

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
September 14, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:21 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

FLAG SALUTE:

Councilwoman Blair Albright led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None.

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 Michael motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2022 Regular meeting and the August 16, 2022 Special meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

ORDINANCES

11 OF 2022 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 277 ZONING, ARTICLE X, USES AND SUPPLEMENTAL STANDARDS, SECTION 277-38, NONCONFORMING USES, STRUCTURES AND LOTS, 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. 11 of 2022 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve Ordinance No. 11 for final reading. Council President Paolone opened the floor for discussion on Ordinance No. 11. Seeing and hearing no members of the public wishing to be heard, Council President Paolone closed the floor. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was approved.

13 OF 2022 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 212 RENTAL PROPERTY, FOR LEAD BASED PAINTS 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. 13 of 2022 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve Ordinance No. 13 for first reading. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was approved.

14 OF 2022 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 263 VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE I GENERAL REGULATIONS 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. 14 of 2022 by title only. Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve Ordinance No. 14 for first reading. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was approved.

ORDINANCES (continued)

- 15 OF 2022** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 52A EMPLOYEE MANUAL 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. 15 of 2022 by title only. Councilwoman Byrnes motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve Ordinance No. 15 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.

- 139-2022** A Resolution authorizing temporary signage for the Linwood Farmers Market
- 140-2022** A Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an Amendment to a Deed of Easement between the City of Linwood and GLB Management, LLC
- 141-2022** A Resolution authorizing the refund of a Construction Permit #2022-0049 to Sunrun Installation Services, Inc.
- 142-2022** A Resolution authorizing the refund of a sewer payment made by John Applegate
- 143-2022** A Resolution authorizing the cancellation of 2022 final taxes due to tax exempt status for Block 163 Lot 2 located at 210 W. Haines Avenue
- 144-2022** A Resolution authorizing the refund of various tax overpayments made by Corelogic Mortgage
- 145-2022** A Resolution approving temporary signage for Salon Kink's Trunk or Treat Halloween event at Central Square
- 146-2022** A Resolution appointing Firefighter Frank Gabriel to the position of Acting Captain in the Linwood Fire Department
- 147-2022** A Resolution authorizing an Agreement between the City of Linwood and BRT Technologies, LLC for Tax Assessment Software
- 148-2022** A Resolution canceling the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Funding for the Linwood/Seaview Bike Path Extension Project in the City of Linwood
- 149-2022** A Resolution authorizing a Shared Services Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Linwood and the Linwood Board of Education for the provisions of Two Class III Special Law Enforcement Officers
- 150-2022** A Resolution authorizing a Use and Occupancy Agreement with Mainland Regional High School on behalf of MRHS Support our Troops Club
- 151-2022** A Resolution authorizing a Shared Services Agreement with the County of Atlantic for the purchase and use of Trailer Mounted Attenuators
- 152-2022** A Resolution authorizing the hiring of Lisa Isidro as a Substitute School Crossing Guard for the City of Linwood
- 153-2022** A Resolution recognizing October 6, 2022 as Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day
- 154-2022** A Resolution authorizing the hiring of George Adams and Daniel Bryan, Jr. as Special Law Enforcement Officers, Class III, for the City of Linwood

Council President Paolone asked if any member of Council would like to remove any other items from consent. Resolution No. 148, 2022 was removed. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve Resolutions No. 139-147, 149-154 of 2022. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 148, 2022 by title only. Councilwoman Byrnes motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve Resolution No. 148. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and one abstention by Councilman Levinson.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$2,638,432.71

Councilwoman Byrnes motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, 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 Paolone opened the floor to the public for discussion on any topic.

Sandy Hickerson 210 Upland Avenue, Absecon – Ms. Hickerson addressed City Council on behalf of the Atlantic County 2A Sanctuary asking Council to adopt their Resolution to support the Second Amendment rights. She submitted several petitions from Linwood residents in support of the Resolution. She also commended the Linwood Police Department for holding another gun safety course for residents.

Michael Everett 1014 Maple Avenue, Linwood – Mr. Everett expressed his concern with traffic speeding down Maple Avenue. He is concerned for the safety of individuals crossing the street. He also discussed how people on the bike path do not often stop while crossing Maple Avenue and his concern for same. He also advised that there are no speed limit signs on his street. The Mayor advised that Ordinance No. 14 of 2022 which was introduced tonight includes a stop sign for Maple Avenue and the bike path. City officials are looking to make additional safety improvements in that area.

Seeing and hearing no other members from the public wishing to be heard, Council President Paolone closed the floor.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Matik – The Mayor advised that during the Caucus meeting there was a discussion on the scooters and electric bikes and children not wearing helmets when riding. The City is embarking on an education campaign on the laws for helmets. He also advised that there have been and will be continuing discussions amongst City officials for safety improvements to Maple Avenue.

Councilwoman Albright – Councilwoman Albright thanked Ms. Hickerson and Mr. Everett for their comments and everyone for attending the meeting. She echoes the Mayor's comments regarding helmets. The Chief of Police will continue to work closely with the schools for the helmets and provide positive reinforcement for same. The electric bikes and scooters present different dangers. They are looking to keep everyone safe.

Councilwoman Byrnes – Councilwoman Byrnes discussed the kids going back to school and thanked the School Board and the Chief for working together to get everyone back to school safely. She attended the Panthers game this past Saturday night. There was a huge crowd in attendance. On Tuesday, August 16, 2022, the Library was dedicated in honor of Mayor Don Vass. There was over one hundred people in attendance. It was a very nice event.

Councilwoman DeDomenicis – Councilwoman DeDomenicis thanked Mr. Everett for his comments. Maple Avenue has been on the Safety Committee's radar. The stop sign that will be added will be an improvement. As the kids are back in school, she reminded everyone to keep an eye out for them in their travels.

Councilman Ford – Councilman Ford echoed everyone's comments and asked drivers to slow down as the kids are out.

Councilman Michael – Councilman Michael reported that by November 1, 2022, the Linwood schools will have Special Class III Officers working in the schools. He commended the efforts of the School Board and the Police Department on working together and is impressed at the speed at which it was all done.

Council President Paolone – Council President Paolone addressed Mr. Everett indicating that the stop sign will help with the speeding. He also believes the education campaign for helmets will be beneficial.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to adjourn at 6:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk