

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
January 22, 2014

Councilman Elliot Beinfest called the meeting to order at 6:06 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 Todd Gordon; Councilman Ralph Paolone; and Councilman Tim Tighe.

Absent: Councilman Darren Matik.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, City Solicitor; Steve Mazur, Dixon Associates; Chief Chick Kisby, Fire Department; Chief Robert James, Police Department; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Tighe motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon, to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2013 Caucus meeting, without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

A. The Mayor reported that Lynn Gibson and Richard Sless are being reappointed to the Linwood Board of Education.

4. Councilman Beinfest

A. Neighborhood Services

1. Councilman Beinfest reported that the Recreation Board held their reorganization meeting. Mandanna Salartash is the new President and Dianne Robbins is the Vice President.

5. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis reviewed the Public Works report that Mr. Kolakowski distributed to Council.

6. Councilman Gordon

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Gordon discussed an Ordinance on the agenda granting renewed consent to SJ Gas to use City streets to furnish gas. The term of the agreement is fifty years.
2. A Resolution is on the agenda authorizing an intergovernmental Agreement for CDBG funds for ADA curb ramps along Woodlynne Boulevard.
3. Councilman Gordon discussed an upcoming project by the South Jersey Gas Company. They will be replacing gas mains on almost every street east of Shore Road. The gas company is looking to minimize the impact to the residents.

7. Councilman Matik

A. Public Safety

B. Board of School Estimates

1. Mr. Youngblood discussed the Ordinance providing for the acquisition of the Poplar Avenue School from the Linwood Board of Education. It is for \$1.00 and contingent upon approval from the State Department of Education. The transfer is conditioned that the land must be used for public purposes.

8. Councilman Paolone
 - A. Revenue & Finance
 1. Councilman Paolone discussed the Salary Ordinance on the agenda for first reading noting that it sets ranges only.
 2. The committee held its first budget meeting and will meet again soon.
 - B. Arboretum
 1. Councilman Paolone advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a Sustainable Jersey Grant Application for an expansion of the Arboretum.
9. Councilman Tighe
 - A. Planning & Development
 1. Councilman Tighe discussed a Resolution on the agenda to rescind the Resolution regarding the Contract to demolish 23 Elm Avenue. Norman Thomas has been named Acting Commander of the Linwood American Legion Post and has advised the City that he will have the building demolished. The Resolution provides for a deadline of February 7 for Mr. Thomas to have the building demolished. If it is not demolished by that date, the contract with the low bidder will resume.
10. Mr. Youngblood
 - A. Mr. Youngblood asked everyone to review the report he provided with regard to a PBA issue with overtime. He would like to have a Resolution prepared for the next Council meeting to correct it.
11. Councilman Beinfest advised that Councilwoman DeDomenicis questioned the addition of the Election of Council President to the agenda today. She suggested that Council wait until Councilman Matik was present. Council discussed the vacancy that exists on Council due to the resignation of Donna Taylor and the process entailed to fill that vacancy. Councilman Gordon indicated that it would be helpful to have a President help navigate City Council through the process. Municipal Vacancy law provides for the governing body to select a nominee from the party within thirty days from the date the vacancy occurred. After reviewing the timeline, Council agreed it would be best to move forward with the election of President tonight.

At 6:22 P.M., Councilman Beinfest called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk