

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
August 10, 2016

Council President Ralph Paolone 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 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; Hank Kolakowski, Public Works Superintendent; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Mayor's Report

A. The Mayor advised of a Resolution on the agenda confirming several board/committee appointments.

3. Councilman Beinfest

A. Neighborhood Services

1. Councilman Beinfest advised of a Resolution on the agenda honoring the Ms. New Jersey Senior America

4. Councilman Ford

A. Planning & Development

1. Councilman Ford advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a refund of unused escrow funds with regard to a Zoning Board Application for the Linwood Board of Education
2. Councilman Ford discussed a Resolution on the agenda approving a temporary sign for a new business, Nina's A Unique Boutique.
3. Councilman Ford advised of a recommendation to appoint June Byrnes to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Councilman Matik motioned to add Resolution No. 134 of 2016 to the agenda confirming said appointment. The motioned was seconded by Councilman Ford. All members of Council were in favor of adding the Resolution to the agenda. The motion was approved.

5. Councilman Gordon

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Gordon discussed the old Poplar Avenue School site. Based on a recommendation from the Blue Ribbon Panel on Recreation, the Engineering Committee was asked to come up with a plan and an estimate of engineering costs for an athletic field and passive recreation options at the site. The engineering costs are approximately \$27,000. Councilman Matik explained that the Blue Ribbon Panel looked at the existing park and needs of the City and determined lacrosse has nowhere to play. Councilman Gordon explained that the proposed field will be multi-functional for lacrosse, football, and soccer. Councilman Matik indicated that the existing fields do not get any rest and must be re-sodded every year. Having another field will help lower the costs for maintenance. The Recreation Board meets on August 17. Mrs. Napoli advised that they invited the Blue Ribbon Panel to attend the meeting to discuss the site. Councilman Paolone asked Mrs. Napoli to invite the panel to the meeting with a copy of the plan that Mr. Polistina presented tonight. He asked if every member of Council was in favor of the plan as presented. All members were in favor.

2. Councilman Gordon advised that the Engineering Committee also discussed the issue at Seaview regarding drop off and pick up that Mrs. Speirs presented at the last Council meeting. The residents are against designating Garfield Avenue one-way. The committee looked at various options. They agreed on one original concept which is to upgrade the fence to a four foot high split rail with mesh to prevent people from crawling through. Quotes are being obtained. Councilman Paolone would like to see it done before school begins.
6. Councilman Matik
 - A. Revenue & Finance
 1. Councilman Matik advised of a Resolution on the agenda certifying review of the annual audit.
 2. Councilman Matik discussed a Resolution approving the certification of qualified volunteers for LOSAP.
 3. Councilman Matik reviewed a Resolution refunding a Hazardous Handling Fee.
 4. Councilman Matik advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing refunds of overpayment of taxes for 21 W. Asbury Avenue and Block 9999, Lot 1.
7. Council President Paolone
 - A. Administration
 1. Council President Paolone advised that he and the Mayor were approached about the City auctioning off the second liquor license. He asked if Council would want to put it out to bid now or wait until the results of the Referendum Question allowing the sale of packaged goods. The last time the City put the license out to bid was for \$212,500. There were no bidders. Councilman Matik indicated that he would like to wait because if the question is approved, he believes it will make the license more valuable. After much discussion, Council agreed to wait until after the results of the November Election.

At 6:30 P.M., Council President Paolone called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk