

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
April 8, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Eric Ford called the meeting to order at 6:27 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

FLAG SALUTE:

Councilman Ken Kelly led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Darren Matik; Councilman Ken Kelly; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Todd Michael; Councilman Michael Salerno; Councilman Adam Walcoff; and Council President Eric Ford.

Absent: Councilwoman Blair Albright.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; CJ Kaenzig, Engineer's Office; Leon Costello, City Auditor; and Leigh Ann Napoli, City Administrator/Municipal Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES WITHOUT FORMAL READING

Councilman Walcoff motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2026, Regular meeting and the March 25, 2026 Regular meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion approved.

PRESENTATION

Councilman Kelly presented a Proclamation to Anthony Marinelli for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Assemblywoman Maureen Rowan also recognized Mr. Marinelli and presented him with a Certificate from the State of New Jersey. The Mayor and each member of Council congratulated and commended Mr. Marinelli.

ORDINANCE

4 OF 2026 AN ORDINANCE REGULATING PRIVATELY OWNED SALT STORAGE IN THE CITY OF LINWOOD

The City Clerk read Ordinance No. 4 of 2026 by title only. Councilman Kelly motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve Ordinance No. 4 for final reading. Council President Ford opened the floor for discussion on Ordinance No. 4. Seeing and hearing no members of the public wishing to be heard, Council President Ford closed the floor. A roll call vote was heard with five in the affirmative, one vote in the negative cast by Councilman Walcoff, and one member, Councilwoman Albright, absent. Motion was approved.

5 OF 2026 AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC STREET SITUATED IN THE CITY OF LINWOOD, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND TO RELEASE THE PUBLIC RIGHTS THEREIN – A PORTION OF EDNA AVENUE, AND REPEALING OTHER ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED, THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HERewith.

The City Clerk read Ordinance No. 5 of 2026 by title only. Councilman Walcoff motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve Ordinance No. 5 for first reading. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and one member, Councilwoman Albright, absent. Motion was approved.

RESOLUTIONS

83-2026 A Resolution authorizing the use of the average percentage of collection in calculating the reserve for uncollected taxes in the 2026 local municipal budget

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 83 of 2026 by title only. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Kelly, to approve Resolution No. 83. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and one member, Councilwoman Albright, absent. Motion was approved.

RESOLUTIONS (continued)

Councilman Levinson presented a Power Point presentation on the 2026 budget. (Attached as Exhibit B)

84-2026 A Resolution introducing the 2026 Municipal Budget

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 84 of 2026 by title only. Councilman Kelly motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve Resolution No. 84. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and one member, Councilwoman Albright, absent. 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.

- 77-2026** A Resolution authorizing the cancellation of taxes of a tax exempt property for Block 28.01 Lot 10 located at 1803 Shore Road in the City of Linwood
- 78-2026** A Resolution authorizing the establishment of a Developer Escrow Master Account with OceanFirst Bank
- 79-2026** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License, #2026-10, to Muckdogs, Inc
- 80-2026** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License, #2026-11, to Muckdogs, Inc
- 81-2026** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Bingo License, #2026-05, to Muckdogs, Inc
- 82-2026** A Resolution authorizing the appointment of Guy James Galantino to the positions of Construction Official/Building SubCode Official and Building Inspector for the City of Linwood

Council President Ford advised that Resolution No. 85 of 2026 authorizing asked if any member of Council would like to remove any items from consent. No items were removed. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve Resolutions No. 77-82, 85 of 2026. Six members of Council were in favor and one member, Councilwoman Albright, absent. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$1,421,322.28

Council President Ford announced the Purchase Order No. 27000443 was removed from the bill list. The new total is \$1,360,368.34. Councilman Walcoff motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve the bills for payment. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and one member, Councilwoman Albright, absent. Motion was approved. (The bill list is attached as Exhibit A)

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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

Ed Dixon 3507 Asbury Avenue, Ocean City – Mr. Dixon asked the Governing Body to pass a Resolution designating August 2026 as Military Veterans Appreciation Month.

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

FINAL REMARKS BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Matik – The Mayor thanked everyone for their efforts on the budget. It is difficult to have a reasonable budget due to the school funding laws, but our committee did their best. He will look into Military Appreciation Month.

Councilman Kelly – Councilman Kelly reported that the Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success and he thanked the Fire Department for their continued support of community events. He also thanked the Recreation Director for the event. Councilman Kelly thanked the members of the finance committee, the Mayor, Mr. Strazzeri, and Mrs. Napoli for their efforts on the budget and the rest of Council for their support.

Councilman Michael – Councilman Michael indicated the budget season is always tough. The committee went line by line with the budget and evaluated the wants, needs, and impact on the taxpayers. He appreciates everyone's input and the guidance from Mr. Strazzeri, Mr. Costello, and the rest of Council.

FINAL REMARKS BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL (continued)

Councilman Levinson – Councilman Levinson congratulated Anthony Marinelli. He thanked Mr. Dixon for attending the meeting. He thanked Mr. Costello, Mr. Strazzeri, Mrs. Napoli, and his committee for their help with the budget. He hopes for less hurdles in the future.

Councilman Salerno – Councilman Salerno thanked Finance Committee, Mr. Costello, Mr. Strazzeri and Mrs. Napoli for putting together a good budget package. He is looking forward to the warmer weather and the summer celebrations.

Councilman Walcoff – Councilman Walcoff thanked Mr. Dixon for attending the meeting and for his military service.

Council President Ford – Council President Ford thanked Mr. Dixon and indicated the May is Military Appreciation Month. He will talk to Congressman VanDrew to have it moved to August.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Walcoff, to adjourn at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
City Administrator
Municipal Clerk