

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
July 8, 2020

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act. And read the following statement: In light of the Governor's issuance of Executive Order 107, tonight's City Council meeting is being live streamed through Zoom. A notice appeared in the Press of Atlantic City on July 3, 2020 advising the public that tonight's meeting would be live streamed and referred the public to the City's web site that includes information on how to attend the meeting on Zoom.

FLAG SALUTE

Councilman Todd Gordon led the flag salute.

1. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Darren Matik; Councilwoman June Byrnes; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis (via live stream); Councilman Eric Ford; Councilman Todd Gordon (via live stream); Councilman Brian Heun; Councilman Matt Levinson (via live stream); and Council President Ralph Paolone.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor (via live stream); Vincent Polistina, City Engineer (via live stream); Anthony Strazzeri, CFO (via live stream); Chief John Hamilton, Police Department (via live stream); and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2020 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

A. The Mayor announced that there are no new COVID cases in Linwood. The Governor has suggested that all residents wear masks outdoors when social distancing cannot be maintained.

4. Councilwoman Byrnes

A. Neighborhood Services

1. Councilwoman Byrnes reported that the new roof for the Historical Society Building is complete.
2. Councilwoman Byrnes announced that flag football has been canceled due to the pandemic. Refunds have been paid.
3. Councilwoman Byrnes discussed an upcoming Gilda's Club event on the Poplar Avenue fields. An application for park facilities has been submitted to the Recreation Board.
4. Councilwoman Byrnes advised that she was serving on the Library Board as the Mayor's designee. However, Daryl Todd requested her to step down from the Board as she is also a member of City Council. Councilwoman Byrnes did resign effective June 16. The Mayor will take his seat on the Board and she will remain as the Council liaison.

5. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a contract to Trius Inc. to purchase two snow plows.

6. Councilman Ford
 - A. Planning & Development
 1. Councilman Ford discussed two Ordinances on the agenda amending Chapters 41 & 277 as a result of the Master Plan Re-examination Report.
 2. Councilman Ford advised that he met with the Mayor, Mrs. Napoli, Chief Hamilton, and local residents regarding the property on Poplar Avenue by Patcong Creek. They discussed a plan for parking and ideas to upgrade the dock. They will provide more details in the future.
 3. Councilman Ford discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing temporary signage for Relax Massage Heaven for their grand opening.
7. Councilman Gordon
 - A. Engineering
 1. Councilman Gordon advised of a Resolution adopting procedures for administration & inspection of Federal Aid Highway projects. This is required for the federal grant the City is receiving for the bike path extension.
8. Councilman Heun
 - A. Public Safety
 1. Councilman Heun discussed an Ordinance on the agenda amending Chapter 263 Vehicles & Traffic with regard to no parking on a portion of River Drive. This is part of the plan Council Ford discussed for the Poplar Avenue property.
 2. Councilman Heun reviewed a Resolution authorizing a Sustainable Jersey Grant application for webcams.
9. Councilman Levinson
 - A. Revenue & Finance
 1. Councilman Levinson advised of an Ordinance amending the Employee Manual to provide for non-union sick buy back.
 2. Councilman Levinson discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing an insertion of item revenue for a Clean Communities Grant.
 3. Councilman Levinson advised of a Resolution on the agenda certifying review of the annual audit. The report was good with no findings.
 4. Councilman Levinson reviewed a Resolution authorizing the refund of taxes paid and the cancellation of taxes for 550 Central Avenue, M-13 due to tax exempt status.
 5. Councilman Levinson advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the City's membership renewal in the Atlantic County JIF. A representative from the JIF will provide a presentation at the regular meeting.
10. Council President Paolone
 - A. Administration
 1. Council President Paolone advised of several Resolutions on the agenda amending a Bingo and Raffle Licenses for Muckdogs, Inc.
 2. Council President Paolone reviewed a Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Bingo License to Our Lady of Sorrows Church.

At 6:11 P.M., Council President Paolone adjourned the Caucus meeting and began the Regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk