

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
March 24, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:11 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act and reiterated his statement from Caucus Meeting that in light of the Governor's issuance of Executive Order 107, tonight's City Council meeting is being live streamed through Zoom. Instructions on how to attend the meeting via Zoom are posted on the City's website.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Darren Matik; Councilwoman June Byrnes; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Eric Ford; Councilman Todd Gordon (via live stream); Councilman Matt Levinson; and Council President Ralph Paolone (via live stream).

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Vince Polistina, City Engineer; Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk (via live stream); and Mary Cole, Deputy Municipal Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES WITHOUT FORMAL READING

Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2021 Regular meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

ORDINANCES

7 OF 2021 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 238 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LINWOOD AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED, THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 7 of 2021 by title only. Councilman Gordon motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve Ordinance No. 7 for final reading. Council President Paolone opened the floor for discussion on Ordinance No. 7. Seeing and hearing no members of the public wishing to be heard, Council President Paolone closed the floor. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was approved.

8 OF 2021 AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF LINWOOD AMENDING THE LINWOOD CODE OF ORDINANCES TO REPEAL CHAPTER 155 FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION; TO ADOPT A NEW FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION ORDINANCE CHAPTER 155; TO ADOPT FLOOD HAZARD MAPS; TO DESIGNATE A FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 8 of 2021 by title only. Councilman Gordon motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve Ordinance No. 8. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was approved.

9 OF 2021 AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 9 of 2021 by title only. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon, to approve Ordinance No. 9. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was approved.

RESOLUTIONS

69-2021 A Resolution introducing the 2021 Municipal Budget

The Clerk read Resolution No. 69 of 2021 by title only. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve Resolution No. 69. Councilman Levinson presented a Power Point Presentation on the 2021 Municipal Budget (attached as Exhibit B). A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was approved.

RESOLUTIONS WITHIN CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under item, **Consent Agenda**, are considered to be routine by City Council, and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed. Any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds and any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda and discussed separately. All Consent Agenda items will be reflected in full in the minutes.

- 66-2021** A Resolution authorizing payment to the Linwood Volunteer Fire Company for the sale of a fire truck
- 67-2021** A Resolution awarding the Contract to Inspira Health Network, Inc. for Shared Emergency Medica Services in the City of Linwood and the City of Northfield
- 68-2021** A Resolution awarding a Contract to Shore Solutions mechanical Contracting, LLC for HVAC repairs and services for the City of Linwood
- 70-2021** A Resolution providing Notice of Intent to comply with FEMA standards for Linwood's Floodplain Management Program
- 71-2021** A Resolution authorizing the hiring of Tyler R. Odenath and Thomas P. Flynn, III as Part Time Relief Firefighters for the City of Linwood

Council President Paolone asked if any member of Council would like to remove any items from consent. Resolution No. 67, 2021 was removed. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve Resolutions No. 66, 68, 70-71 of 2021. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

The Clerk read Resolution No. 67, 2021 by title only. Councilman Gordon motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve Resolution No. 67. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and one abstention by Councilman Levinson. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$1,249,409.79

Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Byrnes, to approve the bills for payment. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was approved. (The bill list is attached as Exhibit A)

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Council President Paolone opened the floor to the public for discussion on any topic.

Seeing and hearing no members from the public wishing to be heard, Council President Paolone closed the floor.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Matik – Mayor Matik reported that a large number of adult Linwood residents have already been vaccinated. He announced the Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for April 3. The event is planned with social distancing rules. Registration is through linwoodrec.org.

Councilman Levinson – Councilman Levinson thanked the Finance Committee and Mr. Strazzeri for their hard work on the budget. He is excited about the Easter Egg Hunt. The social distance plan was approved by the Office of Emergency Management. He also welcomed new Council member Todd Michael.

Councilwoman DeDomenicis – Councilwoman DeDomenicis also welcomed Councilman Todd Michael. She sits on the Finance Committee and was in on the interviews for the part time Firefighter candidates. There were some very good candidates. She also commended the efforts of the Finance Committee on the budget.

Councilwoman Byrnes – Councilwoman Byrnes is hoping that as Spring is here the State will re-open more. She commended Councilman Levinson and Mr. Strazzeri on the budget. She announced that the Library is offering curb side delivery and pick up for seniors. She also welcomed Councilman Michael.

Councilman Ford – Councilman Ford congratulated the Construction Office for a job well done this past year under the new T.A.C.O., Angela Marshal, who also just obtained her Zoning Officer certification. She is doing a great job.

Councilman Gordon – Councilman Gordon welcomed Councilman Michael and looks forward to working with him. He thanked Councilman Levinson and Mr. Strazzeri for their efforts on the budget. These are some challenging times and no tax increase is great while continuing to provide the same public service our residents expect.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL (continued)

Councilman Michael – Councilman Michael thanked Council for their support and he looks forward to working with everyone.

Council President Paolone – Council President Paolone thanked the budget committee, noting that it is a thankless job. The City is not raise taxes. If anything goes up, it is because of the schools or the county. He thanked the Mayor, Councilwoman DeDomenicis, Mr. Youngblood, Northfield Solicitor Kris Facenda, and Northfield Councilmen Smith and Notaro who worked with Linwood on the Emergency Medical Services RFP process. The City received three proposals. One was a zero bid from Inspira. This will save Linwood \$75,000 a year for the next three years. He echoed Councilwoman Byrnes's comments about Spring and things opening up. The parks are very busy and he reminded everyone to drive carefully.

RESOLUTIONS

72-2021 A Resolution closing the meeting of March 24, 2021 for the purpose of discussing anticipated litigation

The Clerk read Resolution No. 72 of 2021 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve Resolution No. 72. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved. At 6:42 P.M., the meeting was closed to the public. The meeting was re-opened at 7:01 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilman Gordon motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to adjourn at 7:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk