**Minutes of the Regular**

**Meeting of the 2019 Council of the**

**City of Linden, held Tuesday,**

**January 2, 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, January 2, 2019 at 7:05 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.

President of Council Michele Yamakaitis announced that the Members of Council who were elected in the November 6, 2018, General Election subscribed to their Oaths of Office prior to January 1, 2019, but, for the benefit of the public in attendance, the Officials will repeat the process.

Council President Michele Yamakaitis called each of the following members up, one at a time and announced the details of those that would be participating in the swearing in.

MAYOR, Derek Armstead – Will be sworn-in by Judge Cassandra Corbett. Holding the Bible will be his Mother, Anna L. Armstead. Will his wife, Danie Armstead, his daughters Erika, Brianna and Abigail Armstead and sons, Ryan and Ashton Armstead come up to the podium.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL, Michele Yamakaitis – will be sworn-in by City Clerk Joseph C. Bodek. Holding the Bible will be her son, Daniel Yamakaitis. Will her husband, Luke Yamakaitis and her son, Thomas Yamakaitis, come up to the podium.

COUNCILWOMAN OF THE FIRST WARD, Lisa Ormon – Will be sworn-in by her brother, Mayor Derek Armstead. Holding the Bible will be her husband, Peter Ormon. Will children, Keira and Chase Ormon please come up to the podium.

COUNCILMAN OF THE NINTH WARD, Armando Medina – Will be sworn-in by Freeholder Christopher Hudak. Holding the Bible will be Annette Guerra. Will Senator Nicholas Scutari, Dawn Beviano, and his parents, Jose Medina and Angela Burgos, please come up to the podium.

**PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION**

President Alvarez called upon the City Clerk would be asked to present the Certificates of Election, from the County Clerk’s Office to those elected in the November 6, 2018 election. The Clerk then presented the certificates to each of the elected and re-elected officials.

A roll call showed the following members were present:

Councilwoman Lisa Ormon

Councilman“ Barry Javick

Councilman Peter Brown

“ Alfred D. Mohammed

Councilwoman Rhashonna Cosby

Councilman John Francis Roman

“ Ralph Strano

Councilman Armando Medina

Councilwoman Gretchen Hickey

Council President Michele Yamakaitis

Mayor Derek Armstead

President Yamakaitis recognized several dignitaries in the audience.

**STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS**

President Yamakaitis called upon Mayor Derek Armstead to give his 2019 State of the City Address.

Good Evening Council President, Elected Officials, Family, Friends and Residents. Let me begin the yearly State of the City address by wishing each of you the Happiest and Healthiest of New Years.

MY SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHELLE YAMAKAITIS, OUR NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND FIRST FEMALE TO HOLD THAT OFFICE IN THE HISTORY OF OUR CITY (AD LIB). CONGRATULATIONS TO LISA ORMON ON HER SUCCESSFUL RE-ELECTION AS COUNCILWOMAN OF THE 1ST WARD. AND TO ARMANDO MEDINA ON HIS RE-ELECTION AS COUNCILMAN OF THE 9TH WARD.

I am deeply humbled that you, the great people of Linden, had the faith in me to provide me with the opportunity to serve as your Mayor for yet another term.

This honor that you have bestowed upon me to serve the residents of the city I love and hold dear to my heart, is one of the greatest privileges one could hope for./ In Life, I have learned, we must always thank and be grateful to God and the people who have given us our start in whatever career path we may find ourselves and 4 years ago you gave me that opportunity.

AS I BEGIN MY SECOND TERM AS YOUR MAYOR, I AM EVEN MORE COGNIZANT OF THE FACT THAT WHATEVER AUTHORITY I HAVE COMES FROM YOU, THE ELECTORATE.

THAT AUTHORITY COMES WITH RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS.

I ACCEPT THEM AND TAKE THEM VERY SERIOUSLY.

I PLEDGE TO YOU THAT I WILL CONTINUE TO WORK TIRELESSLY TO MAKE OUR CITY THE BEST IT CAN BE. MY DOOR AS YOUR MAYOR IS OPEN TO YOU TO MAKE SURE YOUR VOICES AND CONCERNS WILL BE HEARD. I WOULD BE REMISS IF I DID NOT CONGRATULATE OUR NEWLY ELECTED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS:

MARIANTHE MANGANELLO

PATRICK GARGANO

DORIS JOHNSON BROWN

I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THEM IN A COOPERATIVE EFFORT.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE NEW MEMBERS OF OUR POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS. WE INCREASED THE COMPLIMENTS BY 11 AND 10 RESPECTIVELY & TWO OF THE NEWLY SWORN-IN FIREFIGHTERS ARE THE FIRST FEMALE FIREFIGHTERS IN THE HISTORY OF LINDEN. OUR ON-GOING PLANNED RE-DEVELOPMENT MAKES IT NECESSARY FOR THE INCREASED MANPOWER.

I WANT TO MAKE IT ABSOLUTELY CLEAR THAT THE SUCCESS OF OUR CITY IS NOT JUST ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE MAYOR, BUT A SHARED COMMITMENT BY EVERYONE ON THIS COUNCIL.

I AM A FIRM BELIEVER THAT IN UNITY THERE IS STRENGTH. I ASK EVERY MEMBER OF THIS ADMINISTRATION TO STAND ALONG SIDE OF ME, MAKE THE RIGHT DECISIONS AND PUT POLITICS ASIDE SO THAT TOGETHER WE CAN SOLVE ANY PROBLEMS THAT CONFRONT US. IT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD; I PROMISE YOU.

AS IN YEARS PAST, WE HAVE ONGOING PRIORITIES. LET ME SHARE THEM WITH YOU.

1. TAXES
2. SENSIBLE WAYS TO INCREASE REVENUE AND DEVELOPMENT
3. SAFETY
4. A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

LET’S START WITH TAXES. IN MY FIRST TERM AS MAYOR, I TOLD YOU THAT I DID NOT BELIEVE THAT INCREASED TAXES WERE A WAY OF LIFE. I ALSO PROMISED YOU THAT I WOULD STABLIZE OUR MUNICIPAL TAXES. I AM HAPPY TO REPORT TONIGHT THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS WE HAD NO MUNICIPAL TAX INCREASE IN THE CITY OF LINDEN AND WE ELIMINATED THE GARBAGE TAX. THE ONLY CITY IN UNION COUNTY TO ACCOMPLISH THIS. I WOULD NOW LIKE TO REPORT TO YOU THE REDEVELOPMENT THAT IS IN PROCESS AND THE PROJECTS THAT WILL BEGIN IN 2019:

* CYPRESS EQUITIES, WHO IS DEVELOPING LEGACY SQUARE ON ROUTE 1 & 9 SOUTH, IS MOVING FORWARD AND HAS ALREADY BROKEN GROUND AND STARTED BUILDING THE SUPER WALMART AND HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS. IN ADDITION THEY CURRENTLY HAVE INTEREST IN 10 TO 15 WELL-KNOWN FRANCHISES/BUSINESSES, SOME OF WHICH ONE WOULD HAVE NEVER THOUGHT WOULD HAVE INTEREST IN THE CITY OF LINDEN.
* PARK PLASTICS ON PARK AVENUE ACROSS ROUTE 1 & 9 AT BEDLE PLACE AS YOU KNOW HAS BEEN DEMOLISHED AND THE

RE-DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WILL BE FINALIZED AT THE JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING. THIS PROJECT WILL BRING 14 TOWNHOUSES AND, HOPEFULLY, GROUND WILL BE BROKEN THIS SPRING – THE DEVELOPER IS PEAK CONSTRUCTION.

* THE 2ND PHASE OF THE CAPODAGLI/MERIDIA PROJECT IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION WITH A PROPOSED COMPLETION TO BE IN THE 4TH QUARTER OF THIS YEAR. THIS SECTION OF SOUTH WOOD AVENUE WILL CHANGE THE WHOLE DYNAMIC OF THE AREA AND WILL HOUSE A HIGH-END RESTAURANT WITH PARKING BELOW. (AD LIB – ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN)
* ON THE UNITED LACQUER SITE, LOCATED ON W. ELIZABETH AVE. THIS CONTAMINATED SITE HAS LAID VACANT FOR OVER 30 YEARS AND THE CITY HAS RECEIVED ZERO TAXES DURING THIS PERIOD. CAPODAGLI, THE DEVELOPER, HAS STARTED DEMOLITION AND THE PROPERTY CLEAN-UP HAS BEGUN. THIS PROJECT WILL INCLUDE BOTH RETAIL AND RESIDENTIAL AND WILL FINALLY ELIMINATE THIS CONTAMINATED SITE. (AD LIB $1MILLION)
* AT THE FORMER JTG SCAFFOLDING SITE, THE RE-DEVELOPER, ACCURATE BUILDERS LLC, HAS SECURED THE FINANCIALS TO BUILD THE LINDEN STATION PROJECT WHICH WILL BE RESIDENTIAL AND RETAIL AND GROUNDBREAKING WILL BEGIN AS SOON AS ALL UTILITY DISCONNECTS ARE FINALIZED AND THAT SHOULD BE VERY SOON.
* CITIVILLAGE, WHICH IS THE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT BEING BUILT BY VVR/RAMANI GROUP, WHICH IS LOCATED ON EAST ST. GEORGES AVE BETWEEN EAST BALTIMORE AND CHARLES ST. THIS PROJECT IS ALREADY UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND THE PROJECTED COMPLETION DATE PROPOSED IS FALL OF THIS YEAR. THIS PROJECT WILL REVITALIZE THIS BLIGHTED SECTION OF E. ST. GEORGES AVE.
* LINDEN CHLORINE PRODUCTS HAS A DEVELOPER INTERESTED IN THE 26 ACRE PROPERTY AND THIS IS THE ONLY SUPERFUND SITE WITHIN OUR BORDERS. THIS SITE HAS NOT BEEN ON OUR TAX ROLLS FOR OVER 25 YEARS. HOPEFULLY, THIS WILL CHANGE IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE.
* DEVELOPER DC HOSPITALITY WILL BE DEVELOPING A 122-ROOM EXTENDED-STAY HOTEL, KNOWN AS WOODSPRING SUITES ON THE FORMER INFINIUM PROPERTY ON E. LINDEN AVE., ALONG WITH A CUBE SMART STORAGE FACILITY.
* ON THE FORMER PATHMARK PROPERTY, HOWARD LEE HAS STARTED RENOVATIONS TO OPEN A NEW SUPERMARKET KNOWN AS SUPER FRESH. THIS PROJECT WILL CREATE 70 NEW JOBS AND WILL OPEN IN THE SPRING OF THIS YEAR. THIS WILL PROVIDE RESIDENTS IN THIS AREA WITH THE CONVENIENCE OF A LOCAL SUPERMARKET.
* ADVANCED GREEK IS THE RE-DEVELOPER FOR THE FORMER DUPONT AND ISP PROPERTIES. THIS PROJECT WILL BE A 4.1 MILLION SQUARE FOOT WAREHOUSING DISTRICT WHICH WILL TOTAL 5 BUILDINGS IN ALL. IT IS PROJECTED TO CREATE APROXIMATELY 3000 JOBS. THE 1ST PHASE WILL BE COMPLETED AT THE END OF 2020 AND ONCE ALL IS COMPLETED, THIS CAN POTENTIALLY BECOME THE LARGEST WAREHOUSING DISTRICT IN THE NORTHEAST. IT IS NOW MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER FOR US TO REACH OUT TO THE GOVERNOR TO HAVE THE TURNPIKE CONNERCTOR ROAD BUILT.
* ON THE LINDEN ROSELLE SEWERAGE SITE, ARIES ENERGY WILL BE BUILDING A SLUDGE REPOSSESSING PLANT TO TURN SLUDGE INTO COAL. A USE AND OCCUPANCY AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN 1ST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.
* RNG ENERGY IS BUILDING AN ANAEROBIC DIGESTER PLANT ON THE OLD CLAYTON BLOCK PROPERTY. THE SITE IS BEING PREPARED IN ANTICIPATION OF THIS PROJECT.
* JERSEY MARINE RAIL IS A COMPANY THAT IS WORKING ON OPENING THE SHORT RAILS TO OUR PROPERTIES ALONG THE WATERFRONT ON THE ARTHUR KILL. (AD LIB – INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES)
* THE LINDEN FIRST PROGRAM, WHICH I STARTED WHEN I FIRST TOOK OFFICE, HAS BEEN A CONTINUING SUCCESS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF PAMELA JONES, WHO IS A PART OF OUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM. SINCE ITS INCEPTION, THEY HAVE HIRED OVER 400 LINDEN RESIDENTS AND WILL BE WORKING WITH OUR RE-DEVELOPERS TO SATISFY EMPLOYMENT NEEDS.
* WE RECENTLY RECEIVED A FREIGHT IMPACT GRANT FOR APPROXIMATELY $1.5 MILLION WHICH WILL BE USED TO REPAIR SOUTH WOOD AVENUE FROM ROUTES 1 & 9 TO TREMLEY POINT ROAD AND SOUTH STILES STREET FROM ROUTES 1&9 TO 21ST STREET.
* TRANSIT VILLAGE HAS BEEN RECEIVING A FACELIFT. I WANT TO GIVE SPECIAL THANKS FOR THE EFFORTS OF JERRY BISHOP. HIS PERSISTENCE AND DEDICATION AND COOPERATION WITH NJ TRANSIT HAS BEEN THE CATALYST FOR THE MUCH NEEDED RESTORATION THAT HAS STARTED.

AS YOU HAVE HEARD, WE HAVE AN AGGRESSIVE AGENDA FOR 2019. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALEX LOSPINOSO, THE DIRECTOR OF THE LEDC, FOR HIS CONTINUING EFFORTS ON PROJECTS UNDERWAY AND WORKING ON NEW PROJECTS TO BRING TO OUR CITY. HIS MOST RECENT EFFORT HAS BEEN TO ESTABLISH A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOVERNOR MURPHY’S OFFICE TO HELP US GET STARTED WITH A CONNECTOR ROADWAY FROM THE CARTERET TURNPIKE EXCHANGE TO THE RE-DEVELOPMENT AREA OF TREMLEY POINT.

MANY OF THE PROJECTS I HAVE MENTIONED WILL BRING IN TENS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN INCREASED REVENUE.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENT. IN MY OPINION THEY ARE TOPS IN THE STATE OF NJ.

I WOULD BE REMISS IF I DID NOT MENTION OUR DEPARTMENT HEADS AND CITY EMPLOYEES; THEY, TOGETHER, ARE THE MACHINE THAT KEEPS OUR CITY RUNNING AT A HIGH LEVEL.

I AM PLEASED WITH THE PROGRESS OUR SID PROGRAM IS MAKING, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MICHAEL BONO.

* I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THEY ARE GETTING BIDS ON ARCHITECTUAL DESIGNS TO CHANGE THE LOOK OF OUR DOWNTOWN SHOPPING CENTER. IT’S BEEN MORE THAN 24 YEARS SINCE OUR LAST UPGRADE. ALSO WILL BE ADDING A POP-UP THEATER IN THE OLD RUSSELL BRIDAL & TUXEDO STORE, TO SHOWCASE LOCAL ART TALENT AND PLAYS.
* THE VETERANS’ BANNERS AND THE DINNER FOR OUR VETERANS WAS A HUGE SUCCESS. A THANK YOU TO S.I.D. CHAIRMAN, PETER BROWN, FOR MAKING THIS A WELL-RECEIVED UNDERTAKING.
* UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE LINDEN CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMITTEE OUR ANNUAL SEPTEMBER TO REMEMBER EVENT AND WAS SO WELL ATTENDED AS WAS THE TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY. A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE COMMITTEE.
* OUR 3RD ANNUAL BREAKFAST WITH SANTA BROUGHT OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER AND THE MAYOR’S YOUTH COMMISSION DID AN OUTSTANDING JOB ONCE AGAIN.

I COULD GO ON, BUT SUFFICE TO SAY, OUR CITY IS MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

I’D LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU THAT THERE ARE TIMES, WHEN I AM SITTING IN THIS CHAMBER, THAT MY EYES DRIFT TO THE PICTURES ON THE WALL OF FORMER MAYORS – ALL OF THEM OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVANTS – HOWEVER, THERE IS ONE THAT I WILL NEVER FORGET, THE LATE MAYOR JOHN T. GREGORIO AND HERE IS WHY: HE TOLD ME ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS THAT HIS PRIORITIES IN LIFE WERE HIS FAMILY AND THE CITY OF LINDEN. HE MEANT IT AND HE LIVED IT. I THINK EVERY DAY OF WHAT HE SAID. (AD LIB).

AT THIS TIME I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MY OFFICE STAFF, REBECCA TATTOLI AND LEANNE WHITE, FOR THEIR PATIENCE AND PROFRESSIONALISM.

MUCH THANKS TO MY FAMILY FOR THEIR PATIENCE, UNDERSTANDING AND LOVE.

IN CLOSING, IN 1960 JOHN F. KENNEDY SPOKE OF OUR NATION’S NEW FRONTIER HE REFERRED TO IT AS OUR NATION’S PLACE IN HISTORY. HE SPOKE OF AN ERA CHARACTERISED BY ACHIEVEMENT AND CHALLENGE. I FEEL THAT SAME SENSE RIGHT HERE IN LINDEN. THAT CHALLENGE IS ONE THAT WE SHOULD ALL WELCOME AND ONE THAT WILL TRANSFORM THIS CITY AND CARRY US INTO A BRIGHTER FUTURE.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS THE CITY OF LINDEN.

**PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Erika Armstead. Ms. Armstead stated that she was the first child of Mayor Derek Armstead. She stated that she was the first to watch him become Councilman of the First Ward. She went on to state that Linden needs a Mayor like Mayor Armstead, and that it deserves a Mayor like Mayor Armstead, a man who was born and raised in Linden. She spoke about his dedication to Linden. She urged residents to drive around Linden and see the many developments taking place. Ms. Armstead noted how much more could be accomplished, with all working together. She went on to speak about what needs to be moved out of politics. Ms. Armstead spoke about comments, made on social media, about her family, and how much better things would be if that same energy could be used for a better cause. Continued speaking about tomorrow and what it could be.

Senator Nicholas Scutari. Senator Scutari offered congratulations to the Mayor, Council President, Mrs. Ormon and Mr. Medina. He spoke about the Turnpike connector road, and that is office is getting quarterly progress on the status of the road project. He informed all that the project has been funded. He pledged to work with the Mayor, and Council, to move this project forward to get truck traffic off of the streets of Linden. Next he stated that in his role as City Democratic Chairman and on behalf of Linden City Democratic Club President, Joseph Bodek, he offered congratulations to Mrs. Ormon, Mr. Medina and the best for 2019. He then made presentations to the Mayor, Council President, Mrs. Ormon and Mr. Medina.

Brianna Armstead. Ms. Armstead congratulated Mayor Armstead, Council President Yamakaitis, Mrs. Ormon and Mr. Medina. She stated that this victory should show everyone that no one should interfere with what the public wants. She requested that those who are upset with the results of this election understand and accept the results of the election. She asked that all member of Council put aside their personal feelings and vendettas to work with the Mayor. Emotions should take a second seat to the better of the City and the people of Linden have spoken.

Ashton Armstead. Mr. Armstead stated that his father, Mayor Armstead, has been an elected official for all of his life. He quoted for President Obama, regarding change and not waiting for it, or for some other person. He stated that in the City of Linden his father is that change.

Ryan Armstead. Mr. Armstead stated that most people know his dad, the Mayor, as a leader and activist for the community. He continued, speaking to his father, that his father’s passion for change does not go un-noticed. He spoke about his father’s passion for doing what was right. He noted the Mayor’s friends and supported are prepared to continue this journey with him. Mr. Armstead congratulated Mayor Armstead.

Abigail Armstead. Ms. Armstead quoted for former First Lady Michelle Obama, regarding change and noted that, in Linden, we have four more years to make history.

Daniel Yamakaitis. Mr. Yamakaitis stated that he was up here with two caps to wear. First he was here as the campaign manager for Mayor Armstead, Mrs. Yamakaitis and Mrs. Ormon. He spoke about the obstacles they faced in the campaign. He reminded all that there was a time when Mrs. Yamakaitis and the Mayor did not get along, adding that it is possible to start new friendships and relationships. He made a presentation to Mayor Armstead and Mrs. Ormon as the campaign manager. Mr. Yamakaitis was joined, at the podium by his father, Luke Yamakaitis and his brother Thomas Yamakaitis. He then spoke using his second cap, as the son of the first female Council President. He congratulated his mother on becoming the first female council president, ever. He spoke about Mrs. Yamakaitis dedication and caring for the residents of Linden. He continued talking about her leadership abilities and how they would impact on Council.

Henry Mack. Mr. Mack praised god that we have come from a mighty long way. He urged all to be faithful and true to each other. He stated that there is a blank page, and that we can start all over again. He talked about the need to change attitudes to be put on the right path. It is time to talk.

Cleadel Way. Ms. Way wished all a happy 2019. She stated that it was good to see the next term with the Mayor, Michele and Lisa. She stated that she would usually have something to say, but she was very pleased with how the young people, from both families spoke, and asked all to give them a hand. Ms. Way stated we need to listen to the young people. She stated that she hoped and prayed that those sitting here would read the information, look at the facts and let’s move Linden forward.

County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi. Ms. Rajoppi offered congratulations to the Mayor, Council President, Mrs. Ormon and Mr. Medina. She commented on the speech’s made by the young people and how it appears that the future public servants are being raised. She congratulated that this is the first time, in ninety-three years that Linden has elected a female council president. She wish all well and a happy New Year.

President Yamakaitis recognized other dignitaries in the chambers.

**COMMENTS BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

Mrs. Ormon thanked god for allowing her to serve for another term. She then thanked her family, detailing her family’s long history and involvement, in Linden. She offered praise and thanks to her husband for keeping her calm and being the wonderful dad that he is. She offered her thanks to her mom for helping take care of her children, her daughter for helping take care of the house, and other functions she has performed, Danny Yamakaitis for his role as campaign manager. She spoke about Danny’s role and his commitment to the team. She then spoke about her brother, Mayor Armstead, how he inspires her and how working together they see great things for Linden. Lastly she spoke to the residents of the First Ward, thanked them for having confidence in her, and for picking up the phone to reach out to her.

Mr. Medina congratulated Mrs. Ormon and Mayor Armstead on their elections. He spoke about working, with, Mrs. Ormon for the betterment of their two wards. He spoke to President Yamakaitis, and called her awesome, and stated how he was looking forward to working with her. He also talked about his relationship with the Mayor, noting that they always don’t get along, but it is about how you conduct business. He thought that both of them were on the same page, when it came to the City of Linden. Next Mr. Medina spoke to the residents of the Ninth Ward, giving them a big thank you for their unwavering support, over the years and honoring him by allowing him to serve another three years. He repeated his commitment to the residents of the Ninth Ward. Mr. Medina thanked his family for sharing him with the community, for being there, and for helping lift his spirit. He then thanked a number of individuals that he counts on for help and support. He then spoke of one of his mentors, the late Richard Guerra, and how the bible he was sworn-in on belonged to Mr. Guerra. He talked about the role that Mr. Guerra played in his political life and thanked him. He concluded by speaking of the changes coming to Linden and the Ninth ward.

President Yamakaitis noted a number of dignitaries that are in the room.

President Yamakaitis addressed the residents and members of Council and spoke about how honored she was to receive their support for her and Mayor Armstead. He promised to do her best for the City of Linden. She thanked Mayor Armstead for asking her to be his running mate. She congratulated Mrs. Ormon and Mr. Medina on their elections. She thanked the Eighth Ward Democratic Club for their love and support over the years. Mrs. Yamakaitis also offered thanks to her family, noting each and the role that they have played. She thanked all for the honor to serve.

Mr. Javick offered congratulations to the Mayor, Council President, Mrs. Ormon and Mr. Medina. He also offered congratulations to Mr. Strano on his pending election as President of Council Pro Tempore. He wished the Second Ward, and everyone a happy New Year.

Mr. Brown stated that he would reserve his comments for the next meeting.

Mr. Mohammed noted that he was honored and privileged to serve on this body with the Council President. He spoke about the new energy that Mrs. Yamakaitis would bring to this body. He offered congratulations to Mayor Armstead, Mrs. Ormon and Mr. Medina and added that he was looking forward to a great year under the leadership of the Mayor. He thanked the residents of the City and wished all a happy and prospers New Year.

Ms. Cosby stated that she would reserve her comments for the next meeting.

Mr. Roman congratulated Mrs. Ormon and spoke about how hard and tenacious worker she was. He also talked about the excellent campaign she ran. He congratulated Mr. Medina and spoke about his first meeting with Mr. Medina and how great of a councilman he is. He thanked Mrs. Yamakaitis for all the help that she has given him during the past year. He congratulated the Mayor and stated that he had no doubt that he have moved the City forward. He stated that he was happy to here, with this Mayor and Council. Mr. Roman noted the comments made by Briana Armstead, and referenced it one of his favorite quotes from Martin Luther King, Jr., and spoke about the need for Council to communicate better with each other, and the pledge he was making to that end. He wished all a happy New Year.

Mr. Strano congratulated all of the re-elected and newly elected officials. He spoke about Mrs. Yamakaitis assertion to the Council Presidents office. He specifically offered his congratulations to Mayor Derek Armstead, and noted how long back they go. He repeated his congratulations to the Mayor, Council President, Mrs. Ormon and Mr. Medina, and noted that history was made tonight with the first women council president in Linden’s history. He concluded that the real winners are the residents of the City of Linden.

Mrs. Hickey congratulated Mrs. Ormon, Mr. Medina and Council President Yamakaitis. She spoke Mrs. Yamakaitis, how much she has learned from her, and how Mrs. Yamakaitis never treated constituents as neighbors, but always treated them as family. She talked about how happy she was to see Mrs. Yamakaitis up there. Next she addressed the Mayor, speaking about their relationship, noting that sometimes in politics you have to agree to disagree. She hoped that they could put their differences aside. She talked about an event, after the mayor’s last election, at her house, and how wonderful of an evening it was. All came together as friends. Mrs. Hickey stated that all up here are passionate about our citizens and the City and hoped it would be a great 2019. She wished all a happy New Year.

**ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL PRO TEMPORE**

President Yamakaitis opened the floor for nominations for the office of President of Council Pro Tempore. Mr. Brown nominated Mr. Strano as President of Council Pro Tempore. The nomination was seconded by Mrs. Ormon. There were no other nominations. Mr. Strano was elected President of Council Pro Tempore by a roll call vote, with all voting in favor except Mr. Strano who abstained. The City Clerk administered the oath of office to Mr. Strano as President of Council Pro Tempore. Mr. Strano’s wife held the bible.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Mrs. Yamakaitis stated that public comments will be permitted for those specific resolutions to be removed from the consent approval. 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.

Ms. Cosby asked that resolution 2019-3 be held to be discussed.

Mrs. Ormon moved for approval of resolutions 2019-1 through 2019-19, with the exception of 2019-3. The motion was seconded by Mr. Javick and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-1**

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFFICIAL**

**NEWSPAPERS FOR THE YEAR 2018**

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

That the following newspapers be and they hereby are designated as the official newspapers for the City of Linden for the year 2019:

The Star Ledger

Union County Local Source

Home News Tribune

News Record/Patriot

**RESOLUTION: 2019-2**

**A RESOLUTION FIXING THE RATE OF INTEREST TO BE**

**CHARGED FOR THE NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES**

**OR ASSESSMENTS**

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

Section 1. That interest at the rate of eight percent (8%) per annum on the first $1,500.00 of delinquency and eighteen percent (18%) per annum on any amount in excess of $1,500.00, shall be charged for the non payment of taxes or assessments to be calculated from the date the taxes or assessments were payable until the date of actual payment, and an additional penalty of six percent (6%) of the amount of delinquency in excess of $10,000.00 on any delinquent balance remaining at the end of the calendar year.

Section. 2. That no interest be charged if payment of any installment of taxes is made within ten (10) days after the date upon which the same became due.

Section 3. All resolutions or parts of resolutions which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect pursuant to law.

**Resolution: 2019-3**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE MEMBERS**

**OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE**

**CITY COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS,**  municipal code, section 2-7.2 creates the following standing committees of the City Council: 1)Personnel; 2) Budget Review and Finance; 3) Public Works/Clean Communities; 4) Airport/Airport Lease; 5) Fire; 6) Construction Code/Lighting; 7) Engineering/Affordable Housing; 8) Public Property and Community Services; 9) Real Estate, Revenue Enhancement and Development; 10) Negotiations and Labor Relations; 11) Cable TV, Technology and Communications; 12) Law; and 13) Accident Review; and

**WHEREAS,**  Section 2-7.2 further provides that the membership of each standing committee shall be composed of three (3) or more members of the Council, but not to exceed four (4) members of Council; and

**WHEREAS,**  said section also provides that the membership of the standing committees shall be appointed by a majority of the members of Council then present and voting at the organizational meeting of the Council to serve until the next organizational meeting; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that a majority of the members of the Council have determined that the membership of the Standing Committees of Council shall be appointed as per the attached list; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this resolution shall hereby take effect immediately.

Ms. Cosby commented, explaining the process for the selection for members of the committees, and the about of members who serve on each committee. She stated that she had asked for membership on two council committees, and none of the Council members supported her to be on those two committees. Ms. Cosby went on that people spoke about lets work together, but their actions speak louder. She requested to be made a fourth member of the two committees she had requested to sit on.

Mrs. Ormon moved for approval of resolution 2019-3. The motion was seconded by Mr. Javick, and was ordered approved, by a roll call vote, with all voting in favor except Ms. Cosby, who abstained.

**Resolution: 2019-4**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AD HOC COMMITTEES**

**OF THE COUNCIL AND APPOINTING THEIR MEMBERS**

**WHEREAS,** municipal code 2-7.1 provides that a majority of the members of Council then present and voting at the annual reorganization meeting shall establish such ad hoc committees as they deem necessary and appoint the members thereof; and

**WHEREAS,** Council has determined that the need exists for the following Ad Hoc committees of Council: 1) Scout Day Activities; 2) City Clerk; 3) FAA Committee Newark Airport Noise Pollution); 4) Pot legalization.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Council does hereby create the following Ad Hoc Committees of Council: 1) Scout Day Activities; 2) City Clerk; 3) FAA Committee Newark Airport Noise Pollution; 4) Pot legalization

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that a majority of the members of Council have determined that the membership of the Ad Hoc Committees of Council shall be appointed as per the attached list: and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this resolution shall hereby take effect immediately.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-5**

**RESOLUTION FOR ASSOCIATED HUMANE SOCIETIES, INC. FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES SOLICITED BY QUOTATIONS FOR THE CITY OF LINDEN**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Linden wishes to purchase animal control services from Associated Humane Societies Inc., 124 Evergreen Ave, Newark, NJ 07114 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,** Associated Humane Societies, Inc. was solicited for quotations; and

**WHEREAS,** Associated Humane Societies, Inc. provided the most advantageous quote, price and others factors considered in the total amount not to exceed $95,000.00 for services rendered from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for this award, which will be charged to 9-01-27-340-187-271; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** Associated Humane Societies, Inc. be awarded a contract to supply animal control services at the low quote not to exceed $95,000.00 for services rendered from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

**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: 2019-6**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE WEST LINDEN AVENUE-PLEASANT STREET PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the City of Linden is requesting funding from the New Jersey Department of Transportation Local Freight Impact Fund Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the City of Linden formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as LFIF-2019-West Linden Avenue-Pleasant Street-00012 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the City of Linden.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the City of Linden and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Certified as a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Council

On this 2nd day of January, 2019

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Clerk

Joseph C. Bodek

My signature and the Clerk’s seal serve to acknowledge the above resolution and constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approve the execution of the grant agreement as authorized by the resolution above.

ATTEST and AFFIX SEAL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Clerk) (Mayor)

Joseph C. Bodek Derek Armstead

**RESOLUTION: 2019-7**

**CITY OF LINDEN RESOLUTION TO**

**ESTABLISH THE CURRENT FUND**

**OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE PERIOD OF**

**JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2019**

**WHEREAS,** N.J.S. 40A:4-19 provides that where any contract, commitment or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2019 Current Operating Budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purpose and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided; and

**WHEREAS,** the total appropriations in the 2018 Current Operating Budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvement fund and public assistance, is the sum of $96,548,438.06 and

**WHEREAS,** three months of the total appropriations in the 2018 Current Operating Budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvement fund and public assistance in said Current Operating Budget is the sum of $25,343,964.99; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following appropriations be made for current fund and that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for his records.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-8**

**CITY OF LINDEN RESOLUTION TO**

**ESTABLISH THE SANITARY LANDFILL**

**UTILITY OPERATING BUDGET**

**FOR THE PERIOD OF**

**JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S. 40A:4-19 provides that where any contract, commitment or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2019 Sanitary Landfill Utility Operating Budget, temporary appropriations should be made for the purpose and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided; and

**WHEREAS**, the total appropriations in the 2018 Sanitary Landfill Utility Operating Budget, exclusive of any appropriations made for interest and debt redemption charges, capital improvement fund and public assistance, is the sum of 96,350.00; and **WHEREAS,** three months of the total temporary appropriations for the Sanitary Landfill Utility Operating Budget cannot exceed the sum of $24,087.50; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following temporary appropriations be made in the amount of $24,087.50 and that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for his records.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-9**

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CITY OF LINDEN AND MAINTAIN BEST PRACTICES IN**

**THE CITY OF LINDEN DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Linden, County of Union that for the year 2019, the following shall serve as the cash management plan of the City of Linden.

The Chief Financial Officer and/or Municipal Treasurer are directed to use this cash management plan as the guide in depositing and investing the City of Linden’s funds.

The following Government Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA) approved bank are authorized depositories for deposit of funds:

Wells Fargo Bank

Northfield Savings

Bank of America

Bank of New York

TD Bank

JP Morgan Chase Bank

Capital One

Unity Bank

US Bank

Morgan Stanley Trust

Trust Company of New Jersey

Wilmington Trust

Regal Bank

Webster Bank

Columbia Bank

Union County Savings Bank

All warrants or checks for the disbursement of money shall be made by any of the following officials and facsimile signatures may be used:

Derek Armstead, Mayor

Alexis Zack, CFO/Municipal Treasurer

Christine Figueiredo, Fiscal Analyst/ Assistant Municipal Treasurer – escrow accounts only

Department Turn over ONLY for the following:

Joseph Bodek, Municipal Clerk/ Chairman of Insurance Commission

Jennifer Honan, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Joan Turbett, Licensing Clerk

Stacey Carron, Tax Collector

Cassandra Corbett, Municipal Judge

Dave Hart, Police Chief

Frank Dann, Director of Community Services/DPW/Public Property

Mary Ellen Tango, Director of Community Services

Susan Sanchez, Municipal Court Administrator

Jessica Sheehy, Supervisor of Personnel/Insurance Commission Secretary

The Chief Financial Officer and/or Municipal Treasurer are empowered to invest cash funds as bank balances will allow from time to time in order to realize a revenue. The below stated officers are authorized to transfer funds electronically for the purpose of investments and payroll only:

Alexis Zack, CFO / Municipal Treasurer

Christine Figueiredo, Fiscal Analyst/ Assistant Municipal Treasurer

Nancy Gomes, Technical Support Specialist I

Stacey Carron, Tax Collector

The following are authorized as suitable investments:

\* Interest-bearing bank accounts in banks as authorized above for deposit of local unit funds (GUDPA approved).

\* Certificates of deposit in GUDPA approved banking institutions.

\* Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America. This includes instruments such as Treasury Bills, Notes and Bonds.

\* Government money market mutual funds that comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1(e).

\* Any federal agency or instrumentality obligation authorized by Congress that matures within 397 days from the date of purchase, and has a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or external factors.

\* Bonds or other obligations of the local unit or school district of which the City is a part.

\* Any other obligations with maturities not exceeding 397 days, permitted by the State Division of Investments.

\* Local government investment pools which comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1 (e) and conditions set by the Division of Local Government Services.

\* New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

\* Repurchase agreements (repos) of fully collateralized securities which comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1(e).

There are no approved security broker/dealers. In the event that a security broker/dealer should be approved during the year, the registered principal of said brokerage firm so approved shall be provided with and sign an acknowledgment that they have seen and reviewed the cash management plan.

Each month, the Chief Financial Officer/Municipal Treasurer shall prepare a report for the Finance Committee and the Municipal Treasurer that consists of the following: Average rate of monthly investments.

This document shall constitute the cash management policy of the City of Linden.

Any official involved with the selection of depositories, investments, broker/dealers shall disclose any material business or personal relationship to the City Council and to the Local Finance Board or Local Ethics Board as applicable.

Any official who, in the course of his or her duties, deposits or invests in accordance with this plan shall be relieved of any liability for loss.

\* In keeping with the City of Linden Finance Department policies internal and external controls are constantly being reviewed and discussed best practices with the Finance/Budget Review Committee in accordance with the City’s best practices for financial planning and management.

\* The goal of the Finance Committee is to review and generate enough annual (surplus, and maintain a reasonable surplus balance as what was realized in the prior year’s budget.

\* During budget deliberations the Committee discusses the impact of the budget and evaluates the impact whether it is negative or positive on the tax payer.

\* Internal control processes are evaluated and updated on a continual bais.

\* Best Practices to be followed.

- Tax Assessor to notify CFO and City Council on any appeals filed and report monthly to both

- All City of Linden authorities liaisons will report monthly to City Council on their respective authority assignment. Review annually as the mission of the authority and efficiency of services being provided.

- The review of all PILOTS will consist of the CFO, Tax Assessor and Tax Collector. A quarterly meeting will be setup to review all PILOT agreements and report to City Council.

**Resolution: 2019-10**

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH 2019 DEBT SERVICE CITY OF LINDEN**

**WHEREAS,** N.J.S. 40-A:4-19 provides authority for appropriating in a temporary resolution the permanent debt service requirements for the coming fiscal year providing that such resolution is not made earlier than December 20, of the year preceding the beginning of the fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS,** the date of this resolution is subsequent to December 20, 2018; and

**WHEREAS,** principal and interest will be due on various dates from

January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, inclusive, on sundry bonds issued and outstanding:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following appropriations be made to cover the period from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 inclusive:

**DEBT SERVICE-CITY OF LINDEN BUDGET**

Payment of Bonds $3,314,000.00

Interest on Bonds $1,658,000.00

Interest on Notes $500,000.00

Payment of BANS $885,000.00

**DEBT SERVICE-GREEN TRUST LOAN PROGRAM**

Payment of Principal & Interest $117,000.00

**DEBT SERVICE-N.J. ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

Payment of Principal & Interest $ 1,320,000.00

**DEBT SERVICE-UNION COUNTY IMPROVEMENT**

1998 Lease (Airport) $200,000.00

2010 Lease (Airport) $1,250,000.00

2003 Lease (P.A.L.) $141,000.00

2004 Lease (Wood Avenue) $260,000.00

2010 Morningstar $490,000.00

2016 Refunding Series $2,920,000.00

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this resolution be

transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for his record.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-11**

**CITY OF LINDEN RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH DEBT SERVICE FOR SANITARY LANDFILL**

**WHEREAS,** N.J.S. 40-A:4-19 provides authority for appropriating in a temporary resolution the permanent debt service requirements for the coming fiscal year providing that such resolution is not made earlier than December 20, of the year preceding the beginning of the calendar year; and

**WHEREAS,** the date of this resolution is subsequent to December 20, 2018; and

**WHEREAS,** principal and interest will be due on various dates from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, inclusive, on sundry bonds issued and outstanding:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following appropriations be made to cover the period from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 inclusive:

**DEBT SERVICE-CITY OF LINDEN - DEDICATED LANDFILL BUDGET**

Payment of Bonds $194,000.00

Interest on Bonds $ 16,200.00

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chief Financial Officer for their record.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-12**

**RESOLUTION FOR EDMUNDS & ASSOCIATES, INC.**

**WHEREAS**, there exists a need to provide maintenance and technical support for the City of Linden’s Financial 2019 Accounting and Electronic Requisition System for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to NJSA 19-44A-20 et seq, the City Treasurer has determined and certified in writing that the anticipated value will not exceed $27,010.00 ; and

**WHEREAS,** Edmunds and Associates Inc 301 A Tilton Road Northfield, NJ 08225 has agreed to provide the necessary services as outlined in the sum not to exceed $27,010.00; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to NJSA 19:44A-20.4 Edmunds and Associates Inc is prohibited from making reportable contributions through the term of the contract to any political or candidate committee prohibited in the Business Entity Disclosure Certification; and

**WHEREAS**, the services required to be performed constitutes an exception to public bidding pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law NJSA 40A:11-5 (1)(dd); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the said sum not to exceed $27,010.00 be charged to 9-01-20-131-113-273; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Linden that Edmunds and Associates is hereby awarded a contract to provide necessary services.

**Resolution: 2019-13**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL TREASURER TO INVEST AND REINVEST FUNDS IN 2019 FOR THE CITY OF LINDEN**

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

That Alexis Zack, Chief Financial Officer / Municipal Treasurer, be and she is hereby authorized to invest and reinvest in treasury obligations of the United States, certificates of deposit and savings certificates at such time and in such amounts as she deems necessary.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the CFO/Treasurer shall make a monthly report to the City Council of the investments made by her.

**Resolution: 2019-14**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LINDEN, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION,**

**NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING NW FINANCIAL GROUP INC. AS**

**FINANCIAL AND INVESTMENT ADVISORS TO THE**

**CITY OF LINDEN, NEW JERSEY**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden, (the “City”) is a municipal corporation and public body politic and corporate under the laws of the State of New Jersey (the “State”); 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,** NW Financial Group, submitted a qualification to the City and has qualified for the aforesaid services for 2019; and

**WHEREAS,** the City desires to appoint NW Financial Group to serve as financial and investment advisors to the City of Linden on every transaction the City of Linden enters into relating to the City’s financial profile and debt issues and instruments, in an amount not to exceed $ 50,000.00 to be charge to account 9-01-20-130-115-255; and

**WHEREAS,** the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for Extraordinary, Unspecifiable Services without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection; and

**WHEREAS,** the Chief Financial Officer of the City has certified that funds are or will be available for this purpose;

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

**1.** NW Financial Group is hereby appointed to serve as financial and investment advisors to the City of Linden on all transactions, effective immediately.

**2.** The Mayor, the Chief Financial Officer and the City Clerk (including their designees, each an Authorized Officer) are hereby authorized to prepare, execute and deliver a professional services agreement setting forth the terms and conditions (including those set forth above) governing the provisions of such services.

**3.** That a copy of this resolution be published according to law.

**Resolution: 2019-15**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LINDEN TO AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Linden wishes to provide quality and affordable health benefits to eligible employees and retirees; and

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to continue participation in the State Health Benefits Plan (SHBP) for medical benefits for eligible employees and retirees, based upon a review of marketplace options for the period January 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019, and

**WHEREAS**, the award of the health benefits services for the SHBP is done in accordance with state law for such professional services; and

**WHEREAS**, acceptance of this proposal shall result in the renewal of the existing medical plan;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the City of Linden wishes to continue enrollment in the SHBP in accordance with the following costs:

Health Insurance Premiums not to exceed $5,000,000.00

**RESOLUTION: 2019-16**

**RESOLUTION ENGAGING SUPLEE, CLOONEY & COMPANY AS AUDITORS**

**WHEREAS,** there exists within the City of Linden the need for a municipal auditor for the year 2019; 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,** Suplee, Clooney & Company submitted a qualification to the City and has qualified for the aforesaid services: and

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.), such services are considered "Professional Services" as within the scope of a licensed and regulated profession, and same may be awarded without competitive bidding; and

**WHEREAS,** Registered Municipal Accountants, of Suplee, Clooney & Company, Certified Public Accountants, possesses the requisite professional certification and experience necessary to serve in said position; and

**WHEREAS,** the Finance Director has certified to the availability of funds for this purpose, to be charged to Account No. 9-01-20-135-114-255 (audit) and 9-01-20-130-115-255 (professional services);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** that a contract for Professional Services be and hereby is awarded to Suplee, Clooney & Company at a fee not to exceed $80,950.00 for the audit and $11,900.00 for professional services; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the scope of such services shall include the audit; the rendition of financial advice; assistance in the preparation of the yearly financial statement and budget; and such other necessary services as may be required by the City within the limitations of the fee set forth above; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and City Clerk be and hereby are empowered and directed to execute a contract with Suplee, Clooney & Company to effectuate the foregoing; and

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

**Resolution: 2019-17**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD**

**OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL**

**SERVICES OF BOND COUNSEL**

**WHEREAS,** there exists the need for retaining the specialized legal services of bond counsel in connection with the authorization, issuance and sale of bonds or notes of the City of Linden in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, including the review of such procedures and the rendering of approving legal opinions acceptable to the financial community for the year 2019; 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,** Gibbons, P.C. submitted a qualification to the City and has qualified for the aforesaid services: and

**WHEREAS,** Gibbons, P.C. is a law firm which can provide such specialized legal services as bond counsel; and

**WHEREAS,** the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.) requires that notice of the adoption of a resolution authorizing the award of a contract for professional services without competitive bids must be publicly advertised;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN IN THE COUNTY OF UNION AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY,** as follows:

**1.** The law firm of Gibbons, P.C., a Partnership including Professional Corporation, One River Front Plaza, Newark, New Jersey 07102 is hereby retained as Bond Counsel for the City to provide the specialized legal services necessary in connection with the authorization, issuance and sale of bonds or notes by the City.

**2.** The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver on behalf of the City a contract with said Bond Counsel in the form attached to this resolution.

**3.** The contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "professional service" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law, (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 (1) (a)) because the contract is for specialized services to be performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession, whose practice is regulated by law.

**4.** A copy of this resolution, as well as the contract attached hereto, shall be placed on file in the office of the City Clerk.

**5.** A notice of contract award and the adoption of this resolution shall be published as required by law within ten (10) days of the passage of this resolution.

1. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-18**

**Resolution authorizing re-establishment of Petty Cash Funds**

Whereas, the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Director of Community Services, Manager of Public Property and Recreational Services, Purchasing Agent and OEM Coordinator all have permission from the State of New Jersey, Division of Local Government Services to maintain petty cash funds; and

Whereas, in accordance with the law, all petty cash funds must be turned over to the Chief Financial Officer/Municipal Treasurer at the end of each year in the same amount as was originally issued.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Governing Body of the City of Linden that the Chief Financial Officer/Municipal Treasurer is hereby authorized to re-establish the petty cash funds for the year 2019 as follows:

Fire Chief Joseph Dooley $100.00

Police Chief David Hart $200.00

OEM Coordinator David Hart $200.00

Manager of Public Property and Recreational Services Anthony Coplan $200.00

Director of Community Services Frank Dann $200.00

Purchasing Agent Annmarie Whelan $100.00

**RESOLUTION: 2019-19**

**A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF MICHELE YAMAKAITIS**

**AS COUNCILWOMAN OF THE EIGHTH WARD**

**WHEREAS,** Councilwoman of the Eighth Ward, Michele Yamakaitis, has submitted her resignation effective midnight, December 31, 2018.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Governing Body of the City of Linden that it hereby accepts said resignation.

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

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

The unpaid internship, in the Engineering Division, for Nathan Amzan from January 3, 2019 to February 28, 2019 for course work related to his program at the Union County Vocational Technical School and Kean University. Work hours are to be set by the Division and shall not exceed 35 hours per week.

Mr. Strano moved for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roman and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Yamakaitis stated on behalf of Mayor Armstead, Council President Yamakaitis, Councilwoman Ormon, Councilman Medina and the Linden City Democratic Club all are invited to NUNO’S Pavilion, 300 Roselle St. Center for snack and refreshments.

President Yamakaitis announced the following Council Meetings:

Council Conference meeting: Monday, January 14, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., council Office, City Hall, Linden, NJ

Conference meeting prior to the Council meeting: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., Council Office, City Hall, Linden, NJ.

Council meeting: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, Linden, NJ.

President Yamakaitis recognized Mr. Strano for comments. Mr. Strano thanked his colleagues for selecting his as President of Council Pro Tempore and explained to the residents the role of that office. He stated that he was looking forward to working to continue to move the City forward.

There being no further business to come before the governing body Mrs. Ormon moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roman and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph C. Bodek

City Clerk