

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
September 23, 2014**

Council President Tim Tighe called the meeting to order at 6:16 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 Brian Heun; Councilman Darren Matik; Councilman Ralph Paolone; and Council President Tighe.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Vince Polistina, City Engineer; Hank Kolakowski, Public Works Superintendent; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Beinfest motioned, seconded by Councilman Gordon, to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2014 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Mayor's Report

A. The Mayor introduced Linwood's new Superintendent of Schools, Marianne Gaffney, and Board President Lynn Gibson. Dr. Gaffney thanked the Mayor and Council and spoke about what a great school board she has to work with. Mrs. Gibson indicated that the Mayor has done a great job appointing members to the board who are diligent, thoughtful, and bring an area of expertise to the board. She thanked the Mayor and Council for always being very supportive.

B. The Mayor has appointed Tim Glenn to the Linwood Environmental Commission. Jim Rutala, a commission member, requested the appointment of someone with an insurance background to assist with the new community rating system for flood insurance.

4. Councilman Gordon

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Gordon discussed two Resolutions on his agenda awarding contracts for work being done in conjunction with the paving that will be completed east of Shore Road as a result of the gas and water company projects. One contract is for concrete curb & sidewalk replacement/installation in the amount of \$156,000. The other contract is for miscellaneous sanitary sewer & stormwater repair and rehabilitation in the amount of \$86,280.

5. Councilman Paolone

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Paolone discussed a Resolution on the agenda for the form and details for the private sale of the school refunding bonds. The City is looking to reissue an old school bond which Council did an ordinance on last year. Since that ordinance passed, the City's financial advisors have been working on a deal to sell the new bonds. However, the market has not allowed a deal to take place because the total savings on the new issue did not meet the minimum requirement of 3%. This resolution will put the City in place to make a deal if the savings numbers work out. If they don't, Council can rescind the resolution at a later date.

2. Councilman Paolone reviewed the City's answers to the Best Practices Inventory. This questionnaire is required by the State to be completed by each municipality. Responses to the Best Practices Inventory will determine how much of each municipality's final 5% allocation of CMPTRA and ETR aid will be disbursed. The City scored 42 points with a score of 84%, which results in 0% withheld.

6. Council President Tighe

A. Administration

1. Council President Tighe advised that he received additional complaints from the same resident regarding the recreational activity on the Poplar Avenue bridge. The complaints include fishing off the bridge, parking, and trash. Councilman Matik referred this matter to the Police Chief for review.
2. Council President Tighe discussed the pre-qualification to bid form for the liquor license. The final draft was distributed to Council. He asked if anyone had any changes. Nothing was changed. He advised that an Ordinance will be introduced at the next Council meeting to make the City's Code on Alcoholic Beverages consistent with the pre-qualifications. The City can put the license out to bid in November.
3. Council President Tighe discussed the JIF personnel policies. He indicated that some will just be amendments to the City's current policies and some will be additional. He believes it is in the City's best interest to adopt them. All members of Council agreed. An ordinance for same will be on Council's agenda in October.

B. Planning & Development

1. Council President Tighe advised of an offer to donate land to the City. The property is located on Patcong Creek, Block 1, Lot 31, next the Public Works. Council agreed to begin the process of obtaining the land.

At 6:33 P.M., Council President Tighe called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk