

LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
CAUCUS MINUTES
December 14, 2011

Council President Donna Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:01 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 Matt Levinson; Councilman Alex Marino; Councilman Ralph Paolone; Councilman Tim Tighe; and Council President Donna Taylor.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Steve Mazur, Dixon Associates; Robert James, Police Chief; Hank Kolakowski, Superintendent of Public Works; Chick Kisby, Fire Chief; Donna Clark, Court Administrator; and Leigh Ann Napoli, Municipal Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes Without Formal Reading

Councilman Tighe motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2011 Caucus meeting, without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

3. Councilman Beinfest

A. Neighborhood Services

1. Councilman Beinfest reported that the tree lighting ceremony went very well and was well attended.

4. Councilwoman DeDomenicis

A. Public Works

1. Mr. Kolakowski advised that by a request from Council he has researched the use of LED lights for the one hundred and twenty-two decorative lamp posts located at City Hall, Memorial Park and along the bike path. He presented the information to Council for their consideration. Council will review the material and revisit the subject at a later date.

5. Councilman Levinson

A. Engineering

1. Councilman Levinson discussed the Resolutions authorizing application to NJDOT for the Safe Routes to Schools Program.
2. A Resolution is on the agenda authorizing an amended Change Order with Landberg Construction for State Aid Improvements to Maple Ave, Phase 2.
3. A Resolution authorizing a Change Order with Landberg Construction for Seaview Ave & West Ave Pedestrian Safety Improvements. This change order is for a decrease in the project cost.

6. Councilman Marino

A. Revenue & Finance

1. Councilman Marino advised that the Ordinance adopting the Green Purchasing Policy is on the agenda for final reading.
2. The bond refunding is moving forward.
3. Councilman Marino reported on three Resolutions as part of the year end operating procedures. The Resolutions are to cancel Capital, Grant and Appropriation Balances.
4. A Resolution is on the agenda appointing Glenn Insurance as the Risk Management Consultant for the Joint Insurance Fund.

5. Councilman Marino reported that Anthony Strazzeri, the City's CFO, has been awarded the Volunteer of the Year award for the City of Linwood from the Atlantic County Drug Alliance.

7. Councilman Paolone
 - A. Public Safety
 1. Councilman Paolone reported that he, Councilman Beinfest, and Council President Taylor will meet with the PBA soon regarding contract negotiations. Councilman Paolone, Council President Taylor, Councilwoman DeDomenicis and Chief James met with Egg Harbor Township for a presentation on dispatch services. Their system is very impressive. Council is reviewing the costs for same.

8. Councilman Tighe
 - A. Planning & Development
 1. Councilman Tighe discussed an Ordinance on the agenda for final reading that will provide for paving standards for parking lots.
 2. An Ordinance is on the agenda for final reading to allow Funeral Homes as a permitted use.

9. Council President Taylor
 - A. Administration
 1. Council President Taylor advised that Merrilee Carlson, the Deputy Court Administrator, has resigned employment with the City for a full time position in Absecon. Her last day is December 16. Council President Taylor indicated that Court Administrator Donna Clark has submitted a proposal with several ideas for the office. Mrs. Clark assured Council that she will cover the office at least four days a week. Council President Taylor indicated that Mrs. Clark has done a terrific job with the shared court service.
 2. A Resolution is on the agenda in support of fair school funding.
 3. The Reorganization Meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
 4. Council President Taylor advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the advertisement for Requests for Proposals for the positions of Solicitor, Bond Counsel, and Auditor.
 5. A Resolution is on the agenda authorizing a new two year Contract for animal control services with Animal Control of South Jersey.

10. Mr. Youngblood
 - A. Mr. Youngblood advised of a Resolution on the agenda authorizing the release of Engineering Escrow with regard to Block 1, Lot 49, which is the Cornerstone Commerce Center. The City will retain \$10,000 for outside legal costs associated with the Redevelopment Plan.

At 6:20 P.M., Council President Taylor called a recess.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Ann Napoli, RMC
Municipal Clerk