

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
May 28, 2025

Council President Eric Ford 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; Councilman Ken Kelly; and Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Michael Salerno; Councilman Adam Walcoff; and Council President Eric Ford.

Absent: Councilman Todd Michael

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; CJ Kaenzig, Engineer's Office; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Chief Steve Cunningham, Police Department; Chief Marty Walley, Fire Department; Captain Frank Gabriel, Fire Department; Joe Olden, Public Works Foreman; and Leigh Ann Napoli, City Administrator/Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Walcoff, to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2025 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Councilwoman Albright

A. Planning, Engineering, and Development

1. Councilwoman Albright discussed a Resolution approving Change Order No. 1 with Applied Landscape Technologies with regard to the Furnishing and Installation of a synthetic turf system at All Wars Memorial Park. This was regarding netting for the back stop extension.

4. Councilman Levinson

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Levinson advised of Resolutions authorizing refunds of overpayment of taxes for approved disabled veterans status at 10 Somers Avenue and 510 W. Barr Avenue.
2. Councilman Levinson reviewed a Resolution authorizing refunds of overpayment of taxes for duplicate payments for various properties.
3. Councilman Levinson discussed Resolutions authorizing approval of items of revenue for a Clean Communities Grant and a Recycling Tonnage Grant. These funds are used to pay for items such as leaf disposal, cleaning of the trash cans on the bike path, and more.

5. Councilman Michael

A. Public Safety

1. Council President Ford advised of a Resolution authorizing the hiring of Joseph B. McCauley to the position of Firefighter in the City of Linwood.
2. Council President Ford advised of a Resolution awarding a Non-Competitive Contract for Professional Services to Matthew J. Behr for Legal Services regarding a personnel matter.

6. Councilman Walcoff

A. Public Works

1. Councilman Walcoff advised of a Resolution appointing Joseph P. Olden to the position of Acting General Supervisor in the Linwood Public Works Department.
2. Councilman Walcoff reviewed a Resolution authoring the City to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with Educational Services Commission of NJ.

7. Council President Ford

A. Administration

1. Council President Ford advised of a Resolution changing the June 25, 2025 Caucus meeting commencement time from 6 :00 PM to 4 :00 PM. The meeting was previously advertised as an 'if needed' meeting. The meeting is needed in order to adopt the City's COAH plan. The time had to be changed due to a conflict.
2. Council President Ford advised of a Resolution approving the application of Linwood CC License for renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 0114-33-002-003 for 2025-2026.
3. Council President Ford reviewed a Resolution authorizing the hiring of Alexander R. Bauer as a Floodplain Manager for the City of Linwood. A vacancy was created by the retirement of Jim Galantino. The position was advertised and an interview was held. Council President Ford participated in the interview and beleives Mr. Bauer will be an asset to the City.

At 6:05 P.M., Council President Ford called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
City Administrator
Municipal Clerk