

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
May 28, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Eric Ford called the meeting to order at 6:09 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; Councilwoman Blair Albright; Councilman Ken Kelly; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Michael Salerno; Councilman Adam Walcoff; and Council President Eric Ford.

Absent: Councilman Todd Michael.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES WITHOUT FORMAL READING

Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Walcoff, to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2025 Regular without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

RESOLUTIONS

115-2025 A Resolution authorizing the hiring of Joseph B. McCauley to the position of Firefighter in the City of Linwood

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 115 of 2025 by title only. Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Kelly, to approve Resolution No. 115. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved. The Mayor administered the Oath of Office to Joseph B. McCauley.

116-2025 A Resolution authorizing the hiring of Alexander R. Bauer as a Floodplain Manager for the City of Linwood

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 116 of 2025 by title only. Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Walcoff, to approve Resolution No. 116. All present members of Council were in favor. 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.

106-2025 A Resolution authorizing the refund of a tax overpayment for Block 58 Lot 8 located at 10 Somers Avenue in the City of Linwood

107-2025 A Resolution authorizing the refund of a tax overpayment for Block 121 Lot 8 located at 510 W. Barr Avenue in the City of Linwood

108-2025 A Resolution authorizing the refund of various tax overpayments

109-2025 A Resolution changing the June 25, 2025 Caucus Meeting commencement time from 6:00 PM to 4:00 PM

110-2025 A Resolution requesting approval of items of Revenue and Appropriation NJSA 40A:4-87 for a Clean Communities Grant

111-2025 A Resolution requesting approval of items of Revenue and Appropriation NJSA 40A:4-87 for a Recycling Tonnage Grant

112-2025 A Resolution approving Change Order No. 1 with Applied Landscape Technologies with regard to the Furnishing and Installation of a Synthetic Turf System at All Wars Memorial Park

RESOLUTIONS WITHIN CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

- 113-2025** A Resolution approving the application of Linwood CC License LLC for Renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 0114-33-002-003 for 2025-2026
- 114-2025** A Resolution appointing Joseph P. Olden to the position of Acting General Supervisor in the Linwood Public Works Department
- 117-2025** A Resolution awarding a Non-Competitive Contract for Professional Services to Matthew J. Behr, Esquire for Legal Services regarding a personnel matter
- 118-2025** A Resolution authorizing the City of Linwood to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey

Council President Ford asked if any member of Council would like to remove any items from consent. No items were removed. Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Kelly, to approve Resolutions No. 106-114, 117-118 of 2025. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$917,490.22

Councilman Walcoff motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve the bills for payment. A roll call vote was heard with four in the affirmative, two abstentions by Councilwoman Albright and Councilman Levinson, and Councilman Michael was 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.

Jack Verseput 306 W. Poplar Avenue, Linwood – Mr. Verseput requested more enforcement for dogs on the bike path without leashes. He would also like to see the fine for same increased. He also stated how nice the new field looks.

John Grassi and John Grassi, Jr. 17 Fischer Road, Linwood – Mr. Grassi introduced his son, John Jr. who discussed speeding on Burroughs Avenue. He requested something to be done if possible and suggested sidewalks or speed bumps.

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 who put together the Memorial Day Parade and thanked Councilwoman Albright for getting the fly over for the event. The Police will enforce the dogs running loose on the bike path. He thanked and commended John Grassi, Jr. for his comments.

Councilman Kelly – Councilman Kelly congratulated Joseph McCauley. The Memorial Day Parade had a great turnout. He thanked the members of the public for speaking and advised that Council will take their comments into consideration.

Councilman Levinson – Councilman Levinson congratulated Joseph McCauley and Mr. Bauer. He looks forward to working with both of them. The Memorial Day Parade was excellent. He commended Mrs. Kaufelds and the Board of Recreation on the event and thanked Councilwoman Albright for organizing the fly over. Councilman Levinson thanked the residents for their comments and agreed with the Grassis' that the cars do travel too fast on Burroughs. He advised that the Chief of Police is in attendance at tonight's meeting and will monitor the street.

Councilwoman Albright – Councilwoman Albright congratulated Mr. McCauley and Mr. Bauer. Loose dogs on the bike path is a problem and the Police will look into it. She thanked the Grassi family for speaking and advised that the Police will monitor the street.

Councilman Salerno – Councilman Salerno congratulated Mr. McCauley and Mr. Bauer, and added that they will be great additions. He thanked the members of the public for speaking. Councilman Salerno lives on West Revere and witnesses the speeding in that area as well. Council and the Police will look for a solution. The Memorial Day Parade was an awesome event and he thanked and commended Mrs. Kaufelds and the Board of Recreation for their efforts.

Councilman Walcoff – Councilman Walcoff concurs with everyone's comments on the new hires. He thanked Joe Olden for stepping up as Acting General Supervisor, noting that he has proven himself over the past year. He commended Mr. Olden on his efforts.

Council President Ford – Council President Ford advised that speed bumps are a problem because they damage snow plows. Burroughs Avenue is half in Linwood and half in Northfield. He intends to walk Burroughs Avenue with the Grassi's to discuss possible solutions.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to adjourn at 6:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
City Administrator
Municipal Clerk