

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
October 28, 2015

Council President Tim Tighe called the meeting to order at 6:04 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; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; Hank Kolakowski, Superintendent Public Works; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Paolone motioned, seconded by Councilman Heun, to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2015 Caucus meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor with one abstention from Councilman Beinfest. Motion was approved.

3. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Councilwoman DeDomenicis announced that Public Works will begin leaf collection on November 9, beginning at the north end of the City and working south.

4. Councilman Gordon

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Gordon advised of a Resolution on the agenda awarding a Contract to AE Stone for the Eastside Paving Project. This project is associated with the utility upgrades.
2. Councilman Gordon motioned to add Resolution 157 to the agenda awarding a Contract to Homestead Nursery for 2209 Brighton Avenue Restoration with regard to the Southwest Linwood Flood Control project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Paolone. All members of Council were in favor of adding it to the regular agenda.

5. Councilman Matik

A. Public Safety

1. Councilman Matik advised of a Resolution on the agenda to hire Sandra Williams as a Substitute Crossing Guard.

6. Councilman Paolone

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Paolone advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a refund for an overpayment of taxes for 6 E. Berkshire Avenue.

B. Councilman Paolone advised that he and Councilman Matik met with representatives from Egg Harbor Township and Northfield regarding a possible shared ambulance service. Egg Harbor Township is proposing to provide the service at no cost to Linwood or Northfield for the service. There would be a cost split between the two municipalities to purchase a used ambulance for \$15,000. The municipalities would later split the cost to purchase of a new ambulance as vehicles are replaced throughout the years. They proposed \$750 per month beginning in October 2016. It would be a ten year contract. If Egg Harbor Township makes money within the first two or three years, instead of breaking even, the municipalities would not be charged for the purchase of a new ambulance. Councilman Paolone indicated that this would be a significant savings compared to the bids the City recently received. The lowest bid was \$4,000 a month. The committee, consisting of Councilmen Paolone, Matik, and Councilwoman

DeDomenicis, are recommending Egg Harbor Township's proposal to Council. There will not be an ambulance housed in the Linwood's EMS building. The ambulance would be responding from Egg Harbor Township's municipal building. They can negotiate later if they need them to use Linwood's building. If all Council is in agreement, Councilman Paolone will advise Egg Harbor Township and they will then prepare a shared agreement that Council will vote on at a future meeting. The contract could begin February 1, 2016. The City's current contract expires on February 8, 2016. Council President Tighe asked what would happen if Egg Harbor Township loses money. Councilman Paolone indicated that they will balance bill. Councilman Matik discussed the benefit of municipalities joining together to save money. All members of Council agreed to move forward with Egg Harbor Township.

7. Council President Tighe

A. Administration

1. Council President Tighe advised that a Social Media Policy for City employees will soon be drafted and distributed for review.

B. Planning & Development

1. Council President Tighe discussed a request by the Double Dose Deli for the placement of three temporary signs advertising the opening of their new business in the Cornerstone Commerce Center. The owner requested the signs be placed in front of the building for two weeks, down a week, then up for an additional two weeks. All Council agreed to allow the signs.

8. Mr. Youngblood

- A. Mr. Youngblood advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing a settlement agreement with the County of Camden as a result of a police training issue. The provision to pay for the training is statutory. The settlement was negotiated resulting in a savings of \$2,000. The amount is still less than the City would have to pay if they hired and trained new employees themselves.

At 6:25 P.M., Council President Tighe called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk