

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
March 8, 2017

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:07 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 Eric Ford; Councilman Brian Heun; Councilman Darren Matik; and Council President Ralph Paolone.

Absent: Councilman Todd Gordon.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Vince Polistina, City Engineer; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Chief Doug Carman, Police Department; Captain John Hamilton, Police Department; Jim Galantino, Construction Official; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Matik motioned, seconded by Councilman Beinfest, to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2017 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor with one abstention from Council President Paolone. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

A. The Mayor will be swearing in the newest Patrolman.

4. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis discussed a Resolution on the agenda rejecting the bids received for Lawn Maintenance Services due to a material change needed in the bid specifications.
2. Councilwoman DeDomenicis advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the re-advertisement for bids for Lawn Maintenance Services.

5. Councilman Ford

A. Planning & Development

1. Councilman Ford advised of a Resolution on the agenda for a partial release of surety for 2110 New Road.
2. Councilman Ford discussed a Resolution authorizing the placement of a commercial sign within the public right of way for Clay's Climate Control. This business is located in the newly designated Rehabilitation Area. It was the old tv40 station. Councilman Ford discussed the benefits of the area and the businesses re-investing in that area.
3. Councilman Ford discussed a Resolution on the agenda designating an area along New Road as a Rehabilitation Area. This matter was referred to the Planning Board and the Board is in favor of it. Councilman Ford discussed and commended Bonnie Putterman, a Planning Board member, for her review and report of the process. Councilman Ford recognized Clay Pierce, of Clay's Climate Control, who thanked the Governing Body for approving the sign and for their assistance in revitalizing the area.
4. Councilman Ford advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing an annual Agreement with Atlantic County for Aerial Mosquito control services.
5. Councilman Ford reviewed a Resolution re-appointing Kevin Cain as the Acting Plumbing & Fire Sub Code Official.
6. Councilman Ford discussed a request by the Linwood Panthers to place up to six temporary lawn signs on the bike path with regard to their upcoming registration. Council agreed to allow the signs for a period of two weeks.

6. Councilman Gordon
 - A. Engineering
 1. Councilman Heun discussed a Resolution in support of an American Water Environmental Grant application for the Living Shoreline Project. This Resolution is contingent upon the fact that no City funds are obligated.
 2. Councilman Heun reviewed Resolutions authorizing change orders for Schoolhouse & Woodlynne Resurfacing projects. They are both reductions in the contract price.
 3. Councilman Heun discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the grant application to the Community Development Block Grant Program.
7. Councilman Heun
 - A. Public Safety
 1. Councilman Heun advised of a Resolution on the agenda appointing Reverend Louis Strugala as Police Chaplain.
 2. Councilman Heun reviewed a Resolution supporting the Distracted Driving Crackdown.
8. Councilman Matik
 - A. Revenue & Finance
 1. Councilman Matik reviewed a Resolution canceling small tax and sewer balances.
 2. Councilman Matik advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the advertisement for Banking Services. The City's current bank was purchased by another bank and the City was advised they will no long provide free payroll services. The City will now seek proposals for new services.
 3. Councilman Matik announced that the 2017 budget is on the agenda for introduction. The budget started out \$650,000 less than last year due to the tax appeals. The budget committee worked hard to make up the difference. There was a zero increase in last year's budget. This year there is a 2.8 cent increase on the local purpose tax. 1.6 cents of the increase is based on tax appeals and 1.2 cents of the increase is due to insurance and contractual increases.
 4. Councilman Matik discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for first reading to exceed the budget appropriation limits and establish a CAP bank.
 5. Councilman Matik advised that the 2017 salary Resolution for non-contractual employees is on the agenda.
 - B. Emergency Management
 1. Councilman Matik discussed an Ordinance prohibiting parking on West Wabash Avenue (East Side) between Somers & Devonshire Avenue. There have been complaints and near accidents with vehicles parking in this area. It also makes it very difficult for emergency vehicles to get through.
 2. Councilman Matik reported on a Flood Insurance Rate Map briefing that he attended along with Jim Galantino. Mr. Galantino reviewed the process.
9. Council President Paolone
 - A. Administration
 1. Council President Paolone advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the City to participate in the Stockton University Credit Internship Program.

At 6:22 P.M., Council President Paolone called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk