

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
December 8, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:17 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

FLAG SALUTE:

Councilman Eric Ford led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Darren Matik; Councilwoman June Byrnes; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Eric Ford; Councilman Todd Gordon; 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

Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon, to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2021 Regular meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

PRESENTATION

187-2021 A Resolution honoring Donald B. Vass

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 187 of 2021 by title only. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve Resolution No. 187. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved. Councilman Gordon read and presented the Resolution to former Mayor Vass. The Mayor and each member of City Council extended their appreciation and best wishes to Mayor Vass for his service to the City.

197-2021 A Resolution honoring Todd Gordon

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 197 of 2021 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve Resolution No. 197. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved. Council President Paolone read and presented the Resolution to Councilman Gordon. The Mayor and each member of City Council extended their appreciation, commendations, and best wishes to Councilman Gordon for his many years of service to the City.

198-2021 A Resolution honoring Jason Weber

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 198 of 2021 by title only. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon, to approve Resolution No. 198. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved. Councilman Michael read and presented the Resolution to Police Chief Jason Weber. The Mayor and each member of City Council extended their appreciation and best wishes to Chief Weber for his years of service to the City.

RESOLUTIONS

193-2021 A Resolution authorizing 2021 Budget Appropriation Transfers

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 193 of 2021 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve Resolution No. 193. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was approved.

194-2021 A Resolution cancelling Appropriation Balances

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 194 of 2021 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve Resolution No. 194. 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.

- 188-2021** A Resolution to rescind Resolution No. 186, 2021 authorizing participation with Atlantic County Government in applying for a LEAP Implementation Grant
- 189-2021** A Resolution authorizing participation with Atlantic County Government in applying for a LEAP Implementation Grant
- 190-2021** A Resolution authorizing the hiring of Anthony Onesky as a Substitute School Crossing Guard for the City Linwood
- 191-2021** A Resolution authorizing the hiring of Donna McBride as an Administrative Assistant in the Construction Office for the City of Linwood
- 192-2021** A Resolution authorizing the cancellation of taxes for Block 110 Lot 1.01 located at 4 East Glenside Avenue in the City of Linwood
- 195-2021** A Resolution rejecting the bids for Lawn Maintenance and Snow Removal Services for the City of Linwood
- 196-2021** A Resolution authorizing the City of Linwood to re-advertise for bids for Lawn Maintenance and Snow Removal Services for the City of Linwood
- 199-2021** A Resolution extending the Contract with Miller's Lawn Care Inc. for Lawn Maintenance and Snow Removal Services
- 200-2021** A Resolution approving Change Order No. 1 with American Pipe Cleaning, LLC with regard to the 2021 Video Inspection and Main Cleaning in the City of Linwood

Council President Paolone asked if any member of Council would like to remove any items from consent. Nothing was removed. Councilman Gordon motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve Resolutions No. 188-192, 195-196, 199-200 of 2021. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$1,450,997.99

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve the bills for payment. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. 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.

Kathleen Spaeth 108 Country Club Drive, Linwood – Mrs. Spaeth congratulated all the honorees tonight. She discussed an event at the Linwood Country Club when she called the Police for loud music. She thanked the Chief and Council for their help with the noise, but she would like a solution. She also discussed how construction work being done on the Country Club grounds behind her house was very disturbing to her and her guests on Thanksgiving Day.

Jelani Gandy 207 Davis Avenue, Linwood – Mr. Gandy congratulated all the people honored at tonight's meeting. He asked if Council could provide and update on a traffic signal request on Route 9.

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 Mr. Gandy that the City did meet with the NJ Department of Transportation last week and are working with them on the issues.

Councilman Ford – Councilman Ford thanked the staff of the Construction Department. They have been super busy. The new employee hired tonight is much anticipated. The Christmas Tree Lighting was held last night. Everyone involved did a great job. It was a well attended event. He advised Mr. Gandy that representatives from the City and the schools met with representatives from the Department of Transportation. We are working with them to get immediate solutions for the safe crossing of Route 9 along with long term solutions. Happy Holidays.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL (continued)

Councilman Michael – Councilman Michael congratulated all the honorees tonight. He agreed the Christmas Tree Lighting was fantastic. He thanked everyone involved in the event. Community events like the tree lighting and the employees like those honored for their years of service are tributes to why he lives in Linwood. Happy Holidays.

Councilman Levinson – Councilman Levinson congratulated all the honorees. He wished Mr. Gordon the best and welcomed Mrs. Albright. The tree lighting was a very successful event. He thanked Tim Donovan and the Recreation Board for their efforts. They did a great job. Happy Holidays.

Councilman Gordon – Councilman Gordon thanked everyone for their kind words. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in the City of Linwood. He thanked his wife and family for their support over the years. He knows that Blair Albright will do a great job. He thanked all the professionals, particularly the engineers Vince Polistina and Jen Heller who helped him get a lot of projects completed. He thanked Mr. Youngblood for his steadfast guidance over the years. He thanked the staff at City Hall and all the employees of the City. Merry Christmas.

Councilwoman Byrnes – Councilwoman Byrnes thanked the members of the public for their comments. She advised that Sergeant Devine recently attended the “Shop with a Cop” event. The Senior Citizen luncheon is scheduled for December 18. She thanked Wayne Dilks for his time as Santa. Santa will ride the fire truck through the City on December 13 and December 14.

Councilwoman DeDomenicis – Councilwoman DeDomenicis thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Council President Paolone – Council President Paolone advised that the City will continue to push for a traffic light on Route 9. Congressman VanDrew recently offered his help on this matter and Council President Paolone is hoping he can help. The tree lighting was wonderful. Those events are what make Linwood special. The Arboretum is such a great place. The next City Council meeting will be the Reorganization Meeting to be held on January 3, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to adjourn at 7:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk