

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

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:54 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

FLAG SALUTE:

Councilwoman June Byrnes led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilwoman Blair Albright; Councilwoman June Byrnes; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Eric Ford; Councilman Matt Levinson; and Council President Ralph Paolone.

Absent: Mayor Darren Matik; and Councilman Todd Michael.

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 Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2022 Regular meeting and the June 22, 2022 Regular meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

ORDINANCES

12 OF 2022 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 205, PROPERTY MAINTENANCE, REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY BY MORTGAGEES; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT, AS WELL AS THE REGULATION, LIMITATION AND REDUCTION OF ABANDONED REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEALER, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE, 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. 12 of 2022 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve Ordinance No. 12 for final reading. Council President Paolone opened the floor for discussion on Ordinance No. 12. Kathleen Spaeth 108 Country Club Drive, Linwood Mrs. Spaeth questioned the language of the Ordinance as it pertains property by mortgagees. She asked if it pertained to properties that are owned outright by the property owner. Councilman Ford advised that owners that own properties outright do not usually abandon their properties. This process was created during a recession when property owners with mortgages were abandoning their properties to avoid paying the mortgage. The municipalities needed assistance getting the mortgagees to keep the properties up to code. Seeing and hearing no other 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 Councilman Michael 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.

119-2022 A Resolution authorizing an Alliance Agreement with the County of Atlantic for a Drug Abuse and Alcohol Education and Prevention Program

120-2022 A Resolution authorizing the cancellation of 2017 preliminary taxes due to tax exempt status for Block 118 Lot 8 located at 507 W. Wilson Avenue in the City of Linwood

RESOLUTIONS WITHIN CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

- 121-2022** A Resolution rejecting the bids for the East Patcong Avenue Pump Station Rehabilitation Contract No. 32 in the City of Linwood
- 122-2022** A Resolution authorizing the City of Linwood to share costs with the New Jersey Department of Transportation Association with a traffic control device at the intersection of Route US 9 and Patcong Avenue in the City of Linwood
- 123-2022** A Resolution certifying the review of the annual Audit by the Governing Body
- 124-2022** A Resolution closing the meeting of July 13, 2022

Council President Paolone advised that Resolutions No. 125 and 126 of 2022 were added in the Caucus Meeting. He asked if any member of Council would like to remove any other items from consent. No items were removed. Councilwoman Byrnes motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve Resolutions No. 119-126 of 2022. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$4,076,331.97

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve the bills for payment. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative, and Councilman Michael was 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. Seeing and hearing no members from the public wishing to be heard, Council President Paolone closed the floor.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Councilwoman Byrnes – Councilwoman Byrnes reported that the July 4 Bike Parade organized by the Linwood Historical Society was very successful and she thanked Wayne Dilks for participating.

Councilwoman DeDomenicis – Councilwoman DeDomenicis wished everyone a happy summer.

Councilwoman Albright – Councilwoman Albright announced the story hour project at the Library is complete and recommended everyone to drive by and take a look.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:02 Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Byrnes, to go into Closed Session as authorized by Resolution No. 124 of 2022. All present members were in favor. Motion was approved. The meeting was opened at 8:26 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to adjourn at 8:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk