

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL  
CAUCUS MINUTES  
September 11, 2013**

Council President Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:05 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 Todd Gordon; Councilman Ralph Paolone; Councilman Tim Tighe, and Council President Donna Taylor.

Absent: Councilman Darren Matik.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, City Solicitor; Steve Mazur, Dixon Associates; Hank Kolakowski, Superintendent of Public Works; Robert James, Chief of Police; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Beinfest motioned, seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenicis, to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2013 Caucus meeting, without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

A. The Mayor advised that a Resolution is required to authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with Atlantic County OEM for a Regional Mass Care Sheltering Plan.

B. The Mayor also issued a Proclamation proclaiming September as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

4. Councilman Beinfest

A. Neighborhood Services

1. Councilman Beinfest reported that a lot of questions were raised at a recent Recreation Board meeting regarding accountability and spending of the Board's budget. He will discuss the Board's recommendation at the next Council meeting.

5. Councilman Gordon

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Gordon motioned, seconded by Councilman Tighe, to remove Resolutions No. 126-128 from tonight's agenda. All present Council members were in favor. Motion approved.

2. Councilman Gordon discussed three Resolutions approving submission of grant applications to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Wabash Avenue Roadway Improvements project, Phase 4; the Patcong Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvements project; and the School House Drive Neighborhood Road Improvements project.

6. Councilman Matik

A. Public Safety

1. Council President Taylor discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the hiring of three Substitute Crossing Guards.

B. Council President Taylor advised that the Ordinance establishing an energy aggregation program is on the agenda for final reading. This will allow the City to go to reverse auction to get a rate for electricity. Councilman Tighe reminded everyone that if the City does not like the rate, they do not have to move forward.

7. Councilman Paolone
  - A. Revenue & Finance
    1. Councilman Paolone advised of a Resolution on the agenda concerning Flexible Spending Accounts. This was something mandated by the State. Employees can set aside pre-taxed money for eligible health care expenses and possibly childcare.
  
8. Councilman Tighe
  - A. Planning & Development
    1. Councilman Tighe advised that the City and the Environmental Commission received a grant from the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions for a Green Design Standards Ordinance project. The Planning Board has recommended amendments to three Chapters in the City Code as part of the project. Councilman Tighe discussed the amendments for the following three chapters; Chapter 238, Stormwater Management, Chapter 273, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, and Chapter 277, Zoning, Height of Structures.
    2. Councilman Tighe discussed an Ordinance on the agenda amending Chapter 175, Littering to include a section on the maintenance of Construction Sites.
    3. Three Resolutions are on the agenda refunding escrow fees with regard to street opening permits.
    4. A Resolution is on the agenda designating Jim Galantino as Community Rating System Coordinator for the City. Councilman Tighe indicated that Mr. Galantino has been doing a lot of work to get Linwood into the program.
  
9. Mr. Youngblood
  - A. Mr. Youngblood advised of a Resolution on the agenda enabling an Agreement with NJDEP Green Acres Program for Blue Acres grant funding with regard to the Patcong Creek Open space Acquisition.
  - B. Mr. Youngblood advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the assignment of a tax sale certificate to the City of Linwood.

At 6:19 P.M., Council President Taylor called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk