

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL**  
**CAUCUS MINUTES**  
**January 27, 2021**

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act. And read the following statement: In light of the Governor's issuance of Executive Order 107, tonight's City Council meeting is being live streamed through Zoom. Instructions on how to attend the meeting via Zoom are posted on the City's website.

**FLAG SALUTE**

Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis led the flag salute.

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Darren Matik (via live stream); Councilwoman June Byrnes; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Eric Ford; Councilman Todd Gordon (via live stream); Councilman Matt Levinson (via live stream); and Council President Ralph Paolone.

Absent: Councilman Brian Heun.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Vince Polistina, City Engineer; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Acting Chief Jason Weber, Police Department; Acting Captain Steve Cunningham, Police Department; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

**2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading**

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Byrnes, to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2020 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

**3. Mayor's Report**

A. They Mayor announced his appointment of Chad Meyers to the Recreation Board.

**4. Councilman Ford**

A. Planning & Development

1. Councilman Ford advised of a Resolution on the agenda awarding non-competitive contracts for professional services to Eric Goldstein as Planning Board Solicitor and Vincent Polistina as Planning Board Engineer.
2. Councilman Ford discussed the establishment of a Technical Review Committee comprised of the Mayor, Councilmember, Planning Board Chairman, and Planning Board Engineer and Solicitor. This committee would review possible applications to the Planning Board and provide only guidance, not approvals.
3. Councilman Ford discussed amending the City's Code to alleviate the current restrictions for the installation of roof mounted solar on non-conforming lots. The Mayor reported that the current language required three property owners to appear before the Planning Board last month. Cleaning up the language would be a benefit.

**5. Councilman Gordon**

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Gordon discussed a Resolution on the agenda awarding a Contract to Seashore Mechanical for 606 W. Oakcrest Avenue seepage pits. The seepage pits are part of the storm water management system in that development. The system has to be cleaned and inspected.

6. Councilman Heun

A. Public Safety

1. Council President Paolone discussed a Resolution on the agenda rejecting the proposals received for Emergency Medical Services. Only one proposal was received and it was from the current vendor. However, the cost was substantially higher. The committee wants to revise the specifications to possibly attract more bidders. The committee is meeting with representatives from Northfield to revised the specifications and Linwood will re-advertise for proposals.
2. Council President Paolone advised of a Resolution confirming the promotion of Jason Weber to Deputy Chief of Police. He is currently the Acting Chief.
3. Council President Paolone advised of a Resolution authorizing the advertisement for proposals for Emergency Medical Services as previously discussed.
4. Council President Paolone discussed a meeting held with the Public Safety Committee and the Fire Department. They are in need of new radios. Captain Loder discussed a FEMA grant the department can apply for assistance. Council President Paolone advised that Mrs. Napoli has been very successful in obtaining grants and will assist the department in the process. He also advised that the green fire truck is at the end of its useful life, seventeen years old. The City will begin to put money aside to purchase one in the future.

7. Councilman Levinson

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Levinson advised that Resolution No. 30, canceling taxes and authorizing a refund of an overpayment of taxes for 4 E. Glenside Avenue, is being pulled.
2. Councilman Levinson reported that the Salary Ordinance is on the agenda for final reading.
3. Councilman Levinson advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a refund of taxes and cancellation of taxes for 311 Van Sant Avenue due to tax exempt status due to permanently disabled veteran status.
4. Councilman Levinson discussed a Resolution amending Resolution No. 25, 2021 authorizing various refunds of overpayments of taxes to correct an amount for 100 Country Club Drive.

8. Mr. Youngblood

- A. Mr. Youngblood discussed a Resolution authorizing payment to Atlantic County for reimbursement of open space funds for the purchase of 204 W. Garfield Avenue. At the time of purchase in 2010, the State was withholding green acres funds due to the diversion required for the property. The County contributed the State's portion. The diversion is finally now complete and the City just received the funds from Green Acres, which all but \$3,096.75 goes back to the County. The City maintains the \$3,096.75 for soft costs.

At 6:12 P.M., Council President Paolone adjourned the Caucus meeting and began the Regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk