

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
November 9, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Eric Ford 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.

FLAG SALUTE:

Councilman Adam Walcoff led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Darren Matik; Councilwoman June Byrnes; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Todd Michael; Councilman Adam Walcoff; and Council President Eric Ford.

Absent: Councilwoman Blair Albright; and Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Jen Heller, Engineer's Office; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES WITHOUT FORMAL READING

Councilwoman Byrnes motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2023 Regular meeting without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

ORDINANCES

11 OF 2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 277, ZONING, ARTICLE VI SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL ZONES, SECTION 17.01 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LINWOOD AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED, THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT THEREWITH.

The City Clerk read Ordinance No. 11 of 2023 by title only. Councilman Walcoff motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Byrnes, to approve Ordinance No. 11 for final reading. Council President Ford opened the floor for discussion on Ordinance No. 11. Seeing and hearing no other members of the public wishing to be heard, Council President Ford closed the floor. A roll call vote was heard with five in the affirmative and Councilwoman Albright and Councilwoman DeDomenicis absent. Motion was approved.

RESOLUTIONS

169-2023 A Resolution authorizing 2023 Budget Appropriation Transfers

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 169 of 2023 by title only. Councilwoman Byrnes motioned, seconded by Councilman Walcoff, to approve Resolution No. 169. A roll call vote was heard with five in the affirmative and Councilwoman Albright and Councilwoman DeDomenicis absent. Motion was approved.

RESOLUTIONS WITHIN CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under item, **Consent Agenda**, are considered to be routine by City Council, and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed. Any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds and any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda and discussed separately. All Consent Agenda items will be reflected in full in the minutes.

164-2023 A Resolution authorizing the refund of a Disabled Veteran 2023 4th quarter tax payment for Block 102, Lot 6 located at 228 Van Sant Avenue in the City of Linwood

165-2023 A Resolution authorizing the placement of a lien on Block 148, Lot 15.07 (14 Wexford Lane) in accordance with Chapter 99, Section 3 of the Code of the City of Linwood

166-2023 Resolution awarding a Contract to Ready2Go Restroom Trailers Sales LLC for the purchase of a restroom trailer under the Sourcewell Cooperative Contract #092922-AGO

RESOLUTIONS WITHIN CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

- 167-2023** A Resolution awarding the Contract to Arawak Paving Co, Inc. for the 2023 Road Program, Contract No. 47
- 168-2023** A Resolution awarding the Contract to AJR Masonry, LLC for the Linwood City Hall ADA Ramps, Contract No. 46

Council President Ford asked if any member of Council would like to remove any other items from consent. No items were removed. Councilwoman Byrnes motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve Resolutions No. 164-168 of 2023. All present members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$1,629,673.10

Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Byrnes, to approve the bills for payment. A roll call vote was heard with five in the affirmative, and Councilwoman Albright and Councilwoman DeDomenicis absent. Motion was approved. (The bill list is attached as Exhibit A)

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Council President Ford opened the floor to the public for discussion on any topic.

Jack Verseput 306 W. Poplar Avenue, Linwood

Mr. Verseput advised that a few properties in his area look overgrown.

Kathleen Spaeth 108 Country Club Drive, Linwood

Mrs. Spaeth thanked the Mayor, Councilwoman Albright, and Council President Ford for responding so quickly to her inquiries about the restroom trailer. It is a large capital expense and she is concerned about the costs associated with it and for its security. She asked if it will be locked when it is not in use. She also asked if the sports organizations can help pay for some of the costs.

Seeing and hearing no other members from the public wishing to be heard, Council President Ford closed the floor.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Matik – The Mayor advised Mrs. Spaeth that the restroom trailer will be located at the Poplar Avenue field, directly across the street from the Police Department and will be locked when not in use. The City does collect field usage fees from the sports organizations that are used for field maintenance and all associated costs, which would include the trailer. He advised that the alternative to the trailer was a permanent building that would have cost over three hundred thousand dollars. Councilwoman Albright and her committee took the time to research the best value for the taxpayers. The Mayor congratulated all the winners in the recent election. The City will be losing the energy and smarts of Councilwoman Byrnes. However, they will now be shared with all the residents of Atlantic County as she becomes a County Commissioner.

Councilman Walcoff – Councilman Walcoff echoed the sentiments of the Mayor regarding Councilwoman Byrnes. He is very proud of her and noted that the County will be well served.

Councilwoman Byrnes – Councilwoman Byrnes thanked everyone for their comments. She congratulated the Linwood candidates on their elections commending the great job they do. She shared a story of watching someone picking up trash along the bike path who turned out to be Lori Butrus. Councilwoman Byrnes believes both Lori and George Butrus are both great volunteers and Linwood is lucky to have them.

Councilman Levinson – Councilman Levinson agreed that the volunteers are what makes Linwood great. With regard to the bathroom trailer, he believes Councilwoman Albright and Mrs. Heller came up with a great alternative to a permanent building that would have been very expensive. It will be a positive addition to the area. Councilman Levinson congratulated Councilwoman Byrnes on her election to County Commissioner. She works very hard. The County's win is Linwood's loss.

Councilman Michael – Councilman Michael also congratulated Councilwoman Byrnes on her election and looks forward to seeing what she will do at the County level because of all she has done for Linwood. She will be missed.

FINAL REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL (continued)

Council President Ford – Council President Ford explained that when Councilwoman Byrnes takes on a project, she is all in. He knew she would win the election because she works so hard. He congratulated Councilwoman Byrnes as well as the Mayor and Councilman Walcoff on their elections. He thanked the voters for their confidence by re-electing him. Council President Ford also thanked Mrs. Napoli. She does a lot behind the scenes, even working from 4:30am to 9:30pm on Election Day. She is a true asset to the City. Council President Ford congratulated the Mainland Regional High School marching band and girls' volleyball on their recent successes.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilman Levinson motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to adjourn at 6:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk