

**LINWOOD COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
June 12, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Eric Ford called the meeting to order at 6:13 P.M., noting that the meeting had been advertised in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

FLAG SALUTE:

Councilman Ken Kelly led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Darren Matik; Councilwoman Blair Albright; Councilwoman Stacy DeDomenicis; Councilman Ken Kelly; Councilman Matt Levinson; Councilman Todd Michael; Councilman Adam Walcoff; and Council President Eric Ford.

Absent: None

Also Present: Joseph L. Youngblood, Jr., City Solicitor; Jen Heller, Engineer's Office; Anthony Strazzeri, CFO; and Mary F. Cole, Deputy Municipal Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES WITHOUT FORMAL READING

Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2024, Regular meeting without formal reading. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

RESOLUTIONS

106-2024 A Resolution authorizing the hiring of Thomas P. Flynn, III to the position of Firefighter in the City of Linwood

The Deputy City Clerk read Resolution No.106 of 2024 by title only. Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve Resolution No. 106. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved. The mayor administered the Oath of Office to Firefighter Flynn. The Mayor and each member of Council congratulated Fire Fighter Flynn.

ORDINANCES

6 of 2024 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE BY THE CITY OF LINWOOD FROM MARY LYNN DROGO OF 1129 OAK AVENUE AN EASEMENT FOR THE LOCATION, CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A PORTION OF THE BICYCLE PATH IN THE CITY OF LINWOOD AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

The Deputy City Clerk read Ordinance No. 6 of 2024 by title only. Councilman Walcoff motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Albright, to approve Ordinance No. 6 for first reading. A roll call vote was heard with seven in the affirmative. 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.

95-2024 A Resolution requesting approval of items of Revenue and Appropriations NJSA 40A:4-87 from the 2024 Recycling Tonnage Grant

96-2024 A Resolution requesting approval of items of Revenue and Appropriations NJSA 40A:4-87 from the 2024 Clean Communities Grant

RESOLUTIONS WITHIN CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

- 97-2024** A Resolution authorizing the refund of a Disabled Veteran tax payments for Block 136 Lot 1 located at 214 W Barr Avenue in the City of Linwood
- 98-2024** A Resolution authorizing the refund of various tax overpayments to CoreLogic
- 99-2024** A Resolution approving the application of Linwood CC License LLC for renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 0114-33-002-003 for 2024-2025
- 100-2024** A Resolution authorizing the reappointment of Raymond W. Conover, IV as the Uniform Fire Safety Inspector for the City of Linwood
- 101-2024** A Resolution authorizing the placement of a Lien on Block 163, Lot 7 (200 Haines Avenue) in accordance with Chapter 99, Brush, Grass and Weeds, Section 3 of the Code of the City of Linwood
- 102-2024** A Resolution authorizing the placement of a Lien on Block 33, Lot 22 (1804 Shore Road) in accordance with Chapter 99, Brush, Grass and Weeds, Section 3 of the Code of the City of Linwood
- 103-2024** A Resolution awarding the Contract to Command Co., Inc for the Linwood Bike Path Extension Phase, II, Contract No. 50
- 104-2024** A Resolution awarding the Contract to West Bay Construction for the Seaview Dock & Poplar Dock Improvements, Contract No. 52
- 105-2024** A Resolution authorizing the City of Linwood to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Education Services Commission of New Jersey
- 107-2024** A Resolution awarding a Contract to Foveonics Imaging Technologies, Inc. for document scanning and management under the NJ State approved Cooperative #65MCESSCCPS Bid #ESCNJ 22/23-11
- 108-2024** A Resolution authorizing payment of a property claim to Michelle Sabatini
- 109-2024** A Resolution awarding a Contract to Musco Sports Lighting, LLC for the Sports Lighting Replacement Project at All Wars Memorial Park in the City of Linwood under the Sourcwell Cooperative #071619-MSL
- 110-2024** A Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application and authorization to execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Resurfacing of Barr Avenue and Oak Avenue project

Council President Ford asked if any member of Council would like to remove any other items from consent. No items were removed. Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve Resolutions No. 95-105 and 107-110 of 2024. All members of Council were in favor. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: \$1,506,042.71

Councilwoman DeDomenicis motioned, seconded by Councilman Michael, to approve the bills for payment. A roll call vote was heard with five in the affirmative, and two abstentions by Councilwoman Albright and Councilman Levinson. 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.

Mike Toland, 336 Murphys Way, Linwood – Mr. Toland stated that he was not in favor of the skate park being constructed on the Poplar Avenue field.

Ann Lindquist, 717 Cedar Place, Linwood – Ms. Lindquist stated that she was not in favor of the skate park being constructed on the Poplar Avenue field.

Jack Verseput, 306 Poplar Avenue, Linwood – Mr. Verseput complained about the speeding on Poplar and Maple Avenues and the handicap parking in front of the police station. Mr. Verseput also stated he feels that Code Enforcement is not doing enough with regards to dilapidated properties.

Teresa Zeitmeyer, 510 VanSant Avenue, Linwood – Ms. Zeitmeyer was in favor of the skate park.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (continued)

Dr. Diana Dao, 21 Crossing Drive Avenue, Linwood – Dr. Dao was in favor of the skate park.

Cole Zeitmeyer, 510 VanSant Avenue, Linwood – Cole was in favor of the skate park for himself and his friends.

Kim Green, 304 Monroe Avenue, Linwood – Mrs. Green was in favor of the city building a skate park but not in the proposed location.

Jill Leap, 960 Bryant Avenue, Linwood – Ms. Leap stated that she was not in favor of the skate park being constructed on the Poplar Avenue field.

Linda Gussie, 4 Cedar Place, Linwood – Mrs. Gussie was in favor of the city building a skate park but not in the proposed location.

Brandon Kelly, 905 Bartlett Avenue, Linwood – Mr. Kelly was in favor of the skate park.

Dan Miller, 505 Barr Avenue, Linwood – Mr. Miller was in favor of the skate park.

Gary Green, 304 Monroe Avenue, Linwood – Mr. Green doesn't have a problem with a skate park but not in the proposed location.

Bob Boileau, 2 Cedar Place, Linwood – Mr. Boileau stated that he was not in favor of the skate park being constructed on the Poplar Avenue field.

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

FINAL REMARKS BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Matik – The Mayor stated that council is taking in and discussing all the concerns both positive and negative. He is thankful for everyone that came out to voice their opinions. Mayor Matik asked Jack Verseput to give him a list of properties he feels are not kept up to code and the mayor will look into it.

Councilman Kelly – Councilman Kelly reassured the residents he is listening. He thanked the people that came out to give their thoughts.

Councilman Levinson – Councilman Levinson thanked everyone for attending. He understands the residents' concerns and sees how some of the proposed improvements could affect them. He understands that people's homes are their biggest investment and that they should be able to enjoy their home at all times. Councilman Levinson advised the 8th grade graduation is tomorrow evening.

Councilman Michael – Councilman Michael also thanked everyone for attending and for their comments. He noted that this is a process and there are still a lot of unanswered questions and there is still a lot to discuss. Councilman Michael said he will be keeping all the residents in mind when discussing the plan and there will be complete transparency.

Councilwoman Albright – Councilwoman Albright thanked everyone for coming out and providing their input. She advised that City Council will consider all their concerns and comments. Councilwoman Albright congratulated Mr. Flynn on his appointment to the fire department.

Councilwoman DeDomenicis – Councilwoman DeDomenicis stated that she appreciated everyone that came to the meeting to give their thoughts on the project. She stated this plan is slightly different from the plan five years ago because it encompasses two fields in town and it will not be decided on quickly. We are just taking in all the information at this point. It's a work in progress.

Councilman Walcoff – Councilman Walcoff stated that it was important for the residents to come out because we are data gathering at this point and that he is proud of everyone who came out to speak no matter what their opinion is. He congratulated Mr. Flynn on his appointment.

Council President Ford – Council President Ford thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and speaking their mind. He hopes that these meetings provide enough of a stress free environment so that people can come out and say what they feel. He doesn't want anyone to feel intimidated. He hears all your concerns. He congratulated the fourth graders for being clapped out for Seaview school. He advised the eighth-grade graduation is tomorrow night and Mainland graduation will be next Tuesday. Congratulations to all the graduates.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be addressed by Council, Councilwoman Albright motioned, seconded by Councilman Levinson, to adjourn at 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary F. Cole
Deputy Municipal Clerk