

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
May 25, 2016

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:04 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; Councilman Elliot Beinfest; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Todd Gordon; Councilman Brian Heun; Councilman Darren Matik; and Council President Ralph Paolone.

Absent: None

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Vince Polistina, City Engineer; Hank Kolakowski, Superintendent Public Works; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Leon Costello, City Auditor; Chief Doug Carman, Police Department; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon, to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2016 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis reported that out of the thirty-five flags purchased, only twenty-one were installed on Shore Road due to the electric company's restrictions on the poles.

4. Councilman Matik

A. Public Safety

1. Councilman Matik advised that a Resolution is on the agenda to authorize the PBA contract. This matter was discussed during a closed session meeting two weeks ago. The terms of the agreement remain the same.
2. Councilman Matik discussed a memorandum of agreement between Linwood, Northfield, and Somers Point for sheltering, either during or after an emergency. The Linwood Community Church has offered their property and the location has been approved by the Red Cross.

- B. Councilman Matik discussed the Poplar Avenue site. Mr. Polistina advised that after the Poplar Avenue School was demolished, the Mayor created a Blue Ribbon Panel on Recreation to review and develop a Master Plan on recreation in the City including the Poplar Avenue site. The open space/recreation element of the Master Plan will be revised to incorporate the findings. Field usage was determined to be an immediate need as thousands of dollars are spent each year on the fields at Memorial Field because those fields do not get a break. Mr. Polistina reviewed the proposed plan for Poplar Avenue that will include an 11v11 and a 9v9 field. Councilman Gordon asked if there would be a passive recreation component included and Mr. Polistina advised that there will be a path around the fields with exercise equipment. Councilman Matik proposed moving forward with bid specifications. Councilman Gordon asked about any available grants. Mr. Polistina advised that the County is not providing development grants at the time, but he will continue to look for other opportunities. Councilwoman DeDomenicis discussed the South Jersey Industries property as a site for recreation. Mr. Polistina advised that the site does have certain restrictions due to the groundwater contamination.

5. Council President Paolone

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Council President Paolone announced that the 2016 budget is on the agenda for a hearing and final adoption. He will also do a slide show presentation on the budget.
 2. Council President Paolone advised of a salary resolution on the agenda for all non-contractual employees.
 3. A Resolution is on the agenda authorizing a Contract with Professional Property Appraisals to conduct the inspections for the tax appeals. The amount of the contract is \$6,650.
- B. Planning & Development
1. Council President Paolone advised of a Resolution authorizing a refund of unused escrow fees for 2 Rose Lane in the amount of \$200.
 2. Council President Paolone advised of a Resolution authorizing a refund of an engineering escrow to New Jersey American Water in the amount of \$100.
- C. Administration
1. Council President Paolone explained that as a result of the resignation of Tim Tighe and in accordance with the Municipal Vacancy Law, three names were submitted by the Republican County Committee to fill the vacancy. The names were Eric Ford, Harrison Furman, and Dan Miller. Interviews were held and Eric Ford has been nominated for same.
6. Mr. Youngblood
- A. Mr. Youngblood discussed a settlement that he compromised with the County of Camden with regard to the training of an officer hired by Linwood.

At 6:22 P.M., Councilman Beinfest called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk