

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL**  
**CAUCUS MINUTES**  
**May 26, 2010**

Council President Donna Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:09 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 Matt Levinson; Councilman Alex Marino; Councilman Ralph Paolone; Councilman Tim Tighe; and Council President Donna Taylor.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, City Solicitor; Steve Mazur, Dixon Associates; Hank Kolakowski, Public Works Superintendent; Chief Jim Baker, Police Department; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Beinfest motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2010 Caucus meeting, without formal reading. All Council members were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis discussed a Resolution on the agenda to advertise for bids for crushed concrete for Seaview Landing Road.
2. Councilwoman DeDomenicis reviewed a Resolution authorizing a Shared Service Agreement with the ACUA for solid waste disposal services.

4. Councilman Levinson

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Levinson advised that the construction on Maple Avenue has begun. The curb work has been completed and the paving should be completed by Friday.

- B. Council President Taylor discussed a letter received by Mr. & Mrs. Ward of Linwood regarding the fire siren. Mr. Kisby did advise the Wards' on when and why the siren is used. Council President Taylor asked Mr. Kisby if the siren is used in accordance with emergency preparedness procedures. Mr. Kisby responded in the affirmative. They use the siren to alert the members of the Fire Company. They do have pagers. However, if a volunteer is working outside their house or swimming in their pool, they often do not have the pager on them. They have tried cutting back with the use of the siren and found that the response of the members is much lower. The Fire Company believes the siren is required for the safety of the residents. Council President Taylor questioned the response of members during the time period the siren near Seaview Avenue was down. Mr. Kisby advised that several members on that end of town missed some calls. Council President Taylor asked if other towns with volunteer companies use the siren. Mr. Kisby responded in the affirmative, noting Egg Harbor Township, Somers Point, Northfield, and Longport. Council President Taylor will respond in writing to the Wards'.

5. Councilman Marino

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Marino advised that the Public Hearing on the budget is scheduled for tonight.
2. A budget amendment will be introduced tonight.
3. A Bond Ordinance for capital items is on the agenda tonight for first reading.
4. A Resolution authorizing the temporary capital is also on the agenda.
5. A Resolution establishing a date for imposing penalties for late payment of taxes is on the agenda. This is done every year.
6. The April tax collection rate is 99%.

6. Councilman Paolone
  - A. Public Safety
    1. Councilman Paolone advised that the first meeting of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Fire Safety was held last Wednesday. It went very well.
  - B. Linwood Arboretum at Belhaven
    1. Councilman Paolone advised that the Arboretum Committee is in the process of creating rules that will not be too intrusive. Currently, there are some problems with dogs relieving themselves on the plants and children playing in areas that could harm the plant life. He asked that everyone be courteous and spread the word.
  
7. Councilman Tighe
  - A. Planning & Development
    1. Councilman Tighe discussed a Resolution for a property lien for 513 W. Poplar Avenue. He would like the City to charge filing and handling fees as well.
    2. A Resolution for partial release of surety funds with regard to Block 45, Lots 20 & 46 is on the agenda. This was based on a recommendation by the Planning Board.
    3. Councilman Tighe motioned, seconded by Councilman Marino, to add a Resolution on the agenda to authorize a contract with Intelligent Energy for natural gas. Mr. Youngblood has reviewed and approved the contract and Mrs. Tiemann has certified the funds. All members of Council were in favor of adding this Resolution, #100, to the agenda. Motion was approved.
  
8. Council President Taylor
  - A. Council President Taylor advised of a Resolution on the agenda honoring the Linwood Green Dragons Girls Basketball Team.
  - B. A Resolution is on the agenda authorizing an Agreement with Atlantic County regarding the City's Open Space Agreement for 204 W. Garfield Avenue. The City did apply and was approved for funds from Green Acres for the acquisition of this property. The funds have not been released yet. Atlantic County, through its open space program, is giving the City the amount the City was awarded from Green Acres. When the City receives the funding from Green Acres, they will reimburse the County.

At 6:27 P.M., Council President Taylor called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk