

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
April 22, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:22 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act and reiterated his statement from Caucus Meeting that in light of the Governor's issuance of Executive Order 107, tonight's City Council meeting is being live streamed through Zoom. A notice appeared in the Press of Atlantic City on April 18, 2020 advising the public that tonight's meeting would be live streamed and referred the public to the City's web site that includes information on how to attend the meeting on Zoom.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor (via live stream); Vince Polistina, City Engineer (via live stream); and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

**ORDINANCES**

**5 OF 2020 AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK**

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 5 of 2020 by title only. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis to approve Ordinance No. 5 for first reading. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. Motion was approved.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Councilman Levinson presented a Power Point Presentation on the 2020 Budget (attached as Exhibit B)

**105-2020 A Resolution introducing the 2020 Municipal Budget**

The Clerk read Resolution No. 105 of 2020 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson to approve Resolution No. 105. 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.

**104-2020 A Resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to process third quarter "estimated" Tax Bills due August 1, 2020**

Council President Paolone asked if any member of Council would like to remove any items from consent. No items were removed. Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve Resolution No. 104 of 2020. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$2,328,888.83**

Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Heun, 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 Paolone 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 Paolone closed the floor.

### **FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

Mayor Matik – The Mayor provided an update on COVID-19. As of yesterday, the State has 3,643 new positives and 379 new deaths. Statewide totals are 92,387 positives and 4,753 deaths (2,048 related to long term care facilities). The breakdown of deaths is 49.9% White, 22.2% Black, 16.6% Hispanic, 5.5% Asian, 5.8% Other. There are 7,594 hospitalized; 1,930 in critical care/ICU; 630 discharged; 1,501 ventilators in use. 167,233 tested with 74,884 positives. A rate of positivity 44.75%. Atlantic County has 52 new positives and 3 new deaths. Total to date for Atlantic County is 479 cases with 22 deaths and 81 recovered. Linwood has 26 cases and one death. The State published a report of cases in long term care facilities. Linwood's Complete Care has 24 confirmed cases and 2 deaths. Property taxes are due May 1 with a grace period of 10 days. The Governor has not done anything to extend the grace period yet. The Governor, FEMA, and the Army Corps set up a field hospital at the Atlantic City Convention Center. The Mayor thanked Public Works and the Fire Department on their efforts cleaning up after the storm.

Councilman Ford – Councilman Ford thanked Public Works for the great job they did cleaning up after Monday's storm along with juggling all their other responsibilities.

Councilman Levinson – Councilman Levinson commended the efforts of Public Works for their clean up after the storm. He also thanked Mr. Strazzeri for his work on the budget. The City is in a good financial spot.

Councilwoman Byrnes – Councilwoman Byrnes also thanked Public Works for their hard work. She thanked Councilman Levinson and Mr. Strazzeri for their efforts on the budget.

Councilman Gordon – Councilman Gordon echoed the comments of Councilmen Levinson, Ford, and Councilwoman Byrnes with regard to Public Works. They did a great job. He also commended their efforts at the Library. It looks great. Councilman Gordon also thanked the budget committee for their efforts.

Councilwoman DeDomenicis – Councilwoman DeDomenicis commended the efforts of Public Works. They are very willing and diligent in their efforts. There is discussion about replacing the dock at Seaview through EZ Docks. She will keep everyone posted.

Councilman Heun – Councilman Heun echoed the comments for the budget committee. He also thanked Public Works for their efforts after the storm.

Council President Paolone – Council President Paolone commended the budget committee. He is glad the budget is flat again. He is hoping the schools come in low as well. However, he understands that Linwood schools are possibly at eight cents. He believes the County is close to being flat. However, that could have changed due to the pandemic. He thanked the new Police Chief and the Department on doing a great job during the pandemic.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Heun, to adjourn at 6:51 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk