

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
March 11, 2015

Council President Tim Tighe called the meeting to order at 6:10 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; Councilman Ralph Paolone; and Council President Tighe.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Vince Polistina, City Engineer; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Hank Kolakowski, Superintendent of Public Works; Doug Carman, Acting Chief of Police; John Hamilton, Acting Captain of Police; Jason Weber, Acting Lieutenant of Police; 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 February 25, 2015 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

A. The Mayor advised that representatives from Linwood Public Schools are present tonight to discuss their proposed budget. It will be discussed during the regular meeting.

4. Councilman Gordon

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Gordon advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing an Agreement for CDBG funds for ADA curb ramps on Woodlyne Boulevard. This project will be going out to bid soon.
2. Councilman Gordon discussed a Resolution authorizing an amendatory contract with Site Enterprises for the Poplar Avenue School demolition project. This is due to asbestos in the roof that was identified after the bid process. This was explained at the last Council meeting.

5. Councilman Matik

A. Public Safety

1. Councilman Matik discussed a Resolution authorizing a sub-grant agreement through FEMA for the purchase of two generators. One will be permanent at the Poplar Avenue pump station and the other is a portable generator to be used for the remaining nine pump stations.
2. A Resolution is on the agenda approving the annual certification of qualified volunteers for LOSAP.
3. Councilman Matik discussed a Resolution on the agenda awarding a contract to Nixle for an emergency communications system. The City has been using a free version of this service for over a year, which includes limited email and text notifications to people that subscribe. The additional services the City will get now includes unlimited messaging as well as a reverse 9-1-1 system for notification, a police tip program as well as other options.

6. Councilman Paolone

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Paolone advised of a Resolution extending the budget adoption date and approving a temporary budget. The budget should be ready to introduce at the end of the month.
2. Councilman Paolone discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the use of the average percentage of collection in calculating the reserve for uncollected taxes in the 2015 budget.

7. Council President Tighe

A. Administration

1. Council President Tighe advised of a Resolution authorizing a Raffle License to Auxiliary to the Betty Bacharach Rehabilitation Hospital.
2. Council President Tighe advised that the City of Linwood has earned \$1,250 as a result of its outstanding performance in the 2014 Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund Safety Incentive Program.

B. Planning & Development

1. Council President Tighe discussed Ordinance No. 3 amending the Redevelopment Plan for the Bloom Site that is on the agenda for final reading. As required by law, the Ordinance was forwarded to the Planning Board for review. City Council received comments from the Board yesterday. Most of the issues raised have been addressed. One of the issues raised was regarding signage. The developer consented and changes were made which will make it more restrictive for the developer. The Planning Board also said the provisions of the Ordinance as to signs are inconsistent with the Master Plan. In light of the fact that the Master Plan was adopted in 2002 and reviewed in 2008 and in further light of the fact that there have been significant technological developments in lighting and signage subsequent to that time and further since, Council has determined that the nature and type of signs, including lighting, that have been proposed, will be aesthetically pleasing and consistent with the high standards set by the City of Linwood with regard to signage utilized in commercial development. The Planning Board recommended revision of parking standards from 3 spaces per 1,000 SF of leasable area to 5 spaces. The Developer agreed and the change has been made. The Planning Board has also requested the architect's drawings be amended to the Ordinance as an Exhibit and that has been done as Exhibit B to Exhibit 1. Council President Tighe reported that Council has determined that the proposal is acceptable and in the best interest of the City of Linwood. Councilman Matik agrees that Council should pass the Ordinance. The City needs the ratables.

At 6:23 P.M., Council President Tighe called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk