

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL**  
**CAUCUS MINUTES**  
**April 28, 2021**

Council President Paolone 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. And read the following statement: In light of the Governor's issuance of Executive Order 107, tonight's City Council meeting is being live streamed through Zoom. Instructions on how to attend the meeting via Zoom are posted on the City's website.

**FLAG SALUTE**

Councilwoman June Byrnes led the flag salute.

**1. Roll Call**

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

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Vince Polistina, City Engineer; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Deputy Chief Jason Weber, Police Department; Lieutenant Steve Cunningham, Police Department; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

**2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading**

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2021 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

**3. Mayor's Report**

A. The Mayor advised of a Resolution needed for an update to an existing Emergency Sheltering Agreement with Northfield, Somers Point, and the Linwood Community Church.

B. The Mayor reported on the City's participation in the second update to the Atlantic County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. As a participant, the City can qualify for funding.

**4. Councilwoman Byrnes**

A. Neighborhood Services

1. Councilwoman Byrnes advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the submission of a Local Recreation Improvement Grant to help fund a new playground at the Library.

2. Councilwoman Byrnes announced an upcoming luncheon for Senior citizens of Linwood at the Linwood Country Club on June 14.

**5. Councilwoman DeDomenicis**

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis announced an upcoming Community Shredding Day planned for June at the Public Works yard.

**6. Councilman Ford**

A. Planning, Engineering & Development

1. Councilman Ford discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for final reading amending Chapter 155 Flood Damage Prevention in accordance with FEMA regulations.

2. Councilman Ford discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for final reading amending Chapter 41 Land Use Procedures, Specific Design Standards for fences. The amendment cleans up the language to make it less vague.

3. Councilman Ford advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the refund of unused escrow funds posted with regard to a dumpster permit at 110 Arlington Avenue.

6. Councilman Ford (continued)
  4. Councilman Ford advised of a Resolution authorizing the refund with regard to Linwood Construction permit for driveway improvements at 509 Davis Avenue.
  5. Councilman Ford discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the Zoning Officer salary to Angela Marshall upon satisfactory completion of the Zoning Officer Certification Program.
  6. Councilman Ford discussed an Ordinance on the agenda amending Chapter 263, Vehicles & Traffic to add stop signs at the intersections of Belhaven & West Wabash Avenues and Morris & West Wabash Avenues.
  
7. Councilman Levinson
  - A. Revenue & Finance
    1. Councilman Levinson advised that the adoption of the 2021 Budget is going to be tabled due to the COVID Relief Funds and the decision from the State on how the funds can be used. The hearing on the budget will still be held tonight as published. There is a Resolution authorizing a temporary budget on the agenda until the full budget is adopted.
  - B. Councilman Levinson advised of a Resolution on the agenda honoring the 2020 Linwood Panthers JV Football Team for their success. The Resolutions will be presented to them at a later date.
  
8. Councilman Michael
  - A. Public Safety
    1. Councilman Michael advised of Resolutions on the agenda authorizing the reappointment of Special Class III Officers Belford Rivera and Anthony Disciascio.
    2. Councilman Michael opened discussion on the concern of electric bicycles, scooters, and skate boards on the bike path. Councilman Ford suggested finding a designated area where they can be used if they are banned. Councilman Gordon discussed the recklessness of people on electric units as well as manual ones. Rules and guidance are needed for enforcement. The matter will be discussed further in a committee.
  
9. Council President Paolone
  - A. Administration
    1. Council President Paolone advised that interviews were held for the Deputy Court Administrator position. The City's recommendation has been submitted to Judge Mendez for approval. Council President Paolone is hoping to hire at the next meeting.

At 6:24 P.M., Council President Paolone adjourned the Caucus meeting and began the Regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk