

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
July 8, 2026

Council President Eric Ford called the meeting to order at 6:03 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; 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; Chief Steve Cunningham, Police Department; Captain Frank Gabriel, Fire Department; and Leigh Ann Napoli, City Administrator/Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Walcoff motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2026 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion approved.

3. Councilwoman Albright

A. Planning, Engineering, & Development

1. Councilwoman Albright reviewed an Ordinance on the agenda for final reading amending Chapter 277 Zoning, Prohibited Uses, to prohibit the commercial rental of residential recreational amenities such as; swimming pools, pickle ball, etc.
2. Councilwoman Albright advised that the City has had ongoing discussions over the years with the State DOT regarding safety improvements to Rt. 9. One area of concern is the intersection of Rt 9 and Oak Avenue. The State would not allow the City to prohibit left hand turns off Rt 9 to Oak Avenue. The City then requested closing Oak Avenue to Rt. 9 at the corner of the Municipal Building. The State sent the City their proposed design for the intersection. City representatives met and proposed a revised design to the State. That design was shared with the Governing Body.
3. Councilwoman Albright also advised that as part of the State's future improvements to Rt 9, they have requested the City to authorize a Municipal Utility Engineering & Construction Agreement with NJDOT for the verification, design, protection and/or relocation of municipal utility facilities in connection with the Rt 9 (Chapman to Rt 30) improvement project. A Resolution is on the agenda authorizing same.

4. Councilman Kelly

A. Neighborhood Services

1. Councilman Kelly advised that the Recreation Board members are asking about a lacrosse wall for Memorial Park. Mrs. Napoli indicated that the lacrosse organization is supposed to send a new design with smaller dimensions.
2. Councilman Kelly was informed that the baseball association would like to install netting at the field close to the bike path. Council President Ford advised that netting is included in the Phase II improvements to the park.
3. Councilman Kelly asked to confirm with everyone that all recreation fees owed by the sports organizations are required to be paid every year. All members agreed.

5. Councilman Levinson

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Levinson advised of a Resolution approving an insertion of items of revenue for a Recycling Tonnage Grant.

Revenue & Finance (continued)

2. Councilman Levinson reviewed a Resolution authorizing the cancellation of taxes for a disabled veteran at 18 Wexford Lane.
 3. Councilman Levinson discussed an Ordinance on for introduction appropriating certain unexpended proceeds of the sale of previously issued notes to finance the cost of additional capital improvements.
6. Councilman Michael
 - A. Public Safety
 1. Council President Ford advised of a Resolution confirming the promotion of Officer Christopher Nazha to the position of Sergeant.
 7. Council President Ford
 - A. Administration
 1. Council President Ford advised of Resolutions authorizing a Bingo License and Raffle Licenses to AIM Angels in Motion.
 2. Council President Ford reviewed a Resolution authorizing submission of a grant application to the Sustainable Communities Grant Program.
 8. Solicitor's Report
 - A. Mr. Youngblood reported that the Judge signed the Consent Order for Final Compliance Certification with regard to COAH. The compliance certification remains in effect until June 30, 2035.

At 6:20 P.M., Council President Ford called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
City Administrator/Municipal Clerk