

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
February 12, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

Councilwoman June Byrnes called the meeting to order at 6:28 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 Brian Heun; and Councilman Matt Levinson.

Absent: Council President Ralph Paolone.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Gary Auer, 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 January 22, 2020 Regular meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor with one abstention by Councilman Levinson. Motion was approved.

OATH OF OFFICE

Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson administered the Oath of Office to Matthew B. Levinson as Council Member, At Large, of the City of Linwood.

ORDINANCES

1 OF 2020 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AND ESTABLISHING SALARIES, COMPENSATION AND SALARY RANGES OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF LINWOOD, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED, THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 1 of 2020 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve Ordinance No. 1. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and Council President Paolone absent. Motion approved.

2 OF 2020 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF LINWOOD FROM VST CAPITAL, LLC AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 2 of 2020 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon, to approve Ordinance No. 2. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and Council President Paolone absent. Motion 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.

49-2020 A Resolution authorizing the refund of taxes paid and the cancellation of 2020 taxes due to tax exempt status for Block 40 Lot 52 located at 208 East Drive in the City of Linwood

50-2020 A Resolution authorizing the refund of taxes paid and the cancellation of 2020 taxes due to tax exempt status for Block 24 Lot 4 located at 404 Joseph Avenue in the City of Linwood

- 51-2020** A Resolution authorizing the refund of taxes paid and the cancellation of 2020 taxes due to tax exempt status for Block 31 Lot 10 located at 103 E. Dawn Drive in the City of Linwood
- 52-2020** A Resolution awarding Non-Competitive Contracts for Professional Services to Eric S. Goldstein as Planning Board Solicitor and Vincent Polistina as Planning Board Engineer
- 53-2020** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License, #2020-14, to Mainland Crew Association
- 54-2020** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License, #2020-15, to Mainland Performing Arts Parent Organization
- 55-2020** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License, #2020-16, to Mainland Performing Arts Parent Organization
- 56-2020** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License, #2020-17, to the Alcove Center for Grieving Children & Families
- 57-2020** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Bingo License, #2020-06, to the Alcove Center for Grieving Children & Families
- 58-2020** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Bingo License, #2020-07, to Egg Harbor Twp Youth Softball Inc.
- 59-2020** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License, #2020-18, to Egg Harbor Twp Youth Softball Inc.
- 60-2020** A Resolution authorizing the refund of Construction Permit 2019-0238
- 61-2020** A Resolution authorizing the refund of a Rental Registration Fee
- 62-2020** A Resolution authorizing the refund of Construction Permit 2019-0270
- 63-2020** A Resolution approving the certification of qualified volunteers for LOSAP
- 64-2020** A Resolution authorizing entering into an Agreement with Atlantic County for Municipal Aerial Mosquito Control Spraying
- 65-2020** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License, #2020-19, to Egg Harbor Twp Youth Softball Inc.
- 66-2020** A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Raffle License, #2020-20, to Gilda's Club South Jersey

Councilwoman June Byrnes advised that Resolution No. 67, 2020 to extend the Contract with TriCare Medical Transportation for Emergency Medical Services was added in the Caucus meeting. Councilwoman June Byrnes asked if any member of Council would like to remove any items from consent. Resolutions No. 54 & 55 were removed. Councilman Gordon motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve Resolutions No. 49-53, 56-66 of 2020. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

The Clerk read Resolution No. 54 of 2020 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon, to approve Resolution No. 54. All present members of Council were in favor with one abstention by Councilman Heun. Motion was approved.

The Clerk read Resolution No. 55 of 2020 by title only. Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon, to approve Resolution No. 55. All present members of Council were in favor with one abstention by Councilman Heun. Motion was approved.

The Clerk read Resolution No. 67 of 2020 by title only. Councilman Heun motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve Resolution No. 67. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$591,022.17

Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon, to approve the bills for payment. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative, and Council President Paolone absent. Motion was approved. (The bill list is attached as Exhibit A)

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Councilwoman Byrnes opened the floor to the public for discussion on any topic.

Sandy Hickerson 210 Upland Avenue, Absecon

Ms. Hickerson addressed City Council on behalf of the Atlantic County 2A Sanctuary asking Council to adopt their Resolution or something similar to support the Second Amendment rights and oppose the proposed common sense gun laws that they believe are hurting gun owners. She noted that other municipalities and Boards of Freeholders are adopting similar Resolutions.

Rose Hickerson 210 Upland Avenue, Absecon

Mrs. Hickerson also asked City Council to accept and adopt the Resolution of the Atlantic County 2A Sanctuary. She believes the Second Amendment rights are being taken away with the proposed laws and noted that it is not the guns that are hurting people, it is the people using them that are hurting people.

Adam Hood 1 Robert Best Road, Egg Harbor Township

Mr. Hood is also a member of the 2A Sanctuary and reported that he spoke on behalf of the group in Mullica Township and has a lot of people in support of their efforts. He discussed the proposed laws and hopes that Council will consider adopting a Resolution.

James Cassis 6 Hollow Drive, Egg Harbor Township

Mr. Cassis reported that Egg Harbor Township Committee was the first municipality to adopt a Resolution. He discussed the proposed gun laws and asked City Council to take a look at them as well and he hopes they consider adopting a Resolution.

Seeing and hearing no other members from the public wishing to be heard, Councilwoman Byrnes closed the floor.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Councilwoman DeDomenicis – Councilwoman DeDomenicis welcomed Matt Levinson back to City Council. She is looking forward to working on the budget with him. She thanked all the members of the public that spoke and will look into the issues they discussed.

Councilman Gordon – Councilman Gordon welcomed Matt Levinson and looks forward to working with him.

Councilman Ford – Councilman Ford welcomed Matt Levinson to City Council.

Councilman Levinson – Councilman Levinson thanked City Council for appointing him to Council noting that he is happy to be back. Linwood is a great community to live in and he hopes to help make it better.

Councilman Heun – Councilman Heun welcomed Matt Levinson back to City Council. He asked the members of the public who spoke to please provide the City Clerk with the draft of the Resolutions they discussed.

Councilwoman Byrnes – Councilwoman Byrnes welcomed Matt Levinson to City Council and looks forward to working with him. She also thanked the members of the public for speaking.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to adjourn at 6:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk