

**BOROUGH OF LEONIA
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

Date: September 20, 2021

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-225

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Terrell						
Davis						
Flaim						
Fusco						
Grandelis						
Ziegler						
Mayor Zeigler	- - -	- - -				

WHEREAS, there are 11 forms of municipal government in the State of New Jersey; and;

WHEREAS, the Borough of Leonia operates under the Borough form of government, and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Leonia are committed to ensuring that Leonia’s municipal government allows for as many voters as possible to participate in municipal elections; and;

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Leonia are equally committed to ensuring that as many qualified individuals as possible have the ability to seek local elected office, and,

WHEREAS, Leonia Mayor Judah Zeigler did, on August 14, 2021, submit to the Governing Body of the Borough of Leonia containing a recommendation for the formation of a Charter Study Committee (“Committee”) in, by and for the Borough of Leonia, and,

WHEREAS, that memorandum, which is incorporated by reference into this Resolution, contains a process for selecting the members of the Committee, as well as the process the Committee will follow in conducting its activities, and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Leonia, having discussed the recommendations contained in Mayor Zeigler’s memorandum of August 14, do agree that the formation of a Charter Study Committee represents an important first step in the process of determining, fairly and impartially, whether Leonia’s current form of government is the most effective form of government for all of the residents of the Borough of Leonia;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Leonia do hereby authorize the formation of a Charter Study Committee, and,

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that the powers and duties of the Committee, as well as the process the Committee will follow in completing its responsibilities, shall be as detailed in Mayor Zeigler’s memorandum, in its entirety, with the exception of the section entitled “Committee Appointment Methodology,” and,

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BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that the section of the August 14 memorandum entitled "Committee Appointment Methodology" shall be replaced as follows:

"Consistent with the Borough form of government, nominations to the Committee will be made by the Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council. The Committee will consist of seven (7) members; the Mayor will also nominate the Committee Chair, with the advice and consent of the Council.

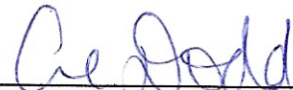
All registered voters of the municipality will be solicited as potential members of the Committee, except that the following individuals will be ineligible to serve on the Committee: The Mayor, any member of the Council, any member of the Leonia Board of Education, and/or any member of a Democratic or Republican Committee (municipal, County, or State).

Solicitation will be made via the Borough's standard communication protocols (Nixle, social media, website, etc.); interested parties would be asked to complete a brief online survey and provide their name, address, telephone number and email address, as well as a brief statement as to why they are interested in serving on such a Committee.

There will be a limited time window to receive responses (not more than 21 days); after which time the Mayor will assemble all responses for review by all members of the Council. The Mayor will then work in collaboration with the Council President, as well as another member of the Council to be selected by it, to arrive at the list of individuals to be nominated by the Mayor for appointment. These names will then be placed into nomination at a regular meeting of the Leonia Mayor and Council, at which time each member of the Governing will have the opportunity to vote positively or negatively for the confirmation of the nominees. The selection of a Committee Chair will be made following the same procedure," and,

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that neither the Mayor nor any member of the Council shall in any way attempt to influence the outcome of the work of the Committee, in order to ensure that the conclusions reached by the Committee can be truly relied upon as being fair and impartial.

I hereby certify that the above resolution was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Leonia at a meeting of said Borough Council on September 20, 2021.



Anne Dodd, RMC
Borough Clerk