

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
July 10, 2024

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; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Ken Kelly; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Todd Michael; Councilman Adam Walcoff; and Council President Eric Ford.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Jen Heller, Engineer's Office; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Chief Steve Cunningham, Police Department; and Leigh Ann Napoli, City Administrator/Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilwoman DeDomenicis, motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2024 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

A. The Mayor deferred to Mrs. Napoli. Mrs. Napoli discussed the Atlantic-Cape Multi-Jurisdictional Program for Public Information Annual Update. The update covers public outreach documented by members of the program. Participation in this program provides more grant opportunities for the City for hazard mitigation and qualifies the City to participate in the Community Rating System for discounted flood insurance for residents.

4. Councilwoman Albright

A. Planning, Engineering, and Development

1. Councilwoman Albright advised that the Ordinance accepting an Easement for the location and construction of a portion of the bike path along Monroe & Oak Avenue is being pulled. The design of the bike path is being reworked without the need for an easement.
2. Councilwoman Albright reviewed a Resolution authorizing a refund of unused escrow funds with regard to a dumpster permit for 101 Wood Street. No damage was done to the street.
3. Councilwoman Albright discussed a Resolution to rescind Resolution No. 69 of 2024 awarding a Contract to Capela Construction for the Mainland Pond Improvement project. Indemnification Agreements were needed from property owners adjacent to the pond in order for the project to proceed. Several owners are unwilling to sign.
4. Councilwoman Albright advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing temporary signage for National Night Out.
5. Councilwoman Albright presented updated conceptual plans of the Recreation Master Plan and discussed the changes that were made after listening to the residents and members of Council. The Mayor and each member of Council were in favor of the updated plans. The committee already has costs for the project and will now look into prioritizing and/or phasing.

5. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis advised of Resolutions on the agenda authorizing the placement of liens in accordance with Chapter 99, Section 3 of the City Code for failure to cut the grass at 200 Haines Avenue, 18 Wexford Lane, and 330 W. Vernon Avenue.

6. Councilman Kelly
 - A. Neighborhood Services
 1. Councilman Kelly discussed the recent Library Board meeting he attended with the new Library Director and her plans for the Library. A few requests were for more benches and picnic tables for outside. Council President Ford also discussed having an area designated outside for stroller parking. All the items can be funded by the Friends of the Library organization.
7. Councilman Levinson
 - A. Revenue & Finance
 1. Councilman Levinson advised of a Resolution on the agenda approving an insertion of item of revenue for the CDBG grant for a new elevator at the Library.
 2. Councilman Levinson reviewed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing an extension of the grace period for taxes.
8. Councilman Michael
 - A. Public Safety
 1. Councilman Michael advised of a Resolution authorizing the hiring of Joe Schwabe as a Substitute School Crossing Guard.
9. Council President Ford
 - A. Administration
 1. Council President Ford advised of several Resolutions on the agenda authorizing a Bingo License and Raffle Licenses to AIM Angels in Motion and a Raffle License to Our Lady of Sorrows.
10. Solicitor's Report
 - A. Mr. Youngblood discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the payment of the sum of Eighty Thousand Dollars to the ARC of Atlantic County. This agreement is in conjunction with the City's COAH settlement. Eighty thousand was paid last year and this is the second and last payment. Each payment was funded by Redevelopment fees.

At 6:26 P.M., Council President Ford called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk