

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
September 9, 2026

Council President Eric Ford called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 Darren Matik; Councilwoman Blair Albright; Councilman Ken Kelly; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Todd Michael; Councilman Michael Salerno; Councilman Adam Walcott; and Council President Eric Ford.

Absent: None

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; CJ Kaenzig, Engineer's Office; Chief Steve Cunningham, Police Department; Captain Frank Gabriel, Fire Department; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO, Diane Hesley, Tax Assessor; and Leigh Ann Napoli, City Administrator/Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Kelly, to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2026, Caucus meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion approved.

3. Mayor's Report

- A. The Mayor advised of an appointment to the Recreation Board of Robert Bullard. He was highly recommended from Marc Carpenter, the Board President.
- B. The mural at the Historical Museum is complete and members of the Historical Society would like to invite the members of Council for a presentation of the mural.

4. Councilwoman Albright

A. Planning, Engineering, & Development

- 1. Councilwoman Albright reviewed an ordinance for final reading amending Chapter 119 Uniform Construction Code Fees. This is because of the DCA's annual audit of the fee schedule.
- 2. Councilwoman Albright discussed the Atlantic-Cape Multi-Jurisdictional Program for Public Information. The annual update was previously shared with the governing body.
- 3. Councilwoman Albright advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the release of the Performance Guarantee with regard to Block 13 Lots 16.01 and 16.02. This is related to a subdivision behind Seaview Baptist Church on Burwick Lane. The release is contingent upon the posting of a maintenance bond.
- 4. Councilwoman Albright discussed a Resolution authorizing temporary signage for the Linwood Panthers. The approval is consistent with the City's code.

5. Councilman Levinson

A. Revenue & Finance

- 1. Councilman Levinson reviewed Resolutions authorizing the refund and cancelation of taxes of disabled veterans for 100 E. Seaview Avenue, 114 E. Glenside Avenue, 2306 Wabash Avenue, and 211 Morris Avenue.
- 2. Councilman Levinson advised of a Resolution authorizing a refund of various tax overpayments to CoreLogic.
- 3. Councilman Levinson advised of a Resolution authorizing the insertion of an item of revenue for a Community Development Block Grant.
- 4. Councilman Levinson reported that the Finance Committee met to discuss a reassessment for the City and discussed several options. The City's Assessor, Diane Hesley, obtained an outside proposal with an estimated cost of between \$400,000. - \$500,000. Ms. Hesley discussed her proposal to perform the project in-house for an estimated cost of \$250,000, which can be extended over five years. She reviewed the in-house plan.

Revenue & Finance (continued)

Discussions were also held on the County's proposed annual reassessment plan. Councilman Levinson will obtain an update on the County's plan and report back to full Council.

6. Councilman Michael

A. Public Safety

1. Councilman Michael reviewed a Resolution authorizing the hiring of Philip Ward as a Substitute Crossing Guard

7. Councilman Salerno

- A. Councilman Salerno advised of a Resolution on the agenda supporting the 177th Fighter Wing.

8. Councilman Walcott

A. Public Works

1. Councilman Walcott reviewed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a Non-Competitive Contract for Professional Services to ACT Engineers, Inc for the development of a Community Energy Plan. The cost of the plan is completely funded through a grant and having the plan will help the City qualify for additional grants in the future.
2. Councilman Walcott advised of a Resolution authorizing the City of Linwood to enter into a Contract with Atlantic Salt Inc and Chemical Equipment Labs through the Atlantic County Cooperative Purchasing Program.
3. Councilman Walcott discussed a Resolution authorizing the hiring of Kenneth Brummett as a Laborer in the Public Works Department. A vacancy existed due to a resignation. The position was advertised and interviews were held with recommendations to hire Mr. Brummett.

9. Council President Ford

A. Administration

1. Council President Ford advised of the first readings for the Ordinances amending Chapters 90 & 266 of the City Code regarding e-bikes. This was discussed at length at the last Caucus Meeting.
2. Council President Ford reviewed a Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License to Hope Exists Foundation and Resolutions authorizing the issuance of Raffle Licenses and a Bingo License to BPOE Galloway Twp Lodge #2845.
3. Council President Ford discussed the Resolution authorizing the advertising of City owned lots on Edna Avenue for sale. There is a potential buyer and the City is required to advertise.

At 6:47 P.M., Council President Ford called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
City Administrator/Municipal Clerk