

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL**  
**CAUCUS MINUTES**  
**May 24, 2023**

Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 Darren Matik; Councilwoman Blair Albright; Councilwoman June Byrnes; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Todd Michael; and Councilman Adam Walcoff.

Absent: Council President Eric Ford.

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

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Walcoff motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2023 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

A. The Mayor discussed the City Code prohibiting permanent basketball nets in any public street, roadway, right of way, sidewalk, curb area or tree apron. Only portable ones are permitted. He asked the City Solicitor and City Clerk to research the City's Code and State Laws regarding same as Council has been asked to either change the law or provide an alternative. The law exists to prevent the interference with snow & trash removal, leaf pick up, general street & sidewalks repairs and maintenance, maintaining a clear right of way for vehicular traffic and pedestrian travel, avoidance of dangerous situations with children and or adults playing in the streets, avoidance of dangerous situations for vehicular traffic, and generally avoiding potentially dangerous situations that would negatively impact the general public health safety and welfare. The Mayor spoke to the City's Public Works Foreman who advised the nets would have to be higher than thirteen feet to not interfere with their trucks. Numerous municipalities also have this law in place. The Mayor and Council looked into ideas around this and discussed several options. However, any alternative could not contradict the laws intent. Mrs. Napoli reported that the City's Insurance Risk Manager Consultant advised to keep the law as is. Councilwoman Albright advised that her committee is looking at long range plans for Memorial Park and adding additional sports is being discussed.

4. Councilwoman Albright

A. Planning, Engineering, & Development

1. Councilwoman Albright advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the refund of unused escrow funds posted with regard to a dumpster permit for 10 Frances Avenue. The street was inspected and no damage was found.

5. Councilwoman Byrnes

A. Neighborhood Services

1. Councilwoman Byrnes reported that the Senior Citizen Luncheon was a huge success with over fifty people in attendance. The County Clerk attended as well as a representative from the Superintendent of Elections Office demonstrating the new voting machines. She thanked the Police and Public Works Departments for their help and thanked the Mayor and Council for their support. She also thanked her committee members.

6. Councilman Levinson
  - A. Revenue & Finance
    1. Councilman Levinson advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing insertions of items of revenue in the 2023 Budget for the following grants received; Clean Communities Grant, Local Recreation Improvement Grant, and the DEP Stormwater Assistance Grant. He thanked Jen Heller and Mrs. Napoli for their work on the grants.
  
7. Councilman Michael
  - A. Public Safety
    1. Councilman Michael advised of a Resolution awarding a Contract to First Choice Fire Apparatus LLC for the purchase of a Typhoon Pumper Truck.
  
8. Council President Ford
  - A. Administration
    1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis advised of a Resolution approving the application of Linwood CC License LLC for renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 0114-33-002-003 for 2023-2024 for the Linwood Country Club.

At 6:18 P.M., Councilwoman DeDomenicis called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk