

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
April 26, 2017

Council President Ralph Paolone 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; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Eric Ford; Councilman Todd Gordon; Councilman Brian Heun; Councilman Darren Matik; and Council President Ralph Paolone.

Absent: Councilman Elliot Beinfest.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Vince Polistina, City Engineer; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2017 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor with one abstention from Councilman Heun. Motion was approved.

3. Councilman Beinfest

A. Neighborhood Services

1. Council President Paolone discussed the poor field conditions at Memorial Park and a recent state cup soccer game played there. He believes a new field is needed. Councilman Matik indicated that a new drainage system would have to be done first. Councilman Ford discussed the issues with lighting that exist there and how he applied for a grant with the US Soccer Federation for additional lights. The application was denied. However, they will re-apply this year. Council discussed how MUSA does a great job fixing the fields each year. The new field at Poplar Avenue will help alleviate the over use of the fields at All Wars Memorial.

4. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis advised that the new Lawn Maintenance Contract is in effect. There is constant communication between their Foreman and our Public Works Department.
2. The Farmers Market will open again this Saturday, April 29 till June 3. Public Works will provide barricades, trash and recyclable containers as well as coordination with ACUA for trash pickup.

5. Councilman Ford

A. Planning & Development

1. Councilman Ford discussed a Resolution authorizing a temporary banner for the Linwood Farmers Market to be located at City Hall.
2. Councilman Ford reported that himself, Council President Paolone, and Jim Galantino interviewed candidates for the Fire and Plumbing Sub Code Officials positions. They have recommended to hire Dennis Sharpe as the Fire Sub Code and James Cotton as the Plumbing Sub Code. Resolutions for same are on the agenda.
3. Councilman Ford advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the release of the Maintenance Bond for improvements to Wimberg Funeral Home.
4. Councilman Ford discussed a Resolution awarding Contracts for Professional Services to Michael Fitzgerald as Alternate Attorney and Thomas Thorton as Alternate Engineer to the Planning Board.

6. Councilman Matik
 - A. Revenue & Finance
 1. Councilman Matik advised that the Bond Ordinance is on the agenda for final reading.
 2. Councilman Matik reviewed a Resolution on the agenda amending the salary Resolution for non-contractual employees.
 3. Councilman Matik explained that the Audit report for 2016 has been distributed to all Council. The Resolution certifying review will be on the next Council agenda. The City did well. There was no findings in the report.
 4. Councilman Matik discussed a Resolution to award contracts to four inspectors to assist the Tax Assessor with inspections on property tax appeals. Council President Paolone suggested that it may be time for Council to revisit the options submitted by the Tax Assessor last year on whether or not to do another revaluation. Discussion ensued upon the houses for sale and when would be best to do the revaluation.
7. Council President Paolone
 - A. Administration
 1. Council President Paolone advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a Raffle License for Mainland Youth Lacrosse.
8. Mr. Youngblood
 - A. Mr. Youngblood discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for final reading to amend Chapter 83 on Alcoholic Beverages. This is as a result of the passage of the referendum to allow for the sale of package goods.

At 6:26 P.M., Council President Paolone called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk