase is permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5), the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law which permits contracting units to participated in cooperative pricing systems; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available for this purchase in the amount of $72,656.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Caldwell, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The purchases by the Township of West Caldwell Department of Public Works shall be purchased under a contract for such materials, supplies or equipment entered into under the North Jersey Wastewater Pricing Cooperative with Frontline Industries, Inc.

No. 26-078
By: Councilman Wolsky

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL TO D&J MAINTENANCE

WHEREAS, the Township of West Caldwell has a need to award a contract for the cleaning of Township buildings as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20; and,

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined and certified in writing that the value of the acquisition will exceed $17,500; and,

WHEREAS, D&J Maintenance has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that D&J Maintenance has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of West Caldwell in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit D&J Maintenance from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract period, and

WHEREAS**,** the Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available for said purpose in the Current Fund; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor & Council of the Township of West Caldwell, County of Essex, State of New Jersey of the authorizes Township Officials to enter into a contract in excess of $17,500.00 but not to exceed $46,764.00 with D&J Maintenance as described herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and Non-Collusion Affidavit be placed on file with this resolution.

No. 26-079
By: Councilman Wolsky

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

WHEREAS, The Township of West Caldwell (the "Township" or the "public body" has been duly created and is validly existing as a public body corporate and politic of the State of New Jersey pursuant to applicable laws of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, The Township constitutes a "public body" as such term is defined in the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, constituting Chapter 231 of the Pamphlet Laws of 1975 of the State of New Jersey, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. and the acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto (the "Open Public Meetings Act"); and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act permits a public body, as such term is defined therein, to exclude members of the public from portions of any "meeting", as such term is defined therein including N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) et seq., under certain limited circumstances which include, but are not limited to, (a) a discussion of pending or anticipated litigation in which the public body is or may become a party, or (b) a discussion of any matters which fall within the attorney-client privilege, or (c) a discussion of a collective bargaining agreement including the negotiation of the terms and conditions thereof, or (d) a discussion regarding the purchase, acquisition or lease of real property with public funds or (e) a discussion of involving the employment, appointment or termination of employment of an existing or prospective public officer or employee; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township has determined that and is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist that permit the governing body of the Township to discuss the matters set forth in this Resolution in executive session; and

WHEREAS, the matters set forth in this Resolution are within the exceptions and the limited circumstances set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) et seq., the governing body of the Township desires to conduct a portion of the meeting in an executive session from which members of the public will be excluded.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CALDWELL, in accordance with the provisions of The Open Public Meetings Act, that the governing body of the Township hereby determines to conduct a portion of the meeting in an executive session from which members of the public will be excluded in accordance with the provisions of Open Public Meetings Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the aforementioned executive session will be limited to matters relating to the following items and which matters involve, as applicable, pending, and anticipated litigation involving or expected to involve the Township, matters which fall within the attorney-client privilege, matters regarding the discussion of a collective bargaining agreement, matters relating to purchase, acquisition or lease of real property with public funds or matters relating to personnel:

Personnel – Sergeant Interviews for the West Caldwell Police Department

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of each executive session will be prepared and maintained by the Township and with regard to each of the matters discussed in executive session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes relating to a particular matter discussed will be made available to members of the public – (a) at such time as the matter no longer requires confidentiality as permitted by applicable laws, (b) upon the completion of a pending or anticipated litigation, or (c) upon such matter no longer falling within the attorney-client privilege, (d) upon the completion of a collective bargaining agreement including the negotiation of the terms and conditions thereof, or (e) upon the completion of a purchase, acquisition or lease of real property with public funds, or (f) as such disclosure may otherwise may be required by the Open Public Meetings Act.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE:

Councilman Docteroff reported that budget meetings will start in two or three weeks. The Planning Board had their Reorganization Meeting and their next meeting will be February 26.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Councilman Cecere reported that the DPW did a great job with the major snow storm that we had. He reminded residents not to put the snow in the street. It is a major safety issue. There was a water main break on Natalie Drive.

Councilman Crudele commented that they have to stay until the job is done. Kudos to the whole team under Mike Tempesta and Dominic Rehbein.

Councilman Cecere reported that the Library had their Reorganization Meeting and Mrs. Otterbein is once again President.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

On the recommendation of Council President Canale, the reports submitted by the Police Chief and Detective Bureau, the Construction Official, and the Court Administrator for the month of December as received, be placed on file.

Council President Canale reported that the Environmental Commission has chosen James Haas to once again be the Chairman and Joe Emmanuelle to be the Vice Chairman. There is a new member who will be the Secretary and the second meeting is this Thursday.

TECHNOLOGY AND SHARED SERVICES:

Councilman Schott reported that there was a Shared Services meeting with the Board Of Education on January 13 where they discussed trash and technology. It was a positive meeting. They were happy that the Special Election on February 5 was moved to the Town Hall. There will be a Board of Health meeting tomorrow at 7:00 pm.

LEGAL AND PERSONNEL:

No report.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Councilman Crudele said that there will be a Camp Wyanokie meeting at 7:00 pm tomorrow night. He reported that the Township is looking for a new Assistant Recreation Director and there are Public Works and Water Department positions that need to be filled as well. He said that the local Boys and Girls basketball teams are undefeated. He also spoke about the Election.

ADVISORS' REPORT:

There were no reports.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Tempesta explained that the Council will be interviewing Police Department candidates and will comment to the Public after Closed Session.

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Steven Maginnis was concerned about people nailing American flags into trees and would like the Township to ban this. Mayor Tempesta thanked him for his comments and said that they would take that under advisement.

Richard Wilcox had some concerns about electronics being recycled. Administrator Baltycki explained that the garbage hauler must follow the law and would check to see if that was in the contract once the bid is awarded.

ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION:

There being no further business before the Council a motion from Councilman Cecere and a second from Councilman Crudele, the meeting adjourned to closed session at 6:27 pm. All were in favor. Mayor Tempesta said that the Council reserves the right to come out of closed session and vote on any matter. On a motion of Councilman Cecere, seconded by Councilman Wolsky, the

meeting reconvened to open session at 7:54 pm. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor. There was no one from the public in attendance.

Mayor Tempesta asked Clerk DeBlasis to read the title of the first Resolution.

No. 26-080
By: Councilwoman Canale

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROMOTION OF DANIEL POTUCEK TO THE RANK OF SERGEANT IN THE WEST CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT.

RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Public Safety Committee and the West Caldwell Council that the nomination by Mayor Joseph Tempesta, Jr. of Daniel Potucek to the rank of Sergeant of the West Caldwell Police Department be confirmed, effective February 9, 2026 at a salary of $159,910.

It was regularly moved by Council President Canale, seconded by Councilman Wolsky that the Resolution be approved. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor.

Mayor Tempesta asked Clerk DeBlasis to read the title of the next Resolution.

No. 26-081
By: Councilwoman Canale

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROMOTION OF ANTHONY KAZOUN TO THE RANK OF SERGEANT IN THE WEST CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT.

RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Public Safety Committee and the West Caldwell Council that the nomination by Mayor Joseph Tempesta, Jr. of Anthony Kazoun to the rank of Sergeant of the West Caldwell Police Department be confirmed, effective February 9, 2026 at a salary of $159,910.

It was regularly moved by Council President Canale, seconded by Councilman Docteroff that the Resolution be approved. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor.

Mayor Tempesta congratulated both of the newly promoted Sergeants.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Council on a motion from Councilman Cecere and a second by Councilman Wolsky, the meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm. All were in favor.

_____
Joann DeBlasis, Township Clerk