

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL**  
**CAUCUS MINUTES**  
**May 25, 2022**

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:06 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

1. Roll Call

Present: Councilwoman Blair Albright; Councilwoman June Byrnes; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Eric Ford; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Todd Michael (arrived after roll call); and Council President Ralph Paolone

Absent: Mayor Darren Matik.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Jen Heller, Engineer's Office; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Chief Steve Cunningham, Police Department; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2022 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor with one abstention from Councilwoman DeDomenicis. Motion was approved.

3. Councilwoman Albright

A. Planning, Engineering, & Development

1. Councilwoman Albright discussed an Ordinance amending the City Code to provide for a time line on abandonments of nonconforming uses. The Ordinance has been distributed to all Council members but must go before the Planning Board for review at their June meeting. Council will look to introduce the Ordinance in July.
2. Council President Paolone asked for an update on signage at the bike path and Ocean Heights Avenue. Councilwoman Albright advised that the City of Somers Point received a grant to have two pedestrian flashing beacons installed on Ocean Heights Avenue and are working with Atlantic County on the project. Linwood will still look to install flashing stop signs on the bike path.

4. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis advised of a Resolution on the agenda awarding a Contract to UniFirst Corporation for Public Works Department uniforms.

5. Councilman Ford

A. Planning, Engineering, & Development

1. Councilman Ford discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for first reading amending Chapter 140, Planning and Zoning fees to include a Development Review Committee fee. The Committee was created last year and has been very successful. However, some applicants are abusing it. Meetings are set up and the applicants do not show up or even call to say they cannot attend. The City's Board Engineer and Solicitor are members of the Committee and should not have to schedule time when no one shows up.
2. Councilman Ford advised of an Ordinance amending Chapter 99, Brush, Grass & Weeds. This is a safety issue to address overgrowth in the right of way.

6. Councilman Levinson

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Levinson advised of Resolutions on the agenda authorizing refunds of taxes for 509 Wilson Avenue and 210 Haines Avenue due to permanently disabled veteran status.

7. Council President Paolone

A. Administration

1. Council President Paolone advised of Resolutions on the agenda approving the application of Linwood CC License, LLC and Atlantic City Country Club I, LLC for renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption Licenses. The license for Atlantic City Country Club is a pocket license. By law, they can renew the license for two terms and then must petition the State to renew. This is their second term renewing as a pocket. Council President Paolone advised that next year the City can object to the renewal if they have no substantial plans for the license. Councilman Ford asked to pull the Resolution renewing that license from the Consent Agenda. He understands they have the right to renew it but he wants to object on the record that they continue to hold the license in pocket rather than using it or trying to sell it to help the City generate revenue.

At 6:16 P.M., Council President Paolone called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk