

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL**  
**CAUCUS MINUTES**  
**September 22, 2010**

Council President Donna Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:14 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; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Tim Tighe; and Council President Donna Taylor.

Absent: Councilman Elliot Beinfest; Councilman Alex Marino; and Councilman Ralph Paolone.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Steve Mazur, Dixon Associates; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Tighe, to approve the minutes of the September 1, 2010 Caucus meeting, without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Councilman Levinson

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Levinson reviewed two Change Orders on the agenda. One for the Linwood Road Resurfacing Program and one for the Hemlock Drainage Improvement project.
2. Councilman Levinson discussed a Resolution on the agenda authorizing an application to the DEP and US Army Corp of Engineers for permitting with regard to the Southwest Linwood Flood Control and Drainage Improvement project.

4. Councilman Paolone

A. Arboretum

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis reported that it is one year ago today that the planting was started at the Arboretum. She also discussed the two upcoming fundraisers that are planned for the Arboretum, a bus trip to gardens in New York City on October 5 and a pig roast on October 3.

5. Councilman Tighe

A. Planning & Development

1. Councilman Tighe advised that the Ordinance to amend the Redevelopment Plan is being reintroduced tonight because of material changes in the document. This is due to frequent negotiations and the cooperation of the developer who is being sensitive to the needs of the neighbors. He understands that Councilman Paolone was concerned about the traffic light. Councilman Tighe advised that there has already been a meeting with the City's engineer, the developer's engineer and the Department of Transportation. Assuming the traffic warrants are met, it will be approved. Councilman Tighe reported that his committee referred to a revised list of uses that were originally developed by Peter Karabashian, the planner who prepared the initial redevelopment plan. The developer has agreed to deed restrict the twenty foot buffer on the northern end of the property so that it cannot be developed. Councilman Tighe and representatives from the City met with neighbors of the northern end concerning the trees to be removed and the possible exposure of the homes. He discussed a deceleration plan to alleviate some of the problems. Councilman Tighe indicated that his committee is still working on increasing the southern buffer to thirty feet. The sign portion is still being re-worked and the request for a PILOT program has been reduced from twenty years to five years. All the changes to the document benefit the City, thanks to the cooperation of the developer. Councilman Levinson asked if a fence would be installed on the northern end. Councilman Tighe indicated that there would be one installed. At this time, the ordinance to amend the document is being re-introduced and Council will refer it back to the Planning

- Board. The Planning Board will have forty-five days to review the document and submit recommendations to Council. Council President Taylor discussed visiting the Cornerstone Commerce Center one night around 7:30 p.m. and how the parking lot was completely dark. It gave the appearance that the building was closed. Councilman Tighe is not sure why but explained that the new lighting and signage plan will help. Councilman Levinson asked if the trees in the front of the building will be removed. Councilman Tighe indicated that the trees will be removed as part of the road widening project. However, the City can request them to be replanted somewhere else on the property.
2. Councilman Tighe discussed the Krumm vineyard and the possibility of having volunteers help with maintaining the grape vines.
  3. Councilman Tighe reported that the roof on the Library was leaking and has been replaced. He asked the Construction Official to inspect the roof before any work was done. The Construction Official confirmed that the structure was good. The City owns the building. However, the Library obtained the quotes for a new roof and paid for the project. Both the Library and the City were named as additional insured on the project.
6. Council President Taylor
- A. Administration
    1. Council President Taylor discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for first reading creating a small wind energy system. This matter was referred by the Environment Commission as well as the Planning Board.
    2. A Resolution is on the agenda to honor the Linwood Little League 10-11 year old team.
    3. The City of Linwood was recognized by the United States Census Bureau for their participated in the 2010 Census.

At 6:32 P.M., Council President Taylor called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC  
Municipal Clerk