

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
April 13, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:15 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act. The meeting is being live streamed through Zoom. Instructions on how to attend the meeting via Zoom are posted on the City's website.

**FLAG SALUTE:**

Councilwoman June Byrnes led the flag salute.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: Councilwoman Blair Albright.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Jen Heller, Engineer's Office; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES WITHOUT FORMAL READING**

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2022 Regular meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

**PRESENTATION**

Swearing In – The Mayor administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Michael Fountas.

**ORDINANCES**

**4 OF 2022** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 263 VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE VI TRAFFIC CONTROL STANDARDS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND ROAD REPAIRS, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LINWOOD AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED, THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

The City Clerk read Ordinance No. 4 of 2022 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve Ordinance No. 4 for final reading. Council President Paolone opened the floor for discussion on Ordinance No. 4. 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 six in the affirmative and Councilwoman Albright absent. Motion was approved.

**5 OF 2022** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 205 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE, ARTICLE I, SECTION 205-2, REVISIONS TO STANDARDS, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LINWOOD AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED, THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

The City Clerk read Ordinance No. 5 of 2022 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve Ordinance No. 5 for final reading. Council President Paolone opened the floor for discussion on Ordinance No. 5. 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 six in the affirmative and Councilwoman Albright absent. Motion was approved.

**6 OF 2022** A BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING SIX HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$650,000) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SIX HUNDRED SEVENTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$617,500) IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY OF LINWOOD FOR VARIOUS GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE CITY OF LINWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, NEW JERSEY.

### **ORDINANCES (continued)**

The City Clerk read Ordinance No. 6 of 2022 by title only. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve Ordinance No. 6 for first reading. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and Councilwoman Albright absent. Motion was approved.

**7 OF 2022** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 61 RECREATION, BOARD OF, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LINWOOD AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED, THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

The City Clerk read Ordinance No. 7 of 2022 by title only. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve Ordinance No. 7 for first reading. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and Councilwoman Albright absent. Motion was approved.

**8 OF 2022** AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.

The City Clerk read Ordinance No. 8 of 2022 by title only. Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Byrnes, to approve Ordinance No. 8 for first reading. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and Councilwoman Albright absent. Motion was approved.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

**89-2022** A Resolution introducing the 2022 Municipal Budget

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 89 of 2022 by title only. Councilman Levinson advised that the budget includes a zero cent tax increase and reviewed overall budget totals. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve Resolution No. 89. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and 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.

**69-2022** A Resolution approving the Settlement of a Tax Appeal filed on behalf of the Cornerstone Building for Calendar Years 2020 and 2021

**85-2022** A Resolution authorizing the City of Linwood to participate in the Atlantic County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

**86-2022** A Resolution authorizing the refund of a tax overpayment due to Homestead Credit on Tax Exempt Veteran Account made for Block 98, Lot 6, located at 311 Van Sant Avenue in the City of Linwood

**87-2022** A Resolution awarding a Non-Competitive Contract for Professional Services to Triad Associates for Accessory Apartment Implementation Services for the City of Linwood

**88-2022** A Resolution authorizing the hiring of Steven H. Rundall, David Chomicki, and Christopher Hutton as Laborers in the City of Linwood Public Works Department

Council President Paolone asked if any member of Council would like to remove any other items from consent. Councilwoman DeDomenicis removed Resolution No. 88, 2022. Councilwoman Byrnes motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve Resolutions No. 69, 85-87 of 2022. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 88 of 2022 by title only. Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve Resolution No. 88. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and Councilwoman Albright absent. Motion was approved. Councilwoman DeDomenicis welcomed the new employees to the City.

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$412,756.87**

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve the bills for payment. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and Councilwoman Albright absent. 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.

Sandy Hickerson 210 Upland Avenue, Absecon – Ms. Hickerson addressed City Council on behalf of the Atlantic County 2A Sanctuary asking Council to adopt their Resolution to support the Second Amendment rights.

Salvatore Giampone 209 Jefferson Avenue, - Mr. Gaimpone also asked City Council to adopt the Atlantic County 2A Sanctuary Resolution.

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

**FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

Mayor Matik – The Mayor thanked Councilman Levinson and the Finance Committee for their efforts on the budget. The recent tax appeal from Cornerstone took five million off the ratable base and Council was still able to produce a budget with a zero tax increase. The Mayor welcomed the new Public Works employees to the City and congratulated Sergeant Fountas.

Councilwoman Byrnes – Councilwoman Byrnes thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She announced that the Easter/Passover Egg Hunt is this Saturday at the park. She congratulated Sergeant Fountas and welcomed the new Public Works employees.

Councilwoman DeDomenicis – Councilwoman DeDomenicis welcomed the new Public Works employees and is looking forward to working with them.

Councilman Michael – Councilman Michael congratulated and thanked everyone for their hard work on the budget.

Councilman Ford – Councilman Ford also commended everyone for their efforts on the budget. It is great to see the numerous projects going on in the City with no increase in taxes. He congratulated Sergeant Fountas and welcomed the new Public Works employees.

Council President Paolone – Council President Paolone wished everyone a happy and safe Holiday.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to adjourn at 6:39 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk