**Minutes of the Regular**

**Meeting of the 2019 Council of the**

**City of Linden, held Tuesday,**

**July 16, 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, July 16, 2019 at 7:00 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

“ Alfred Mohammed

Councilwoman Rhashonna Cosby

Councilman John F. Roman

Councilman Ralph Strano

Councilman Paul Coates

Councilman Armando Medina

Councilwoman Gretchen Hickey

Council President Michele Yamakaitis

Mayor Derek Armstead

Mr. Brown was excused from the meeting.

President Yamakaitis offered condolences, on behalf of herself and the Governing Body, to Mr. Strano, and his family, on the recent passing of his sister.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Roman moved for the approval of the June 18, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Medina and was unanimously ordered approved.

**ORDINANCE CONTINUED FROM JUNE 18, 2019**

**#63-26** Ordinance authorizing the West Price Street Redevelopment Plan for Block 252, Lots 11 and 12, and Block 253, Lots 40 and 41.

John Kaczor, 23 W. Munsel Ave. Mr. Kaczor, noted his presence at the Planning Board meeting, he noted the previous decision of the Zoning Board, on this matter, and the discussions that took place at the Planning Board meeting. He noted a donation, by the developer to the Armstead Campaign and speculated as to the reasons for the actions being taken. Mayor Armstead responded, noting that the plan rejected by the Zoning Board was a different plan. The Mayor detailed how the current plan came together, what the plan was and addressed the issue of parking on Price St.

Virginia Malik, 1633 Lenape Rd. Ms. Malik noted that she is a train user, and that there has to be more parking, at the train station, for non-permit users of the train parking areas. She noted her experiences.

There being no other persons wishing to be heard, Mrs. Ormon moved for the approval of Ordinance #63-26. The motion was seconded by Mr. Javick and was ordered approved by all voting yes with the exception of Ms. Cosby and Mrs. Hickey who voted no.

**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:

**#63-28. 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 ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN:

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

7-33 Handicapped Parking Regulations

7-33.1A Handicapped Parking On-Street

Name of Street No. of Spaces

**ADD:**

**1301 Bower Street 1**

**(On Cleveland Avenue)**

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 #63-28. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mohammed 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:

**#63-29 An Ordinance to amend an ordinance entitled, “An ordinance establishing a schedule of titles, salary ranges and regulations for maintaining the classification and salary standardization plan of all employees of the City of Linden,” passed August 15, 1995 ad approved August 16, 1995.**

**ADD: Schedule 4-NN-6**

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. Strano moved for approval of Ordinance #63-29. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mohammed 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:

**#63-30 Bond ordinance providing an appropriation of $88,000 for citywide curb and sidewalk reconstruction and authorizing the issuance of $83,600 bonds or notes for the City for financing part of the appropriation.**

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. Strano moved for approval of Ordinance #63-30. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roman 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:

**#63-31 Bond ordinance authorizing various improvements and acquisition of various items of capital equipment for the Municipal Garage and appropriating $234,000 therefore and authorizing the issuance of $222,585 bonds or notes to finance part of the cost thereof.**

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, Ms. Cosby moved for approval of Ordinance #63-31. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ormon 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:

**#63-32 Bond ordinance providing an appropriation of $1,238,600 for the acquisition of various items of capital equipment for the Department of Public Works and authorizing the issuance of $1,176,670 bonds or notes of the City for financing part of the appropriation.**

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. Strano moved for approval of Ordinance #63-32. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ormon 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:

**#63-33 An Ordinance creating the position of Parking Enforcement Officer.**

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 1633 Lenape Rd. Ms. Malik, stated that she did not understand the reasons or need for this ordinance, as the City already had parking enforcement officers. Mr. Roth and Chief Hart responded and explained the reasons and need.

Hans Herberg 1501 Westover Rd. Mr. Herberg asked if this ordinance has an effect on any current staffing or positions. Mr. Roth responded no.

There being no other persons to be heard, Mr. Strano moved for approval of Ordinance #63-33. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mohammed and was unanimously ordered approved on a roll call vote.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

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

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

2019 Taxes $1,184,503.68

2018 Taxes $532,959.48

2017 Taxes $250.00

PILOT (MORNING STAR) $0.00

Municipal Lien Redemption $0.00

Garbage Fee $0.00

Duplicate Tax Sale Certificate $0.00

Tax Search $10.00

Lien Redemption Request Fee $50.00

Year End Penalty $14,884.81

Returned Check Fee Paid $40.00

Returned Sewer Clean out ($0.00)

Returned Sewer Interest ($0.00)

Returned Check 2019 ($6,001.02)

Returned Check Interest ($91.82)

Returned Online Payments 2019 Taxes ($4,792.36)

Returned Online Interest ($132.80)

Adv. Before Tax Sale $27,970.94

Premium $1,640.500.00

Sewer Clean out charge $2,500.00

DPW Reso payments $390.00

Interest $100,441.71

Total $3,493,482.62

**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**

8 21 6/13/19 18-00012 $300.00

150 3 6/12/19 18-00086 $100.00

180 31 6/25/19 18-00108 $1,300.00

183 3 7/8/19 18-00109 $500.00

229 19 6/24/19 18-00130 $600.00

388 18 6/18/19 18-00170 $1,300.00

389 34 6/12/19 18-00171 $2,000.00

457 29.01 6/12/19 18-00195 $1,600.00

475 4 6/20/19 18-00208 $6,000.00

524 61 6/24/19 18-00225 $1,300.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $15,000.00 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 2014, 2016, 2017 & 2019 tax sale on the

following block & lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

63 12 7/8/19 18-00037 $500.00

68 9 6/26/19 13-00086 $1,300.00

173 19 6/25/19 18-00101 $400.00

368 16 6/24/19 16-00243 $100.00

463 16 6/24/19 15-00260 $1,100.00

555 23 6/13/19 16-00350 $1,100.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $4,500.00 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 2019 tax sale on the following blocks & lots.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

100 18 6/14/19 18-00050 $2,000.00

152 11 6/24/19 18-00088 $3,100.00

237 5 6/25/19 18-00132 $2,000.00

318 1 6/18/19 18-00152 $2,600.00

343 6 6/12/19 18-00155 $2,500.00

367 2 6/12/19 18-00161 $2,100.00

544 1 7/8/19 18-00233 $2,400.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $16,700.00 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 2019 tax sale on the following block & lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

131 8 6/12/19 18-00071 $2,800.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $2,800.00 payable to: KCC Promised Lands, LLC, 2560 Route 22 East, # 175, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 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 blocks

& lots.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

153 4 6/24/19 18-00091 $36,200.00

165 7 6/17/19 18-00098 $16,900.00

253 11 CA03 6/20/19 17-00199 $2,500.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $55,600.00 payable to: Lillian Zhang, 11 Walnut Street, Livingston, NJ 07039, 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 CTF# Amount**

281 7 6/20/19 17-00215 $1,100.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $1,100.00 payable to: Actlien Holding, US Bank Cust, Actlien Holding, 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 2018 & 2019 tax sale on the following block & lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

297 8 7/8/19 18-00147 $600.00

577 2 6/17/19 17-00354 $800.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $1,400.00 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 2018 tax sale on the following blocks & lots.

**Block Lot Redemption Date Cert# Premium**

377 13 6/17/19 17-00257 $900.00

435 5.01 6/17/19 17-00279 $90,200.00

435 6.01 6/17/19 17-00280 $122,100.00

537 6 6/17/19 17-00323 $1,100.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $214,300.00 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 2018 tax sale on the following block & lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

388 18 6/18/19 14-00261 $1,500.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $1,500.00, payable to: TTLBL, LLC, Attention: John Lemkey, 4747 Executive Drive, Suite 510, San Diego, CA 92121 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**

540 17 6/12/19 18-00232 $1,200.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $1,200.00 payable to: Changsheng Lu, 628 N. Butrick Street, Waukegen, IL 60085, charging same to account #-9-01-55-276-999-956.

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

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

544 3 6/20/19 15-00315 $55,600.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $55,600.00 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 2019 tax sale on the following block & lot.

**Block Lot Redemption Date CTF# Amount**

577 12 6/12/19 18-00239 $12,400.00

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $12,400.00 payable to: Phoenix Funding, Inc, 1148 Springfield Avenue, Mountainside, NJ 07092 charging same to account #-9-01-55-276-999-956.

**Credit Balance** Block 542 Lot 4, Elizabeth Perez Torres - 49 W. Edgar Road, 2019 Tax payment error

There now exists a credit balance on the above referenced block & lot due to the owner making payments online towards the taxes that should have been paid on the 2019 sewer billing, I am requesting that this overpayment in the amount of $ 461.77 be refunded and made payable to LRSA (Linden Roselle Sewerage Authority) to apply to the 2019 amounts due.

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $461.77 payable to: L.R.S.A., 5005 South Wood Avenue, P.O. Box 4118, Linden, NJ 07036, charging same to account #- 9-01-55-288-999-904-.

**Refund** Block 553 Lot 5, Cynthia Hus - 103 W. 11th Street

The above referenced owners taxes were paid in error by a mortgage company and the mortgage company is entitled a refund in the amount of $ 8,277.22.

Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $8,277.22, payable to Core Logic Tax Services, LLC, Attention: Centralized Refunds, 3001 Hackberry Road, Irving TX 75063-0156 charging same to account #-9-01-55-288-999-904.

**(\*\*\*) CITY CLERK’S OFFICE:**

1. First Baptist Church is requesting approval to close Dill Avenue between Carnegie and Lincoln Streets on August 9th and 10th, 2019 to hold their annual Community Cookout and Tent Service between the hours of 10am and 6pm. The Certificate of Liability Insurance has been supplied and the application has been reviewed and approved by the Chief of Police.

**(\*\*\*) LINDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

1. Requesting approval of the following tax payments to the Board of Education:

July 2019 $7,851,326.33 January 2020 $7,851,326.33

August 2019 $7,851,326.33 February 2020 $7,851,326.33

September 2019 $7,851,326.33 March 2020 $7,851,326.33

October 2019 $7,851,326.33 April 2020 $7,851,326.33

November 2019 $7,851,326.33 May 2020 $7,851,326.33

December 2019 $7,851,326.33 June 2020 $7,851,326.37

**Total from July 2019 to June 2020 $94,215,916.00**

**(\*\*\*) MUNICIPAL TREASURER:**

1. Requesting approval of the following refunds:
   1. Edward Carrion is entitled to a refund of $157.00 for a construction permit that was charged improperly. Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $157.00 payable to: Edward Carrion, 422 W. Linden Avenue, Linden, NJ 07036 charging same to 9-01-08-605-011.
   2. Buckeye Pipe Line Co. is entitled to a refund of $60.00 for a Permit for Certification of Inspection. Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check in the amount of $60.00 payable to: Buckeye Partners, One Greenway Plaza, Houston, TX 77046. Charging same to 9-01-09-699-069.
   3. Horizon BC/BS of NJ is entitled to a refund in the amount of $342.41 for service that was provided on 3/25/2019. Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check payable to: Horizon BC/BS of NJ, P.O. Box 420, Newark, NJ 07101-0420 charging same to 9-01-08-629-011.
   4. Josephine Sotak is entitled to a refund in the amount of $89.03 for service that was provided on 3/26/2019. Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check payable to: Josephine Sotak, 140 Springfield Rd., Linden, NJ 07036 charging same to 9-01-08-629-011.
   5. Andrea Rodriguez is entitled to a refund in the amount of $350.00 for service that was provided on 2/3/2017. Therefore, it would be in order for the council to authorize the treasurer to issue a check payable to: Andrea Rodriguez, 11625 183rd St., Artesia, CA 90701 charging same to 9-01-08-629-011.

**(\*\*\*) MUNICIPAL TREASURER:**

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

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

Fire Dept. Fred Cassel Fire Captain August 1, 2019  
Municipal Court Grace Baginski Clerk Typist Sept. 1, 2019

Mr. Strano moved for approval of Consent Items #1 through #5. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cosby and was unanimously ordered approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**First Ward**

Mrs. Ormon gave the report of the Division of Transportation and Parking. A total of $89,232.10 was collected from all sources for the month of June. Mrs. Ormon then gave a report on the grand opening of Wales Park. She detailed the event, and thanked a number of individuals for the donations to make an enjoyable and grand event for the community. She spoke about the joy of the 85 children, who attended, and thanked the parents for allowing them to attend.

Mrs. Ormon, noted that it is summer and urged all to be respectful, of their neighbors by needing the noise down, at night, and keeping their grass cut.

**Second Ward**

Mr. Javick gave the report of the Fire Committee. A total of $6,735.49 was collected by the Fire Prevention Bureau for the month of June. Also the ambulance reimbursement system collected. $50,727.12 was collected for the month of June, bringing the year to date total to $365, 619, 91.

Mr. Javick noted that traffic related issues have become the main issue in the Second Ward. He noted what steps, have been taken, by the Police Traffic Division, and where the work was done. He spoke about other traffic related matters, and what would be done to address them. He also informed all that trees have been trimmed, around stop signs, for better visibility, adding the Division of Public Works is slowly catching up on all tree trimming. Mr. Javick reported on the upcoming first Junior Fire Academy graduation, this coming Friday, and the start of Junior Police Academy. He informed all that the National Community Night out is scheduled to be held on August 6th. He reminded all that all individuals riding bikes are required to have bike helmets, and wished all a happy summer.

**Fourth Ward**

Mr. Mohammed gave the report of the City Clerk’s Office. A total of $2,007.57 was collected, in City revenue, in the month of June. He next gave the report of the City Clerk’s Licensing Division. A total of $6,224.00 was collected for the month of May, 2019. For the month of June the Licensing Division collected a total of $5,423.00.

Mr. Mohammed reported that the summer camp was moved from the Fourth Ward Park to the Deerfield Park. The decision to move the camp came from the Department of Parks and Recreation. He reported that he had scheduled a meeting with the new director of Parks and Recreation to review the parks in the Fourth Ward and to discuss new programing. He noted that a citizen had offered to do a tennis program in the Fourth Ward Park. Mr. Mohammed provided his contact information.

President Yamakaitis noted that before Ms. Cosby gave her report, Mr. Javick would give the Finance Report.

Mr. Javick gave the following report:

Approval is requested for the following finance actions:

1. The payment of bills totaling $1,578,908.16. 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 May at the rate of 2.75%.

Mr. Javick moved for approval of the Finance Report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ormon and was ordered approved by a roll call vote with all voting yes except Ms. Cosby who voted no and Mrs. Hickey who abstained.

**Fifth Ward**

Ms. Cosby wished her two sons a happy birthday. She thanked several individuals for their efforts in the first ever celebration of Juneteenth, and explained what the event was about. She then noted that the new equipment for the Hagel Avenue Park has been delivered, but due to the rain, its installation has been delayed. She also reported on the Cranford Ave paving project.

Ms. Cosby informed all the Housing Authority is taking applications for residents, and noted the qualifications to be eligible. She request that the Council President make her the liaison to the Housing Authority in 2020.

Ms. Cosby provided information on her upcoming Fifth Ward community meeting, including the date and topics of discussion. She also announced that the Fifth Ward community garage sale would be held on August 17, 2019, and provided information on how those wishing to participate could register their address. She informed all that the Hooked on Fishing, Not Drugs program would be starting up again, in the near future. In conclusion Ms. Cosby also informed all that the John Street Center was a cooling center, and the hours that it was open for that purpose.

**Sixth Ward**

Mr. Roman spoke about the severe storm that came through the area, about ten days ago, and how it brought down a number of trees, and thanked Public Works for their quick response in removing the trees and cleaning up. Next Mr. Roman spoke about parties going on late, and the need for the noise, from the parties, to be turned down, after 10:00 p.m. He spoke about a motor vehicle accident on Linden Ave., and the need for further review of the area, by the Accident Review Committee to address the conditions that may have contributed to the accident.

Mr. Roman reported on the new Union County Spray Park, located in Wheeler Park. He deemed the park a success, and spoke about where people were coming from to use it. He then spoke about the parking issues that are occurring and affecting the residents on the blocks around the park. He talked about the efforts, by various departments, to address them, and the cooperation from the City and the County on this. He hoped that the County would address the issues, with an ok from the City. He also address the issue of littering that is occurring in the same areas and the need for better enforcement.

Mr. Roman announced that the Winfield Carnival was coming, soon, provided the dates, and ask all to support the event as it helps fund the Winfield Volunteer Fire Department. Next he spoke about the heavy rains that were predicted, for tomorrow, and had Chief Hart provide information on the cooling centers that were located around Linden. He asked, that all, in this extreme heat, check on their neighbors.

**Seventh Ward**

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

Councilman Strano, Chairman

Councilwoman Ormon, Member

Councilman Javick, Member

July 16, 2019

1. Community Services:

Public Works:

* 1. Rescind the appointment of Miroslaw Jankowski as a Diesel Mechanic from the June 18, 2019 Personnel Report Item 5(a) and make the appointment of Miroslaw Jankowski as a Diesel Mechanic effective August 5, 2019 at a salary of $29.00 per hour, subject to successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.
  2. Salary adjustment for Chris Horvath, Senior Diesel Mechanic to $30.00 per hour effective July 17, 2019.
  3. Rescind the appointment of Jason Brown as a Laborer from the May 21, 2019 Personnel Report Item 5(a)(5)(c) and make the appointment of Jason Brown as a Laborer effective June 9, 2019 at a salary of $15.00 per hour, subject to successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.
  4. Rescind the appointment of Tyrone Hinton as a Truck Driver from the May 21, 2019 Personnel Report Item 5(a)(4) and make the appointment of Tyrone Hinton as a Truck Driver effective June 6, 2019 at a salary of $21.00 per hour, subject to successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.
  5. Accept the voluntary resignation of Ernest Green, Truck Driver, effective July 15, 2019.
  6. The appointment of Thomas George, as a Truck Driver, effective August 15, 2019 at the salary of $21.00 per hour, subject to successful completion of the City’s pre-employment requirements.
  7. Approval of Clean Communities list on file in the City Clerk’s Office.
  8. Approval of Seasonal list on file in the City Clerk’s Office.

1. Department of Parks and Recreation:
   1. Approval of Seasonal List on file in the City Clerk’s Office.
2. Police Department:
   1. Accepting the resignation in good standing of Cynthia Rivera, Public Safety Telecommunicator Trainee effective July 8, 2019.
3. Municipal Court:
   1. Permission to post for F/T Deputy Court Administrator both internally and externally.
   2. Permission to post for three full-time Clerk 1.
   3. The termination of Dharmista Patel effective June 27, 2019
4. Fire Department:
   1. Accepting the resignation in good standing of Mark Bullock, Fire Fighter, effective June 25, 2019.
5. Personnel:
6. The appointment of Shanelle King, as an intern assigned to the Office of Administration, effective July 17, 2019 through August 31, 2019, at the rate of $10.00 per hour.
7. The appointment of Bruce Armistead, as an intern assigned to the Office of Administration, effective July 17, 2019 through August 31, 2019, at the rate of $15.00 per hour.
8. **FMLA/NJFLA leaves**
9. Employee #091153 – FMLA 6/13/2019 – 8/5/2019
10. Employee #106894 – FMLA 5/22/2019 – 8/22/2019
11. Employee #091142 – FMLA 7/1/2019 – 7/12/2020
12. Employee #000295 – FMLA – 7/8/2019 – 11/1/2019
13. Employee #909119 – Intermittent FMLA – 3/4/2019-9/4/2019
14. Employee #001057 – Intermittent FMLA – 7/26/2019 – 7/26/2020
15. Employee #0146 – Intermittent FMLA – 6/13/2019 – 9/13/2019
16. Employee # 108233 – Intermittent FMLA – 7/11/2019 – 7/11/2020
17. Employee #108318 – Intermittent FMLA – 7/20/19 – 7/20/2020

Mr. Strano asked if there were any questions, from the public on the Personnel Report.

Virginia Malik, 1633 Lenape Road. Ms. Malik asked questions concerning items 1a, 1b and 1g. Mr. Strano and Mr. Roth provided responses.

Mr. Strano moved for the approval of the Personnel Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roman and was ordered approved by all voting yes with the exception of Ms. Cosby who voted no.

Mr. Strano thanked all for their condolences for the passing of his sister. He then gave his Seventh Ward Report, noting that there is a lot going on in the Ward. He reported on a water main break, and issue related to it. He also spoke about an event, at Memorial Park, that got out of hand, explained the issues and the response of the Police Department. He also addressed the issue of the pavement markings on South Wood Ave, and Stiles St., explaining that they are painted on and are not thermal, as in other areas of the City.

**Eighth Ward**

Mr. Coates reported on the upcoming paving project for Cranford Ave., noting that it is a joint Fifth and Eighth Ward Street. He spoke about the changing of the PSE&G changing of poles in the ward. He discussed various traffic issues, in the ward, and that the police are doing a great job in handling them. He concluded by thanking the City Clerk’s office for the information that it gets out to the members of Council and provided his contact information.

**Ninth Ward**

Mr. Medina gave the report of the Construction Code and Lighting Committee. He moved for the installation of street lighting at the following location: 1) Pole #618, in front of 910 Wheatsheaf Rd. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coates and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote.

Mr. Medina informed all that he was working on getting his newsletter out, and explained the reasons for the delay, in it going out. Next he spoke about the streets that he requested be paved in the Ninth Ward, next year, and explained which of those are now under consideration. Mr. Medina then spoke about sidewalk repairs, the lengthy list he submitted, and the approval, this evening, of the Ordinance to fund these repairs.

Mr. Medina thanked the Police Department for the crackdown regarding cars that are being broken into. He noted that he was also a victim. He explained that most of the cars are being left open, and the need to make sure the cars are locked. Next he spoke about Wilson Park, that it is in the First Ward, but is a staple of the community. He stated that he looks forward to some major repairs being done next year. He then provided his contact information.

**Tenth Ward**

Mrs. Hickey began by speaking about the upcoming Winfield Carnival. She spoke about the efforts the Traffic Bureau will be taking, in the Tenth Ward, including implementing one side of the street parking during the event. She asked that anyone with issues, from the Carnival, call her, and provided her contact information. Next she spoke about the trimming of trees, and that those residents who have contacted her regarding their trees are on the tree list. She noted the list is extensive and thanked the residents for their patience. Mrs. Hickey talked about OEM, the amazing job they are doing, and that they are all volunteers. Next she spoke about an employee, she observed tonight, cleaning up Wood Ave.

Mrs. Hickey the spoke about resolutions 2019-276, 2019-279 and 2019-281, and that she would be voting no to them. She explained her reasons for voting no, the development plans and what her concerns were. Next she addressed the issue of safety, around School Nine and McManus School, relative to traffic and the dropping and picking up of students. Next she spoke about the resolution authorizing a study to create a new SID district on St. Georges Ave, and her concerns.

Mrs. Hickey then discussed the property, at 1700 Stiles St, and the offer by Mr. Valvano, which was substantially more than the offer accepted by the City. She noted that the developer has yet to make payment to the City and that the contract is yet to be signed. She expressed her hope that Mr. Valvano would again make the same offer to the City. Next she spoke about employees being bullied, and intimated by Council Persons and what they should do when that happens.

President Yamakaitis recognized Mr. Roman who spoke about Munsell Ave Park, and Public Properties re-mulching it. He also spoke about issues concerning the spray park, and informed all that the County will be hosting a day for children, with special needs, at the park.

**Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Armstead reviewed the list of cooling centers, in Linden, and their hours of operation. He also announced that Chick-fil-a has signed a lease for property within the new Heritage Square mall.

**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.

Hans Herberg asked to remove resolutions 2019-276, 277 and 286.

John Kaczor asked to remove resolution 2019-277

Virginia Malik asked to remove resolutions 2019-276, 277, 279 280, 282 and 285.

Ed Kaminski asked to remove resolutions 2019-276, 277 and 286.

Anthony Mislan asked to remove resolutions 2019-276 and 277.

Mrs. Hickey asked to remove resolutions 2019-277, 278 and 279

Craig Halloran asked to remove resolution 2019-276

Mr. Medina moved for approval of Resolutions #2019-273 through #2019-288, with the exception of resolutions, 2019-276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 282, 285, and 286. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hickey and was ordered approved by a roll call vote, with Ms. Cosby voting no to 2019-275 and Mrs. Hickey voting no to 2019-281.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-273**

**RESOLUTION FOR PURCHASE OF RECREATION PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT THROUGH THE ESCNJ FORMERLY THE MIDDLESEX REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION CO-OP FOR THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC PROPERTY TO BEN SHAFFER INC.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Linden wishes to obtain services from an authorized vendor under ESCNJ formerly the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Co-op #65MCESCCPS. Awarded to Ben Shafer Inc., PO Box 844 Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849, 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**, Ben Shaffer, Inc., has been awarded Contract #ESCNJ 17/18-20, for the provision of playground 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 $20,305.63; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract, which will be charged to account number C-04-55-904-693-919 and,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City of Linden that Ben Shaffer Inc. 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: 2019-274**

**RESOLUTION CHAPTER 159**

**DWI FUNDS MUNICIPAL COURT ALCOHOL EDUCATION, REHABILITATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

**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 has received $5,947.73 from the State of New Jersey Municipal Court Alcohol Education, Rehabilitation and Enforcement Fund 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 $5,947.73 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:

DWI Municipal Court 2019

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a like sum of $5,947.73 be 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:

DWI Municipal Court 2019

**RESOLUTION: 2019-275**

**CITY OF LINDEN RAT RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** there were certain payments made by the Municipal Treasurer during the month of June 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**

6/4/2019 Payroll 6/4 Payroll – Current $1,863,174.10

6/4/2019 Payroll 6/4 Payroll – Trust $49,882.12

6/4/2019 Payroll 6/4 Payroll – Grant $5,661.91

6/4/2019 Payroll 6/4 Payroll – Capital $115.36

6/4/2019 Payroll 6/4 Payroll – Unemployment $609.15

6/5/2019 Vision Service Plan June Vision Claims $4,508.48

6/5/2019 Unity Bank Workers Comp 5/28 – 6/2 $16,451.17

6/5/2019 Express Scripts/Medco Prescription Claims 5/18 – 5/31 $62,233.15

6/7/2019 Delta Dental of NJ June Premium – City $38,563.25

6/7/2019 Delta Dental of NJ June Premium – Sewerage $3,126.94

6/7/2019 Delta Dental of NJ June Premium – Housing $1,298.88

6/7/2019 Delta Dental of NJ June Premium – Library $948.88

6/7/2019 Delta Dental of NJ June Premium – Cobra $177.20

6/7/2019 Elavon, Inc. June Merchant Fee – Garage Sale $54.99

6/7/2019 Elavon, Inc. June Merchant Fee – Dog License $34.24

6/11/2019 SHBP Retirees June Health Premium $392,035.15

6/11/2019 SHBP Active April Health Premium $674,184.67

6/12/2019 Unity Bank Workers Comp 6/3 – 6/9 $14,722.58

6/14/2019 Payroll 6/18 Payroll – Current $1,762,701.40

6/14/2019 Payroll 6/18 Payroll – Trust $73,755.37

6/14/2019 Payroll 6/18 Payroll – Grant $6,161.59

6/14/2019 Payroll 6/18 Payroll – Capital $735.42

6/14/2019 Payroll 6/18 Payroll – Unemployment $521.89

6/19/2019 Unity Bank Workers Comp 6/10 – 6/16 $5,709.26

6/19/2019 Express Scripts/Medco Prescription Claims 6/1 – 6/14 $60,438.60

6/26/2019 Delta Dental of NJ July Premium – City $38,113.65

6/26/2019 Delta Dental of NJ July Premium – Sewerage $3,126.94

6/26/2019 Delta Dental of NJ July Premium – Housing $1,298.88

6/26/2019 Delta Dental of NJ July Premium – Library $948.88

6/26/2019 Delta Dental of NJ July Premium – Cobra $35.44

6/26/2019 Payroll 7/2 Payroll – Current $1,743,011.28

6/26/2019 Payroll 7/2 Payroll – Trust $69,518.62

6/26/2019 Payroll 7/2 Payroll – Grant $12,946.65

6/26/2019 Payroll 7/2 Payroll – Unemployment $451.55

6/26/2019 Unity Bank Workers Comp 6/17 – 6/23 $90,944.71

173968 6/28/2019 Eric Clark DJ for Linden Dance Festival $800.00

173969 6/28/2019 Dwayne Tennant DJ for Linden Dance Festival $500.00

173970 6/28/2019 George Curtis Jones Band for Linden Dance Festival $1,700.00

**RESOLUTION: 2019-276**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN, COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING COMMENCEMENT OF STUDIES AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRELIMINARY PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS RELATING TO THE CREATION OF A SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT WITHIN THE CITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH *N.J.S.A*. 40:56-70*.***

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to the terms of *N.J.S.A.* 40:56-65 *et seq*. (the “**SID Law**”), municipalities are authorized to protect the public welfare and preserve and enhance the function and appearance of business districts through the creation of pedestrian malls or special improvement districts; and

**WHEREAS**, to determine whether certain parcels of land warrant the creation of a special improvement district or pedestrian mall under the SID Law, the municipal council (the “**City Council**”) of the City of Linden (the “**City**”) may authorize the commencement of studies and/or the development of preliminary plans and specifications for the creation and maintenance of a pedestrian mall or special improvement district, which plans should, when possible, include estimates of construction and maintenance as well as estimates of the potential gross benefit assessment; and

**WHEREAS,** the City Council believes it is in the best interests of the City to commence such a study and the development of a plan pertaining to the creation of a special improvement district encompassing the properties identified on Schedule A attached hereto and made a part hereof (the “**Study Area**”), and further such study and plan shall include criteria to regulate the construction and alteration of the facades of buildings and structures in a manner that promotes a unified and compatible design throughout.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. Pursuant to the authority of the SID Law, specifically *N.J.S.A.* 40:56-70, the City Council authorizes the commencement of a study and the development of preliminary plans and specifications for the creation and maintenance of a special improvement district in the Study Area, which study and plan shall include criteria to regulate the construction and alteration of the facades of buildings and structures, and other improvements, in a manner that promotes a unified and compatible design throughout.

Section 3. The Mayor, together with the employees and professionals of the City, are hereby authorized to undertake all actions, including the preparation and execution of any agreements or documents, in order to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

Section 4. The results of the study and the plan shall be reported back to the City Council upon completion of same.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-277**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN, COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY DESIGNATING THE PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN ON THE CITY’S TAX MAPS AS BLOCK 339, LOT 5 (A/K/A 327 WEST SAINT GEORGE’S AVENUE) ON THE CITY TAX MAP AS AN ‘AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT’ (WITHOUT CONDEMNATION) PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, *N.J.S.A*. 40A:12A-1 *et seq.***

**WHEREAS,** the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, *N.J.S.A.* 40A:12A-1 *et seq*. (the “**Redevelopment Law**”), authorizes municipalities to determine whether certain parcels of land in the municipality constitute areas in need of redevelopment; and

**WHEREAS**, to determine whether certain parcels of land constitute areas in need of redevelopment under the Redevelopment Law the city council (“**City Council**”) of the City of Linden (the “**City**”) must authorize the planning board of the City (the “**Planning Board**”) to conduct a preliminary investigation of the area and make recommendations to the City Council; and

**WHEREAS,** on May 22, 2019, the City Council adopted a resolution authorizing and directing the Planning Board to conduct an investigation of the property commonly known as Block 339, Lot 5, a/k/a 327 West Saint George’s Avenue on the tax maps of the City (hereinafter the “**Study Area**”), to determine whether the Study Area meets the criteria set forth in the Redevelopment Law, specifically *N.J.S.A.* 40A:12A-5, and should be designated as an area in need of redevelopment providing that a redevelopment area determination would authorize the City and City Council to use all those powers permitted by the Redevelopment Law, other than the power of eminent domain; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 9, 2019, the Planning Board, after providing due notice, conducted a public hearing in accordance with the Redevelopment Law and determined that the Study Area qualified as an area in need of redevelopment and recommended that the City Council designate the Study Area as an area in need of redevelopment pursuant to the criteria and requirements of the Redevelopment Law; and

**WHEREAS,** the City Council has determined that, based upon the recommendations of the Planning Board, the Study Area should be designated an area in need of redevelopment under the Redevelopment Law, such designation authorizing the City and City Council to use all those powers provided by the Redevelopment Law for use in a redevelopment area, other than the power of eminent domain.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. The recommendations and conclusions of the Planning Board are hereby accepted by the City Council.

  Section 3. Based upon the findings and recommendations of the Planning Board, the Study Area is hereby designated an area in need of redevelopment other than the power of eminent domain pursuant to the provisions of Sections 5 and 6 of the Redevelopment Law (the “**Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Area**”).

Section 4. The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for review pursuant to Section 6(b)(5) of the Redevelopment Law.

Section 5. The City Clerk is hereby directed to serve, within ten (10) days hereof, a copy of this Resolution upon (i) all record owners of property located within the Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Area, as reflected on the tax assessor’s records, and (ii) each person who filed a written objection prior to the hearing held by the Planning Board, service to be in the manner provided by Section 6 of the Redevelopment Law.

Section 6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-278**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND MUNICIPAL CLERK OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF LINDEN TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF UNION TO MODIFY THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT DATED JUNE 2014, AS AMENDED IN 2017**

**WHEREAS,** certain Federal funds are potentially available to the County of Union under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Block Grant Act of 1974, as amended, commonly known as the Community Development Block Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS,** certain Federal funds are potentially available to the County of Union under Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, commonly known as the HOME Investment Partnership program; and

**WHEREAS**, substantial Federal funds provided through subtitle B of Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act commonly known as the Emergency Solutions Grants program (ESG) are allocated to prevent homelessness and to enable homeless individuals and families to move toward independent living; and

**WHEREAS,** it is necessary to amend an existing Cooperative Agreement for the County of Union and its people to benefit from this program; and

**WHEREAS,** it is in the best interest of the Municipality of Linden and the County of Union in cooperation with each other to enter into a modification of the existing Cooperative Agreement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Governing Body of the Municipality of Linden that the agreement entitled **“COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF UNION AND CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES FOR CONDUCTING CERTAIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES,”** dated June 2014, as amended in 2017 for the Purpose of Inserting a Description of Activities for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 of the Union County Community Development Block Grant program, the HOME Investment Partnership program, and the Emergency Shelter Grant program (ESG), a copy of which is attached hereto; be executed by the Mayor and Municipal Clerk in accordance with the provisions of law;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-279**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING PETER MATLOSZ AN ALTERNATE MEMBER**

**TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS**

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

That, **PETER MATLOSZ,** residing in the Township of Warren, New Jersey, Journeyman (Building Alternate) be and he hereby is appointed a member of the Construction Board of Appeals of the City of Linden pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-127a and an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LINDEN ESTABLISHING A STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE ENFORCING AGENCY, A CONSTRUCTION FEE SCHEDULE, AND A CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 217, LAWS OF NEW JERSEY 1975 AND TITLE 5, CHAPTER 23 OF THE NEW JERSEY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE" passed December 21, 1976 and approved December 22, 1976, as amended, and A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 217, LAWS OF NEW JERSEY 1975 AND TITLE 5, CHAPTER 23 OF THE NEW JERSEY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, passed November 8, 1978 and approved November 9, 1978, to serve a four (4) year term, commencing May 16, 2019 and expiring May 15, 2023, and until his successor is appointed and qualifies.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-280**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING ZBIGNIEW SWIERSKI AN ALTERNATE MEMBER TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS**

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

That, **ZBIGNIEW SWIERSKI**, residing in the City of Linden, New Jersey, Journeyman (Plumbing Alternate) be and he hereby is appointed a member of the Construction Board of Appeals of the City of Linden pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-127a and an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LINDEN ESTABLISHING A STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE ENFORCING AGENCY, A CONSTRUCTION FEE SCHEDULE, AND A CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 217, LAWS OF NEW JERSEY 1975 AND TITLE 5, CHAPTER 23 OF THE NEW JERSEY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE" passed December 21, 1976 and approved December 22, 1976, as amended, and A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 217, LAWS OF NEW JERSEY 1975 AND TITLE 5, CHAPTER 23 OF THE NEW JERSEY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, passed November 8, 1978 and approved November 9, 1978, to serve a four (4) year term, commencing May 16, 2019 and expiring May 15, 2023, and until his successor is appointed and qualifies.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-281**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING RICK ZACCARO AN ALTERNATE MEMBER**

**TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS**

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

That, **RICK ZACCARO,** residing in the Borough of Flemington, New Jersey, Journeyman (Electric Alternate) be and he hereby is appointed a member of the Construction Board of Appeals of the City of Linden pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-127a and an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LINDEN ESTABLISHING A STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE ENFORCING AGENCY, A CONSTRUCTION FEE SCHEDULE, AND A CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 217, LAWS OF NEW JERSEY 1975 AND TITLE 5, CHAPTER 23 OF THE NEW JERSEY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE" passed December 21, 1976 and approved December 22, 1976, as amended, and A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 217, LAWS OF NEW JERSEY 1975 AND TITLE 5, CHAPTER 23 OF THE NEW JERSEY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, passed November 8, 1978 and approved November 9, 1978, to serve a four (4) year term, commencing May 16, 2019 and expiring May 15, 2023, and until his successor is appointed and qualifies.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-282**

**RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO DEER CARCASS REMOVAL SERVICES, LLC THROUGH THE UNION COUNTY CO-OP, FOR THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Linden wishes to obtain services from an authorized vendor under the Union County Co-op Awarded to Deer Carcass Removal Services, LLC, 140 Meirs Road, Creamridge, NJ 08514, 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**, Deer Carcass Removal Services, LLC , 140 Meirs Road, Creamridge, NJ 08514, has been awarded a Contract for the provision street sweeping services; 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 $20,993.28; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract, which will be charged to account number 9-01-26-305-169-274.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City of Linden that Deer Carcass Removal Services LLC, 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 2019-283**

**RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 2019-230 AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF ELIZABETH FOR FIRE SUBCODE SERVICES AND INSPECTIONS.**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden entered into a Shared Services agreement with the City of Elizabeth for Fire Sub-Code services and inspections; and

**WHEREAS,** the agreement authorized the providing of said services for the period of May 15, 2019 through August 21, 2019 at the rate of $60.00 per hour; and

**WHEREAS,** there exists a need to extend the term of said agreement to September 1, 2019; and

**WHEREAS,** the cost will continue to be paid at the rate of $60.00 per hour, with an additional not to exceed amount of $900.00, bring the total contract to a value, to a not to exceed amount of $6,900.00; and

**WHEREAS,** the Chief Financial Officer or her designee has certified as to the availability of funds for this purpose, as attached hereto, which will be charged to account/line itemNo. 9-01-22-295-207-244.

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

1. The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all necessary documents in order to effectuate the foregoing as approved by the Law Department.
2. Said amended agreement shall be for the period of May 15, 2019 through September 1, 2019 at a fee not to exceed $6,900.00.
3. This Resolution shall take effect pursuant to law.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-284**

**RESOLUTION FOR STATE CONTRACT PURCHASE OF LED LIGHTING FROM JEWEL**

**ELECTRIC, LLC FOR THE MUNICIPAL GARAGE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Linden wishes to purchase LED lighting fixtures from Jewel Electric, LLC, 455 Third Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302 an authorized vendor under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program 1-NJCP; 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**, Jewel Electric, LLC has been awarded New Jersey State Contract No. A85578 for the provision of electric lighting fixtures and supplies; 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 goods to be purchase will not to exceed $30,700.00; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for said purchase in account 9-01-55-274-999-019.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City of Linden that Jewel Electric, LLC 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: 2019-285**

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

**A&A CURBING, INC. FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF CURBS & SIDEWALKS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN THE CITY OF LINDEN**

**WHEREAS**, sealed bids were received by the Purchasing Agent on July 9, 2019 for the reconstruction of curbs and sidewalks at various locations in the City of Linden; and

**WHEREAS**, a notice to bidders for said purpose was properly and legally advertised in the official publication(s); and

**WHEREAS,** the Chief Financial Officer or her designee has certified as to the availability of funds for this purpose, as attached hereto, which will be charged to account No. C-04-55-901-707-919 ($80,000.00), C-04-55-901-656-919 ($5,517.50), C-04-55-901-624-919 ($5,496.22) and C-04-55-901-603-919 ($1,561.28); and

**WHEREAS**, A & A Curbing, Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder at their bid of $92,575.00; and

**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 A & A Curbing, Inc. at their bid of $92,575.00.

2. This Resolution is expressly contingent upon the negotiation and execution of the necessary contract documents between A & A Curbing, 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: 2019-286**

**RESOLUTION AMENDING A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACTING MUNICIPAL PROSECUTORS FOR LINDEN MUNICIPAL COURT FOR 2019**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Linden passed a Resolution at the December Council meeting authorizing acting municipal prosecutors for Linden Municipal Court for 2019; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden passed a Resolution previously authorizing individuals and/or law firms to serve as Acting Prosecutors, and the need has arisen to add Norman Albert, Esq. to serve as an Acting Prosecutor; and

**WHEREAS**, the following are hereby authorized to provide Acting Prosecutor services: Steven H. Merman, Esq., Moshood Muftau, Esq., Drew Bauman, Brian Aloia, Esq., Victoria Lucido, Esq., Christopher Howard, Esq., and Norman Albert, Esq.; and

**WHEREAS,** it is necessary to provide for funds for said purpose in an amount not to exceed $6,000.00

**WHEREAS**, the Treasurer 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 CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** as follows:

1. The above named attorneys are approved to provide Substitute Prosecutor services, when authorized by the City Attorney or his designee.
2. This Resolution shall take effect pursuant to law.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-287**

**RESOLUTION WAIVING FEES FOR A COMMUNITY WIDE GARAGE SALE**

**TO BE HELD IN THE FIFTH WARD**

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined to allow a community wide garage sale in the Fifth Ward on August 17, 2019 with a rain date of August 18, 2019 ; and

WHEREAS, the City of Linden shall waive all fees for permits for a garage sale including the completion of an application form pursuant to City Code 4-3.1 entitled “Garage Sales”; and

WHEREAS, the city wide garage sale shall not impact a resident’s right to conduct up to two garage sales in a year; and

WHEREAS, chapter 4-3.6 shall still apply, limiting one singled faced sign containing not more than four square feet in total area to be placed upon the premises where the sale is being conducted, and further prohibiting any other signs and either public or private property.

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

1. The City of Linden hereby waives fees for permits for a community wide garage sale in the Fifth Ward on August 17, 2019, with a rain date of August 18, 2019.
2. The city wide garage sale shall not impact a resident’s right to conduct up to two garage sales in a year.
3. Chapter 4-3.6 shall still apply, limiting one singled faced sign containing not more than four square feet in total area to be placed upon the premises where the sale is being conducted, and further prohibiting any other signs and either public or private property.
4. This Resolution shall take effect pursuant to law.

**RESOLUTION: 2019-288**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROBERT VARADY, ESQ. OF THE FIRM LA CORTE, BUNDY, VARADY & KINSELLA FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL SERVICES ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS AS DETERMINED BY THE CITY ATTORNEY**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Linden has denied some applicants firearms ID cards and permits to purchase handguns; and

**WHEREAS,** said applicants of denials sometimes file an appeal with the Superior Court of New Jersey on these matters; and

**WHEREAS,** Robert Varady, Esq., of the firm LaCorte, Bundy, Varady & Kinsella, will serve in the capacity of Special Counsel in the aforementioned matters for 2017; and

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 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,** 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**, the Chief Financial Officer or his designee 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 CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LINDEN** as follows:

1. Robert Varady, Esq. shall serve as Special Counsel for the City of Linden, in Superior Court, as aforesaid and shall be paid a fee not to exceed $5,000.00

2. This Resolution is expressly contingent upon the negotiation and execution of the necessary contract documents between Robert Varady, Esq. 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.

John Kaczor, 23 W. Munsell Ave. Mr. Kaczor asked what is going on with area in need of redevelopment for the old D’s Dugout location. Mayor Armstead provided a response, and responded to further questions from Mr. Kaczor.(resolution 2019-277)

Anthony Mislan, 444 Inwood Rd. Mr. Mislan stated he did not understand resolution 2019-276, the St. Georges Ave Sid. He went to say that it was going to be another Wood Ave, which everyday has more and more vacant buildings, and looking more and more disheveled He made several statement comparing the Wood Ave SID to St. Georges Ave, and stated that he did not understand how it would make it better. Regarding resolution 2019-277 he stated that he did not understand how after 15 years of standing vacant, is now in need of redevelopment.

Ed Kaminski, Maple Ave. Regarding resolution 2019-276, he offered Council two “rewind buttons.” He asked them to go back to when a SID was proposed for the Route 1 corridor, and listen to what the business/property owners had to say at that time. Next he asked Council to listen to his comments on Wood Ave. He stated that SIDS are cesspools and do not serve a good purpose.

Hans Herberg, 1501 Westover Rd. Mr. Herberg spoke about the businesses that are closing on Wood Ave., and asked what a SID was going to do on St. George. Next regarding 2019-277 he asked what the future plans were for the site, and that it is sad to see the site empty for years. On 2019-286 he spoke about the need for additional substitute prosecutor, and the need for coverage in the court. He asked for an explanation on the role of substitute prosecutor, Ms. Tracey Cosby responded and provided an explanation. Mayor Armstead responded to the questions regarding the SID and the old D’s Dugout site. He explained the purpose of a SID, and hoped that it would encourage growth and attract new businesses to Wood Ave. He compared this to the issues on Wood Ave. President Yamakaitis encouraged Mr. Herberg to go to the Uptown Linden office.

Craig Halloran, 120 Donaldson Place. Mr. Halloran asked about the substitute prosecutors and how the $300.00 fee was applied, per day? Per hour? Regarding resolution 2019-288 he asked why we need special counsel. Ms. Tracey Cosby provided the responses to the questions.

Virginia Malik, 1633 Lenape Rd. Ms. Malik noted that most of her concerns, regarding 2019-276 had been addressed. Regarding resolution 2019-277, she asked for the location of the property. Pertaining to Resolutions 2019-279, 280 and 281 she spoke about a possible issue of conflict, for the individuals being appointed. Regarding the contract being approved in Resolution 2019-282, she asked if it involved the culling of the deer herd. Her question on 2019-285 concerned the amount of money to be spent. President Yamakaitis provided the location of D’s Dugout. President Yamakaitis called upon Mr. Gadomski to respond to the questions on 2019-279,l 280, and 281. He explained the purpose of the board, and stated that it was a volunteer position. Ms. Tracey Cosby responded to the issue of a conflict of interest, after she clarified, with Ms. Malik what she meant by a conflict of interest. Mr. Dann responded to the questions on resolution 2019-282, and that the material being disposed of was street sweepings. Mr. Pantina responded to the questions on resolution 2019-285.

There being no further comment from members of the public Mr. Medina moved for approval of resolutions , 2019-276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 282, 285, and 286.The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hickey. President Yamakaitis opened the floor to discussion by the members of the Governing body.

Mr. Roman noted the language, in resolution 2019-276, and that it clearly indicated that it was a study, he was not opposed to it, and explained why. He asked questions regarding the amount of funding this SID district would generate, and how it’s board would be comprised and be run. Based on that he would support the resolution, and expressed his desire that the Board of this SID district be separate from that on Wood Ave. Next he spoke about resolution 2019-277, explaining that the owner was requesting that this property had requested that the site be declared an “Area in need of redevelopment,” and that he would not oppose it. Next Mr. Roman spoke on Resolution 2019-279, appointing Peter Matlosz to the Construction Board of Appeals, and his reasons for opposing it. He noted that because Mr. Matlosz had not paid for the property at 1700 S. Stiles St, it left the City in a financial bind, with a revenue shortfall.

Mrs. Hickey spoke on resolution 2019-276. She noted that the study is going to cost money, and noted the failure of the SID on Wood Ave to improve it. She noted items of concern to her. She also disagreed with studying a portion of St. Georges Ave., stating that the study should be from city line to city line. Mrs. Hickey stated that this is a way to get money, and noted her opposition to the SID on St. Georges Ave. She went on to speak about the need to consult with the County, regarding St. Georges Ave., as it is the County’s road. She called the proposed SID smoke and mirrors, and it being a way to tax business owners more money for less services. Regarding resolution 2019-277 Mrs. Hickey stated that as long as the Mayor says that it is at the request of the property owner, she was good with it, but wondered why, the property owner was not issued summons for the condition of the property. Lastly she spoke on Resolution 2019-279 the appointment of Peter Matlosz to the Construction Board of Appeals and detailed her reasons for opposing the appointment.

At this time, Mr. Brown, appeared at the meeting (8:57 pm). President Yamakaitis recognized him to speak. Mr. Roman objected to his being allowed to speak. Ms. Tracy Cosby responded and stated that he is a member of the Council and as such should be allowed to speak.

Mr. Brown spoke about St. Georges Ave., and the various issues associated with it. He went on to talk about the St. George’s Ave corridor and that the conditions there need to be addressed and fixed. He stated that this is not a money grab. He then explained his reasons for coming to the meeting, now, even though he had a personal issue. He criticized those that consistently tear the city down.

Ms. Rhashonna Cosby thanked Mr. Brown for joining the meeting, tonight, and stated that she hopes he shows the same energy when she request an investigation into the City’s hiring practices.

The resolutions were approved by a roll call vote, with all voting in favor except Ms. Cosby who abstained on resolutions 2019-77, 76 and 79; Mr. Roman who voted no to resolution 2019-279; Mr. Coates who voted no to resolutions 277 and 279; Mr. Medina who voted no to resolution 2019-276; Mrs. Hickey who voted not to resolutions 2019-276, 279, 280 and 281.

President Yamakaitis note that there was an additional resolution for consideration. She called upon the Clerk to read the resolution, in full, which he did.

**Resolution: 2019-289**

**WHEREAS,** there exists the position of Audio Visual Specialist in the City; and

**WHEREAS,** the aforementioned position is currently assigned to the Administration Department; and

**WHEREAS,** said position has been determined to no longer be necessary for the reasons of efficiency

and economy for the operations of the City; and

**WHEREAS,** while the City continues to look for other means to efficiently and economically operate the City, there is a need to institute a reduction in force for City employees; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council authorizes the City’s Personnel Division to immediately begin impact negotiations with the appropriate collective bargaining unit representing the position of Audio Visual Specialist as mandated by NJAC 4A:8-1 et seq. for the reduction in force in order to fulfill the City’s regulatory obligations prior to instituting layoffs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Council authorizes the City’s Personnel Division to develop and file with the Civil Service Commission, pursuant to NJAC 4A:8-1 et. seq., a comprehensive layoff plan for the title of Audio Visual Specialist.

President Yamakaitis asked if any member of the public wished to speak on the resolution. There were none.

Mr. Medina moved for approval of Resolution 2019-289. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roman. President Yamakaitis asked if there were any comments from the members of the Governing Body.

Mr. Roman stated that he wanted all to know, that despite the title of the resolution, no one is being laid off.

Mr. Roth provided an explanation as to the purpose of the resolution, for all, and agreed with Mr. Roman’s comments.

Ms. Rhashonna Cosby provided a history of the position, and how one position turned into two position, and now they are being abolished. She stated that she does not support the resolution, as she had not supported the creation of the position. She stated that she does support an investigation into the employment practices of the Division of Personnel, clarifying not the staff, but the processes. She explained why and what she wanted investigated.

Mr. Mohammed stated that we don’t need to start an election over, regarding issues that have been resolved. He asked to leave the juvenile state and become adults, and do what is best for the City. He stated that he was 100% in support of the resolution, and we should stop the politicking and confusing the public.

Mr. Brown this was discussed and went through the proper channels. At every meeting there is a conspiracy, yet none of these conspiracy come to pass. There is no conspiracy. He spoke about the city going through consolidation and restructuring with the goal of provide the best services.

Upon a roll call vote resolution 2019-289 was approved with all voting in favor, except for Ms. Cosby, Mr. Coates and Mrs. Hickey, who voted no.

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODCUTION**

**NONE**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Craig Halloran, 120 Donaldson Place. Mr. Halloran encouraged residents to attend Council meetings, both the Monday night conference, and the Tuesday night public meetings, and put forth his reasons why. Mr. Halloran then spoke about the reports, given by Council members, over how much money the various departments collected. He then asked if the money goes back to the department or does it go into general revenue. He asked why the funds, or a percentage of them, could not go back to the departments collecting them. He explained his reasoning.

Hans Herberg, 1501 Westover Road. Mr. Herberg thanked Mr. Roman for clarifying an issue for him. He offered his condolences to Mr. Strano on the loss of his sister. Mr. Herberg noted that his questions early, regarding SID, were because he was looking to open a coffee shop on St. George Ave. He spoke about the concept he was working on. He also spoke about the need for improvements not only on Wood Ave but also on St. George Ave. Mr. Herberg asked about the South Stiles Street developer, and his not paying the $300,000.00 fee. He suggested that if he isn’t going to pay the fee, then the City should go back to other developers.

Anthony Mislan, 444 Inwood Road. Mr. Misland noted that he has lived in Linden for over twenty-five years, and that even with the SIDS program more and more businesses, on Wood Ave, are going out of business. How is this program going to help St. Georges Ave. Mr. Misland noted that the property owners are paying these taxes, and asked what benefit they are getting, especially when they don’t have a tenant, in the building to pay these taxes. His opinion was that they would sell the property and get out of the City. He noted other Cities and how their downtowns are bustling. Mr. Mislan also spoke about the conduct of the Council meetings, and that it seemed that certain people are called out of order, and not others, and provided an example.

Gary W. White, 289 Old Tote Road, Mountainside. Mr. White stated he was not a resident, and he could wait till after all of the residents had spoken. President Yamakaitis allowed him to speak. Mr. Whyte spoke about a rare disease, Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP). He explained the disease, and how it affects children. He spoke about his involvement, since 2001, and his efforts at fundraising over the past 18 years. He noted the support that he has received from across the State and how the Mayors of Harding Township and Walpack have declined to lend their support to the cause. He requested that the City Council send letters to these two individuals in the hope of persuading them to participate.

Kelly Vlasic, 30 W. Curtis Street. Ms. Vlasic spoke about an issue, with sidewalks, that she had and the swift responses of the First Ward Councilperson in handling the matter. She talked about elected officials who go on social media and talk about how great they are. She provided specific details on an incident involving graffiti in a park, and spoke about how she felt when issues like race and religion are continuously brought up. She spoke about the need to treat people with dignity and respect. Ms. Vlasic expressed her opinion, stating the opening of the park should have been postponed, and the reasons why. She discussed a number of issues that she had with the new park, and the grand opening itself. She concluded by critizing the interaction between the City and various developers.

John Kaczor, 23 W. Munsell Avenue. Mr. Kaczor began by stating that he lives under the bridge in Wheeler Park. He noted that the room was bringing out the worse in people, and chastised the Mayor for singling him out in comments the Mayor had made. He continued by stating that he would not waste his time, in following the Mayor through the Streets of Linden on election day. Mr. Kaczor was critical of the Mayor, and his team, for what he claimed to be violations of election law, and described his observances. He called the Mayor’s actions a classic political actions. Mr. Kaczor spoke about his core values and what he stands for.

Diane Wilverding, 150 E. Morris Avenue. Ms. Wilverding addressed Mrs. Ormon, regarding a park, in Clark. She noted that this is Clark’s second handicapped park, She described how the park is equipped. She asked that the City look into it further. Ms. Wilverding stated that the parks, servicing handicapped, should have more trees. Next she spoke about her concern for the library. She spoke about the condition and lack of care of the garden in front of the library, stating that it is not being properly taken care. Ms. Wilverding added that she is not hearing any Library reports, at Council meetings, and asked if the Council liaison, to the Library Board could start attending meetings of the Board.

Ed Kaminski, Maple Avenue. Mr. Kaminski noted that he doesn’t hold elective office, and hasn’t and will not run for office. He stated that he volunteers his time for the City. He then spoke about the SID, and called it a cesspool. He pointed out the new sidewalks that were put in, on Wood Ave, how they are crumbling, and also spoke about various safety issues. He talked about these issues being addressed if individuals did their jobs. He urged the factions to stop fighting, as that is not his problem. He spoke about coming home today, and the filth he found. He urged better enforcement and the issuing of fines to violators, and not just clean up.

Mrs. Ormon moved to close the public comment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brown and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote.

**COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

Mr. Strano provided his contact information. He spoke about the City departments, and the job they do and they are getting better at it every day. He thanked them for their efforts. Lastly he thanked a resident who wrote to him with old fashion pen and paper. He stated that is real, and noted that the concerns were going to be addressed.

Ms. Rhashonna Cosby noted that she was notified that the Hagel Ave traffic study was completed and was approved for rumble strips. She then requested a real investigation into some of the issues that she has brought up. She also stated her desire to have the conference meeting the week before the public meeting, not the day before, and explained her reasons.

Mr. Roman spoke about the number of dead trees that are being removed, and agreed that we are taking out more trees then we are planting. He then spoke about contacting “Where Angels Play,” what they do and why he contacted them. He gave his condolences to the Villani family. Mr. Roman stated that the points made by Ms. Vlasic and Mr. Kaczor were good ones.

Mr. Brown stated that he is a passionate individual. He noted that he does not post some of the negative stuff on Facebook, as he does not want that negative imagine as what people, outside of Linden, see. He then spoke about the homeless situation, and he has brought it up for the last couple meetings. He stated instead of bringing it up here he calls other officials to get the matters addressed. He reviewed the reasons that he doesn’t post on Facebook.

Mr. Medina spoke about the issue of litter, and how, when he walks the ward, he picks up litter, and speaks to the children, in the parks, about picking up. He stated that it all comes down to what the kids are learning at home. He asked that Council start discussing an anti-litter campaign.

Mr. Javick stated that he forgot to mention that the City will be looking for additional crossing guards, if anyone has any interest please contact the Police Departments, Traffic Division.

Mrs. Hickey stated that she is an extremely passionate person who tells the truth and is very involved in the community. She noted that she has offered to help with SID a number of times, but at some point you have to step away until they find a way of doing things the right way. Mrs. Hickey stated that simply because she calls out something that fails, does not mean that she needs to be criticized and bullied. She stated that she will never back down as long as she is the Tenth Ward Councilwoman.

Mrs. Ormon noted that the family that was referenced early, handing out flyers for the grand opening of the park, was her autistic daughter. She stated that autistic ignorance is far greater then autistic awareness. She stated to please don’t mention her child. She noted that the First Ward has been wonderful in embracing her and making her feel safe. She spoke about what her fears were. She stated that her daughter was off limits to Kelly Vlasic.

Mr. Mohammed urged all, particularly the audience to be courteous and exhibit decorum. This meeting is not a dog fight. He urged some of those here to go to the shore to relax.

Mayor Armstead there are many sides, but they are all trying to move the City forward. He noted the success in lowering taxes, two years in a row, and eliminating the garbage tax. He stated that he hears a lot of doom and gloom, but that he does not see it. He talked about what people understand, on some of these issues, like a SID, and the need to do presentations to educate them.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Yamakaitis announced the following Council Meetings:

\*Council Conference meeting:

Monday, August 19, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the Council Conference Room, City Hall, 301 N. Wood Ave.

\*Council Conference meeting prior to the Council meeting.

Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the Council Conference Room, City Hall, 301 N. Wood Ave.

\*Council Meeting: Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 301 N. Wood Ave.

There being no further business to come before the governing body Ms. Cosby moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Medina and was unanimously ordered approved by a roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph C. Bodek

City Clerk

The following was submitted by Ms. Rhashonna Cosby as her council report.

July 5th ward council report

 I want to start by wishing my sons Bilal- Rhashon and Derrick-Charles a happy birthday.

Thank you to Mr. Buono , Beat Master Productions and Savana's  for their effort in the first-ever celebration of Juneteenth.  What many people don't understand about the holiday is it commemorates the true end of slavery in America which was two years after the emancipation proclamation.  There was great food, music and an awareness of  African American culture. The Mayor vowed to ensure that the event is a success next year and I a looking forward to that.

Hagel Ave park equipment is in house, however, due to the continued rain I have been informed by Mr. Coplan that the installation will be delayed. I would like to thank my neighbors for their continued patience.

Cranford Ave pre- construction meeting was held today.  The contractor hopes to have the roadway paved before school opens in September.

The Linden Housing authority has applications available for (62 years of age or older) & disabled (under 62 – permanently disabled, collecting Social Security Disability) at the 1551 and 1601 Dill Ave properties.  They can be downloaded off the website

<http://lindenhousingauthority.org/> or I can email a copy to anyone interested. I would like to mention that I will be requesting to be reappointed as the liaison for the 2020 year.  I was not appointed this year after serving for seven years but the liaisons have not attended one meeting to date.

Save the date- The 5th ward's regularly scheduled meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 15th. 6:30 pm at the recreation center on John St.Our police will be there, the board of health will have valuable information on immunization for children and seniors and we will have free refreshments.

August 17th is our annual ward-wide yard sale.  There is no permit required.  I will be creating a list and map and if you would like to have your address listed and or help pass out fliers please send me an email. at [rcosby@linden-nj.org](mailto:rcosby@linden-nj.org)

Team Linden our hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs team has should be resuming our regular activities on August 3.  We have been displaced due to planned repairs to the facility that we use as our home base.  Also, this is the 4th year of the program and the 1st year that the city is the programs' owner.  My self and my fellow volunteer leaders will be seeking to meet with the new Director of recreation in the coming weeks to see how we can enhance the program for next year.

Reminder, the rec center on John Street is a cooling center please call 9084748469 for the hours of operation.

That concludes my report.​