

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
July 9, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Eric Ford 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.

FLAG SALUTE:

Councilman Adam Walcoff led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES WITHOUT FORMAL READING

Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2025 Regular without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

RESOLUTIONS

134-2025 A Resolution hiring William J. Danz, Timothy A. Jackson, Cole W. Leeds, and William F. Stahl as Part Time Relief Firefighters for the City of Linwood

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 134 of 2025 by title only. Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve Resolution No. 134. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved. The Mayor administered the Oath of Office for the new Firefighters.

ORDINANCE

5 OF 2025 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE NO. 12-2024, ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 11, 2024, BY THE CITY OF LINWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, NEW JERSEY, WHICH BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDES FOR RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE CITY OF LINWOOD.

The City Clerk read Ordinance No. 5 of 2025 by title only. Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve Ordinance No. 5 for first reading. 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.

131-2025 A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License, #2025-14, to Charity League

132-2025 A Resolution authorizing the refund of a Disabled Veteran tax payments for Block 24, Lot 5 located at 402 W. Joseph Avenue in the City of Linwood

133-2025 A Resolution authorizing additional funds for a Non-Competitive Contract for Professional Services to Barker, Gelfand James & Sarvas, P.C. for Legal Services regarding a personnel matter

135-2025 A Resolution authorizing an Agreement with AllRisk, Inc. to provide Disaster Recovery Services to the Linwood Library using the Education Services Commission of New Jersey Cooperative

RESOLUTIONS WITHIN CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

136-2025 A Resolution approving temporary signage for Mainland United Soccer

137-2025 A Resolution of the City of Linwood adjusting the Bid Threshold

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. 131-133, 135-137 of 2025. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$2,912,761.13

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

Marc Carpenter, 121 Balfour Avenue, Linwood – Mr. Carpenter thanked the Mayor and Council for the installation of the synthetic turf field. It's a great addition to the community and he has been getting a lot of positive feedback from everyone.

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 is happy to have sworn in the new Firefighters. The Fire Department has really grown since the Mayor began on Council in 2012. The Department also now has a great relationship with the City. It is great to see the First Responder program up and running. Out of all the accomplishments during his tenure, he is most proud of this program as it will help the residents more than anything. He commended the Chief, Captain, and Councilman Michael for their efforts. He believes Linwood is leading the County in many ways.

Councilman Walcoff – Councilman Walcoff concurs with the Mayor's comments about the Fire Department. The department has really bloomed and is providing great services to the residents. He thanked Mr. Carpenter for his comments. Councilman Walcoff enjoys seeing how much use the new field is getting which will certainly help to alleviate the problems with the grass fields.

Councilman Michael – Councilman Michael congratulated the new hires in the Fire Department. He too believes the first responder program is great. He thanked Chief Walley and Captain Gabriel for their efforts. Councilman Michael is also happy to see everyone enjoying the new field and finally the other fields are starting to look good.

Councilman Salerno – Councilman Salerno echoed the comments regarding the Fire Department and is excited about the new hires. He thanked Mr. Carpenter for his comments and is looking forward to the next series of improvements.

Councilman Levinson – Councilman Levinson congratulated the new hires in the Fire Department. He thanked Mr. Carpenter for his comments and for his efforts on the Recreation Board. He is happy to see the turf field getting so much use.

Councilwoman Albright – Councilwoman Albright congratulated the new hires in the Fire Department. The First Responder Program is a great addition. She thanked Mr. Carpenter for his comments and for his volunteer service in Linwood. The fields do look great.

Councilman Kelly – Councilman Kelly thanked Mr. Carpenter for his comments and for volunteering. He commended the Chief and the Captain of the Fire Department for being great leaders and building a great team.

Council President Ford – Council President Ford commended Chief Walley and Captain Gabriel. Council President Ford sat in the interviews and noted the great quality of candidates that are applying to work in Linwood. It all starts with the Chief and the Captain building a great culture. The turf field is certainly epic.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Walcoff, to adjourn at 6:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
City Administrator
Municipal Clerk