

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL**  
**CAUCUS MINUTES**  
**August 8, 2018**

Council President Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:07 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

1. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Rick DePamphilis; Councilman Elliot Beinfest; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Eric Ford; Councilman Todd Gordon; Councilman Brian Heun; Councilman Darren Matik; and Council President Ralph Paolone.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Vince Polistina, City Engineer; Jen Heller, Engineer's Office; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Jim Galantino, Construction Official; Chick Kisby, Fire Official; Chief Doug Carman, Police Department; Captain John Hamilton, Police Department; Lieutenant Jason Weber, Police Department; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Beinfest, to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2018 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

- A. The Mayor advised of a Resolution on the agenda to hire Anthony Disciascio as a Special Law Enforcement Officer Class III who will be assigned to Mainland Regional High School.

4. Councilman Beinfest

A. Neighborhood Services

- 1. Councilman Beinfest discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a Drug Alliance Agreement with Atlantic County.
- 2. Councilman Beinfest reported that he received complaints about a house being operated as an air bnb. He was advised by the Code Enforcement Officer, that the City's Ordinance does not prohibit it. Council President Paolone believes that the City's Ordinance does prohibit it. Councilman Heun advised that the Planning Board included a suggestion in the recent Master Plan Re-examination to address this issue. This matter will be reviewed by the Planning & Development Committee.

5. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

- A. Councilwoman DeDomenicis advised that the Public Works Department has been diligently completing their summer duties. They also recently installed two new signs at the Pet Cemetery and the dedication rock at the new playground.

6. Councilman Ford

A. Planning & Development

- 1. Councilman Ford advised of an Ordinance on the agenda amending Chapter 155 Flood Hazard Areas to be compliant with new Federal Regulations. Jim Galantino is present tonight to answer any questions.
- 2. Councilman Ford reported that the house that caught fire on Shore Road is scheduled for demolition next week.

7. Councilman Gordon

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Gordon advised of Resolutions on the agenda to authorize Change Orders to Arawak Paving for the 2017 Road Program. All change orders resulted in an increase of the contract in the amount of \$7,223.29. The changes were due to additional work needed during paving. The project is not closed.
2. Councilman Gordon discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a Change Order to Command Company for the Poplar Recreation Complex. This change was a reduction in the overall contract price. This project is now closed.
3. Councilman Gordon discussed Resolutions on the agenda to authorize the submission to the NJDOT for a Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Grant and a Safe Routes to Schools Grant.
4. Councilman Gordon advised of a Resolution on the agenda to reject bids for the Historical Building Roof. The low bid was \$90,000. The Engineer's estimate was \$77,000. The money set aside in Capital is not enough to fund the project. He discussed changing the specifications to bring the cost down. Mr. Polistina will inquire with the contactors regarding their cost of materials. Councilman Matik discussed the possibility of a grant from the NJ Historic Preservation Trust Fund.
5. Councilman Gordon discussed an environmental report that was done for the Library as a result of an odor in the Senior Room. Mr. Polistina discussed the results of the report and recommendations noted in the report. One possibility is to replace the carpets in both the Senior and All Purpose Rooms.

8. Councilman Heun

A. Public Safety

1. Councilman Heun discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for final reading amending Chapter 152 Fire Prevention to comply with State fee changes.

9. Councilman Matik

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Matik advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the Tax Collector to extend the grace period for taxes. The City had to wait for the tax rate from the County.
2. Councilman Matik advised of Resolutions on the agenda authorizing refunds of overpayments of taxes for 507 Wilson Avenue and 505 Kirklin Avenue.
3. Councilman Matik discussed a Resolution on the agenda in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 124 with regard to Energy Tax Receipts.
4. Councilman Matik discussed a possible event that the Linwood PTO and Recreation Board are planning to raise money. It would be similar to the Hi Neighbor Hop but called an Oktoberfest in the Park. They would like to get a permit from the state to sell beer. However, the City's Code restricts alcohol in the park. He suggested an amendment to the Code that would allow it for city sponsored events. He would like to introduce an Ordinance for same at the next meeting.
5. Councilman Matik reviewed a conceptual plan for the South Jersey Industries Park based on the Recreation Board's recommendations to include a dog park, skate park and extension from bike path to the Exchange.

10. Council President Paolone

A. Administration

1. Council President Paolone advised of Resolutions on the agenda authorizing two Raffle Licenses and one Bingo License to EHT Baseball Association.
2. Council President Paolone discussed the possible state legalization of marijuana and if Linwood would allow for the sale of same. Council President Paolone would be against the sale in Linwood and asked that all Council members prepare to debate this issue in the future.

11. Mr. Youngblood

- A. Mr. Youngblood discussed five Ordinances and five Resolutions on the agenda that set forth the terms and conditions of the settlement details with Fair Share Housing.

At 6:40 P.M., Council President Paolone called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk