**Minutes of the Regular**

**Meeting of the 2019 Council of the**

**City of Linden, held Tuesday,**

**December 17, 2019**

The regular meeting of the 2019 Council of the City of Linden, was held in the Council Chambers in the City Hall on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 7:10 pm., prevailing time.

The meeting was called to order by President of Council Michele Yamakaitis and she announced that the notice of this meeting stating the date, place and time, has been disseminated as required under the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

The Clerk rendered the opening prayer, after which the members of the Governing Body and the persons in attendance saluted the flag.

Council President Michele Yamakaitis informed those present of the proper procedures for exiting the room in the event of an emergency.

Council President Michele Yamakaitis asked all members of the public, wishing to speak during the public comment session to please sign in on the sign-in white sheets provided in the front of the room.

Council President Michele Yamakaitis asked all to place their cell phones on vibrate, and if they must take a call to please leave the room to do so.

A roll call showed the following members were present:

Councilwoman Lisa Ormon

Councilman Barry Javick

Councilman Peter Brown (7:56 pm)

Councilman Alfred Mohammed

Councilwoman Rhashonna Cosby

Councilman Ralph Strano

Councilman Garnett Blaine

Councilman Armando Medina (7:50 pm)

Councilwoman Gretchen Hickey

Council President Michele Yamakaitis

Mayor Derek Armstead

President Yamakaitis noted that Mr. Brown, Mr. Roman and Mr. Medina were excused. Mayor Armstead arrived at 8:33 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Cosby moved for the approval of the regular meeting minutes of November 12, 2019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garnett and was unanimously ordered approved.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Carmen Urso 2019 Good Neighbor 5th Ward**

Council President Yamakaitis called upon Councilwoman Cosby to make the presentation to Carmen Urso, as Fifth Ward 2019 Good Neighbor. Ms. Cosby explained the award, note why Ms. Urso was chosen. She then read the resolution and presented it to Ms. Urso

**Lisete “Master’ Matias for her Community Dedication**

Council President Yamakaitis called upon Council President Pro Tempore Strano to join her at the podium to do the presentation. Mrs. Yamakaitis noted that Ms. Matias has her business, in the Eighth Ward, and spoke about some of the items that made her a good neighbor. She then read the resolution honoring Ms. Matias and presented a copy to her.

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**Former Interim 8th Ward Councilman Coates**

Council President Yamakaitis called upon former Eighth Ward Interim Councilman Paul Coates to the podium. Mr. Strano stated that Mr. Coates was being honored as the former Eight Ward Council person and spoke about he services he provided to the citizens of the Eighth Ward and of Linden. Mr. Strano read the resolution honoring Mr. Coates and presented him with a copy.

**Director of Community Affairs Frank Dann for his service**

Council President Yamakaitis called upon Mr. Dann to join herself and Mr. Strano at the podium. Mr. Strano spoke about Mr. Dann’s history with the City of Linden, and how he came to Linden. He talked about Mr. Dann’s accomplishments as Director of Community Affairs. He then read the resolution and presented a copy to Mr. Dann. Mr. Dann stated that it was an honor to serve in Linden, a town where he and his father were born and raised and where his grandfather spent twenty years working for the City. He thanked the council and Mayor for all of their support.

**Honoring Metro Liquors for their support of the Linden Community**

Council President Yamakaitis called up representatives of Metro Liquors to receive the resolution. Mrs. Yamakaitis read the resolution honoring Metro Liquors and presented a copy to the representative. The representative noted it was there pleasure to support the Linden Community.

**Honoring Danuta Lisowska for her commitment to Linden**

Council President Yamakaitis called up Danuta Lisowska to the podium. Mrs. Yamakaitis spoke about her personal experiences of working with Ms. Lisowska, and her commitment to Linden. She then read the resolution honoring Ms. Lisowska, particularly her work in helping establish the first Polish festival. Ms. Lisowska thanked the Mayor and Council for the recognition.

**Tree City USA**

Council President Yamakaitis asked Shade Tree Chairman Jeff Tandul, members of the Shade Tree Commission, Mr. Strano and Mr. Javick to step up to the podium. Mr. Tandul noted that Linden had become a Tree City USA for the thirteenth year. He noted the requirements to become a Tree City and thanked the Mayor and Council for their support. He thanked a number of individuals for their cooperative efforts in working with the Commission. He presented the Tree City USA flag and plaque to the Council President.

**Hanukah Proclamation**

On behalf of Mayor Armstead, Councilwoman Ormon read the following proclamation:

**Whereas**, “In God We Trust” has been and continues to be, now more than ever before in these times of uncertainty and doubt, the motto of our land, our preservation of the concept of religious freedom through our Constitution, laws and customs, stands as a beacon of light and hope for the peoples of all nations throughout the world; and,

**Whereas**, in this land of religious freedom and tolerance, Bris Avrohom, an organization founded by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, for the past 40 years has been in the forefront of integrating immigrants into the American way of life as well as the religious, humanitarian and educational doctrines of the Jewish faith; and,

**Whereas**, it is now the season of the Festival of Lights, known as Chanukah, a word which envelopes the word education in its Hebrew form; and,

**Whereas,** Bris Avrohom was instrumental in placing over 125 menorahs throughout the State of New Jersey including county administrative offices, city halls, courthouses, New York and New Jersey crossings, airports, shopping malls and businesses, where over 25 million individuals had the ability to see and be inspired from the Festival of Lights; and,

**Whereas,** this year marks the HUNDRED and EIGHTEENTH anniversary of the birth of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, of blessed memory, the visionary force responsible for the massive educational and humanitarian programs around the world,

**Now Therefore Be It Proclaimed,** that I, Derek Armstead Mayor of the City of Linden, in the County of Union and the State of New Jersey do hereby declare **December 23rd, 2019 through April 18th, 2020 corresponding to the Hebrew Calendar Dates 25 Kislev 5780 through 24 Nissan 5780** as

“**117 DAYS OF EDUCATION”**.

**ORDINANCE ON HEARING**

**President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that this is the date designated for the hearing and further consideration respecting an ordinance entitled:**

**63-53** An Ordinance authorizing the sale of Lot 11, Block 537, known as 1610 Clinton Street on the current tax atlas of the City of Linden, in the County of Union, not needed for public use, by auction and establishing a minimum bid price of $90.000.00 and setting December 27, 2019, at 11:00 AM as the date and time for said Public Action in the Council Conference room of the Linden City Hall.

President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that the hearing was now open, that all persons interested would be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the Ordinance and the Clerk will read the Ordinance. Thereupon President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there were any written objections.

None were presented and the Clerk stated that therefore none had been received. President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there was anyone who desired to be heard concerning the Ordinance read by the Clerk.

There being no persons to be heard, Mrs. Ormon moved for approval of Ordinance #63-53. The motion was seconded by Mr. Javick and was unanimously ordered approved on a roll call vote.

**President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that this is the date designated for the hearing and further consideration respecting an ordinance entitled:**

**63-54** An Ordinance to amend and supplement Chapter VII, Traffic, of an ordinance entitled, “An ordinance adopting and enacting the Revised General Ordinances of the City of Linden, 1999,” passed November 23, 1999 and approved November 24, 1999, and as amended and supplemented.

BE IT ORDINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN:

Section 1. That Chapter VII, Traffic, Section 7-15, Parking by Permit Only in Designate Residential Areas, shall be and the same is hereby amended as follows:

DELETE SECTIONS 7-15.1 PARKING DECALS in its entirety

ADD NEW SECTION 7-15.1 PARKING DECALS.

President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that the hearing was now open, that all persons interested would be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the Ordinance and the Clerk will read the Ordinance. Thereupon President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there were any written objections.

None were presented and the Clerk stated that therefore none had been received. President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there was anyone who desired to be heard concerning the Ordinance read by the Clerk.

There being no persons to be heard, Mrs. Ormon moved for approval of Ordinance #63-54. The motion was seconded by Mr. Strano and was ordered approved by all voting yes with the exception of Ms. Cosby who voted no.

**President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that this is the date designated for the hearing and further consideration respecting an ordinance entitled:**

**63-55** An Ordinance authorizing the sale of a portion of Lot 13, Block 580, known as 1601 West Edgar Road, on the current tax atlas of the City of Linden in the County of Union, and not needed for public use to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for $10,000.00. (Required for intersection improvements for Route 1&9 at Avenue C.

President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that the hearing was now open, that all persons interested would be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the Ordinance and the Clerk will read the Ordinance. Thereupon President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there were any written objections.

None were presented and the Clerk stated that therefore none had been received. President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there was anyone who desired to be heard concerning the Ordinance read by the Clerk.

Virginia Malik – Ms. Malik asked how large the piece of land was, as a value of $10,000.00 seemed like a small amount. Mr. Antonelli provided a response.

There being no other persons to be heard, Mrs. Ormon moved for approval of Ordinance #63-55. The motion was seconded by Mr. Javick and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote.

**President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that this is the date designated for the hearing and further consideration respecting an ordinance entitled:**

6**3-56** An Ordinance to amend and supplement Chapter VII, Traffic, of an ordinance entitled, “An ordinance adopting and enacting the Revised General Ordinances of the City of Linden, 1999,” passed November 23, 1999 and approved November 24, 1999, and as amended and supplemented.

BE IT ORDINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN:

Section 1. That Chapter VII, Traffic, shall be and the same is hereby amended as follows:

Chapter VII, Traffic

7-33 HANDICAPPED PARKING REGULATIONS

7-33.1A Handicapped Parking On-Street

Name of Street Spaces No. of Location

ADD:

817 Lincoln Street 1 On the southeasterly sideline of Lincoln Street, 30 feet more or less southeasterly from the

Projection of the southeasterly curbline of East

Henry Street in front of 817 Lincoln Street for a

Length of 22 feet. The aforesaid pace is specifically reserved and designated for a

vehicle for Wilbur Taylor to be identified by a

License plate number and placard to be issued

By the City, and no other vehicle bearing or

Displaying handicapped license plates and/or

Placards, or not, shall be permitted to park in

Such space.

DELETE:

622 East Curtis Street 1 On the southeasterly sideline of East Curtis

Street, 216 feet more or less southwesterly

Curbline of Bower Street, in front of 622 East

Curtis Street, for a length of 22 feet. The

Aforesaid space is specifically reserved and

Designated for a vehicle for Rachel Williams

To be identified by a license plate number and a

Placard to be issued by the City, and no other

Vehicle bearing or displaying handicapped license plates and/or placards or not, shall be permitted to park in such place.

President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that the hearing was now open, that all persons interested would be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the Ordinance and the Clerk will read the Ordinance. Thereupon President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there were any written objections.

None were presented and the Clerk stated that therefore none had been received. President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there was anyone who desired to be heard concerning the Ordinance read by the Clerk.

There being no persons to be heard, Mrs. Ormon moved for approval of Ordinance #63-56. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mohammed and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote.

**President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that this is the date designated for the hearing and further consideration respecting an ordinance entitled:**

**63-57** BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 59-10 FINALLY ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN, NEW JERSEY ON MARCH 17, 2015, AS AMENDED. (Changing the amount of the amount of the bonds or notes to be issued from $501,600 to $2,211,600 and the amount of the down payment from $26,400 to $116,400.

President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that the hearing was now open, that all persons interested would be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the Ordinance and the Clerk will read the Ordinance. Thereupon President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there were any written objections.

None were presented and the Clerk stated that therefore none had been received. President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there was anyone who desired to be heard concerning the Ordinance read by the Clerk.

There being no persons to be heard, Mr. Javick moved for approval of Ordinance #63-57. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ormon and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote.

**President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that this is the date designated for the hearing and further consideration respecting an ordinance entitled:**

**63-58** An ordinance amending Chapter 2-7 entitled “Administrative Organization” by the City Council of the City of Linden. (amending 2-7.1, Creation of Committees; Appointment of Members; 2-7.2 Committees of the City Council, and 2-7.3 Departments, Boards and Commissions)

President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that the hearing was now open, that all persons interested would be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the Ordinance and the Clerk will read the Ordinance. Thereupon President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there were any written objections.

The Clerk responded yes, and read the following email:

ORDINANCE NO. 63-58 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2-7 ENTITLED “ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION” BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN.

IN 2012 the governing body changed the ordinance to eliminate the totalitarian rule of the Council President. It has been working well until recently.  The attendance of many on some committees is questionable. It seems as if hogging all the committees for themselves has gotten to be overwhelming and unproductive.  The overpowering majority of the council has repeatedly denied certain members of the council access to serve on committees and loaded the committee with their allies.  The majority serve as chairpersons of all but a few committees and routinely fail to present committee reports to the full governing body and often the public before their initiatives go for a vote.  We used to have four people allowed on a committee, and that was restricted this year by the super six council members to three. They further deny others to serve where they have requested and may have a working knowledge of a particular area.

Apparently, the powerful ones have grown tired of attending committee meetings and now seek to overload the other council members with committee assignments; they no longer find desirable.

This reversal of a long-standing process, in my opinion, will see council members who ask for specific assignments get denied and assigned to committees where they may or may not be best suited.  I predict the super six will get few committee assignments but maintain their position on the highly sought after committees: Personnel, Finance, Technology, and Recreation.  I say, leave it the way it is, let the majority decide.  I know that this message is going to be ignored. Nevertheless, It is my right to express my opinion at this hearing.  I look forward to seeing what my assignments will be because I am sure the ordinance will pass with a majority.  I will serve to the best of my ability.

I pray that whoever is going to give the COUNCIL PRESIDENT her orders WILL BE FAIR AND EQUITABLE in doling out the assignments.

Rhashonna C. Cosby

No others were presented and the Clerk stated that therefore no others had been received. President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there was anyone who desired to be heard concerning the Ordinance read by the Clerk.

There being no persons to be heard, Mr. Strano moved for approval of Ordinance #63-58. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ormon and was ordered approved by all voting yes with the exception of Ms. Cosby and Mrs. Hickey who voted no.

**President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that this is the date designated for the hearing and further consideration respecting an ordinance entitled:**

**63-59** An ordinance to amend and supplement Chapter VII, Traffic, of an ordinance entitled, “An ordinance adopting and enacting the Revised General Ordinances of the City of Linden, 1999,” passed November 23, 199 and approved November 24, 1999, and as amended and supplemented.

Section 1. That Chapter VII, Traffic, Section 7-10, Parking Prohibited at All Times on Certain Streets, shall be and the same is hereby amended as follows:

**7-10 PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES ON CERTAIN STREETS**

Name of Street Side Location

**ADD:**

Washington Avenue West From a point approximately 232 feet north of the north

Curbline of East Curtis Street and continuing 16 feet in

Northerly direction.

South Wood Avenue East From south curbline of East Edgar Road for a distance

Of 130 feet to the south.

President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that the hearing was now open, that all persons interested would be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the Ordinance and the Clerk will read the Ordinance. Thereupon President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there were any written objections.

None were presented and the Clerk stated that therefore none had been received. President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there was anyone who desired to be heard concerning the Ordinance read by the Clerk.

There being no persons to be heard, Mrs. Ormon moved for approval of Ordinance #63-59. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mohammed and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote.

**President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that this is the date designated for the hearing and further consideration respecting an ordinance entitled:**

**63-60** An ordinance amending Chapter 4-37 entitled “Towing of unauthorized vehicles from private or quasi-private property within the City” by the City Council of the City of Linden.

President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that the hearing was now open, that all persons interested would be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the Ordinance and the Clerk will read the Ordinance. Thereupon President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there were any written objections.

None were presented and the Clerk stated that therefore none had been received. President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there was anyone who desired to be heard concerning the Ordinance read by the Clerk.

John Principato. When Mr. Principato began talking, he was facing the audience, the Council President asked him, several times to turn and face the members of Council members that he was addressing. There was a few moments of back and forth between Mr. Principato, Mr. Antonelli and President Yamakaitis regarding Mr. Principato asked what the purpose of the ordinance was. Chief Hart responded that it regulated towing, and fees, from private property, to prevent drivers from being gouged by tow operators. Mr. Principato asked if it gave the city the right to tow vehicles from private property. The Chief responded that it did not.

There being no persons to be heard, Mrs. Ormon moved for approval of Ordinance #63-60. The motion was seconded by Mr. Strano and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote.

Mr. Brown arrived.

**President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that this is the date designated for the hearing and further consideration respecting an ordinance entitled:**

**63-61** An Ordinance adding a new section in Chapter 4, entitled “Mayor” creating the Division of

Information Technology and eliminating the Division of Computers. Section 1. There shall be added a new section in Chapter 4, entitled “Mayor” the following:

**2-4.5 Division of Information Technology.**

Mrs. Ormon moved for approval to amend Ordinance #63-61. The motion was seconded by Mr. Javick and was ordered approved by a roll call vote.

Mr. Medina arrived.

President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that the hearing was now open, that all persons interested would be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the Ordinance and the Clerk will read the Ordinance. When the Clerk finished reading the Ordinance #63-61. Mrs. Ormon moved the following amendment:

“I move to amend Ordinance 63-61, Section 1 2-12.14(a) to remove the current (a), and replace it with the following: “Within the Department of Police there shall be a Division of Information Technology, which shall operate under the direction and supervision of the Chief of Police or his designee. The change has been reviewed by the City Attorney who has determined that the amended ordinance does not substantially alter the substance of the ordinance, which is to create a new Division of Information Technology and eliminate the Division of Computers.” The motion was seconded by Mr. Javick and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote.

The President of Council asked if the ordinance was properly posted and published, to which the Clerk responded yes.

Thereupon President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there were any written objections.

The Clerk read the following correspondence from Rhashonna Cosby:

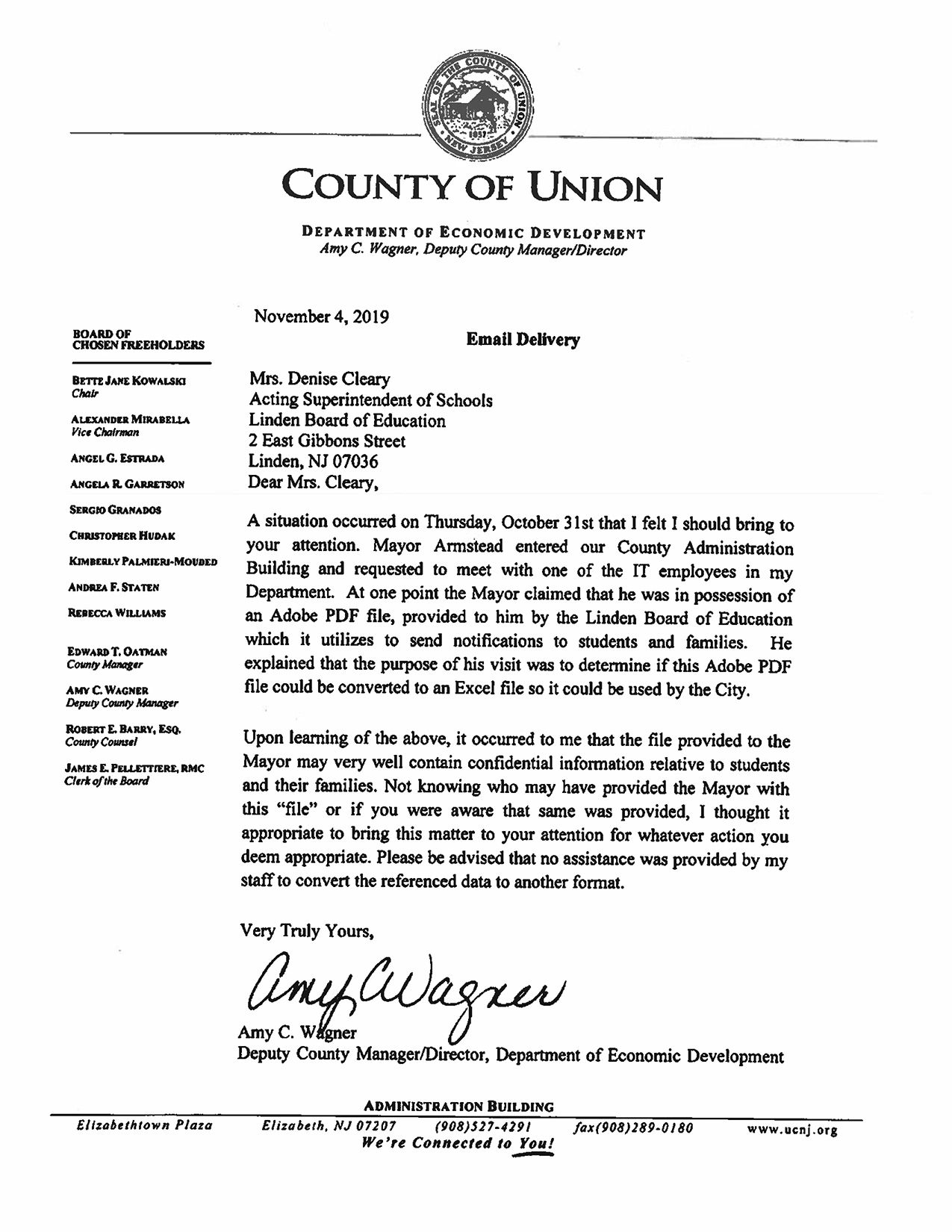
It should be duly noted that the office of the Mayor has over the past two years sought to add divisions and staff for what seems to be self-promotion and promotion of certain elected officials.

There has been a regular stream of interns working in the office, making political phone calls, and using the office equipment to produce campaign materials.

The public relations firms, past and present, do not create publicity for the city of Linden. They generate advertising for the Mayor at the tax payer's expense.  There is no input from the other elected officials or department heads. The last political advertisement that was published cost nearly 30 thousand dollars, including postage. I cannot imagine giving this one person control over information technology, especially with the most recent activity that has been reported from the county of union's deputy county manager.

The Mayor, who is a former employee of the Union County information technology department, reportedly attempted employee the aid of a former colleague to convert a PDF file of Linden Board of Education parent and guardian data to an EXCEL file for ELECTION MARKETING. I am afraid of what would potentially happen if the city council members vote to alter the charter and give the technology department to the same individual who has repeatedly sought political gain from having access to constituent data.

Several months ago, the council allowed two audiovisual specialist positions to be created and assigned to the Mayor's office. That only lasted a short while.  The Mayor directed the employees to generate marketing and promotional videos that glorified him and ignored all the other elected officials. Subsequently, the positions were dissolved.

The Mayor of Linden by tradition and charter is the department head of the Police Department ONLY.  I believe that the recommendation that I offered numerous times in years past to have a totally outsourced information technology department is the best way for our city to proceed.  This will ensure that we are not duplicating our efforts by having multiple vendors and staff liaisons who may or may not hold the appropriate credential for the titles that they have. Thus, depending on the vendor anyway to perform services, creating more expenses.  Vote no!  Save the taxpayer's dollars and outsource ALL the technological needs to qualified and certified professionals.  Prevent the potential misuse of confidential data, as is described in the letter.  Please read the letter. 

No others were presented and the Clerk stated that therefore no others had been received. President of Council Michele Yamakaitis inquired if there was anyone who desired to be heard concerning the Ordinance read by the clerk.

Hans Herberg, Mr. Herberg questioned what the role of IT was, and who was going to oversee this. Mr. Antonelli responded that the ordinance places all of It (non-public safety and public safety) in the police department, adding that the issue of the personnel and structure would be addressed later.

Virginia Malik. Ms. Malik stated that only the Police Department was going to benefit, and asked why this change was happening. Mr. Antonelli responded that there are two separate divisions, one on the civilian side and one on the uniformed side, controlled by the police. He further explained why the police department should be in control of all aspects of IT. Mr. Roth provided a further explanation on the current way that operation of IT and how the city operates two separate computer systems. He responded to a further question, from Ms. Malik, if the measure would result in a cost savings, noting that it was cost neutral.

John Principato. Mr. Principato asked why the new division has to be under the Mayor. President Yamakaitis explained that the amendment, just voted on, changed that and places control of all IT in the hands of the Police Department. Mr. Roth responded to questions regarding Personnel, noting that the current employees overseeing IT were Ms. Nancy Gomes and Mr. Charles Crane. Mr. Roth responded to questions regarding the reasons that this was being. Mr. Principato pursued a line of questions regarding possible future cost that would be associated with this move.

Ed Kaminski. Mr. Kaminski noted that a lot of good points had been made, and understood the need to improve the City’s technology, but felt that things were being done backwards, and explained his reasons. He thought that a committee should have been set up first, to vet the various options, before the move took place, and not in 2020. He further stated that while he is a fan of the men and women, in uniform, he did not feel that they were IT people, and recommended getting an outside company, with expertise in IT to do this. He made further recommendations on how this should be handled.

Craig Halloran. Mr. Halloran stated that the way he understood the ordinances, the Mayor is in charge of the Police Department, would this remove him from that control. Mr. Roth responded that the Mayor is the civilian head of the Police Department, but the Chief runs the day to day operations.

Anthony Mislan. Mr. Mislan noted that when the agenda was printed up, it stated Mayor, and asked what changed, that it is now being placed under the Police Department. He stated that in his view it still looked like the Mayor was going to be in charge, making the final decisions as head of the Police Department.

He wanted to know what changed that this was not done originally. Mr. Antonelli responded, noting that the change does not substantially change the ordinance, which is to create an IT Division. He explained the ordinance and that the Mayor had requested that the change be made.

Shirley Tambornino 1301 Prospect St. Ms. Tambornino asked that if the division is under the police department and the Mayor gets a PDF file, that is encrypted, alleging that he recently did get one, from the Board of Education, would they unlock it so that he can get access to all of the information on the file. Mr. Antonelli responded that he did not fully understand the question, but the issue is a matter for the Board of Education, and the question should be directed to the Board of Ed. Mr. Antonelli noted that the Mayor could go to Ms. Gomes and ask for that to be done now. He further explained what the purpose of the ordinance was.

Mrs. Ormon moved for the approval of Ordinance #63-61 as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Javick. President Yamakaitis asked for discussion.

Mrs. Hickey noted that a lot of questions were asked tonight, and they were on point. Chief Hart does not need this put on his plate, as he already has his handful. She spoke about the recent City newsletter that went out, its cost, and what it did and did not contain. Mrs. Hickey went to state that the Mayor is in charge of the Police Department, and finds this switch hush hush, and inappropriate, and she would not be supporting this ordinance. .

Mr. Medina apologized for being late. He noted that for a few years he had been chairman of the IT Committee, noting the amount of work that had been done over the last few years. He added that he was a little shocked when he saw this ordinance on for this month. He stated that he had voted for its introduction, and has met with the Mayor, regarding these changes. Mr. Medina stated that he is not 100% against it, explaining that the structure is not clear, and wanted to hold it to next month to make the structure clearer. He then spoke about transparency, and how amending the ordinance, this evening made it unclear to the members of the public what is being voted on.

Ms. Cosby stated that she used to be a member of the Technology Committee, and the Committee, many years ago, recommended that this function be outsourced. She then provided reasons for why she had made those recommendations, including to insure that the City had certified, qualified individuals to deal with its programs and equipment. She provided an example, involving the program Facility Dude, and how it did not operate, nor preform the functions the way that it was supposed to. The City needs the right people getting the right technology, without that we will not get the right technology. This happens because we do not have the right people. Ms. Cosby urged Council to outsource this work.

Mr. Brown noted that we have a committee and that Councilman Medina is the head of that committee. He then gave a history of the City’s computer problems and issues, noting that all this ordinance is doing is taking two separate IT Divisions and combining them. He stated that he believed that, in the future it would end up saving the City money, and explained his reasoning. He spoke about a report, done by an outside company, on the City’s computer system. Mr. Brown next addressed the issue of the Mayor’s access to the computer system and the IT personnel, and stated that the Police have to follow the guidelines established by the Attorney General. He also talked about the Police Chief’s Bill of Rights, and what functions, in the Police Department, fall under the Chief, and what the Mayor’s input is.

(Mayor Armstead arrived)

Mrs. Ormon stated that she wanted to caution everyone, when they come up to the microphone, to speak about an ordinance, and particularly this one, a pdf of school board information, a comprehensive list of that nature could only come from very high ranking officials in our school district. She stated that if there was a pdf list, we need to find out which of the top three officials let it leak out, and have the state investigate why that confidential information left their hands.

Mayor Armstead apologized for coming late, and explained why. He stated that one of the jobs of the Mayor is to provide for the safety and security of the City. He noted the recent cyber-attacks on the computer systems in other New Jersey towns. He added that the County of Union was recently hacked, and they have one of the best computer systems around. Linden does not have a dedicated IT Division and it is needed. Mayor Armstead noted that the IT Division should fall under the Police Department, for now, pointing out that once we secure our data, we can change it again, if necessary. Regarding the alleged data file, from the Board of Education, he stated that if there was a data compromise, then it should figure out who did it. He asked if a file was given, to the County, then where is that file. All of the comments made about the file are hearsay and conjecture. The point of all this ordinance is to make sure that Linden’s data is safe.

There being no further discussion President Yamakaitis had the Clerk call the roll on the ordinance. The ordinance was ordered approved with all voting yes with the exception of Ms. Cosby, Mr. Medina and Mrs. Hickey who voted no.

Mayor Armstead asked that the Councilpersons, who voted no, particularly Mr. Medina, explain why they don’t think that we need an IT Division. Playing politics. Ms. Cosby called for a point of order, that the matter had been discussed, prior to the Mayor’s arrival, and that we should move on. Mr. Medina responded to the Mayor’s comments, stating that the Mayor had arrived late, as he had, and that he had spoken earlier, agreeing with the move, the IT meeting, and that he had voted no because the actual structure of the division is unclear, until next year. The Mayor and Mr. Medina had a few additional comments. President Yamakaitis ended the conversation.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**(\*\*\*) TAX COLLECTOR:**

1. The amount of money collected during the month of November 2019 and turned over to the treasurer’s office is as follows:

2020 Taxes $146,502.94

2019 Taxes $21,705,989.75

2018 Taxes $0.74

PILOT (MORNING STAR) $0.00

Municipal Lien Redemption $0.00

Garbage Fee Late Fee $0.00

Duplicate Tax Sale Certificate $0.00

Tax Search $0.00

Lien Redemption Request Fee $0.00

Year End Penalty $0.00

Returned Check Fee Paid $80.00

Returned Sewer Clean out ($0.00)

Returned Sewer Interest ($0.00)

Returned Check 2019 ($16,515.24)

Returned Check 2020 ($33.44)

Returned Check Interest ($0.00)

Returned Online Payments 2019 Taxes ($35,837.81)

Returned Online Interest ($0.00)

Adv. Before Tax Sale $0.00

Premium $0.00

Sewer Clean out charge $1,000.00

DPW Reso payments $1,499.16

Interest $27,063.65

Total $21,829,749.75

**Tax Sale** Requesting the refund of the premium paid at the 2019 tax sale on the following block &

lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

33 1 11/26/19 18-00019 $100.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $100.00 payable to: DGJ Group, LLC, 1253 Springfield Avenue, Suite #-339,New Providence, NJ 07974, charging same to account #-9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Tax Sale** Requesting the refund of the premium paid at the 2016 & 2019 tax sale on the following

block & lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

62 13 12/9/19 18-00036 $34,800.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $34,800.00 payable to: Phoenix Funding, Inc, 1148 Springfield Avenue, Mountainside, NJ 07092 charging same to account #-9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Tax Sale** Requesting the refund of the premium paid at the 2019 tax sale on the following blocks

& lots.

**Block Lot Redemption Date Cert# Premium**

110 6 11/26/19 18-00055 $1,300.00

507 1 11/26/19 18-00217 $1,200.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $2,500.00 payable to: Fig as Cust. for Fig NJ19, LLC, P.O. Box 54226, New Orleans, LA 70154, charging same to account #9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Tax Sale** Requesting the refund of the premium paid at the 2016 & 2017 tax sale on the following

block & lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

112 9 11/26/19 15-00071 $6,800.00

546 25 11/15/19 16-00346 $2,200.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of 9,000.00 payable to Trystone Capital Assets, LLC., 575 Route #-70, 2nd Floor, P.O. Box 1030, Brick, NJ 08723, charging same to account #-9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Tax Sale** Requesting the refund of the premium paid at the 2018 tax sale on the following blocks

& lots.

**Block Lot Redemption Date Cert# Premium**

148 5 11/13/19 17-00123 $1,000.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $1,000.00 payable to: Fig as Custodian for Fig NJ18, LLC, Secured Party, P.O. Box 54472, New Orleans, LA 70154, charging same to account #9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Tax Sale** Requesting the refund of the premium paid at the 2019 tax sale on the following blocks

& lots.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

163 28 12/4/19 18-00096 $3,100.00

256 6 11/7/19 18-00138 $3,100.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $6,200.00 payable to Greymorr, LLC, BMO 85, P.O. Box 1414, Minneapolis, MN 55480, charging same to account #9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Tax Sale** Requesting the refund of the premium paid at the 2017 & 2019 tax sale on the following

block & lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

195 3 11/26/19 18-00113 $29,500.00

485 19 12/4/19 16-00316 $32,500.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $11,300..00 payable to FNA DZ, LLC FBO WSFS,120 N. La Salle Street, Suite #-1220, Chicago, IL 60602charging same to account #-9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Tax Sale** Requesting the refund of the premium paid at the 2017 tax sale on the following block &

lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

255 1.02 11/7/19 16-00190 $100.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $100.00 payable to: US Bank Cust for PC6, LLC Sterling National, 50 South 16th Street, Suite #2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102, charging same to account #-9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Tax Sale** Requesting the refund of the premium paid at the 2019 tax sale on the following block &

lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

354 20 11/26/19 18-00157 $6,500.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $6,500.00 payable to: Christiana T C/F, CE/1 Firsttrust, P.O. Box 5021, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5021, charging same to account #-9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Tax Sale** Requesting the refund of the premium paid at the 2018 & 2019 tax sale on the following

block & lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

415 6 11/26/19 18-00179 $33,700.00

427 7 12/3/19 17-00278 $1,000.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $34,700.00 payable to: US Bank Cust for PC7, LLC Firstrust Bank, 50 South 16th Street, Suite #2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102, charging same to account #-9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Tax Sale** Requesting the refund of the premium paid at the 2017 tax sale on the following blocks

& lots.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

482 9 12/4/19 16-00314 $7,800.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $7,800.00 payable to: Tower DB VII Trust 2017-1, 50 South 16th Street, Suite 2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102, charging same to account #-9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Refund of Property Taxes, Block 100 Lot 8.01**

**Hilary Waye, 1027 Essex Avenue**

**2 Family home, 2019 Refund Overpayment**

This property owner was deemed a 100% Disabled Veteran by the V.A. as of 12/4/17, and is entitled to the refund of 55% of the taxes from the date of purchase as this is a 2 family home. This property will be tax exempt going further for the portion of the 2 family in which Mr. Waye resides per Michael Frangella. The property owner is entitled to a refund for 2019 in the amount of $403.41.

**Refund 2019 Overpayment**

**$403.41**

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $403.41. payable to: Hilary Waye, 1027 Essex Avenue, Linden, NJ 07036, charging same to account #-9-01-55-288-999-904.

**Overpayment Block 197, Lot 27 C002**

**Evelyn D. Payton, 45 Hussa Street, Unit #2**

The above referenced owner’s prepaid the 2019 3rd quarter property taxes and the mortgage company have paid and the owner’s payment has created an overpayment in the amount of $568.57 and the owner is entitled a refund.

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $568.57, payable to: Evelyn D. Payton, 45 Hussa Street, Unit #2, Linden, NJ 07036, charging same to # 9-01-55-288-999-904.

**Replacement Check Block 342 Lot 11, 410 W. Gibbons Street**

**2017 Garbage Fee Refund, Replace Stale Check**

Due to Equity Trust not cashing the original check from September 2017, and requesting a replacement as this is now stale and has been cancelled by the Treasurer’s Office.

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $120.00, payable to: Equity Trust, Custodian acct#-Z105113, 518-7 Old Post Road, Edison, NJ 08817 charging same to account #9-01-09-699-046.

**Overpayment Block 390.02 Lot 16, Arvid & Sonia Arneja**

**615 Rosewood Terrace, 2019 overpayment**

The above referenced owner’s title company prepaid the 2019 4th quarter property taxes and the mortgage company have paid creating this overpayment in the amount $2,291.25 and the owner is entitled a refund.

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of 2,291.25, payable to: Arvid & Sonia Arneja, 615 Rosewood Terrace, Linden, NJ 07036, charging same to # 9-01-55-288-999-904.

**Overpayment Block 475, Lot 4 - Carlina Henry**

**2414 E. Edgar Road, 2019 overpayment**

The above referenced owner and the mortgage company paid part of the 2019 4th quarter property taxes and the owner’s payment has created an overpayment in the amount of $1,430.36 and the owner is entitled a refund.

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of 1,430.36, payable to: Carlina Henry, 2414 E. Edgar Road, Linden, NJ 07036, charging same to # 9-01-55-288-999-904.

**Overpayment Block 498 Lot 1.02, Christian Mantilla & A. Fatnori**

**715 Mack Place, 2019 overpayment**

The above referenced owner’s title company prepaid the 2019 4th quarter property taxes and the mortgage company have paid creating this overpayment in the amount $3,190.53 and the owner is entitled a refund.

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $3,190.53, payable to: Christian Mantilla & A. Fatnori, 715 Mack Place, Linden, NJ 07036, charging same to # 9-01-55-288-999-904.

**Removal of Balance Block 520 Lot 6 COVFT, 1900 C Brunswick Avenue**

Due to the property being sub-divided into multiple lots in January 2019 after the tax appeal for 2018 by the Tax Assessors’ office, the above referenced property had a very large 3rd & 4th quarter billing. Subsequently the Tax Assessor billing on the new lot for 2019 and the new lot not paying the entire amount due for August and interest being charged, there is now a balance due in the amount of $2,899.84 which I would like approval to be removed. Due to this being an extraordinary circumstance due to the issue of the sub-division.

**(\*\*\*) Municipal Treasurer:**

1. Requesting approval of the following refunds:
2. Kathleen Gaylord is entitled to a refund in the amount of $89.50 for service that was provided on 8/2/2019. Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check payable to: Kathleen Gaylord, 1309 Sherwood Road, Linden, NJ 07036 charging same to 9-01-08-629-011.
3. Antonio Angoitia is entitled to a refund of $50.00 for a Certificate of Smoke Detector and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Compliance. Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $50.00 payable to Antonio Angoitia, 316 Spruce Mill Lane, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076, charging same to account 9-01-09-699-069.

**(\*\*\*) Board of Health:**

1. Advising that the Board of Health has issued fifty-seven (57) Certificates of Occupancy during the month of November, 2019.

**(\*\*\*) Personnel Department:**

1. Advising that the following City of Linden employees have filed for retirement:

**Department Employee** **Title Date**

Board of Health Sandra Darrar Supervising Clerk Jan. 1, 2020

Board of Health Gregory Imbriaco Sr. Housing Inspector Jan. 1, 2020

Board of Health Linda Wierzbinski Principal Clerk Jan. 1, 2020

Public Works Dept. Frank Chamberlain Radio Dispatcher Jan. 1, 2020

Public Works Dept. Tracey Malosky Heavy Equip. Operator Jan. 1, 2020

Mr. Javick moved for the approval of Consent Items #1 through #4. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brown and was unanimously ordered approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

**1St Ward**

Mrs. Ormon gave the report of the Division of Transportation and Parking noting that a total of $53,320.40 was collected from all sources for the month of November. She informed all that parking meters, in the City of Linden are now covered for the holiday season. She gave a report on the annual tree lighting ceremony, and associated activities, recognizing the president of the Cultural and Heritage Committee, Amy Mathis and thanked her for her efforts.

Mrs. Ormon informed all residents that the last leaf pickups of the season would be taking place, noting that she still had leaf bags, if they are needed. She spoke about the recent distribution of recycling containers in the half of the City, and that the pickups, using those containers would begin in January 2020. She stressed that, as a result, the pickup schedules were totally different then they had been, and check your schedules. Along those lines she noted that the City was also using the Recycling Coach app,, explained what it does, and urged residents to download to assist with keeping up with the pickup schedule changes.

Mrs. Ormon gave a report on the Library and spoke about a new library program called, “Food for Fines,” and how it worked. She spoke about the recent First Ward Craft fair, how it was held in two parts, what each part was about. She provided details on interfaith and non-denominational event. She wished all a happy holiday season, and spoke about the various holidays that are celebrated this time of year.

**2nd Ward**

Mr. Javick gave the report of the Fire Committee. The Fire Prevention Bureau collected a total of $7406.48 for the month of November 2019. He also reported that the ambulance collection system collected a total of $59,658.57 for November, bringing the year to date total to $645,373.89. He then addressed the issue of truck traffic, in the second ward, including the truck traffic pattern. Mr. Javick informed all about the work that the gas company would be doing in the Second Ward, replacing some of their lines.

Mr. Javick reported on the Shade Tree Commission, and that the tree planning would take part in two parts, with some being done now and some of it being done in the spring. He talked about the installation of gates, for the School 8 parking lot, to eliminate cut through of vehicles, and discussed other efforts to improve traffic safety around the school. Mr. Javick noted the delivery of the recycling containers, in the Second Ward, and that use of the containers would not start until January. He talked about his conversations with developers and realtor and how Linden is a community that is in high demand. He concluded by wishing all a happy holiday, and providing his contact information.

**3rd Ward**

Mr. Brown gave the following report of the Finance Committee**:**

1. The payment of bills totaling $2,577,828.36. Bills have been signed by the Mayor, Council President and Finance Chairman and a detailed check register and vouchers are on file in the Clerk’s Office.
2. We are in receipt of the investments made by the City Treasurer for the month of November at the rate of 2.75%.

Mr. Brown moved for the approval of the Finance Report. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ormon and was ordered approved by all voting yes with the exception of Ms. Cosby who voted no and Mrs. Yamakaitis who abstained.

Mr. Brown noted that this would be last Council meeting. He then discussed the instance that occurred at last month’s Council meeting, that he was not here, and that there is a lot of hate, from a small group of people. He noted that what he had experienced, over the last couple of years, would be coming out soon. He talked about the issue of harassment, about it being done at work, and at their families. He discussed recent harassment of the SID director, Mike Bono. Mr. Brown spoke about individuals who want to tear the City down, and not help rebuild it. He noted some of his accomplishments and the efforts of the haters to tear the City down. He asked that all respect those up here on the dais. Mr. Brown detailed his efforts to help a homeless person, and the post that were done, on social media, harassing her.

**4th Ward**

Mr. Mohammed gave the report of the City Clerk’s office with $3,003.01 for the City, and $757.00 for the State in the month of November. The City Clerk’s Licensing Division collected a total of $1,660.00 for the month of November.

Mr. Mohammed stated that all is well, in the Fourth Ward, and that all calls have been responded to, the trees have been trimmed, and potholes repaired. He provided his contact information and wished all a happy holiday season. He concluded that he was happy to see Ms. Cosby honor a fellow navy veteran this evening.

**5th Ward**

Ms. Cosby informed all to save the date for her upcoming community meeting on June 6th at 6:30 pm, and provided other details on the event, including that Narcam Training will be taking place. She announced that the New Jersey Department of Transportation has confirmed that they will do a traffic study, for the pedestrian safety issue that she has been working on with our Mayor, our Police Department, the Roselle Mayor and Police Department, for St. Georges Ave. She hoped that it would lead to a push to walk crossing. She addressed the comments, made by Mr. Brown, regarding individuals not participating in City events, and the reasons that she did not hold her annual Santa event.

Ms. Cosby noted that she had requested, twice that all Council people receive notice of all City events that are being held, as a courtesy. She added that if she does not know about an event, she cannot attend it. Next she stated that people should appreciate our beliefs, stop saying things that you don’t really mean. That is an insult.

Ms. Cosby announced that her book is called Plantation Politics. That is about her experience, right here, with these people. Some are good and some are bad, but none of it is personal. She told all to enjoy their holidays, if they had a question or comment, to contact her, and provided her contact information.

President Yamakaitis stated that she wanted to recognize a few people, before they leave tonight. She first spoke about the Eighth Wards annual breakfast with Santa and pointed out several individuals present tonight who helped out. Next she noted the presence, on the Consent Agenda, of several employees retiring at the end of the year. She spoke about each one, and wished them well. President Yamakaitis wished all a happy holiday, noting several of the holidays celebrated at this time of year.

**7th Ward**

**Mr. Strano gave the following report of the Personnel report:**

In the Police Department:

1. a. Accepting the resignation in good standing of Jeffrey Nadler, Police Officer, effective December 2, 2019.

b. The approval to appoint 2 police officers from the attached list, subject to successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.

c. The approval to appoint 6 dispatchers from the attached list subject to successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.

d. Accept the resignation in good standing of Daniela Araque, Clerk 2, effective January 10, 2020.

2. In the Fire Department:

a. The approval to hire 10 firefighters for the next class.

3. In the Department of Community Services:

a. Approve the advertisement for a laborer position.

b. Approve the salary adjustment for David Martinez to $105,530.00 effective December 31, 2019.

c. Approve the salary adjustment for Reginald Webb to $84,563.00 effective December 31, 2019.

d. Approve the salary adjustment for Ronald Breuer to $84,563.00 effective December 31, 2019.

e. Approve the appointment of Unique Nieto, Laborer, at the wage of $15.00 per hour effective December 31, 2019, subject to successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.

f. Approve the appointment of Daniel Kratzer, Laborer, at the wage of $15.00 per hour effective December 31, 2019, subject to the successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.

g. Approve the appointment of Julian Reynolds, Laborer, at the wage of $15.00 per hour effective December 31, 2019, subject to the successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.

h. Approve the appointment of Sarah Szymanski, Laborer, at the wage of $15.00 per hour effective December 31, 2019, subject to the successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.

i. Approve the appointment of Harry Martinez, Laborer, at the wage of $15.00 per hour effective December 31, 2019, subject to the successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.

j. Approve the provisional promotion of Robert Squelia to Public Works Supervisor at the salary of $83,471.00 effective December 18, 2019.

k. Accept the resignation in good standing of Frank Dann, Director, effective December 31, 2019.

4. In the Department of Recreation:

a. Hiring of Alex Moreyra as permanent part time Recreation Leader at $15.00 per hour effective December 31, 2019 not to exceed 20 hours per week.

b. Approval of Seasonal List (on file in the Clerk’s office)

5. In the Board of Health:

a. Amending the hire date of Heather Grillo, Clerk 1 to December 2, 2019.

b. Approve the change in retirement date for Sandra Darrar to change her retirement date from January 1, 2020 to April 1, 2020.

6. In the Office of Construction Code:

a. The appointment of Samuel Infante, PT Fire Subcode Official at the hourly rate of $39.37 not to exceed 20 hours per week, effective December 31, 2019, subject to successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.

b. The appointment of Carlos Ruiz, PT Building Inspector at the hourly rate of $39.37 not to exceed 20 hours per week, effective December 31, 2019, subject to successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.

7. In the Personnel Division:

a. Employee FMLA/NJFLA leaves on file in the Personnel Division.

8. In the Department of Social Services:

a. The appointment of Jon Wilkins, Social Worker at annual salary of $60,000 effective December 23, 2019, pending the successful completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Mr. Strano asked if there were any questions from the audience.

Virginia Malik. Ms. Malik asked about item #3, salary adjustments, and what the basis of the increases for b,c, and d, how the amount of the adjustment was arrived at, and why. Mr. Dann provided the explanations.

Joseph Lindsey. Mr. Lindsey noted that the copy of the Personnel Report, provided to the public did not have an item #3 section j and k, as was read. Mr. Strano clarified the matter.

**Mr. Strano moved for the approval of the personnel report. The motion was seconded by Council President Yamakaitis and was ordered approved by all voting yes with the exception of Ms. Cosby who abstained.**

Mr. Strano then gave his Ward report. He began by talking about sidewalk repairs in his ward, and thanked the engineers for their help. He next talked about the paving project, and work, being done in Memorial Park. He noted that DPW is still collecting leaves, and when the streets are all done, they will be collecting leaves in the parks. He next commended the DPW crews for the emergency work they did on a collapsed sewer. Mr. Strano informed all that an emergency contract will be issued to complete the repair/replacement of the broken line. Mr. Strano spoke about the recent inspection of Linden Airport, and that all is in order, except for one minor exception, dealing with wiring for signage. He added that the Engineering Division has been in contact with the FAA and it looks like they will be upgrading the approach lighting, at no cost to the City. This project has been in the works for a few years. He wished all a happy holiday season and wonderful New Year.

**8th Ward**

Mr. Blaine spoke about a sewerage issue that was occurring by Brunswick Ave, in the Eighth Ward, and commended DPW for the job they did cleaning out the sewer lines in the area. They will also make sure that the sewers, in the area, are cleaned on a regular basis. Mr. Blaine stated that he is not here just to sit on the dais, but is here for the citizens of the Eighth Ward. He acknowledged the good people, working for the City, and thanked Mr. Dann for his service to the community, and talked about Mr. Dann’s efforts to clean up the Baltimore Ave area.

Mr. Blaine reported on the recent rash of car break ins and thefts, most of which were caused by people leaving keys in their cars , or the cars being left unlocked. He gave a report on the Eighth Ward Breakfast with Santa. He spoke about the tree lighting ceremony, and noted his observations. He stated that he is looking forward to Monique Caldwell coming on board as the Third Ward Councilperson. He added that all members of the Governing Body should be held to the same code of conduct. Mr. Blaine wished all a happy holiday.

**9th Ward**

Mr. Medina again apologized for arriving late, and also for missing the tree lighting ceremony. He thanked DPW for dealing with the issue of the sewer collapse in the Ninth Ward, and thanked Mr. Dann for his service to the City of Linden, noting that it was a tough job to do. He talked about the sidewalk repairs that were being done in the ward. He thanked everyone for helping a family that had recently went through a terrible time and noted the generosity of residents in helping that family out. More help is needed.

Mr. Medina stated that he could be counted on to work with everyone on the dais, and was committed to professionalism. He wished all a happy holiday season.

**10th Ward**

Mrs. Hickey stated that she hoped all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. She spoke about the inevitability of snow, and noted that she had lined up some individuals who would be available to help with snow. She further stated that it was up to the individual to negotiate the compensation for the work. She talked about how excited she was with the additional hiring’s being done in the Fire Department. Mrs. Hickey also talked about the family that Mr. Medina spoke about, noting the need to help this family, the situation of the widow, and getting gifts for the children. Mrs. Hickey informed all that donations were still being accepted, and noted the generosity of the Fire Department.

Mrs. Hickey gave a shout out to Metro Liquors, for their donations to Casino Night, adding that they were an amazing business. She pointed out the presence of Mr. Bono, in the audience, and how the Mayor had thought that she would be a good fit to be on the SID Committee. It would be wonderful, and she talked about the wonderful things, she could do, with Mr. Bono, on Wood Ave.

Mrs. Hickey said that earlier there were some comments made, and all know that herself and her family are biggest givers ever, never were they takers. She was ashamed of the comments made prior. She went on that instead of making comments about cyber-bullying, at their last council meeting, I would have thanked all of my residents and colleagues. The public speakers are on target, and telling the truth. She said that she would be there, and is looking forward to working with everyone to do good things. She wished all a happy holiday.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Armstead began his report by providing information on several upcoming events, including Narcam seminars, and the first meeting of 2020 for the Mayor’s Youth Commission. He stated that he was happy to report that, he has been meeting with NJ Transit, to discuss the redevelopment project for Wood Ave and Elizabeth Ave, and he was certain the development would include a parking garage. He informed all about the opening of a new business, a sandwich shop, on St. Georges Ave, and urged all to stop in and try it. He talked about the recent sewer line collapse and that a contractor has begun to repair the line.

Mayor Armstead spoke about the people who were retiring from the City of Linden, and spoke about them individually. He thanked Mr. Dann for his service and for turning around the DPW. The turnaround will continue under the direction of Nick Pantina. He spoke about the role of Jerry Bishop in the Department of Community Affairs. He thanked Greg Imbriaco, Linda W, Frank Chamberlin and Tracey Malosky for their dedication and professionalism during their years as City Employees, and wished them the best in retirement.

Mayor Armstead also wished Mr. Brown all of the best in the coming years. He talked about Mr. Browns help in putting together some very good budgets for the City and what a large part of it he was. He continued speaking about how important Mr. Brown was in managing the City’s budget. The Mayor challenged the members of Council to dig deep into the budget to come up with cuts the way that Peter Brown did. He talked about the fire year plan, that Mr. Brown instituted and how it resulted in the tax reductions that we have gotten. He wished god’s blessing for Mr. Brown and wished him all the best. He concluded by wishing all a happy holiday season.

**RESOLUTIONS**

President Yamakaitis made the following announcement:

Public comments will be permitted for those specific resolutions to be removed from the consent approval. Each member of the public shall be given up to 3 minutes to speak on a resolution that they requested to be removed from the agenda. If they request more than one resolution to be removed, regardless of number, they will have a total of 5 minutes to speak on all.

Please read the synopsis of the resolutions, which have been prepared by the City Clerk’s office. Each is informative and self-explanatory. However, if you wish to address a specific resolution, the Council, will entertain questions on it.

Resolutions #2019-419, #2019-420, #2019-422, #2019-423, #2019-437 and #2019-446 were removed at the request of Ms. Malik.

Resolution #2019-423 and #2019-449 was removed at the request of Mr. Principato.

Resolution #2019-419 was removed at the request of Mr. Kaminsky.

Resolution #2019-449 was removed at the request of Carlos Rivas.

Resolutions #2019-421, #2019-444, #2019-449 and #2019-450 were removed at the request of Hans Herberg.

Resolution #2019-449 and #2019-450 were removed at the request of Kelly Vlasic.

Resolution #2019-442 was removed by Joseph Lindsey.

Mr. Mohammed moved for the approval of Resolutions #2019-419 through 2019-452 with the exception of #2019-419, #2019-420, #2019-421, #2019-422, #2019-423, #2019-437, #2019-442, -#2019-444, #2019-446, #2019-449, #2019-450. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brown and was ordered approved by all voting yes with the exception of Ms. Cosby who voted no to Resolutions 453,and 459, and abstained on 452. Mr. Blaine and Mr. Medina were absent from the room.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-419**

**RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO AMBULANCE REIMBURSEMENT SYSTEMS INC. FOR AMBULANCE BILLING SERVICES**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden desires to establish a third party payment plan for emergency medical services; and

**WHEREAS,** in order to institute this plan, the City must apply for a “Provider Number” from the Federal and State Medicare/Medicaid Programs; and

**WHEREAS,** there are day-to-day management and operation responsibilities associated with operating a third party billing program; and

**WHEREAS,** the City is in need of services related to both the establishment and the operation and administration of the program; and

**WHEREAS,** the provision of these services is subject to the award of a contract without public bid in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(ii) “Extraordinary Unspecifiable Services; and

**WHEREAS,** the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contract for Extraordinary Unspecifiable Services without competitive bids and the contract itself be available for public inspection; and

**WHEREAS,** Ambulance Reimbursement Systems, Inc. is engaged in the business of consulting for Federal Insurance Programs, Medicare and Medicaid, Emergency Medical Services Management Computer Systems, administration and collection of insurance claims; and

**WHEREAS,** in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, qualifications have been received through a fair and open process, and Ambulance Reimbursement Systems, Inc. submitted a qualification to the City and has qualified for the aforesaid services for January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden desires to engage Ambulance Reimbursement Systems, Inc. to assist in the establishment, operation and administration of this program;

**WHEREAS,** the cost of said services is an amount not to exceed $75,000.00, per year, which will be charged to Account 0-01-08-629-011 and 1-01-08-629-011.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN, COUNTY OF UNION** as follows:

1. The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Ambulance Reimbursement Systems, Inc., 5925 W. Tilghman Street, Suite 1000, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18104 to provide professional and administrative services in accordance with their proposal.

2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i).

3. The contract is subject to cancellation by the City on thirty (30) days’ notice.

4. The City Clerk shall advertise a notice of this action in a legal newspaper pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 in compliance with Local Public Contract Law guidelines.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-420**

**RESOLUTION FOR PURCHASE OF ONE 20XPT EAGER BEAVER TRAILER W/ACCESSORIES FROM CHERRY VALLEY TRACTOR SALES THROUGH THE MIDDLESEX REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION CO-OP ESCNJ CO-OP #65 MCESCCPS, BID ESC 18/19-25, 18/19-22 FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Linden wishes to obtain one 20xpt Eager Beaver trailer with accessories from an authorized vendor under the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Co-op (MRESC) Contract 18/19-25, 18/19-22 awarded to Cherry Valley Tractor Sales, 35 West Route #70, Marlton, NJ 08053-3099, an authorized vendor and,

**WHEREAS**, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12; and,

**WHEREAS**, Cherry Valley Tractor Sales has been awarded Contract #18/19-25, #18/19-22, for the provision of snow and grounds equipment; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Purchasing Agent recommends the utilization of this contract on the grounds that it represents the best means available to obtain services for; and,

**WHEREAS**, the amount of the service is not to exceed $20,152.64 and,

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract, which will be charged to account number 9-01-26-300-167-236 and,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City of Linden that Cherry Valley Tractor Sales has be awarded a contract for a term of one year or until new awards are made; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Mayor, Council President, City Clerk and/or such other city officials as is necessary and proper be authorized to execute such documents as necessary to implement this resolution.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-421**

**RESOLUTION DECLARING SURPLUS FOR SALE OR DISPOSITION NOT NEEDED FOR GOVERNMENT USE**

**WHEREAS, N.J.S.A 40A:11-36 provides for the sale/disposal of surplus property not needed for government use; and**

**WHEREAS, the City of Linden desires to sell certain surplus property or dispose; and**

**WHEREAS, the items listed below are being declared surplus and not needed for municipal purpose; and**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Equipment** | **Model** | **Service Tag/ID #** |
|  |  |  |
| HP LaserJet | 4250n | None |
| Samsung 5 in 1 | SCX-4828FN | Ditto #5774 |
| HP LaserJet | P2035N | Ser. CNB9F33583 |
| HP LaserJet | P2035N | Ser. CNB9F34030 |
| Panasonic Typewriter | KX-E603 | City of Linden #9641 |
| Panasonic Typewriter | KX-E603 | None |
|  |  |  |

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36 that the Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized to sell at public action or by other means as provided for in the statue using their best business discretion for the following items:**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized to confirm the sale of said items.**

**RESOLUTION: 2019-422**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF STATE CONTRACTS 83909 FOR THE PURCHASE OF RADIOS**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c), may by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase any goods or services under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for any State contracts entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of Treasury; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden has the need on a timely basis to purchase goods or services utilizing State contracts; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden intends to enter into a contract with the State Contract vendor Motorola Solutions, Inc, C/O Wireless C&E, 153 Cooper Road, West Berlin, New Jersey 08091, State Contract Number 83909. Through this resolution and properly executed contract, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current State contracts;

**WHEREAS,** the cost for said radios is $26,446.45, which will be charged to account/line item No. T-03-56-802-000-162; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the City of Linden authorizes the Purchasing Agent to purchase certain goods or services from these New Jersey State Contract Vendors, pursuant to all conditions of the individual State contracts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the governing body of the City of Linden pursuant to N.J.A.C. 50:30-5.5(b), the certification of available funds, shall either certify the full maximum amount against the budget at the time the contract is awarded, or no contract amount shall be chargeable or certified until such time as the goods or services are ordered or otherwise called for prior to placing the order, and a certification of availability of funds is made by the Chief Financial Officer; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Motorola, C/O Wireless C&E be awarded a contract for a term of one year or until new awards are made; and,

**RESOLUTION: 2019-423**

**RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO A FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS**

**QUALIFING CERTAIN PROFESSIONALS FOR**

**CERTAIN POSITIONS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020**

**WHEREAS,** in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2(6) the City of Linden (the “City”), County of Union, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, instituted a policy to negotiate agreements for Professional Services on the basis of demonstrated confidence and qualifications for types of Professional Services required by the City pursuant to a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4; and

**WHEREAS,** the Purchasing Agent of the City of Linden has received in accordance with a published notice, sealed qualifications for various positions; and

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to the fair and open process, and based upon review of the qualifications and recommendations therefore, certain professionals are qualified for certain positions for the calendar year 2020;

**Employee Assistance Program Services**

**Trinitas Regional Medical Center**

**225 Williamson Street**

**Elizabeth, NJ 07202-3625**

**Grant Writer**

**Millennium Strategies LLC**

**60 Columbia Road**

**Building B, STE**

**Morristown, NJ 07960-4635**

**CMD Media LLP**

**2100 Oliver Street**

**PO Box 1601**

**Rahway, NJ 07065**

**The Aubrey Group Limited Liability Company**

**84-86 Astor Street #5**

**Newark, NJ 07060-0711**

**Appraisal**

**Appraisal Consultants Corp**

**293 Eisenhower Parkway**

**Suite #200**

**Livingston, NJ 07039-1711**

**Sterling DiSanto & Associates**

**145 West End Avenue**

**Somerville, NJ 08876**

**Appraisal Associates, Inc.**

**50 South Avenue West**

**2nd Floor**

**Cranford, NJ 07016**

**Sockler Realty Services Group, Inc.**

**299 Ward Street**

**Suite C**

**Hightstown, NJ 08520**

**Associated Appraisal Group**

**6 Commerce Drive 3rd Floor**

**Cranford, NJ 07016**

**Architectural Services**

**LAN Engineering**

**445 Godwin Avenue**

**Suite 9**

**Midland Park, NJ 07432**

**Hubbard Associates LLC**

**25 Bridge Avenue**

**Red Bank, NJ 07701**

**The Musial Group, P.A.**

**191 Mill Lane**

**Mountainside, NJ 07092**

**DMR Architects P.C.**

**777 Terrace Avenue 6th floor**

**Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604-3113**

**Audit Consulting Services**

**Suplee, Clooney & Company**

**308 East Broad Street**

**Westfield, NJ 07090-2122**

**Bond Counsel Services**

**Gibbons P.C. –**

**One Gateway Center**

**Newark, NJ 07102-5310**

**Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, A. Prof. Corp**

**90 Woodbridge Center Drive #900 Box 10**

**Woodbridge, NJ 07095-0958**

**Court Reporting Service**

**Virgina Guinta**

**55 Brookside Drive**

**Skillman, NJ 08558**

**Defense Counsel for Workers Comp Program Services**

**James Jude Plaia**

**10 South Prospect Street**

**Verona, NJ 07044**

**La Corte, Bundy, Varady & Kinsella**

**989 Bonnel Court**

**Union, NJ 07083**

**Florio Kenny Raval**

**5 Marine View Plaza**

**PO Box 771**

**Hoboken, NJ 07030**

**Joseph Fava, Esq.**

**16 Furler Street**

**2nd Floor**

**Totowa, NJ 07512**

**Capehart & Scatchard PA**

**8000 Midlantic Drive**

**Mount Laurel, NJ 08054-151**

**Law Office of Karen Brown, LLC**

**250 Pehle Avenue Suite 200**

**Saddle Brook, NJ 07663**

**Engineering Services**

**T & M Associates**

**Eleven Tindall Road**

**Middletown, NJ 07748-2792**

**Remington & Vernick & Arango Engineers**

**101 Route 130**

**Suite 600**

**Cinnaminson, NJ 08077**

**Lan Associates, Inc.**

**445 Godwin Avenue Suite 9**

**Midland Park, NJ 07432**

**Pennoni Associates, Inc.**

**105 Fieldcrest Avenue**

**Suite 502**

**Edison, NJ 08837**

**Boswell Engineering, Inc.**

**330 Phillips Avenue**

**So. Hackensack, NJ 07606**

**Harbor Consultants**

**320 North Avenue East**

**Cranford, NJ 07016**

**Neglia Engineering Assoc.**

**34 Park Avenue**

**Lyndhurst, NJ 07071**

**CME Associates**

**1460 Route #9 south**

**Howell, NJ 07731**

**Disko Associates, Inc.**

**151 Sumner Avenue**

**Kenilworth, NJ 07033**

**KS Engineers, PC**

**494 Broad Street**

**4th Street**

**Newark, NJ 07102**

**Klein Traffic Consulting, LLC**

**156 Walker Road**

**West Orange, NJ 07052-3813**

**Urban Engineers, Inc.**

**220 Lake Drive East**

**Suite 300**

**Cherry Hill, NJ 08002**

**Maser Consulting PA**

**331 Newman Springs Road**

**Red Bank, NJ 07701-5699**

**Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc.**

**96 US Highway 206, suite 101**

**Flanders, NJ 07836**

**Gedeon Engineering PC**

**100 Overlook Center 2nd Floor**

**Princeton, NJ 08540-7814**

**Matarazzo Engineering LLC**

**575 Route 46 West**

**Fairfield, NJ 07004**

**Adams, Rehmann and Heggan Associates, Inc.**

**215 Bellevue Avenue**

**PO Box 579**

**Hammonton, NJ 08037-2018**

**Keller & Kirkpatrick, Inc.**

**301 Gibraltar Drive**

**Morris Plains, NJ 07950-3409**

**Frank H. Lehr Associates**

**101 South Harrison Street**

**East Orange, NJ 07018-1799**

**Engineering Testing Services**

**CME Associates**

**1460 Route #9 south**

**Howell, NJ 07731**

**Frank H. Lehr Associates**

**101 S. Harrison Street**

**East Orange, NJ 07018-1702**

**Environmental Services**

**EnviroTrac LTD.**

**400 Corporate Court**

**Suite E**

**South Plainfield, NJ 07080**

**LAN Engineering**

**445 Godwin Avenue**

**Suite 9**

**Midland Park, NJ 07432**

**Pennoni Associates, Inc.**

**105 Fieldcrest Avenue**

**Suite 502**

**Edison, NJ 08837**

**Boswell Engineering, Inc.**

**330 Phillips Avenue**

**So. Hackensack, NJ**

**Brinkerhoff Environmental Services, Inc.**

**1805 Atlantic Avenue**

**Manasquan, NJ 08736-1029**

**T&M Associates, Inc.**

**Eleven Tindall Road**

**Middletown, NJ 07748**

**CME Associates**

**1460 Route #9 south**

**Howell, NJ 07731**

**Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc.**

**96 US Highway 206, Suite 101**

**Flander, NJ 07836**

**Excel Environmental Resources, Inc.**

**111 North Center Drive**

**North Brunswick, NJ 08902**

**Adams, Rehmann and Heggan Associates, Inc.**

**215 Bellevue Avenue PO Box 579**

**Hammonton, NJ 08037-2018**

**Financial Advisory Services**

**NW Financial Group, LLC**

**3000 Atrium Way**

**Suite 240**

**Mount Laurel, NJ 08054**

**Phoenix Advisors, LLC**

**4 West Park Street**

**Bordentown, NJ 08505**

**Insurance Consultant Broker Services for Finance Department/Insurance Commission**

**Brown & Brown Insurance**

**26 Columbia Turnpike**

**Florham Park, NJ 07932**

**Fairview Insurance Agency Associates, Inc.**

**25 Fairview Avenue**

**Verona, NJ 07044**

**Acrisure, LLC**

**1460 Route 9 North, Suite 310**

**Woodbridge, NJ 07095**

**BGIA**

**900 Route 9 North, Suite 503**

**Woodbridge, NJ 07095**

**RD Parisi Associates**

**100 Executive Drive**

**Suite 338**

**West Orange, NJ 07052**

**CBIZ Benefits & Insurance Services, Inc.**

**700 W. 47th Street, Suite 1100**

**Kansas City, MO 64112**

**Fairview Insurance Agency Associates, Inc.**

**25 Fairview Avenue**

**Verona, NJ 07044-1341**

**Land Surveying Services**

**Harbor Consultants**

**320 North Avenue East**

**Cranford, NJ 07016**

**CME Associates**

**1460 Route #9 south**

**Howell, NJ 07731**

**Neglia Engineering Associates**

**34 Park Avenue**

**Lyndhurst, NJ**

**Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc.**

**96 US Highway 206**

**Suite 101**

**Flander, NJ 07836**

**Keller & Kirkpatrick, Inc.**

**301 Gibraltar Drive**

**Morris Plains, NJ 07950-3409**

**Matarazzo Engineering**

**575 Route #46 West**

**Fairfield, NJ 07004**

**Engineering/Environmental Services at the Linden Landfill**

**CME Associates**

**1460 Route #9 south**

**Howell, NJ 07731**

**T&M Associates, Inc.**

**Eleven Tindall Road**

**Middletown, NJ 07748**

**Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc.**

**96 US Highway 206**

**Suite 101**

**Flanders, NJ 07836**

**­­­­­­­­­Litigation Defense Counsel Services**

**Shwartz & Posnock**

**99 Corbett Way**

**Suite 203**

**Eatontown, NJ 07724**

**Renaud Deappolonio LLC**

**190 North Avenue E.**

**Route 28**

**Cranford, NJ 07016**

**Kologi Simitz Counsellors At Law**

**923 North Wood Avenue**

**Linden, NJ 07036**

**Florio Kenny Raval**

**5 Marine View Plaza**

**Suite 103**

**Hoboken, NJ 07030**

**La Corte, Bundy, Varady & Kinsella**

**989 Bonnel Court**

**Union, NJ 07083**

**Aloia Law Firm, LLC**

**2 Broad Street Suite 407**

**Bloomfield, NJ 07003**

**O’Donnell McCoy Heleniak, LLC**

**86 Washington Street**

**Morristown, NJ 07960**

**Inglensino Webster Wyciskala Taylor LLC**

**600 Parsippany Road**

**Parsippany, NJ 07054**

**The Antione Law Firm LLC**

**52 underwood Street Apt 1L**

**Newark, NJ 07036-0703**

**Law Office of Michael S. Doran, LLC**

**959 S. Springfield Avenue**

**Springfield, NJ 07081**

**Durkin & Durkin LLP**

**1120 Bloomfield Avenue**

**West Caldwell, NJ 07006-7138**

**Hunt, Hamlin & Ridley**

**60 Park Avenue 16th Floor**

**Newark, NJ 07102**

**McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC**

**75 Livingston Avenue #201**

**Roseland, NJ 07068**

**Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Cappuzzo**

**300 Lighting Way**

**Suite 200**

**Secaucus, NJ 07094**

**Medical Services**

**Practice Associates Medical Group`**

**Alan F. Goldstein MD**

**Multi-Care Industrial Medicine LLC**

**100 Commerce Place**

**Clark, NJ 07066**

**Care Station**

**328 W. St. George Avenue**

**Linden, NJ 07036**

**Planning Board Attorney Services**

**Anthony D. Rinaldo, Jr.**

**1317 Morris Avenue Suite 2B**

**Union, NJ 07083**

**J. Baker Legal Law Office LLC**

**134 Evergreen Place Suite 301**

**East Orange, NJ 07018**

**Planning Board Planner Services**

**Ricci Planning**

**10 Georgian Drive**

**Clark, NJ 07066**

**Harbor Consultants, Inc.**

**320 North Avenue East**

**Cranford, NJ 07016**

**CME Associates**

**1460 Route #9 South**

**Howell, NJ 07731**

**Neglia Engineering Associates**

**1119 Raritan Road**

**Suite 2**

**Clark, NJ 07066**

**Planning Services**

**Ricci Planning**

**10 Georgian Drive**

**Clark, NJ 07066**

**Neglia Engineering Associates**

**1119 Raritan Road**

**Suite 2**

**Clark, NJ 07066**

**Harbor Consultants**

**320 North Avenue East**

**Cranford, NJ 07016**

**CME Associates**

**1460 Route #9 South**

**Howell, NJ 07731**

**Adams, Rehmann and Heggan Associates, Inc.**

**215 Bellevue Avenue**

**Hammonton, NJ 08037-2018**

**Zoning Board Attorney**

**Burton Zitomer**

**Attorney at Law**

**14 Pine Grove Road**

**Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922**

**J. Baker Legal Law Office**

**134 Evergreen Place**

**Suite 301**

**East Orange, NJ 07018**

**Durkin & Durkin, LLC**

**1120 Bloomfield Avenue**

**PO Box 1289**

**West Caldwell, NJ 07006-9452**

**Special Bankruptcy**

**McManimon Scotland & Baumann**

**75 Livingston Avenue**

**Roseland, NJ 07068**

**Ingelesino Webster Wyciskala Taylor, LLC**

**600 Parsippany Road**

**Suite 204**

**Parsippany, NJ 07054**

**Special Tax Counsel Services**

**Skoloff Wolfe**

**293 Eisenhower Parkway**

**Livingston, NJ 07039**

**Renaud DeAppolonio**

**190 North Avenue East Route #28**

**Cranford, NJ 07016**

**Florio Kenny Raval**

**5 Marine View Plaza**

**Suite 103**

**Hoboken, NJ 07030**

**Inglesino Webster Wyciskala Taylor, LLC**

**600 Parsippany Road**

**Suite 204**

**Parsippany, NJ 07054**

**Hoagland, Longo, Moran, Dunst & Doukas**

**40 Paterson Street**

**Box 480**

**New Brunswick, NJ 08903**

**Special Tax Expert Witness Appraisal**

**Sterling DiSanto & Associates LLC**

**145 West End Avenue**

**Somerville, NJ 08876**

**Sidney Land, Inc.**

**10 Hackensack Ave.**

**Weehawken, NJ 07086**

**Psychological Services**

**Metropolitan Center for Forensic Psychology, Inc.**

**10 Ivy Lane**

**Englewood, NJ 07631**

**Special Counsel Services O.P.R.A**

**Law Offices of Kologi Simitz**

**500 North Wood Avenue**

**Suite 4B**

**Linden, NJ 07036**

**Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Cappuzzo, PC**

**300 Lighting Way**

**Suite 200**

**Secaucus, NJ 07094**

**LaCorte, Busndy Varady & Kinsella**

**989 Bonnel Court**

**Union, NJ 07083**

**Inglesino Webster Wyciskala Taylors, LLC**

**600 Parsippany Road**

**Suite 204**

**Parsippany, NJ 07054**

**Cleary Giacobbe Alfieri & Jacobs LLC**

**955 State Highway 34 Suite 200**

**Matawan, NJ 07747-3106**

**Law Offices of Karen Brown, LLC**

**250 Pehle Avenue**

**Suite 200**

**Saddle Brook, NJ 07663**

**Florio Kenny Raval**

**125 Chubb Avenue**

**Suite 310 N**

**Lyndhurst, NJ 07071**

**Redevelopment Litigation Counsel Services**

**McManimon & Scotland, LLC**

**One Riverfront Plaza, Fourth Floor**

**Newark, NJ 07102-5408**

**Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Cappuzzo, PC**

**300 Lighting Way Suite 200**

**Secaucus, NJ 07094**

**Inglesino Webster Wyciskala Taylor, LLC**

**600 Parsippany Road**

**Suite 204**

**Parsippany, NJ 07054**

**Florio Kenny Raval**

**125 Chubb Avenue**

**Suite 310 N.**

**Lyndhurst, NJ 07071**

**Project Management Coordination Services**

**Neglia Engineering Services**

**34 Park Avenue**

**PO Box 426**

**Lyndhurst, NJ 07071**

**Special Counsel Services**

**Florio Kenny Raval**

**5 Marine View Plaza**

**Suite 103**

**Hoboken, NJ 07030**

**La Corte, Bundy Varady & Kinsella**

**898 Bonnel Court**

**Union, NJ 07083**

**Inglesino Webster Wyciskala Taylor, LLC**

**600 Parsippany Road**

**Parsippany, NJ 07054**

**Aloia Law Firm LLC**

**2 Broad Street**

**Suite 407**

**Bloomfield, NJ 07003**

**Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Cappuzzo**

**300 Lighting Way**

**Suite 200**

**Secaucus, NJ 07094**

**Insurance Commission Attorney Services**

**Jardim Meisner & Susser, PC**

**30B Vreeland Road**

**Suite 100**

**Florham Park, NJ 07932**

**Aloia Law Firm LLC**

**2 Broad Street**

**Suite 407**

**Bloomfield, NJ 07003**

**Kologi Simitz**

**500 N. Wood Avenue**

**Suite 4B**

**Linden, NJ 07036**

**Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Cappuzzo**

**300 Lighting Way**

**Suite 200**

**Secaucus, NJ 07094**

**Retirement Services “Mass Mutual”**

**Wells Fargo Advisors**

**600 South Avenue**

**Westfield, NJ**

**Retirement Services “Voya Financial”**

**EPG Brokerage**

**333 Thornall Street**

**Suite 9B**

**Edison, NJ 08837**

**Computer Services**

**Pascack Data Services, Inc.**

**200 Central Avenue suite 100**

**Hawthorne, NJ 07506**

**Teliapp**

**401 N. Wood Avenue**

**Linden, NJ 07036**

**Banking**

**Northfield Bank**

**501 N. Wood Avenue**

**Linden, NJ 07036**

**Unity Bank**

**64 Old Highway 22**

**Clinton, NJ 08809**

**Municipal Marketing Services**

**C2 Creative Group, Inc.**

**418 Spruce Street**

**Linden, NJ 07036**

**CMD Media LLC**

**PO Box 1061**

**Rahway, NJ 07065**

**Teliapp Corporation**

**1028 Forest Drive**

**Linden, NJ 07036**

**Public Relations**

**20 Lemons LLC**

**97 Main Street**

**Woodbridge, NJ 07095-2868**

**CMD Media LLC**

**PO Box 1061**

**Rahway, NJ 07065**

**Redevelopment, Master Planning and Affordable Housing Services**

**Ricci Planning**

**10 Georgian Drive**

**Clark, NJ 07066**

**Harbor Consultants, Inc.**

**320 North Avenue**

**Cranford, NJ 07016**

**CME Associates**

**1460 Route #9 south**

**Howell, NJ 07731**

**Port Authority Engineering Services**

**Neglia Engineering Associates**

**34 Park Avenue**

**PO Box 426**

**Lyndhurst, NJ 07071**

**T&M Associates**

**1455 Broad Street**

**Suite 250**

**Bloomfield NJ 07003**

**Housing Rehabilitation Consulting**

**Development Directions, LLC**

**2 City Hall Plaza**

**Rahway, NJ 07065**

**WEBSITE**

**Alphadog Solutions, Inc.**

**335 Union Avenue**

**Belleville, NJ 07109**

**Teliapp Corporation**

**1028 Forest Drive**

**Linden, NJ 07036**

**Stokes Creative Group, Inc.**

**1666 Route 206**

**Vincetown, NJ 08088**

**PAYROLL**

**Primepoint, LLC**

**2 Springfield Road**

**Mount Holly, NJ 08060-5644**

**TIME AND ATTENDANCE HRIS**

**Primepoint, LLC**

**2 Springfield Road**

**Mount Holly, NJ 08060-5644**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** thatin accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2(6) on such basis as necessary, and for each of the approved and qualified vendors, a resolution approving each individual specific contract shall be considered by the Mayor and Council;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-424**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO**

**ALL TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS, INC.**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden has a need for a Shield Radar Speed Sign; and

**WHEREAS,** All Traffic Solutions, Inc. has provided a quote for a Shield Radar Speed Sign in the City of Linden is a state approved contract vendor, 17-FLEET-00776; and

**WHEREAS,** the Chief Financial Officer or his designee has certified as to the availability of funds for this purpose, as attached hereto, which will be charged to account/line item No.T-03-56-802-000-162 ; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost for said system is $34,369.50, the funds for which will be paid from a grant previously given to the City of Linden by Conoco Phillips Bayway Refinery on October 16, 2019;

**WHEREAS,** the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that Council pass a resolution authorizing the award of contracts;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** as follows:

1. A contract is awarded to All Traffic Solutions, Inc. in the amount of $34,369.50.

2. This Resolution is expressly contingent upon the negotiation and execution of the necessary contract documents between All Traffic Solutions, Inc. and the City of Linden.

3. The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute all documents to effectuate the purposes herein above expressed.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-425**

**RESOLUTION DECLARING SURPLUS SCRAP FOR**

**SALE OR DISPOSITION**

**WHEREAS,**  N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36 provides for the sale/disposal of surplus property not needed for Non Public Safety government use; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden desires to sell or dispose of certain surplus property; and **WHEREAS,** the item listed below is being declared surplus and not needed for municipal purpose;

(2) Dell Monitors 15’

HP Color LaserJet Pro M452dw

HP Laser Jet 4250tn (Ditto #6041)

HP Laser Jet P4014n (Ditto #5875)

Dell Optiplex 3020 Service Tag H9YGD42

Dell Optiplex GX520 Service Tag 8JW1B1

Dell Optiplex GX520 Service Tag 7JW1XB1

Dell Optiplex GX520 Service Tag HHW1BX1

Emerson Television

Lexmark Optra M412 (printer)

Visioneer 9450 USB (scanner)

Epson picturemate personal photo lab / LHDK024606

Samsung SF-560 (laser fax)

HP COMPAQ 8200 ELITE CONVERTIBLE MINITOWER – serial numbers:

MXL2270CF7

MXL04011PN

MXL04011QP

MXL2270CF9

MXL9200B6K

MXL9200B6C

MXL227CDN

MXL0050RC1

MXL2270CDP

MXL9490TBY

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36 that the Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized to sell at public auction or dispose of, as appropriate, the attached items; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized to confirm the sale/disposal of said item as scrap.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-426**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO A CONTRACT TO APRUZZESE, MCDERMOT, MASTO & MURPHY, P.C. FOR SPECIAL LABOR COUNSEL SERVICES ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS AS DETERMINED BY THE CITY ATTORNEY FOR 2019**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Linden has determined that it would be advisable and in the best interests of the City to retain the services of Professional Services to represent the City of Linden and airport operations , and to render legal advice and assistance to the city and to the City Attorney; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, qualifications have been received through a fair and open process; and

**WHEREAS**, Apruzzese, McDermot, Mastro & Murphy, P.C submitted a qualification to the City and has qualified for the aforesaid services: and

**WHEREAS,** since professional legal services are rendered or performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession and whose practice is regulated by the laws of the State of New Jersey; the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) permits the award of a contract therefore as a Professional Service without competitive bidding; and

**WHEREAS**, the Finance Director has certified to the availability of funds for this purpose, to be charged to Account No.9-01-20-155-123-255;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** as follows:

1. That the law firm of Apruzzese, McDermot, Mastro & Murphy, P.C., Attorneys at Law of the State of New Jersey be and is hereby retained as Special Labor Counsel to the City for all matters concerning airport operations.

2. The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute an Agreement with Apruzzese, McDermot, Mastro & Murphy, P.C setting forth the terms and conditions of the legal services to be rendered.

3. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law as a contract for professional services may be awarded without competitive bidding, pursuant to N.J.S. 40A:11-5 (1) (a).

4. For the services hereinabove described as Apruzzese, McDermot, Mastro & Murphy, P.C. shall be awarded an agreement in the amount of $10,000.00 for the calendar year 2019. The City shall not be liable for payment of any monies exceeding the contract price stated herein unless additional funds are approved by the governing body and the contract amended in accordance with applicable law.

5. A notice of this action shall be published in accordance with applicable law.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-427**

**CITY OF LINDEN**

**RESOLUTION CHAPTER 159**

**BODY ARMOR REPLACEMENT GRANT**

**WHEREAS,** N.J.S. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget, and

**WHEREAS,** said Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount, and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden will receive $12,166.90 from the State of New Jersey Law and Public Safety and wishes to amend its 2019 Budget to include this amount as a revenue, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the City of Linden hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2019 in the sum of $12,166.90 which item is now available as a revenue from:

Miscellaneous Revenues

Special items of General Revenue Anticipated with

Prior Written Consent of the Director of Local

Government Services:

Public and Private Revenues off-set with Appropriations:

Body Armor Replacement Grant (2019)

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a like sum of $12,166.90 and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of:

General Appropriations

(A) Operations excluded from "CAPS"

Public and Private Programs off-set by revenues:

Body Armor Replacement Grant (2019)

**RESOLUTION: 2019-428**

**Resolution Recognizing Carmen Urso as 2019**

**Good Neighbor in the Fifth Ward, City of Linden**

**WHEREAS,** Nelson Mandela once said “Safety and security don't just happen, they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear;” and

**WHEREAS,** many of our fellow citizens have adopted this philosophy, doing things, not for recognition but as a statement about the type of community they want to live in; and

**WHEREAS,** Carmen Urso and he has been a part of the Linden community since 1943. Carmen attended the original School Four on Cranford Ave, Soehl Jr High and graduated from Linden High School in 1956. He served honorably in the US Navy and retired from the US Postal Service in 1992 (Linden) Carmen and his wife have two children four grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

**WHEREAS,** Over the past several years Carmen has provided support to Councilwoman Rhashonna Cosby and the residents of the 5th Ward by reporting quality of life concerns, road safety issues, making her neighborhood, and the City of Linden a better place for its residents; and

**WHEREAS,** Carmen unselfish actions have made the Fifth Ward a better place and Councilwoman Rhashonna Cosby wishes to acknowledge Carmen Urso as Good Neighbor and the Mayor and Council of the City of Linden wish to express their heartfelt appreciation to Natasha for her efforts; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Linden that they hereby thank Carmen Urso for her unsolicited efforts that have made the area safer, for no other reason than the desire to have and maintain a safe and clean community and expressing the City’s gratitude for her efforts in making Linden a better place; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be entered into the minutes of the Council of the City of Linden and that a copies be presented Carmen Urso in permanent recognition of the foregoing.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-429**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CITY OF LINDEN** | | | | |
|  | | | | |
| **RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER 2019 APPROPRIATIONS** | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **BE IT RESOLVED,** by the City Council of the City of Linden, County of Union, New Jersey, that the following transfers of 2019 appropriations be made in accordance with the provisions of Revised Statute 40A: 4-58. | | | | |
|
|
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **CURRENT BUDGET** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| From: | City Clerk - Salaries & Wages |  | $ 950.00 |  |
| To: | Elections - Salaries & Wages |  |  | $ 950.00 |
| From: | Maintenance of Parks - Salaries & Wages |  | $ 56,000.00 |  |
| To: | Recreation Serv & Programs - Other Expenses |  |  | $ 20,000.00 |
| To: | Purchasing - Other Expenses |  |  | $ 36,000.00 |
| From: | Engineering Serv/Costs - Salaries & Wages |  | $ 57,000.00 |  |
| To: | Telephone - Other Expenses |  |  | $ 50,000.00 |
| To: | Buildings & Grounds - Other Expenses |  |  | $ 7,000.00 |
| From: | Solid Waste Collection - Salaries & Wages |  | $ 50,000.00 |  |
| To: | Solid Waste Collection - Other Expenses |  |  | $ 50,000.00 |
| From: | Municipal Garage - Salaries & Wages |  | $ 24,000.00 |  |
| To: | Municipal Garage - Other Expenses |  |  | $ 24,000.00 |
| From: | Mayor's Office - Salaries & Wages |  | $ 6,750.00 |  |
| To: | Grant & Redevelopment Admin - Other Expenses | |  | $ 6,750.00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Total Transfers Needed: |  | $ 194,700.00 | $ 194,700.00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**RESOLUTION: 2019-430**

**Resolution Authorizing a Change in Custodian of**

**Petty Cash Fund for the Fire Department**

WHEREAS, Joseph Dooley, Fire Chief was custodian of the Fire Department Petty Cash Fund, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:5-21, the State of New Jersey, City of Linden is changing custodians to Fire Chief William Hasko; and

WHEREAS, William Hasko is bonded in the amount of $1,000.00 by virtue of a surety bond.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Linden, County of Union hereby authorizes such action and two copies of this resolution be filed with the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

**RESOLUTION: 2019- 431**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LINDEN FIRE DEPARTMENT TO CONDUCT FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING AT 41 WEST GIBBONS STREET AND 2721 HIGHLAND AVENUE**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden Fire Department has a need to conduct fire department training at properties that have structures that are to be demolished; and

**WHEREAS,** the property owners of 41 West Gibbons Street and 2721 Highland Avenue have given permission to the City of Linden Fire Department to conduct fire department training;

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden Fire Department intends on conducting said training in the month of December, dates to be determined by the fire department.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to sign an agreement, if any with the property owners so it may conduct fire department training.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-432**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CITY OF LINDEN** | | | | | |
| **RESOLUTION TO CLOSE OUT GRANTS ACCOUNTS** | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **WHEREAS**, the City of Linden hereby authorizes the cancellation of various grant appropriations; | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **WHEREAS**, there remains unused appropriation balances of $ 45,312.79 which can now be | | | | | |
| canceled, | | | | | |
| **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following appropriation balances are hereby canceled | | | | | |
| as set forth herein: | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Appropriation** | **Appropriation** | **Appropriation Balance** |  | **Receivable** | **Receivable Balance** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Airport Drain Improve Ph I | G-02-40-165-014-010 | 44,784.93 |  | G-02-14-165-010 | 44,784.93 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2018 Municipal Alliance | G-02-40-240-018-012 | 179.46 |  | G-02-18-240-001 | 252.86 |
|  | G-02-40-240-018-013 | 73.40 |  |  |  |
| Drive Sober Year End 2018 | G-02-40-240-018-238 | 275.00 |  | G-02-18-240-238 | 275.00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **TOTAL** | **$ 45,312.79** |  |  | **$ 45,312.79** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Linden grand total of all appropriations to be cancelled are $ 45,312.79. | | | | | |

**RESOLUTION: 2019-433**

**CITY OF LINDEN RAT RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** there were certain payments made by the Municipal Treasurer during the month of November 2019 which do not appear on the Claims list,

**WHEREAS,** said payment must be ratified by the Governing Body of the City of Linden,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following payments be and hereby are approved:

**CK# DATE PAYABLE TO: PURPOSE AMOUNT**

11/1/19 Payroll 11/5/19 Payroll – Current $1,745,086.60

11/1/19 Payroll 11/5/19 Payroll – Trust $91,544.71

11/1/19 Payroll 11/5/19 Payroll – Grant $7,220.96

11/1/19 Payroll 11/5/19 Payroll – Capital $425.39

11/1/19 Payroll 11/5/19 Payroll – Unemployment $172.11

11/7/19 Elavon, Inc. Nov. Merchants Fee- Garage Sale Online 61.07

11/7/19 Elavon, Inc. Nov. Merchants Fee Dog License 73.50

11/8/19 Express Scripts/Medco Pres. Claims 10/19-11/1 46,602.82

11/8/19 Unity Bank Workers Comp. 10/28-11/3 21,006.70

11/13/19 Unity Bank Workers Comp. 11/4-11/10 61,825.40

11/14/19 TD Bank, National Assoc. UCIA Rev. 2016 Admin Fee 23,331.25

11/14/19 County of Union 4thQuarter County Taxes 2019 7,953,461.28 11/15/19 SHBP Retirees Nov. Health Premiums 414,029.63

11/15/19 SHBP Actives Sept. Health Premiums 707,769.84

11/15/19 Payroll 11/19/19 Payroll – Current $1,749,829.92

11/15/19 Payroll 11/19/19 Payroll – Trust $91,084.12

11/15/19 Payroll 11/19/19 Payroll – Grant $2,950.66

11/15/19 Payroll 11/19/19 Payroll – Capital $829.15

11/15/19 Payroll 11/19/19 Payroll – Unemployment $163.67

175347 11/20/19 Five Below, Inc. Tree Lighting 1,008.80

175348 11/20/19 NJ Motor Vehicle Comm. Titles 180.00

11/20/19 Unity Bank Workers Comp 11/1-11/17 4,843.28

11/20/19 Express Scripts/Medco Prescription Claims 11/2-11/15 48,552.46

175349 11/25/19 Target Corporation Holiday Hero & Helper- GC’S 1,000.00

175350 11/25/19 NJ Motor Vehicle Comm. Titles Police Department 120.00

175351 11/25/19 Police & Firemen’s Retro Active Salary Increase 94,019.05

175352 11/25/19 Public Employee’s Ret. Billing for Delayed Enrollment 11,788.76

11/26/19 Delta Dental of NJ Dec. Dental Claims- City of Linden 38,641.66

11/26/19 Delta Dental of NJ Dec. Dental Claims- Sewerage 3,193.80

11/26/19 Delta Dental of NJ Dec. Dental Claims- Housing 1,314.40

11/26/19 Delta Dental of NJ Dec. Dental Claims- Library 948.88

11/26/19 Delta Dental of NJ Dec. Dental Claims- Cobra 35.44

11/27/19 Vision Service Plan December Vision Claims 4,463.22

11/27/19 Unity Bank Workers Comp 11/18-11/24 15,687.71

**RESOLUTION: 2019-434**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING MONETARY DONATION FROM NUSTAR TO THE LINDEN FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**WHEREAS**, NUSTAR, 3700 S. Wood Avenue, Linden, NJ 07036 wishes to donate $5,000.00 to the Linden Fire Department to purchase community handouts during the 2019 Annual Fire Safety Campaign; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Linden is desirous of accepting the aforesaid donation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF**

**THE CITY OF LINDEN** that the City of Linden shall accept the aforesaid donation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents, if necessary, to effectuate the foregoing as approved by the City of Linden Law Department.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-435**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION OF A MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT FOR THE PREVENTION OF ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE**

**WHEREAS,** the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

**WHEREAS,** The Linden Council of the City of Linden, County of Union, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

**WHEREAS,** the Linden City Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

**WHEREAS,** the Linden City Council has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Union;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City of Linden, County of Union, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Linden City Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Linden Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 in the amount of:

DEDR $ 33,454.00

Cash Match $ 8,363.50

In-Kind $ 25,090.50

1. The Linden City Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Derek Armstead,* *Mayor*

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Joseph C. Bodek, Municipal Clerk of the City of Linden , County of Union , State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-436**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROBERT SADOWSKI**

**A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN:**

That ROBERT SADOWSKI residing in the City of Linden, County of Union and State of New Jersey, be and he hereby is appointed a member of the Board of Health of the City of Linden according to an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE CITY OF LINDEN", as amended, to serve the remainder of the unexpired term of Monique Torre, and correcting said term of office to commence January 1, 2018 and expiring December 31, 2021, and until his/her successor is appointed and qualifies.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-437**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH A&A CURBING, INC. FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF CURBS AND SIDEWALKS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN THE CITY OF LINDEN**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Linden passed a Resolution No. 2019-285 on July 16, 2019 approving a contract with A&A Curbing, Inc. for the Reconstruction of Curb & Sidewalks at Various Locations in the City of Linden in the amount of $92,575.00; and

**WHEREAS**, a change order in the amount of $14,812.00 is required for additional work; and

**WHEREAS**, inclusive of these additional funds the total expenditures for said contract is $107,387.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer or her designee has certified to the availability of funds for this purpose, to be charged to Account No. C-04-55-904-675-919;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** that the agreement awarded to A&A Curbing, Inc. is hereby amended to increase the contract by the additional sum of $14,812.00, for a total contract of $107,387.00; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution is expressly contingent upon the negotiation and execution of the necessary amended contract documents between A&A Curbing, Inc. and the City of Linden; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Clerk be and hereby are empowered and directed to execute an amendatory agreement with A&A Curbing, Inc.; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a notice of this action shall be published in accordance with applicable law.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-438**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF ROSELLE FOR THE ASPHALT REPAIR OF NORTH WOOD AVENUE**

**WHEREAS,** North Wood Avenue between Raritan Road and Amsterdam Avenue is situated on the border of the City of Linden and the Borough of Roselle, and is in need of asphalt repair; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden and the Borough of Roselle have agreed to share the costs associated with said asphalt repair;and

**WHEREAS**, funds are available in a Public Works asphalt account in the amount of not to exceed $4,000.00; and

**WHEREAS,** the Chief Financial Officer or her designee has certified to the availability of funds for this purpose, to be charged to Account No. C-04-55-907-590-919.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** that the City of Linden hereby agrees to reimburse the Borough of Roselle for the cost of said repairs, which is estimated to not exceed $4,000.00.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution is expressly contingent upon the negotiation and execution of a formal Interlocal Services Agreement between the City of Linden and the Borough of Roselle; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Clerk be and hereby are empowered and directed to execute said agreement with the Borough of Roselle to effectuate the foregoing; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be published in accordance with applicable law.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-439**

**RESOLUTION** **AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH CALCAGNI & KANEFSKY, LLP FOR LEGAL SERVICES CONCERNING A PERSONNEL MATTER**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden has a need to retain the law firm of Calcagni & Kanefsky, LLP and award said contract through a Non-Fair and Open process pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4/20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Attorney has certified that the fees, if any, to be paid to the law firm of Calcagni & Kanefsky, LLP will not exceed $17,500.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Linden hereby awards a contract to the law firm of Calcagni & Kanefsky, LLP for an amount not to exceed $10,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Finance Director has certified to the availability of funds for this purpose, to be charged to Account No. 9-01-20-155-123-255.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** that an agreement for Professional Services be awarded to the law firm of Calcagni & Kanefsky, LLP, 1085 Raymond Blvd., 14th Floor, Newark, N.J. 07102; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Clerk be and hereby are empowered and directed to execute said contract; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a notice of this action shall be published in accordance with applicable law.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-440**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH DISPOSAL SYSTEMS, INC. FOR TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL OF STOCKPILE AT SOUTH WOOD AVENUE IN THE CITY OF LINDEN**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Linden passed a Resolution No. 2019-388 on October 15, 2019 approving an award of a contract to Disposal Systems, Inc. for Transportation and Disposal of Stockpile at South Wood Avenue in the City of Linden in the amount of $22,950.00; and

**WHEREAS**, a change order in the amount of $180.96 is required for additional work; and

**WHEREAS**, inclusive of these additional funds the total expenditures for said contract is $23,130.96; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer or her designee has certified to the availability of funds for this purpose, to be charged to Account No. C-04-55-901-623-919;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** that the agreement awarded to Disposal Systems, Inc. is hereby amended to increase the contract by the additional sum of $180.96, for a total contract of $23,130.96; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution is expressly contingent upon the negotiation and execution of the necessary amended contract documents between Disposal Systems, Inc. and the City of Linden; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Clerk be and hereby are empowered and directed to execute an amendatory agreement with Disposal Systems, Inc.; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a notice of this action shall be published in accordance with applicable law.

**RESOLUTION: 201-441**

**Resolution Recognizing Lisete Matias of Dragonfit Martial Arts Academy for her dedication to the Community**

**WHEREAS,** many of our fellow citizens do things, not for recognition but as a statement about the type of community they want to live in; and

**WHEREAS,** when we think of these citizens, one such individual who comes to mind is Ms. Lisete Matias or “Master Matias” as she is known by the many students who attend her Martial Arts School; and

**WHEREAS,** Lisete Matias opened Dragonfit Martial Arts located here in Linden in 2013, servicing the community by providing martial arts, after school programs and summer camps. One of her most passionate initiatives has been hosting free anti-bullying seminars to the community which include all aspects of bullying including cyberbullying; and

**WHEREAS,** in her spare time Ms. Matias holds free fundraisers for our local schools, delivers holiday gifts to our crossing guards, hosts holiday events for children and she also provides self-defense and anti-bullying seminars; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Mayor and Council of the City of Linden wish to express their heartfelt appreciation to Lisete Matias and Dragonfit Martial Arts for their efforts and commitment to the children and citizens of the City of Linden; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be entered into the minutes of the Council of the City of Linden and that a copy be presented Ramses Estrada. Sr. in permanent recognition of the foregoing.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-442**

**RESOLUTION HONORING PETER BROWN FOR**

**HIS DEDICATED SERVICE AS COUNCILMAN OF THE THIRD WARD**

**OF THE CITY OF LINDEN**

**WHEREAS,** Councilman Peter Brown will be concluding his ninth year of service as Councilman of the Third Ward, City of Linden on December 31, 2019; and

**WHEREAS,** Peter Brown was first elected Third Ward Councilman on November 2, 2010 and began his service to the residents of the City of Linden on January 1, 2011; and

**WHEREAS,** Peter Brown has served as Chairman of the Airport, Budget & Finance, Construction Code & Lighting and Public Property Committees, and served as the Liaison to the Insurance Commission, Special Improvement District, Board of Education, Shade Tree Commission and Scout Day Activities; and

**WHEREAS,** his dedication and commitment has benefited the Citizens of the City of Linden, in many ways, has contributed to the efficiency in the operations of Linden Government and to improving the quality of life for all Linden residents; and

**WHEREAS,** Councilman Peter Brown has discharged his duties with great diligence, compassion, diplomacy and faithful dedication to all of Linden.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Linden that Councilman Peter Brown be and hereby is thanked and congratulated for his years of distinguished public service to the City of Linden; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution be entered into the minutes of Council of the City of Linden and that a copy be presented to Councilman Peter Brown in recognition of the foregoing.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-443**

**RESOLUTION HONORING PAUL COATES FOR**

**HIS DEDICATED SERVICE AS INTERIM COUNCILMAN OF THE**

**EIGHTH WARD OF THE CITY OF LINDEN**

**WHEREAS,** Councilman Paul Coates concluded his services as Interim Councilman of the Eighth Ward on November 11, 2019; and

**WHEREAS,** Paul Coates longtime Eighth Ward Resident was selected to fill the unexpired term of Councilwoman Michele Yamakaitis and assume the position of 8th Ward Councilman; and

**WHEREAS,** his dedication and commitment has benefited the Citizens of the Eighth Ward, in many ways, has contributed to the efficiency in the operations of Linden Government and to improving the quality of life for all Linden residents; and

**WHEREAS,** Paul Coates has discharged his duties with great diligence, compassion, diplomacy and faithful dedication to all of Linden.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Linden that Paul Coates be and hereby is thanked and congratulated for his years of distinguished public service to the City of Linden; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution be entered into the minutes of Council of the City of Linden and that a copy be presented to Paul Coates in recognition of the foregoing.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-444**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING GOALS FOR CONTRACTING WITH VETERAN OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES, HIRING VETERANS IN THE MUNICIPAL WORKFORCE AND RECOGNIZING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF RESIDENTS IN THE CIVIC AFFAIRS OF THE CITY OF LINDEN**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. (the "LCPL") permits counties and municipalities to establish by resolution qualified veteran-owned business enterprise (VOB) contracting programs; and

WHEREAS, the LPCL further authorizes municipalities to establish goals for the municipality in setting aside a certain percentage of the dollar value of total procurements to be awarded as contract to VOBs; and

WHEREAS, the LPCL provides that municipalities that have set goals for contracts awarded to VOBs shall make a good faith effort to attain any goal by tracking the award of contracts to VOBs; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Derek Armstead and the City Council of the City of Linden have determined that, subject to compliance with the LPCL and other state regulations concerning procurement and New Jersey Civil Service rules concerning hiring that it is in the best interest of the City of Linden to encourage the participation of veterans in the business of local government, the workforce and in the civic affairs of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor Armstead and the City Council of the City of Linden that it will make a good faith effort to achieve the following goals:

1. Proactively notify veteran-owned businesses registered with the State of New Jersey (https://www20.state.nj.us/TYTR\_SAVI/vendorSearch.jsp) of each public bid opportunity
2. In the procurement of goods and services, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-42(d), the City shall make a good faith effort to award 6% of the total contract dollars to Veteran Owned Business Enterprises. In achieving this goal, the City shall consider the portion of any public contract awarded that may be performed by a VOB subcontractor;
3. In the hiring of employees, the City, subject to all applicable New Jersey Civil Service regulations shall make a good faith effort hiring achieve the goal of a minimum 5% veteran workforce;
4. A discount for veterans on local license and permit fees;
5. Preferred parking for veterans in municipally-owned lots;
6. Promote State fee exemption for local metered parking;
7. A municipal commuter lot permit fee waiver/reimbursement for purple heart recipients;
8. Hold at least one "Patriot Day" public celebration honoring the service of veterans on Memorial Day,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to achieve the goals established by this resolution the City shall make best efforts, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:11A-43, to advertise to the VOB community the Borough goals, to track the award of public contracts to VOB's or VOB subcontractors and assist those enterprises in the participation of the procurement process.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-445**

**RESOLUTION HONORING DANUTA LIZOWSKA**

**FOR HER COMMITMENT TO THE**

**CITY OF LINDEN**

**WHEREAS,** many of Linden’s Citizens step-up to help in our community, not for any recognition, to themselves, but for the intangible benefit of giving, connecting to their community and for the satisfaction of at least trying to make their community a better place; and

**WHEREAS,** Danuta Lizowska is one such individual; and

**WHEREAS,** Danuta Lizowska, when she heard of the City of Linden’s effort to hold its first ever Polish Heritage Day, volunteered to serve on the committee organizing the event and became an integral part of the committee; and

**WHEREAS,** through her assistance in helping to organize the Polish Heritage Day Event, the event was a huge success drawing over two thousand participants; and

**WHEREAS,** Danuta Lizowska is looking forward to continuing to assist in helping to move the City of Linden forward; and

**WHEREAS, the** Mayor and Council of the City of Linden wishes to express their gratefulness to Danuta Lizowska for her help, guidance and commitment to Linden and it’s residents.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** by Mayor Derek Armstead and the Council of the City of Linden that they hereby recognize the volunteer efforts of Danuta Lizowska and thank her for her commitment to and support of the Polish Heritage Day, and the residents of Linden; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this resolution be entered into the minutes of the Council of the City of Linden and that a copy be presented to Danuta Lizowska in permanent recognition of the foregoing.

**RESOLUTION:** **2019-446**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT ENGAGING MULLER BOHLIN ASSOCIATES, INC. TO ASSIST THE CITY OF LINDEN IN IDENTIFYING STATE, FEDERAL & LOCAL FUNDING SOURCES AND TO RENDER TECHNICAL ADVICE, PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND ASSISTANCE WITH RESPECT TO IDENTIFYING FUNDING PROGRAMS THAT ARE RESPONSIVE TO**

**THE NEEDS OF THE CITY OF LINDEN**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Linden passed a Resolution No. 2019-259 on June 18, 2019 approving the need for a consultant in order to continue to obtain grants and for the purpose of assisting the City of Linden in identifying state and federal funding programs; and

**WHEREAS,** a change order in the amount of $40,000.00 is required to complete the year; and

**WHEREAS**, inclusive of these additional funds the total expenditures for said contract is $120,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer on her designee has certified to the availability of funds for the purpose, to be charged to Account No. 9-01-20-110-103-256,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** that a contract for Professional Services for Muller Bohlin Associates is hereby amended to increase the contract by the additional $40,000.00 for a total of $120,000.00; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution is expressly contingent upon the negotiation and execution of the necessary amended contract documents between Muller Bohlin and the City of Linden; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Clerk be and hereby are empowered and directed to execute an amendatory contract with Muller Bohlin Associates to effectuate the foregoing; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be published according to law.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-447**

**RESOLUTON ACKNOWLEDGING THE SERVICE**

**OF FRANK DANN AS DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY**

**AFFAIRS TO THE CITY OF LINDEN**

**WHEREAS,** in 2015 the City of Linden retained the services of a consulting firm to conduct an in-depth evaluation of the City of Linden’s Department of Public Works; and

**WHEREAS,** in December of 2015 the consulting firm issued a report, detailing conditions at the Department of Public Works and making recommendations as to the structure of the Department, and similar departmental operations in order to better provide services to the residents of the City of Linden; and

**WHEREAS,** the Mayor and Council, after an in-depth review of the report, created the Department of Community Services, encompassing the Divisions of Engineering; Public Works; Vehicle Maintenance; Transportation and Parking; and Building and Grounds; and

**WHEREAS,** the Governing Body turned to a consultant to assist in finding a candidate with the extensive knowledge, experience and credentials necessary to implement the changes in the structure and operations of the new Department to have it function in an efficient and productive manner; and

**WHEREAS,** after an extensive search the consultant found a candidate whose career is marked by his success as an agent of change, to bring about needed improvements to the services provided to the residents of Linden, Frank Dann; and

**WHEREAS,** Frank Dann began his career as laborer, working his way through the ranks to serve as the Director of Engineering and Public Works for Union County, and successively the Director of Public Works for two municipalities, and as a fleet manager for a regional solid waste/recycling service brining valuable experience to Linden; and

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Dann brought with him the unique distinction of being an “outsider” but one who is intimately familiar with the City as a native of Linden who grew up in the community, with his grandfather, Francis H. Dann, having served as City Clerk; and

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Dann began his career, in Linden, on January 1, 2018, and has implemented many needed improvements, as the Director of Community Services, to the services provided to the residents of Linden, including implementation of the transition to an automated garbage and recycling pickup system, dramatically reducing cost, without diminishing services, and improving employee performance; and

**WHEREAS,** Frank Dann has submitted his resignation to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Linden, effective, January 1, 2020.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** by Mayor Derek Armstead and the City Council of the City of Linden that it wishes Frank Dann a long and happy retirement, filled with joy and thank him for the outstanding changes that he has made to the efficient operation of the Department of Community Services; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that a copy of this resolution be entered, in full, into the minutes of the Council of the City of Linden and that a copy be presented to Frank Dann in recognition of the foregoing.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-448**

**RESOLUTION HONORING METRO LIQUORS FOR THEIR**

**SUPPORT AND DEDICATION TO THE**

**LINDEN COMMUNITY**

**WHEREAS,** volunteer groups and nonprofit organizations, working with the City of Linden, do so much to help the Linden community, that we are all part of, by sponsoring many community activities, but they cannot do it alone; and

**WHEREAS,** successful members of the business community have the resources to help by contributing to the common good of the community; and

**WHEREAS,** many businesses invest in their community to give back to those that have supported their business; and

**WHEREAS,** Metro Liquors, and its owner, Vinil “Vinny” Patel, located at 1171-1179 W. St. George Avenue, in Linden, is one such business; and

**WHEREAS,** Metro Liquors is a constant contributor to many of Linden’s Cultural and Community events, including September to Remember, Polish Heritage Day, the Latin Heritage Celebration, and the Taste of Linden, to name a few; and

**WHEREAS,** the Mayor and Council of the City of Linden wishes to recognize the un-selfness giving and support of the Linden Community, and its organizations by Metro Liquors, and “Vinny” Patel.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** by Mayor Derek Armstead and the City Council of the City of Linden does hereby express its thanks and appreciation to Metro Liquors and Vinil Patel, for connecting to the Linden Community, and making it a better place by their constant and un-wavering support.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be entered into the minutes of the Council of the City of Linden and that a copy be presented to Vinil Patel in permanent recognition of the foregoing.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-449**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN FORMALLY CENSURING COUNCILWOMAN RHASHONNA COSBY**

**WHEREAS,** it is imperative that every member of the City Council conducts themselves with the highest standards of honesty, integrity and ethical conduct; and

**WHEREAS,** at the last City Council Meeting on November 12, 2019, Councilwoman Rhashonna Cosby, (“Councilwoman Cosby”), acted in blatant disregard of the City Council Rules, failed to heed to orders of the Council President, continued to speak after roll call, and acted in a way that is unbecoming of a councilmember; and

**WHEREAS,** it has been determined by this honorable body that this type of vitriol behavior is divisive, dishonest and poisonous to the residents of the City of Linden; and

**WHEREAS,** *Robert’s Rules of Order* states that “. . . an organization or assembly has the right to make and enforce its own rules, and to require that its own members refrain from conduct injurious to the organization or its purposes;” and

**WHEREAS,** *Robert’s Rules of Order* lists formal censure as an allowed form of disciplinary action which a body may use regarding the conduct of one of its own members; and

**WHEREAS,** upon executing the oath of office, each member of the City Council swears to uphold the constitutional oath of office, which states that he or she will “support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this State, and the laws and ordinances of the City of Linden; and

**WHEREAS,** one of the governing principles upon which our nation is founded is the “Rule of Law,” which means that the law is uniformly applied to all citizens, and that no individual citizen has a status “above the law”; and

**WHEREAS,** Robert’s Rules of Order states the purpose of formal censure is to correct conduct and behavior; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Linden that Councilwoman Cosby’s conduct and behavior as set forth in greater detail hereinabove constitutes misconduct, is divisive, violates council rules and violates the highest standards of honesty, integrity and ethical conduct required of elected officials in the City; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that Councilwoman Cosby’s conduct and behavior is hereby condemned in the strongest of terms; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that a formal censure of Councilwoman Cosby is hereby issued for her conduct and behavior; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that Councilwoman Cosby must hereby refrain from any further similar conduct or behavior; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that Councilwoman must familiarize herself with the provisions of the *City Council Rules* that touch upon the conduct expected of her at council meetings; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall have immediate effect and shall be posted in full in the official minutes of this governing body and shall be published in full in the official newspaper of the City of Linden.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-450**

**RESOLUTION URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO STRENGTHEN LAWS AGAINST CYBER BULLYING AND HARASSMENT**

**WHEREAS,** Cyber bullying and harassment is an increasingly pervasive problem which negatively impacts the right of individuals to live without fear and has negative consequences for those who are targets and for those are bullies; and

**WHEREAS**, platforms such as Facebook, and other social media platforms allow individuals through these technologies to harass, humiliate, intimidate and/or threaten others on the internet, including elected officials; and

**WHEREAS**, Cyber bullying and harassment have increased through the use of social media and is prevalent in the adult workplace and is often unreported creating a setting of fear which contributes to health issues, diminished performance and loss of time for the employer and the employee; and

**WHEREAS,** the criminal laws in the State of New Jersey create crimes for cyber bullying and harassment, but seldom are used except in the most egregious cases, long after the negative impact to the individual occurs; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Linden calls upon the Legislature strengthen the laws against Cyber bullying and harassment.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Linden in the County of Union that:

1. The City of Linden urges the New Jersey Legislature to strengthen the laws against Cyber bullying and harassment.
2. A copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the twenty-one municipalities in the County of Union, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and all members of the Legislature.

I, JOSEPH C. BODEK, City Clerk of the City of Linden, in the County of Union, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of RESOLUTION NO. 2019-450, passed at a REGULAR COUNCIL meeting of said City, held on the 17th day of December, 2019.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the City of Linden, the 18th day of December, 2019.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-451**

**RESOLUTION AWARDED TO JO-MED CONTRACTING CORP. FOR THE SERVICES OF EMERGENCY SEWER REPAIR LOCATED AT 1401-1405 NORTH WOOD AVENUE SOLICITED BY QUOTATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Linden wishes to retain services for emergency sewer repair for the City of Linden; and

**WHEREAS,** N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 provides for the solicitation of competitive quotes and the award to a vendor whose response is most advantageous, price and other factors considered; and

**WHEREAS,** Jo-Med Contracting Corp., 300 S. Second Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07206 was solicited for quotations; and

**WHEREAS,** Jo-Med Contracting Corp. provided the most advantageous quote, price and others factors considered in the amount not to exceed $25,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for this award, which will be charged to C-04-550-901-623-919;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** Jo-Med be awarded a contract for emergency sewer repair at the low quote of $25,000.00.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor, Council President, City Clerk and/or such other city officials as is necessary and proper be authorized to execute such documents as necessary to implement this resolution.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-452**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAURUS ADVISORY GOUP, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF LINDEN,**

**TO INVESTIGATE MARKET CONDITIONS AND SECURE ENERGY SUPPLY CONTRACTS, FOR NATURAL GAS AND ELECTRICITY AS AUTHORIZED**

**BY P.L. 2001, c 30.**

**WHEREAS,** the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, permits public entities, per P.L. @001, c.30, to utilize Division approved online purchasing agents to secure energy supply contracts through an online bidding/reverse auction process; and

**WHEREAS,** the services of said approved agents are exempt from public bidding, as per P.L. 200, c.30; and

**WHEREAS,** the governing body of the City of Linden desires to utilize Taurus Advisory Group LLC, a BPU certified and Department of Community Affairs approve provider of online energy procurement services to secure natural gas and electricity supply contracts; and

**WHEREAS,** the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities advise that contracts for power supply should be awarded shortly after an online auction is conducted in order to ensure the lowest possible rates.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the governing body of the City of Linden authorizes Taurus Advisory Group, LLC to investigate market conditions and, when directed by the Mayor of the City of Linden, conduct online auctions and market research for the purpose of securing natural gas and electricity supply contracts and transaction confirmations for its utility accounts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the governing body of the City of Linden authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to award and sign power supply contracts and/or transaction confirmations for natural gas and electricity accounts, in accordance with P.L. 2001, c.30 and all State procurement regulations on any date on which said transactions meet pre-determined standards and benchmarks set by the Mayor in order to ensure desired energy budget performance.

Comments on Removed Resolutions

Virginia Malik. Ms. Malik asked the following questions: 2019-419 – who does it now; 2019-420 –What is the use; 2019-422 –what department is this for; 2019-423 the summary tells us nothing; 2019-437 do we have a City plan for the money; 2019-446 what have we gotten back. Chief Hasko responded to questions on 419, and explained what they do; Mr. Dann stated that it will be used for the extra wide lawnmower that was recently purchased; 422 Mrs. Zack stated it was radio’s for OEM; Chief Hart explained why they are needed; 423 Mr. Antonelli that this resolution is done every year, and qualifies the professionals that the City would be choosing from; 437 – Mr. Pantina added extra quantity of concrete for the work at Hagel Avenue Park; 446- Mrs. Zack stated that the City has received close to $1 million, and that we are still looking for additional funding. Council President responded to remarks made by Ms. Malik as to why sidebar discussions are allowed by those on the dais.

John Principato. Mr. Principato asked the following questions: 2019-423 – read from the summary and asked what does it mean, it is too vague. 2019-449 asked that the censure be explained. Mr. Antonelli responded to the questions on 423. He noted that it is the same resolution, done every year at this time. Request for qualifications are done by the Purchasing Agent. It creates a laundry list of all of the professional services that the City needs for the upcoming year. He explained the RFQ process. Mr. Antonelli also responded to the questions on 449, stating that the description speaks for itself. The resolution is to censor Ms. Cosby for her actions during last month’s Council meeting. Mr. Principato asked what the conduct was. Mr. Antonelli explained. Mr. Principato stated that this is done to publicly humiliate someone. He called it childish. President Yamakaitis said that he should watch the video from last month’s Council meeting. Mr. Principato responded that it could not be worse than what he has witnessed in years gone by.

Kelly Vlasic. Ms. Vlasic spoke on resolution 449. I understand that we are trying to get things in order, and agreed that a lot of the Council people need to be responsible for what they do up on the dais. She asked what are we going to do moving forward. What are going to be the guidelines moving forward for the next time someone speaks inappropriately to a resident, and gave examples of what she was talking about? Ms. Vlasic stated is this going to be applied equally or are we going to pick and choose. She asked that all of the past videos be reviewed, for similar actions. Next Ms. Vlasic spoke about the resolution regarding cyber bullying. She asked if how the rules would be applied, equally, or by picking and choosing, when something is said that is not liked. She noted her various concerns, including that it be applied to most Council people. President Yamakaitis responded that Council had discussed this, last night, and that it is going to be applied across the board. President Yamakaitis responded to other comments and concerns made by Ms. Vlasic.

Hans Herberg. Ms. Herberg asked the following questions: 2019-421, if sold, does the funds go back into the general treasury; 2019-444 – who is going to oversee it; 2019-449 – spoke about his concern for Fifth Ward residents, noting that there is freedom of speech, but there are limits and people have to be held accountable. He spoke on the issue of censorship, and that there is bullying going on and that it has to be addressed, noting that everyone has to work out their cyber bullying issues.

Ed Kaminski. Mr. Kaminski spoke about resolution 2019-419. He spoke about the ambulance reimbursement program, and the cost. He pointed out that at one point the City had a volunteer ambulance program that has ended. He explained his personal experience, with the ambulance and in receiving a $750.00 bill for the services. He also discussed the level of the fees being charged.

Joe Lindsey. Mr. Lindsey spoke about resolution 2019-442. He noted that he has been a resident for over twenty-five (25) years. During that time he had served as campaign manager for Joe Harvanik when Mr. Harvanik ran for the Third Ward Council seat. Noting the recent passing of Mr. Harvanik, he talked about Mr. Harvanik’s legacy and the campaign against Mr. Brown. He thanked Mr. Brown for his conduct during the campaign. Mr. Lindsey noted that the Mayor had touched on Mr. Brown’s impact, on the budget, and the numbers. The City has had two years of zero tax increases, and gave kudos to Mr. Brown for his role in that achievement. Mr. Lindsey stated that every year he gets a copy of the budget, and reviews it. He does not know how Mr. Brown does it.

Carlos Rivas. Mr. Rivas stated that he is a resident of the Fifth Ward. He spoke about resolution 2019-449, and that this is first time speaking at a council meeting, but he has been watching them for many years on video. He noted that many things happen at these meetings. He talked about the need for respect, on both sides of the bench, and that the respect is something that was learned in school. We have all learned to respect the other people’s comments. For every resolution we have to be responsible for what we do, why these resolutions are taking place. He applauded City Council for the resolution, as he has been witnessing, as he has watched the actions of his councilwoman, and her behavior is not one that people have respect for. He was critical of Ms. Cosby’s behavior in what he termed actions dividing people at School #4. He commented further about those actions. Mr. Rivas asked that Council consider a similar type resolution for how the public acts. There has to be respect on both sides.

Mr. Mohammed moved for approval of Resolutions #2019-419, #2019-420, #2019-421, #2019-422, #2019-423, #2019-437, #2019-442, -#2019-444, #2019-446, #2019-449, #2019-450. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brown. President Yamakaitis asked for discussion.

Mr. Mohammed stated that he supports the resolution censuring Councilwoman Cosby. He stated that he would not attack her personally, just her ideas. He stated that she is a wonderful person, but you cannot come and disrespect the government. He asked, Ms. Cosby, in the future, to refrain from bad behavior, noting that on this occasion she may have been having a bad day, as she came to the meeting from the emergency room. Mr. Mohammed stated that he had never seen a government official act that way, and reviewed some of the aspects of her conduct.

Mrs. Hickey stated that she was trying to be fair, noting that she was not at last night’s conference meeting, and explained why. She added that fairness and transparency has not existed on this Council this year. Mrs. Hickey went on to add that she thought Ms. Cosby’s behavior was atrocious. She continued stating that watch the behavior of this Council toward herself and her family, and could understand how Ms. Cosby’s action arose out of frustration. She thought that a warning should be given out, with this type of action being taken after January 1st. She talked about the inappropriate behavior of other members of Council, and at this point could not care less if she runs for re-election next year, and wins or losses, as the City would be the loser. She repeated her call that this type of action not be taken now, but after January 1st, if the bad behavior continues. Mrs. Hickey called Mr. Brown the biggest con, and offered her apologizes to Ms. Cosby for being chosen the person to be made an example of this month.

Mr. Brown, stated, to Mrs. Hickey, that this is the first time that I am going to address you, noting that this is why this resolution is needed. He went on to note that he has a binder, in which he has been documenting the actions of others. Mr. Antonelli, interrupted Mr. Brown to remind the members of Council that until they are recognized that are not to speak. Mr. Brown continued speaking about censoring, rhetoric vs censorship. He talked about the issues, from several years ago, when there was a special meeting to discuss these matters. He talked about his actions and how they differed from the actions of the Councilwoman. Mr. Brown stated that he was not here last month, so he cannot be blamed for what happened. He noted the pattern that was occurring, discussing how the Council meeting have deteriorated, and taking this action, with the censor resolution, sets the tone for the conduct at Council meetings next year.

Ms. Cosby began by explaining why she had recorded the statements made by Mr. Rivas, noting that orders were given to only record members of the public from behind. In this way his face and his emotions can be seen, as he made his statement. Ms. Cosby went on that she takes full responsibility for not stopping when the gavel was banged. She pointed out, that tonight, the gavel was not banged on anybody. Back and forth, back and forth, it wasn’t banged, but I bet you $.02 that it will get banged on me. There was no time limit on anybody. Ms. Cosby stated that resolution 2019-449 is hate. She noted that when there was a discussion, last night, she was told that the resolution was specific to her behavior at the public meeting, not in the conference meeting. She noted actions in the conference meeting that differed, depending on the individual. She reviewed the actions and statements that led to her leaving the dais last month. She noted that the resolution was handed out at the conference meeting, and was not given out a week in advance, like we are supposed to get it. She detailed a meeting to censure the Mayor for letting employees go home early, and why no action was taken. She defined censure as a public shaming that is done for political reasons. She stated that she should have never came last month and why. She took full responsibility for her actions.

Ms. Cosby then read the complete resolution, adding her comments/explanation to each of the statements in the resolutions.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN FORMALLY CENSURING COUNCILWOMAN RHASHONNA COSBY**

**SPONSORED BY COUNCILWOMAN MICHELE YAMAKITAS**

**WHEREAS,** it is imperative that every member of the City Council conducts themselves with the highest standards of honesty, integrity and ethical conduct; and

**WHEREAS,** at the last City Council Meeting on November 12, 2019, Councilwoman Rhashonna Cosby, (“Councilwoman Cosby”), acted in blatant disregard of the City Council Rules, failed to heed to orders of the Council President, continued to speak after roll call, and acted in a way that is unbecoming of a councilmember; and…………….This is the last part that is actually factual. I did continue trying in vain to make a point and was repeated denied and eventually asked to leave the dais by the Council President.

**WHEREAS,** it has been determined by this honorable body that this type of vitriol behavior ( what it the name of the almighty is “cruel and bitter in me not yielding to the chair?) is divisive,( there was already a disagreement at hand and I did not cause the disagreement at the meeting!) Dishonest ( Anyone who knows me or has attended of watched one city council meeting knows that I am the main person calling for transparent and honest government. In this case at the meeting I am not sure what I was being dishonest about. In fact, this resolution is a sham.) and poisonous ( really?) to the residents of the City of Linden; and

**WHEREAS,** *Robert’s Rules of Order* states that “. . . an organization or assembly has the right to make and enforce its own rules, and to require that its own members refrain from conduct injurious to the organization or its purposes;” and there should not be selective enforcement of this rule. This sudden fear that I will injury the organizational goals and the need to formally censure me for these overblown charges is ridiculous. Anyone can go back to last month’s meeting, and other meetings under the Council President’s purview since 2019 an see that she has been consistently selective in who she calls out of order and for what reasons.

**WHEREAS,** *Robert’s Rules of Order* lists formal censure as an allowed form of disciplinary action which a body may use regarding the conduct of one of its own members; and Linden has not censured anyone in the past 20 years. This is a distasteful way to sully my name and reputation and a clear abuse of power.

**WHEREAS,** upon executing the oath of office, each member of the City Council swears to uphold the constitutional oath of office, which states that he or she will “support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this State, and the laws and ordinances of the City of Linden; and that underlined text IS NOT IN THE OATH! It continues, “ and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the governments established in the United States and in this state, under th++++++++++++\*-e authority of the people.” Another attempt to make the general public believe that I am some sort of villain. Lisa Orman even referred to me as a “ mad woman” in the meeting of 12-16-19 and I am truly insulted that the language here in this resolution would have you believe that I ran through the city council meeting menacing people, yelling at members of the public, and was erratic on the dais. That has been done in the past by Peter Brown but, it was acceptable. NO CENSURE

**WHEREAS,** one of the governing principles upon which our nation is founded is the “Rule of Law,” which means that the law is uniformly applied to all citizens, and that no individual citizen has a status “above the law”; and I beg to differ in this case, the rule of our meetings give all authority to the council president who, unfortunately, is not capable of compartmentalizing her personal feelings and has proven that not to routinely be an objective magistrate.

**WHEREAS,** Robert’s Rules of Order states the purpose of formal censure is to correct conduct and behavior; now, therefore, It really is to embarrass me and attempt to stifle me FROM GETTING THE TRUTH OUT TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the voting recorded here by ward City of Linden that Councilwoman Cosby’s conduct and behavior as set forth in greater detail hereinabove constitutes misconduct, is divisive, violates council rules and violates the highest standards of honesty, integrity and ethical conduct I will not subscribe to group think, or bulling and will not be controlled. The aforementioned violations that I am charged with committing are hilarious and have failed to be proven true. required of elected officials in the City; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that Councilwoman Cosby’s conduct and behavior is hereby condemned in the strongest of terms; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that a formal censure of Councilwoman Cosby is hereby issued for her conduct and behavior; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that Councilwoman Cosby must hereby refrain from any further similar conduct or behavior; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that Councilwoman must familiarize herself with the provisions of the *City Council Rules* that touch upon the conduct expected of her at Council meetings; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that Councilwoman must familiarize herself with the provisions of the *City Council Rules* that touch upon the conduct expected of her at council meetings; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that this **Resolution shall have immediate effect and shall be posted in full in the official minutes of this governing body and shall be published in full in the official newspaper of the City of Linden.** Resolutions are only published in the paper when they are required to be by the writing in the resolution per the city clerk. I would ask the sponsor and or the author why they feel the need to memorialize this poppycock if they are worried about the city’s reputation as they all moaned about at the 12-16-19 meeting.

Ms. Cosby concluded by stating that this is an attempt to stop her from getting the truth out to the general public, this resolution is wrong and it is disgusting. I wrote a book, don’t get mad at me, I am consistent, don’t waiver and cannot be bought. Ms. Cosby noted that next month the rules on speaking on resolutions will change, and the public will not be able to ask questions on resolutions. She stated that she was grateful for the opportunity to express herself and make her case in public.

Mr. Blaine stated that he wanted to make it perfectly clear that there are some words, in the resolution that he did not agree with, as did Mrs. Ormon. He noted that while he disagreed with some of the words, the behavior that occurred was wrong. He spoke about his frustrations with members of Council and their disrespect for the Council President. He would like to see their names under censorship. He added that he did not believe in a one way vote. If the Councilwoman was being censored then some other folks that do the same thing. He would back the censorship of other members, if this continues, regardless of where they sit. I am here for the people.

Mrs. Ormon stated her agreement with the comments made by Mr. .Blaine, and this is about the Council President trying to run a meeting. She added that she works for corporate America and if she opened her mouth, when the boss was speaking, she would have gotten a pink slip. It works both ways, including people coming up to the podium. Mrs. Ormon stated that she had apologized to friends and family for her behavior, at a meeting. This is a business meeting and the persons here need to respect the individual running the meeting. She spoke about the style of former Council President Robert Bunk in running a meeting, and no one would disrespect him.

President Yamakaitis agreed with Mrs. Omron’s comments about when former Council President Robert Bunk ran the meetings. She pointed out that last tonight’s meeting began quietly, because there being repercussions. It is up to Council to set the tone for this meeting. It comes down to respect, and we need to respect the audience, and each other. This cannot continue in 2020. Last month’s meeting was disgusting.

President Yamakaitis called upon the Clerk to call the roll on the removed resolutions. The resolutions were approved, upon a roll call vote, with all voting in favor of all except Ms. Cosby, Mr. Medina and Mrs. Hickey who all voted no to resolution 2019-449.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Craig Halloran, 120 Donaldson Place. Mr. Halloran wished all a happy holiday, for whatever the holiday is that they are celebrating. He thanked the Council, and City employees, for putting up with his comments during the year. He thanked Frank Dann for his work with the City, and wished Mr. Brown well in his future endeavors, stating that he looked forward to seeing Mr. Brown in the audience, next month. Mr. Halloran urged the citizens of Linden to come out and see how their government functions, and urged all to work together. He wished all a happy holiday and lets all work together in the New Year.

Hans Herberg, 1501 Westover Road. Mr. Herberg wished all a happy holiday, and asked not forget those who work during the holidays. He also reminded all to remember the veterans. He then spoke about all of the fighting, back and forth, and how it is creating a lot of stress. He inquired why, it is that members of the public are only filmed from the rear, now and their faces are not shown. He stated that all should have respect for our first responders. He pointed out that there is no room for hate, in this world. We need to go back to who we are and respect each other. He thanked Mr. Brown for his service.

Ed Kaminski, Maple Avenue. Mr. Kaminski noted questions that he has asked and has not received answers to. He also asked what was going on with the reorganization of the Law Department, and why it was occurring. He asked if there was any impact, to Linden, with New York City shipping its homeless to New Jersey. Mr. Kaminski welcomed Mr. Blaine to the governing body, and noted that he was impressed with what Mr. Blaine had had to say. He then talked about the reorganization of the IT Department, that he had had his say earlier, but wanted to speak to the comments that the Mayor, as head of the Police Department, was only a figure head, yet a few months ago, when the Mayor got a 40% raise, it was because he was a department head like others. Mr. Kaminski talked about an incident, where a women was recently injured, laid on the sidewalk, asking for help, while people walked around her. He thought what happened was disgusting.

Virginia Malik, Lenape Road. Ms. Malik stated she would hold her comments to next month.

Diogo Azevedo, 30 W. Curtis Street. Mr. Azevedo noted how everyone had noted that the behavior, here, was disgusting. He then played a recording that allegedly was between John Kaczor and Alex Lospinoso talking about an issue. Mr. Antonelli stopped the playing of the recording. Mr. Azevedo noted that it was the Mayor’s Chief of Staff, allegedly reaching out to a citizen to blackmail someone. He asked the Mayor how he felt about that.

Anthony Mislan, 444 Inwood Road. Mr. Mislan thought that the point of this meeting was to talk about the professionalism or the lack thereof of this meeting. He noted that from the beginning of this meeting it has been lacking. He asked what has changed, from last year, and answered nothing at all. There are still Councilman arguing with the public, there are other Councilman sleeping, showing no respect to each other or the public. He was critical of the filming of members of the public only from their back. No one can explain why that has happened. He pointed out other behavior, by the dais, that he found offensive.

Kelly Vlasic, 30 W. Curtis Street. Ms. Vlasic was not present.

John Principato, 1706 Westover Road. Mr. Principato stated that in the words of Jackie Childs, this is totally inappropriate, it is rude, and outrageous. This is what it is. He noted that he would continue speaking, with his face to the camera (back to the dais) and that it is his right to stand anywhere that he wants. I pay the taxes, I pay all of your salaries, in one way, shape of form. He noted that he wasn’t turning his back, to the dais to be disrespectful to the dais. He said he was doing it to be respectful to the people at home. President Yamakaitis asked him to turn around and face the dais. He did not and held up a book, to the camera, that Rhashonna Cosby had written. Mr. Antonelli provide instructions to the Council President. Mr. Principato continued speaking about the book, and threatened a lawsuit if he was ejected for no reason at all. President Yamakaitis noted that he had been called out of order twice, and called up the next speaker. Mr. Principato continued his act of defiance and the Council President instructed the police officers present to remove him from the room. They did.

Roger Levy, Linden Airport. Council President apologized to Mr. Levy. Mr. Levy stated that he comes here as a member of the Friends of Linden Airport, as a pilot. He spoke about the airport being an asset to the City, and explained that the Friends is a non-profit that was formed to protect the interest of the pilots and aircraft owners. He spoke about the amount of money that is paid, at the airport, and where does the money to maintain the airport come from. He then reviewed a list of complaints, about the airport and its operation, and called for an audit of the airport operations, and where the fees being collected are going to. Mr. Levy stated that he was upset over the City’s heavy handed actions with regard to Mr. Madden. He asked if it was because Mr. Madden was raising issues over the operation of the airport and calling for an audit of the operator.

Tom Madden, Linden Airport Mr. Madden informed all that he is a licensed airport mechanic and pilot, works for a major airline and has a spotless record. He reviewed some of his other credentials. He talked about how he had reported various violations, at the airport, to the FAA, and how they felt many of them were valid. He spoke about the actions of the airport operator, and urged the City to do an audit of him. He reported on alleged deficiencies in the turning on of the airports runway lights, deer on the runway, and the need to hold the operator to the terms of his contract. Mr. Madden pointed to the recent decision, by Council, to implement a moratorium on grant applications and that he could not understand why it was done, as it is causing the city more problems than it is fixing.

Kathy Vaytay, 140 Charlotte Pl, Engelwood Cliffs. Ms. Vaytay stated that she was here with the Friends of Linden Airport. She is a pilot, with an aircraft based at Linden. She spoke about the mechanical help that Tom Madden had given her, over the years, and that he is a FAA certified aircraft mechanic. She noted a statement that the City Attorney had made about the qualifications of Mr. Madden, as a mechanic, explained why they were wrong and that they need to be corrected. She also spoke about alleged operational issues at Linden Airport.

Michael Zsilavetz, Linden Airport. Mr. Zsilavetz stated that he is also a member of the Friends of Linden Airport, and a friend of Tom Madden. He noted that Mr. Madden had fallen under scrutiny. He talked about Mr. Maddens qualifications as a mechanic, that he has known Mr. Madden for over twenty years, and does not believe any of the charges that have been levied against Mr. Madden. He pointed out that the people who have levied those charges do not have the qualifications to do so. There is no one else to provide the necessary maintenance to the Linden aircraft owners. He levied a number of accusations as to the reasons behind this and hope that the friends of the Friends of Linden Airport would band together for greater transparency into the operations of Linden Airport.

Henry Mack. Mr. Mack opened his comments with a prayer. He spoke about the forty police officers, from Linden, who traveled to Jersey City to show their, and our respect for the tragedy that they went through. He thanked the Chief for his kind consideration. He also wanted to say that, the City, as a family is growing apart. We are growing apart due to the policies. He noted that he has talked all year along about respect. He talked about the length of time he has been involved in the City and the need to respect ourselves, as we serve humanity. He wished all a great holiday season.

Mrs. Ormon moved to close the Public Comment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blaine and was unanimously ordered approved.

**COMMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

Mr. Strano congratulated the new hires in DPW and the Police Department. He wished all of the retiring City employees the best, and gave best wishes to Peter Brown, and wished all a happy holiday season.

Mr. Mohammed thanked Frank Dann for his honorable service to the City and spoke about language he would like to see people from using. He wished all a happy holiday season.

Mrs. Ormon wished Frank Dann well and thanked him for his service to the Community. She also wished Peter Brown the best, noting that she considered him brilliant when it came to finance.

Ms. Cosby stated that she has officially been censored, urged people to watch the meeting and see who doesn’t get the gavel banged on them. If members of the Council did not agree with the language in the censure resolution, then take it off and fix it, so that the residents can be clear.

Mr. Brown thanked the residents of the Third Ward, and talked about how he liked getting the phone calls from the residents, about issues, as they are the eyes and ears of the ward. They are the positive people who care. He spoke about the department heads, and all coming together to work as a group because Linden has a lot of potential.

Ms. Cosby left during Mr. Brown’s comments.

President Yamakaitis thanked Mr. Brown for his nine years of service and for all of his actions during the budget crisis. She apologized to Mr. Brown for how he and his family were treated during the past year.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*Council Conference meeting prior to the Council meeting:

Monday, December 30, 2019, at 6:00 pm in the Council Conference Room, City Hall, 301 N. Wood Ave., if needed.

\*Council Meeting: Monday, December 30, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 301 N. Wood Ave. , if needed.

\*Council Conference meeting prior to the Council meeting:

Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 6:00 pm in the Council Conference Room, City Hall, 301 N. Wood Ave.

\*Council Organization Meeting: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 301 N. Wood Ave.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mr. Mohammed moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ormon, and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph C. Bodek

City Clerk