

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
October 26, 2022

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:02 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; Councilwoman June Byrnes; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Matt Levinson; and Council President Ralph Paolone

Absent: Councilman Eric Ford; and Councilman Todd Michael.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Jen Heller, Engineer's Office; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Chief Steve Cunningham, Police Department; Lieutenant Chester Brown, Police Department; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2022 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Councilwoman Albright

A. Planning, Engineering, & Development

1. Councilwoman Albright advised of an Ordinance on the agenda for final reading amending Chapter 263 for parking in municipal lots.

4. Councilman Levinson

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Levinson discussed the 2022 Best Practice Inventory. This is the State's mandatory annual survey of policies and procedures that the State feels municipalities should generally have in place. The City's final score was 31.5 and the minimum score to retain 100% of State Aid is 24.

5. Council President Paolone

A. Administration

1. Council President Paolone advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a Raffle License to Mainland Performing Arts Parent Organization.
2. Council President Paolone discussed the November 8 referendum question for a synthetic turf field and lighting upgrades at All Wars Memorial Park. In 2009, the voters voted no for a turf field at Mainland Regional High School. That is the reason the turf field question is going to the voters again. He encouraged all the sports organizations to get the information on this question out to as many voters as they can. He also suggested going door-to-door. The City and sports organizations have done everything they can to make the existing fields playable. However, the fields do not get rested and become completely un-playable. The Mayor advised that a complete drainage study has not yet been authorized, only a partial one. A full study is very costly and will be completed if the voters approve the question. Councilman Levinson advised that if the question is not approved, the City and sports organizations will continue to spend thousands of dollars every year on the fields. Councilwoman Albright believes the turf field and lighting upgrades are an investment in the City and will help increase property values. Council President Paolone advised that Council has been versed on the pros and cons and hopes now all the information gets out to the public.

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At 6:22 P.M., Council President Paolone called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk