

1 **Council Meeting/Work Session**
2 **Minutes**
3 **May 7, 2012**

4
5 *A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Leonia, Bergen County,*
6 *New Jersey, was held this evening in the Borough Hall Annex, commencing at 7:30 pm.*

7 Mayor DeSimone called the meeting to order.

8 Mayor DeSimone asked everyone to stand while Council President Knott led in the Pledge
9 of Allegiance.

10 **Council Present:** *Mayor DeSimone, Councilperson; Knott, Choi, Hawkins, Pak,*
11 *Salmon, Whitter*

12
13 **Council Absent:** *none*

14
15 **Also Present:** *Brian Giblin, Borough Attorney, Borough Administrator Jack*
16 *Terhune, Fran Lehmann, Borough Clerk, Lynn Hemmer, Deputy*
17 *Borough Clerk*

18
19
20 **Absent:** *none*

21
22 **OPEN MEETING STATEMENT**

23 Conditions of the Open Meeting Act have been met by Notice placed on the Bulletin
24 Board at Borough Hall and notices sent to the Official Newspaper.

25
26 **APPOINTMENT**

27
28 **PRESENTATION**

29
30 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

31 No one spoke.

32
33 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

34
35 **Council Meeting April 16, 2012** - Councilman Hawkins, seconded by Council President
36 Knott, made a motion to approve the Minutes of April 16, 2012. Roll call vote;
37 Councilpersons Knott, Choi, Hawkins, Salmon and Whitter voted yes. Councilman Pak
38 abstained. Minutes approved.

39
40 **Closed Session Minutes April 16, 2012** – Councilman Hawkins made a motion to
41 approve the Closed Session Minutes of March 19, 2012, seconded by Councilman Choi.
42 Roll call vote; Councilpersons Knott, Choi, Hawkins, Salmon and Whitter voted yes.
43 Councilman Pak abstained. Minutes approved.

45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 12-153 – Councilman Hawkins asked how much the shelters were going to cost the Borough. Mr. Terhune stated they are paid for by New Jersey Transit. Councilman Hawkins asked to have the resolution amended to reflect that the bus shelters are being paid for by NJ Transit.

Resolution 12-154 – Councilman Hawkins asked for an explanation. Mr. Terhune explained the resolution will enable the Borough to obtain other equipment that the Cranford Police Department bids on including police vehicles. This particular Resolution is the enabling resolution to be a part of the Cooperative Purchasing Program.

Resolution 12-150 – 12-158 Councilman Hawkins made a motion to approve the resolutions, seconded by Council President Knott. All in favor none opposed.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

Introduction of Ordinance 12-12 entitled:
AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING BUS STOPS AND AMENDING A PORTION OF CHAPTER 194 OF THE BOROUGH OF LEONIA

BOROUGH CLERK READ BY TITLE

A motion was made by Councilman Whitter, seconded by

Councilman Choi to approve on first reading, Ordinance 12-12
Councilman Hawkins questioned the need for the Ordinance. Mr. Terhune explained that when resolution for the new bus shelter was being prepared it was discovered that all the bus stops along Grand Avenue were not included in the Code Book.

Mr. Giblin stated essentially without doing this Ordinance the buses could not stop at any of these stops.

ROLL CALL: Councilperson, Knott, Choi, Hawkins, Pak, Salmon, Whitter

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

Adoption of Ordinance 11-12 entitled:
BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY AND NEW COMMUNICATION AND SIGNAL SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF LEONIA, IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$618,550 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE VARIOUS GRANTS, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR

92 **THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION**
93 **OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.**

94
95 **BOROUGH CLERK READ BY TITLE**
96 **Public Hearing**

97
98 A motion was made by Councilman Hawkins, seconded by
99 Councilman Choi to approve on final reading, Ordinance 11-12.
100 Leah Roland, 186 Crescent Avenue; Mrs. Roland asked what machinery and
101 equipment would be purchased. Mr. Terhune explained.

102
103 Councilman Pak asked for an explanation regarding various expenditures that
104 were in the Bond Ordinance. Mr. Terhune explained how the funding for
105 various projects works. Council President Knott also explained that in previous
106 years there would have been a meeting of the Capital Budget Committee, but
107 because there was only very limited funds to work with this year, it was
108 decided by the Finance Committee which projects would be funded.
109 Councilman Hawkins also explained that some of the projects may not even be
110 done because there may not be enough funds to do them. Most of the projects
111 noted have been carried over for several years. Oakdene Avenue needs sewer
112 repairs before it is paved. It has been on the list for seven years.
113 Councilman Pak was satisfied with all the explanations.

114
115 **ROLL CALL:** Councilperson, Knott, Choi, Hawkins, Pak, Salmon, Whitter
116 voted yes, Ordinance 11-12 adopted.

117
118 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 119 a) Lenox Towing (Jack Terhune) Mr. Terhune explained the issues to the Council.
120 After a brief discussion the Governing Body asked Mr. Giblin to send a letter
121 telling Lenox Towing they did not meet the mileage requirements.

122
123 **NEW BUSINESS**

- 124 a) Merger of Planning Board and Zoning Board (Council President Knott and
125 Councilman Whitter) Members of the Governing Body discussed various issues of
126 the merging of the two boards. This topic was held for further discussion at the
127 May 21, 2012 meeting.

- 128
129 b) Letter from Township of Galloway. Members of the Governing Body had no
130 interest in the proposed legislation.

- 131
132 c) Town Meeting, May 9, 2012 (Mayor DeSimone) Mayor De Simone gave a
133 highlight of what would be discussed.

134 **CORRESPONDENCE**

135
136 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

137 Alan Winters, 125 Knapp Terrace; Mr. Winters spoke about the Planning and Zoning
138 Boards. Things need to be fast tracked not made more difficult by going to one board then
139 being sent to another. The process needs to be streamlined.

140
141 Leah Roland, 186 Crescent Avenue; Mrs. Roland stated the March and April meetings of
142 the Board of Adjustment have been cancelled. The vast majority of the meetings are
143 variance requests for non-conforming residence. The process could be streamlined not just
144 for businesses but also for residents. The process is not friendly to welcoming new
145 business into town. The land use process needs to be reviewed.

146 Karen Peters, 142 Park Avenue - Mrs. Peters spoke on the merging of the Boards. Mrs.
147 Peters stated quality of life is the reason for strict zoning laws. Not all the laws are local
148 laws; some are national laws that must also be considered.

149
150 Carol Franklin, 433 Highwood Avenue – Ms. Franklin inquired if there is a board charged
151 with recruiting businesses in town. Mayor DeSimone stated the issue here is the rents are
152 exceptionally high. Councilman Hawkins explained a few years ago the Borough had hired
153 Mr. Don Smartt to try and negotiate with businesses to move into town but was met with
154 the same problem of high rents.

155 Councilman Whitter discussed the issue of getting nationally known business to come to
156 Leonia.

157
158 Leah Roland, 186 Crescent Avenue – She spoke about the changes that need to be made.

159

160 **CLOSED SESSION C**

161

162 **ADJOURN**

163 Councilman Whitter made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman
164 Choi. All in favor none opposed.

165

166 As there was no further business before the Governing Body, the meeting was adjourned at
167 9:15PM.

168

169

170 Respectfully submitted,

171

172

173 Fran Lehmann

174 Borough Clerk