

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL**  
**CAUCUS MINUTES**  
**March 10, 2010**

Council President Donna Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:06 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; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Ralph Paolone; Councilman Tim Tighe; and Council President Donna Taylor.

Absent: Councilman Elliot Beinfest; and Councilman Alex Marino.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, City Solicitor; Steve Mazur, Dixon Associates; Chief Jim Baker, Police Department; Hank Kolakowski, Public Works Superintendent; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2010 Caucus meeting, without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Ed Beck, the Fund Commissioner for Linwood, advised Council on the status of Linwood's 2009 Safety Incentive Program in the Joint Insurance Fund. He reviewed the awards that were presented to Linwood at the annual breakfast meeting held in February. Linwood was recognized for their outstanding three year loss ratio at 55.9%. The JIF's average is at 88.5%. Linwood was also recognized for the use of available Transitional Duty days. Each year the JIF awards the municipalities for their safety program qualifications. Linwood achieved 95%, which is a Gold Qualifier. Since joining the JIF, the City has been a Silver Qualifier. Being a Gold Qualifier, the City becomes eligible for additional safety money. Mr. Beck distributed pictures of job site observations conducted by the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments. Each department was fully compliant with safety requirements. He also showed pictures of a private contractor that was not complying with safety requirements and discussed how well our departments are doing. Mr. Beck congratulated the Mayor, Council, Department Heads, and all City employees for doing an excellent job in the safety program.

4. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis discussed a Resolution on the agenda to authorize a submission of a Municipal Recycling Tonnage Grant application. This is done every year.
2. Councilwoman DeDomenicis advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing an Agreement with Atlantic County for Aerial Mosquito Control. This is also done every year.

5. Councilman Levinson

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Levinson discussed a Resolution on the agenda awarding a Contract to American Asphalt for State Aid Improvements to Maple Avenue. Mr. Mazur advised that the low bid came in \$23,000 under budget.
2. Councilman Levinson discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the City's application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for Land Use Regulation Permit with regard to the Hemlock Avenue drainage improvements.

6. Councilman Marino

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Levinson advised of an Ordinance to exceed budget appropriation limits and establish a CAP Bank that is on the agenda for final reading.

2. Councilman Levinson reported that there is three items on the agenda relating to the City's application to the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust program with regard to the Frances & Grammercy Avenues drainage project. One Resolution is for the application to the Local Finance Board with regard to the application. The other Resolution is a temporary Capital Budget for the project and the final item is a Bond Ordinance to authorize the funds.
  
7. Councilman Paolone
  - A. Public Safety
    1. Councilman Paolone advised of a Resolution on the agenda approving the Certification of qualified volunteers for the Length of Service Awards Program.
  - B. Linwood Arboretum
    1. Councilman Paolone reported that the dedication and ribbon cutting for the Arboretum is scheduled for Saturday, April 24 at 11:00 a.m. The next committee meeting to discuss the event is March 22.
  
8. Councilman Tighe
  - A. Planning & Development
    1. Councilman Tighe discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for final reading amending uniform construction fees, licensed occupation fees, and permit fees.
    2. Councilman Tighe reviewed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the release of Engineering Escrow fees for Barr Court. This was approved by the Planning Board.
    3. Councilman Tighe advised of an electricity broker that claims to be able to save the City \$20,000 a year. The broker will do a presentation for the Mayor and Council at the April 14 Council meeting.
    4. Councilman Tighe advised that Ed Beck, the City's Code Enforcement Officer and JIF Fund Commissioner, was awarded a trip by the JIF to a JIF Conference in Florida. There is no cost to the City for Mr. Beck to attend. Since the conference is educational and Mr. Beck will be in training at the event, Mr. Beck asked that he not have to use his own time to attend. All present members of Council agreed that the conference will be beneficial and agreed for him to attend.
    5. Council President Taylor asked if a decision was made regarding the temporary signs requested by the Credit Union for its upcoming run. Councilman Tighe advised that the only option is to ask the Planning Board for a decision.
  
9. Council President Taylor
  - A. Administration
    1. Council President Taylor discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for final reading amending Personnel Procedures for insurance to be consistent with union contracts.

At 6:25 P.M., Council President Donna Taylor called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk