

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL**  
**CAUCUS MINUTES**  
**August 9, 2017**

Council President Ralph Paolone called the meeting to order at 6:10 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 Eric Ford; Councilman Todd Gordon; Councilman Brian Heun; Councilman Darren Matik; and Council President Ralph Paolone.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Vince Polistina, City Engineer; Chief Doug Carman, Police Department; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Beinfest motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford, to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2017 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

A. The Mayor reported that the Redevelopment Committee met with the new property management company of the Cornerstone and their tenant, Wells Fargo, to discuss the sign package approved in the Redevelopment Agreement. Wells Fargo will soon present a sign package to the committee for approval. They are including Virtua for signage as well. The Mayor advised that they will meet again soon and report to Council at a later date.

4. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a Separation Agreement with Henry S. Kolakowski.

5. Councilman Ford

A. Planning & Development

1. Councilman Ford advised of a Resolution on the agenda refunding unused escrow funds for a dumpster permit.

2. Councilman Ford discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the award of a Contract for the provision of Electric Generation Supply Service for the South Jersey Power Cooperative.

6. Councilman Gordon

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Gordon advised of a Resolution on the agenda approving a Change Order with Arawak Paving for the Hamilton Avenue et al resurfacing project.

7. Councilman Heun

A. Public Safety

1. Councilman Heun advised that the Ordinance amending the Salary Ordinance to include Special Law Enforcement Officer Class III is on the agenda for final reading.

2. Councilman Heun discussed a Resolution to hire Robert Wright as a Special Class III Officer who will be assigned the School Resource Officer in Mainland as part of the Shared Services Agreement.

8. Councilman Matik
  - A. Revenue & Finance
    1. Councilman Matik advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a refund of an overpayment of taxes for 505 Kirklin Avenue.
    2. Councilman Matik advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the renewal of membership in the Joint Insurance Fund. The Executive Director of the JIF, Paul Miola, will be present at the Regular Meeting to discuss Linwood's progress.
  - B. Councilman Matik discussed a Resolution on the agenda awarding a Contract to Liberty Parks & Playgrounds for playground equipment at All Wars Memorial Park. Council President Paolone asked if a handicap swing was included. Councilman Matik responded in the affirmative and advised there is also a handicap slide and spinner. Councilman Ford indicated that the surface is also ADA compliant. The location of the new playground is in the center of the park near the snack bar and bathrooms. Much more visible from all the fields. The existing playground is located in a retention basin. He also discussed how the Board of Recreation has been looking into a new playground for several years. Councilman Matik advised that the Library has expressed interest in the old playground equipment. He indicated that the new equipment will cost \$177,000. The CFO has certified the funds. A few utilities have to be relocated first, but the playground should be done in late September. Council President Paolone asked if anyone is opposed to the new playground. No member of Council was opposed. Council President Paolone asked if the buildings at the park will be renovated. Councilman Matik advised that they will take a little longer as different options are still being reviewed. Council President Paolone discussed MUSA re-sodding the fields again. Councilman Ford discussed the over use of the fields that tears them up. The new field at Poplar Avenue will help.
  - C. Councilman Matik discussed a new program from the ACUA called SeeClickFix. Residents can download a free application on their phones, or click on a link on the City's web site, to report potholes, code enforcements issues, etc. Complaints are emailed directly to each Department for review and records are maintained for follow up and completion. Mrs. Napoli advised that there is no cost to the City for the use of this program.
9. President Paolone
  - A. Administration
    1. Council President Paolone discussed a letter the City submitted to the Division of Alcohol Beverage Control opposing the Special Ruling for the liquor license by Berlin Road Investments, LLC. Mr. Youngblood advised of the conference today on this matter and reported that the District Attorney on the case suggested a compromise. He suggested a Special Ruling until May 2018 and a condition that the bank has to actively pursue selling the license. At the end of May, if the bank did not actively pursue selling it, the City has a stronger argument against another Special Ruling. All members of Council agreed.
10. Mr. Youngblood discussed the hearing on July 19 with regard to the amendment to the solid waste management plan for the construction of a new home on Poplar Avenue by Patcong Creek. City Council passed a Resolution at the July 12 meeting opposing the amendment. However, the County granted it at the hearing. Mr. Youngblood advised that June Dix testified at the hearing in favor of the applicant seeking the amendment. Councilwoman DeDomenicis discussed how that area should have been protected from housing.

At 6:40 P.M., Council President Paolone called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk