

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL**  
**CAUCUS MINUTES**  
**April 13, 2022**

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act. The meeting is being live streamed through Zoom. Instructions on how to attend the meeting via Zoom are posted on the City's website.

1. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Darren Matik; Councilwoman June Byrnes; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Eric Ford; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Todd Michael (via live stream); and Council President Ralph Paolone

Absent: Councilwoman Blair Albright.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Jen Heller, Engineer's Office; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Chief Steve Cunningham, Police Department; Lieutenant Chet Brown, Police Department; Lieutenant Austin Martin, Police Department; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Byrnes, to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2022 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

A. The Mayor reported that Sergeant Michael Fountas will be sworn in at the Regular Meeting.

4. Councilwoman Albright

A. Planning, Engineering, & Development

1. Councilman Ford advised that Councilwoman Albright is reviewing the City's Ordinances to include language for abandonment of nonconforming uses.

5. Councilwoman Byrnes

A. Neighborhood Services

1. Councilwoman Byrnes discussed an Ordinance amending Chapter 61, Board of Recreation. The amendment is housekeeping and just includes minor updates.
2. Councilwoman Byrnes reported that the Linwood Alliance met this week and scheduled a free Narcan training for Linwood residents. The training will be in Council Chambers on June 2.
3. Councilwoman Byrnes advised of the upcoming Senior Citizen Concert provided by the Belhaven Band on May 4.
4. Councilwoman Byrnes discussed the upcoming Patcong Creek Cleanup on May 22. The event is being hosted by the Environmental Commission and Green Team.

6. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the hiring of Steve Rundall, David Chomicki, and Christopher Hutton as Laborers in the Public Works Department.

7. Councilman Ford

A. Planning, Engineering, & Development

1. Councilman Ford advised of the final reading of an Ordinance amending the Chapter 205 Property Maintenance.
2. Councilman Ford discussed a Resolution authorizing participation in the Atlantic County Community Development Block Grant program. This will be for more ADA improvements.

Councilman Ford (continued)

3. Councilman Ford discussed a Resolution on the agenda awarding a Contract to Triad Associates for Accessory Apartment Implementation. This is due to the City's COAH obligations.
8. Councilman Levinson
    - A. Revenue & Finance
      1. Councilman Levinson reported that the 2022 Budget will be introduced at tonight's meeting. The budget includes a zero cent tax increase. He thanked the employees, specifically Mr. Strazzeri the CFO, as well as the Governing Body, for their hard work and efforts to keep spending down while maintaining quality service. He has a budget presentation to present. However, due to time constraints, he will review the presentation upon adoption on May 11.
      2. Councilman Levinson advised of the first reading on a Bond Ordinance.
      3. Councilman Levinson reviewed a Resolution authorizing the refund of a tax overpayment for 311 Van Sant Avenue.
      4. Councilman Levinson advised of an Ordinance on the agenda to exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and establish a cash bank. This Ordinance is housekeeping and done every year in case it is needed.
  9. Councilman Michael
    - A. Public Safety
      1. Councilman Michael advised of the final reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 263, Vehicles and Traffic for rate of compensation for outside details.
  10. Solicitor's Report
    - A. Mr. Youngblood discussed a Resolution on the agenda approving the settlement of a tax appeal filed on behalf of the Cornerstone Building. He was able to get them to concede that they would not file another appeal prior to 2026.

At 6:08 P.M., Council President Paolone called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk