

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
January 25, 2012

Council President Donna Taylor 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 Rick DePamphilis; Councilman Elliot Beinfest; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Todd Gordon; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Ralph Paolone; Councilman Tim Tighe; and Council President Donna Taylor.

Absent: None.

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

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Tighe motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2011 Caucus meeting, without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

- A. The Mayor appointed Carl Wentzell as Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator. A Resolution confirming his appointment is on the agenda.
- B. There are honorary Resolutions on the agenda for Judge Henry Broome and former Recreation Board President Lars Hyberg.

4. Councilman Beinfest

A. Neighborhood Services

- 1. Councilman Beinfest reported that the Recreation Board reorganized and Darren Matik is the new President.

5. Councilman Gordon

A. Engineering

- 1. Councilman Gordon discussed three Resolutions on the agenda authorizing grant applications to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program. Two of them are in reference to the Patcong Creek acquisition project and one is for a Recreation Trails grant through the Krumm Vineyard.
- 2. Councilman Gordon and the Mayor met with representatives from the Cedar Hollow Condominium Homeowners Association regarding several concerns. They are having a hard time making a left out of their development due to the timing of the traffic light on Ocean Heights Avenue & New Road. They indicated that the buffer along New Road was cut back and they feel it was reduced too much. They also have several concerns with the new car wash being constructed across the street in Somers Point. These matters will be looked into.
- 3. A Resolution is on the agenda to award the Southwest Linwood Flood Control & Drainage Improvement project to Lafayette Utility Construction. Lafayette was the second lowest bidder of the project. There was a fatal defect in the low bid and statutorily, the City must reject the bid. The low bidder advised the City that they would attend tonight's meeting to address the issue with Council. Mr. Youngblood has recommended to City Council not to award to the low bidder unless they are ordered to do so by the Courts.

6. Councilman Levinson

A. Revenue & Finance

- 1. Councilman Levinson advised of the first reading of the Salary Ordinance. This Ordinance sets ranges only.

2. An Ordinance to exceed the CAP and establish a CAP Bank is on the agenda for first reading.
 3. Councilman Levinson reviewed two Resolutions on the agenda authorizing the Loan Agreement with the NJEIT for the Southwest Linwood Flood Control & Drainage Improvement project.
 4. A Resolution is on the agenda authorizing a transfer of an overpayment of sewer charges.
 5. Councilman Levinson reported that Resolutions are on the agenda to award a Contract for Bond Counsel to Joel Fleishman and a Contract for Auditor to Ford Scott & Associates. The City requested proposals for both and only one proposal was received for each Contract.
7. Councilman Paolone
- A. Public Safety
 1. Councilman Paolone reviewed Resolutions to reappoint Chick Kisby as Fire Official and Dave Buzby as the Fire Inspector.
8. Councilman Tighe
- A. Planning & Development
 1. Councilman Tighe reported that the Ordinance providing for clothing bins is on the agenda for final reading.
 2. A Resolution is on the agenda authorizing partial release of Surety with regard to Block 160 Lots 1, 2 & 3 located at Central Avenue & Route 9.
 3. A Resolution is on the agenda authorizing release of unused Planning Board Application fees to Central Square Gallery.
 4. Councilman Tighe reviewed a request by Tranquility Spa for a temporary banner, 48"x120", to be installed for two weeks advertising a special for Valentine's Day on the lawn in front of the Cornerstone Commerce Center. After discussion, it was determined to approve the request only at a smaller size of 36"x72", and with written consent from the owner of said property. A Resolution authorizing same was added to the regular agenda.
9. Council President Taylor
- A. Administration
 1. Council President Taylor discussed the vacancy in the position of Deputy Court Administrator. The Administrative Office of the Courts requires the City to appoint one. As discussions are ongoing as to the possibility of moving Linwood's court to Northfield, it was decided to appoint the current Deputy in Northfield on a temporary basis consisting of sixty days. A Resolution authorizing the appointment is on tonight's agenda.
 2. A Public Hearing is scheduled at the regular meeting for the City's applications to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program.
10. Mr. Youngblood
- A. Mr. Youngblood discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for first reading to amend the Development Fee Ordinance to exempt single family residential structures. The Ordinance must be submitted to the Department of Community Affairs for approval.

At 6:30 P.M., Council President Donna Taylor called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk