

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
May 8, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:26 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

FLAG SALUTE:

Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Rick DePamphilis; Councilwoman June Byrnes; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Eric Ford; Councilman Todd Gordon; Councilman Brian Heun; and Council President Ralph Paolone.

Absent: Councilman Darren Matik.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Gary Auer, Engineer's Office; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES WITHOUT FORMAL READING

Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Heun to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2019 Regular meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

ORDINANCES

10 OF 2019 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 83 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, ARTICLE I LICENSING OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LINWOOD AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED, THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 10 of 2019 by title only. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon to approve Ordinance No. 10 for final reading. Council President Paolone opened the floor for discussion on Ordinance No. 10. Seeing and hearing no members of the public wishing to be heard, Council President Paolone closed the floor. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and Councilman Matik absent. Motion was approved.

11 OF 2019 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 257 TOWING, 257-8 ENACTMENT OF RATES AND FEES OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LINWOOD AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED, THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 11 of 2019 by title only. Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon to approve Ordinance No. 11 for first reading. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and Councilman Matik absent. Motion was approved.

12 OF 2019 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 140 FEES, ARTICLE I PLANNING AND ZONING FEES OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LINWOOD AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED, THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 12 of 2019 by title only. Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford to approve Ordinance No. 12 for first reading. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and Councilman Matik absent. 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.

RESOLUTIONS WITHIN CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

94-2019

A Resolution authorizing the reappointment of Belford Rivera as a Special Law Enforcement Officer, Class III, For the City of Linwood

Council President Paolone asked if any member of Council would like to remove any items from consent. Nothing was removed. Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve Resolution No. 94 of 2019. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$1,440,146.80

Councilwoman Byrnes motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve the bills for payment. A roll call vote was heard with six in the affirmative and Councilman Matik absent. 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.

Jack Verseput 306 Poplar Avenue, Linwood

Mr. Verseput indicated that he does not want a skate park at Poplar Avenue and neither does his neighbors. He discussed the speeding problem on Poplar Avenue and asked Council for help.

Bryan Cottrell 108 E. Patcong Avenue, Linwood

Mr. Cottrell is in favor of a skate park in the City. He has two young children and he believes it would be a great addition for families.

Mike Costello 105 Carol Road, Linwood

Mr. Costello is also in favor of a skate park in the City.

Adam Walcoff 109 Holly Lane, Linwood

Mr. Walcoff is in favor of a skate park in the City. He commended City Council for all the current passive and recreational opportunities provided in Linwood and believes a skate park would be a great addition. He read about other successful skate parks and the benefits of same.

Karen Peyton 219 Forest Drive, Linwood

Ms. Peyton spoke in favor of a skate park several years ago and is still in favor of having one in the City.

John Miller, 311 Melody Lane, Linwood

Mr. Miller presented facts to City Council at the last meeting concerning the detriments of a skate park and he is against having one in the City.

Jesse Maher 102 Carol Road, Linwood

Mrs. Maher owns an ice cream store on the bike path in Linwood. She said kids come in after visiting the skate park in Ocean City and talk about how much fun they have and how they would love one in Linwood. She talked about the positives of a skate park and the possibility of hosting different events at one that would benefit the entire community.

Chris Maher 102 Carol Road, Linwood

Mr. Maher is in full support of a skate park in Linwood and read a statement regarding the benefits of having one. It would be a benefit to the residents as well as to the local businesses.

John Thomas 25 Kirklin Avenue, Linwood

Mr. Thomas is also in support of a skate park in Linwood. He discussed the success of skate parks in other communities and how it would benefit Linwood.

Seeing and hearing no other members from the public wishing to be heard, Council President Paolone closed the floor.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Council President Paolone – Council President Paolone expressed his condolences to the Mayor and his family for the loss of his brother.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL (continued)

Councilman Gordon – Councilman Gordon thanked everyone for their comments. Council is at the early stages of the process and doing their due diligence. As they move through the process, the meetings are open for public opinion. He also extended his condolences to the Mayor.

Mayor DePamphilis – The Mayor thanked everyone for their condolences. It seems as though there are pros and cons with regard to the skate park. He is sure Council will make the right decision.

Councilman Ford – Councilman Ford explained that Council is doing their due diligence with regard to the skate park. They are looking for what is best for the City. The Engineer is looking at designs for different locations. Council will continue to work with the Recreation Board on this matter. He extended his condolences to the Mayor.

Councilman Heun – Councilman Heun extended his condolences to the Mayor. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting and is happy to have so much participation.

Councilwoman DeDomenicis – Councilwoman DeDomenicis echoed the comments of Council with regard to the skate park. They will continue to gather information and make a decision. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Councilwoman Byrnes – Councilwoman Byrnes also thanked everyone for their comments. She is gathering information and meeting with the public with regard to the skate park. She is also waiting for information from the Police with regard to same. She asked anyone with opinions on the matter to please reach out to her.

Council President Paolone – Council President Paolone advised that the Police Department has been made aware of the complaint of speeding on Poplar Avenue and he is sure they will address the issue. He again extended his condolences to the Mayor.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon, to adjourn at 6:57 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk