

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
December 12, 2012

Council President Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:11 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 Darren Matik; Councilman Ralph Paolone; Councilman Tim Tighe; and Council President Donna Taylor.

Absent: None.

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

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Beinfest motioned, seconded by Councilman Tighe, to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2012 Caucus meeting, without formal reading. All present members of Council were in favor with one abstention by Councilwoman DeDomenicis. Motion was approved.

3. Councilman Gordon

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Gordon discussed a Resolution authorizing a Change Order with L. Feriozzi Concrete with regard to the Poplar Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvements. The grant awarded for this project allowed for some flexibility and additional curbing and sidewalk was completed.
2. Councilman Gordon explained a Resolution is needed to authorize an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Atlantic County Improvement Authority in order to accept the 2012 CDBG funds in the amount of \$12,000.

4. Councilman Matik

A. Public Safety

1. Councilman Matik explained that he has received a considerable amount of calls and emails from residents regarding the fire siren. The policy regarding the siren has never been part of the public record and he would like to give the public a chance to be heard on the matter by proposing an ordinance amending the City's noise ordinance governing the times and circumstances the siren is used. The Chief of the Fire Department has approved the language. Councilman Beinfest discussed how the Fire Chief has always been adamant about the sirens use as another way to reach out to the volunteers. Councilman Paolone does not agree with allowing the public to dictate when the siren is used, noting that it is City policy. Councilman Paolone served eight years as Chief of the Public Safety Committee and the Fire Chief has always defended the use of the siren. Councilman Paolone will not take a public argument over the Chief when it comes to public safety. Council President Taylor agrees with Councilman Paolone and indicated that Council has to yield to the Fire Department. Councilman Matik just wants to put the policy on record. Councilman Tighe agrees with listening to the public. Council President Taylor requested that this matter be discussed further in the Public Safety Committee for a recommendation at a later date.
2. Councilman Matik discussed how several public works' vehicles have been damaged by portable basketball nets located in the streets. Councilman Matik would like to propose an ordinance to limit the amount of time that sports equipment can be left in the street such as during trash collection or snow removal. This would provide the city with enforcement of same. Mr. Youngblood will review the proposal for an ordinance in 2013.

5. Councilman Paolone
 - A. Revenue & Finance
 1. Councilman Paolone reviewed a Resolution cancelling capital balances. Cancelling the balances will help to increase the Fund Balance that will help with the 2013 budget preparations.
 2. Councilman Paolone also reviewed a Resolution cancelling appropriation balances, which will also help increase the Fund Balance.
 3. Councilman Paolone yielded to Councilman Tighe for the Resolution appointing Glenn Insurance as the City's Risk Management Consultant to the JIF. Councilman Tighe explained the appointment and indicated that Glenn Insurance has given the City a fair price and is always accessible.

6. Council President Taylor
 - A. Administration
 1. Council President Taylor advised of a Resolution authorizing a Bingo License to Our Lady of Sorrows Church.
 2. A Resolution is on the agenda scheduling the 2013 Reorganization Meeting for Monday, January 7, 2013.
 3. Resolutions are on the agenda authorizing two Raffle Licenses to St. Joseph's Church.

At 6:31 P.M., Council President Taylor called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk