

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
February 23, 2011**

FLAG SALUTE:

Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis led the flag salute.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Donna Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:41 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Rick DePamphilis; Councilman Elliot Beinfest; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Alex Marino; Councilman Ralph Paolone; Councilman Tim Tighe; and Council President Donna Taylor.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, City Solicitor; Kevin Dixon, Dixon Associates; Steve Mazur, Dixon Associates; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES WITHOUT FORMAL READING

Councilman Beinfest motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2011 meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor with one abstention from Councilman Paolone. Motion was approved.

ORDINANCES

3 OF 2011 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF LINWOOD FROM COAST COMMERCIAL, LLC AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 3 of 2011 by title only. Councilman Tighe motioned, seconded by Councilman Beinfest to approve Ordinance No. 3 for first reading. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was 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.

- 42-2011** A Resolution adopting a Complete Streets Policy for the City of Linwood
- 43-2011** A Resolution authorizing entering into an Agreement with Atlantic County for Municipal Aerial Mosquito Control Spraying
- 44-2011** A Resolution authorizing the submission of an American Water 2011 Environmental Grant Application
- 45-2011** A Resolution authorizing the award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract to Dixon Associates Engineering, LLC as Municipal Engineer

Council President Taylor announced that Resolution No. 46 of 2011, authorizing the execution of an Access Agreement with CCC Atlantic for appraisers to access the Cornerstone property for the purpose of completing a real property appraisal for the City of Linwood, was added to the Agenda by unanimous vote in the Caucus meeting. Council President Taylor asked if any member of Council would like to remove any items from consent. Nothing was removed. Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve Resolutions No. 42-46 of 2011. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$2,238,437.93

Councilman Tighe motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve the bills for payment. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was approved. (The bill list is attached as Exhibit A)

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Council President Taylor opened the floor to the public for discussion on any topic.

Seeing and hearing no members from the public wishing to be heard, Council President Taylor closed the floor.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Councilwoman DeDomenicis – Councilwoman DeDomenicis announced that spring is on its way. She commended Mr. Kolakowski and the Public Works employees for an outstanding job. Tony Hare, a Public Works employee, was recently involved in a situation where by his quick response of calling an ambulance for someone in need helped get that person the medical attention. She commended the actions of Mr. Hare.

Councilman Levinson – Councilman Levinson congratulated Dixon Associates on their appointment for engineering services, noting that it is good to have them back.

Councilman Tighe – Councilman Tighe thanked Jim Rutala and all the volunteers from the Environmental Commission and Shade Tree for their efforts in making the City great. He congratulated the Mainland Regional boys and girls swim teams on their recent successes. Councilman Tighe advised that Council has a budget meeting coming up and there are some very difficult decisions to make. He commended Councilman Marino for his work on the budget and putting together spreadsheets for the comparison of expenses over the years. Councilman Tighe wished Councilman Beinfest a Happy Birthday.

Councilman Beinfest – Councilman Beinfest thanked everyone for their kind words and wishes.

RECESS

At 6:48, Council President Taylor called a recess.

At 6:59, Council President reconvened the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Application for Block 1, Lot 49, Q Condo Unit 5 also known as 1201 New Road, Linwood, NJ

Council President Taylor opened the floor to the public for discussion on the City's application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Green Acres Program for the acquisition of Block 1, Lot 49, Q Condo Unit 5, also known as 1201 New Road in Linwood.

Jim Rutala 717 River Road, Linwood

Mr. Rutala is Chair of the Linwood Environmental Commission and a member of the Linwood Planning Board. He applauded the Mayor and Council for their leadership role in the purchase of this property. When the Environmental Commission was created ten years ago, this was one of the first properties the commission wanted to purchase for open space. There has been discussion with Green Acres and the County Open Space Program regarding this purchase and it meets much of the criteria for those programs. There is a lot of support for this acquisition within the community including the commission. The property sits along the Bargaintown Pond, which is owned by the City and helps further develop a greenway. He has also met with the developer of the Cornerstone who has been very supportive. In this case, the City has all the players. It will be difficult to get the money, but the City will make application to all funding sources. Mr. Rutala submitted a Resolution by the commission to the City Clerk in support of the project.

George Butrus 210 Central Avenue, Linwood

Mr. Butrus is Chair of the Shade Tree Commission. He echoed the comments of Mr. Rutala and applauded the Mayor and Council for their attempts to purchase the land. The Shade Tree Commission also passed a Resolution in support of the acquisition, which Mr. Butrus read and presented for the record.

Seeing and hearing no other members from the public wishing to be heard on this matter, Council President Taylor closed the floor.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONTINUED:

Mayor DePamphilis – Mayor DePamphilis thanked Councilman Tighe, Jim Rutala and all the members of the Environmental and Shade Tree Commissions for their support on this project.

Councilman Marino – Councilman Marino thanked Jim Rutala and George Butrus. He also recognized Joe Marinelli in attendance tonight as a member of the Environmental Commission. Allen Lacy, the Arboretum Curator, is also here tonight in support of the project. Councilman Marino was a charter member of the Environmental Commission and remembers discussions years ago about purchasing this property.

Councilman Tighe – Councilman Tighe reported that he and Councilman Marino walked the property that is in consideration. He believes that these types of purchases are why funding sources like Green Acres and the County Open Space program are formed.

Councilman Paolone – Councilman Paolone does not see a down side to this acquisition. He commended everyone for their efforts on this project.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilman Marino motioned, seconded by Councilman Tighe, to adjourn at 7:12 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk