

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
February 11, 2015

Council President Tim Tighe called the meeting to order at 6:05 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 Brian Heun; Councilman Darren Matik; and Council President Tighe.

Absent: Councilman Ralph Paolone.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Vince Polistina, City Engineer; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Beinfest motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2015 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Councilman Gordon

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Gordon discussed a Resolution on the agenda in support of a “no passing zone” on Route 9 as requested by the NJ Department of Transportation. The city passed the same Resolution in 2013, but DOT is transitioning into a new system and requested the City to do a new one.

4. Councilman Matik

A. Public Safety

1. Councilman Matik advised of a Resolution on the agenda accepting the resignation of Police Chief Colin Hickey. Councilman Beinfest questioned the process of selecting a new chief. Councilman Matik advised that both Linwood and Northfield are responsible for selecting their own chief, and the municipalities can decide to share again. The Mayor has been meeting with Northfield’s Mayor to discuss the issue. Mayor DePamphilis advised that a shared chief is still on the table. Councilman Matik hopes to continue with the shared service, but has to keep public safety in mind. He indicated that if the Cities don’t share or consolidate soon, there will be more superior officers on the mainland than needed. He hopes to lower the costs to the taxpayers and hopes Northfield is in favor of it as well.

- B. Councilman Matik reported on the status of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Recreation. The committee has held two meetings and are working toward developing a master plan for recreation. The Poplar Avenue School should be demolished within the next sixty days.

5. Councilman Paolone

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Matik reported that the salary Ordinance is on the agenda for final reading.

6. Council President Tighe

A. Administration

1. Council President Tighe advised of a Resolution authorizing a Raffle License to St. Joseph Church.

B. Planning & Development

1. Council President Tighe advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a reimbursement of escrow fees for Permit #177-14 at Central Square.

2. Council President Tighe discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for first reading amending the Redevelopment Plan for the Bloom Site. City Council passed a Resolution several months ago appointing a redeveloper for the site and the next step in the process is to amend the plan for the development. It is a nice project. The amendment will now be forwarded to the Planning Board for their review and input. Final reading of the Ordinance is scheduled for March 11.

At 6:15 P.M., Council President Tighe called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk