

1 **Council Meeting/Work Session**
2 **Minutes**
3 **June 20, 2011**
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 Heveran called the meeting to order.

8 Mayor Mary Heveran asked everyone to stand while Council President Raucci led in the
9 Pledge of Allegiance.

10 **Council Present:** *Mayor Heveran, Councilpersons, Raucci, Choi, De Simone,*
11 *Hawkins, Knott, Whitter*

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

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

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

21 **OPEN MEETING STATEMENT**

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

25 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
26

27 Terry McMahon, 128 Gladwin Avenue thanked the Laws and Ordinances Committee for a
28 new category in the Fire Prevention Ordinance.
29

30 Jim Tappen, 124 Vreeland Avenue, Mr. Tappen inquired on the status of the Ambulance
31 Corps stipend and clothing allowance. Mr. Tappen stated the corps was willing to go to
32 court to have funds paid. Borough Administrator Terhune stated the request went to the
33 Ambulance Committee. Mr. Giblin stated no further comments could be made because of
34 a threat of a lawsuit.
35

36 **PRESENTATION**
37

38 **APPOINTMENT**

39 Councilman Knott made a motion seconded by Councilman Hawkins to approve
40 Resolution 11-142 Appointing John Roynon as a Class B Member of the Historic
41 Preservation Commission for a term to expire 12/31/2015. All in favor none opposed
42

43 Councilman Knott seconded by Councilman Hawkins made a motion to approve
44 Resolution 11-143 Appointing Diana Damon as a Class C member of the Historic
45 Preservation Commission for a term to expire 12-31-2015. All in favor none opposed.

46

47 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

48 Minutes of June 6, 2011, – A motion was made by Councilman De Simone seconded by
49 to approve the Minutes of June 6, 2011 Council President Raucci,. Roll call vote; all in
50 favor none opposed.

51

52 Closed Session Minutes June 6, 2011 – A motion was made by Council President Raucci,
53 seconded by Councilman Hawkins to approve the Closed Session Minutes of June 6, 2011.
54 Roll call vote; all in favor none opposed.

55

56 **RESOLUTIONS**

57 Resolution 11-138 - Councilman Hawkins and Councilman Whitter asked to have this
58 resolution held. Councilman Hawkins wanted more information regarding the tax appeal.
59 Councilman Whitter noted the numbers did not add up there appeared to be a
60 typographical error. The resolution was withdrawn from the agenda.

61

62 Resolutions 11 137,139,140,141, and 144 – Council President Raucci made a motion to
63 approve the above noted resolutions seconded by Councilman Whitter. Roll call vote; all
64 in favor none opposed.

65

66 **Standing Committees**

67

68 Finance Administration & Personnel- Councilman Knott reported there will be
69 estimated tax bills going for the third quarter. Mr. Terhune stated there will be a
70 notice about Library funding as mandated by the State.

71 Laws & Ordinances – Councilman Whitter reported the Committee met with
72 members of the American Legion. Mr. Terhune and Mr. Giblin also were present.
73 Hours of operation and recommendations were discussed.

74

75 Police – Councilman Hawkins reported the Committee met and personnel issues
76 were discussed. Councilman Hawkins also spoke with the Chief regarding the use of
77 addresses in press releases.

78 Fire Department – Council President Raucci no report.

79 Ambulance – Councilman Choi reviewed the report from Englewood Hospital. The
80 Ambulance Committee will meet to discuss the stipend.

81 Public Works – Councilman De Simone reported the Department of Public Works is
82 down four men. Curbside garbage pick-up was good idea. Councilman De Simone
83 thanked the High School Environmental Club for their assistance with cleaning of
84 Broad Avenue.

85 Borough Administrator - Mr. Terhune reminded everyone the dinner for Mrs.
86 Yandoli will be on Monday, June 27 at Dante's. Sports Boosters has requested

87 permission to put clothing bins on Broad Avenue to help raise funds. Mr. Saitta has
88 donated 15 sick days from his sick bank to Mr. Puente who is a relatively new
89 employee and will be out until July 11, 2011. Solar panels have all been transferred
90 over as of June 15th. The BPU Energy grant has been completed.

91 Mayor –Mayor Heveran attended a rally in Trenton on June 19 for women’s
92 healthcare which has been eliminated from the State Budget. The next Council
93 Meeting is July 6th and the meeting in August is 1st. September the two meeting a
94 month schedule will resume.

95 Special Bodies Councilman Hawkins reported the Green Team has met and is
96 preparing a sustainable section for the Master Plan.

97

98 **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE**

99 Introduction of Ordinance 09-11 entitled:

100 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 80 OF THE CODE OF THE**
101 **BOROUGH OF LEONIA TITLED "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES"**

102

103 **Borough Clerk Read the Ordinance by Title**

104

105 Councilman Hawkins stated he would like the Ordinance held because it had not been
106 posted on the website

107 A motion was made by Council President Raucci seconded by Councilperson De
108 Simone to adopt on first reading Ordinance 09-11

109

110 Councilman Hawkins asked why the Church was opposed to the American Legion
111 having Club License. Councilman Whitter explained there was a concern there
112 would be drinking outside the building and that it was less than 200’ from the
113 Church. Actual distance is more than 200’. Mr. Giblin explained that members are
114 only allowed so many guests and no one from the public can walk in and consume
115 alcohol.

116

117 **Roll Call Vote:** All in favor none opposed. Ordinance introduced.

118

119 **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE**

120

121 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

122 a) TV. Clinic Property – Councilman Choi asked for an update on the project. Mr.
123 Giblin explained that a new law would allow the current owner to sit on the
124 project and do nothing until the end of 2012. Mr. Terhune explained some of
125 the issues; the developer’s agreement has not been signed and escrow funds
126 have not been deposited. Councilman Hawkins inquired if the taxes were being
127 paid, Mr. Terhune said they were current.

128

129 **NEW BUSINESS**

130 a) Leonia Market Councilman Choi requested an update on the project. Mr.
131 Terhune reported the interior demolition is complete. The owner is waiting

132 for prices to do the interior work. The new refrigeration is in but is not
133 installed.
134 b) Handicap Parking Space Gladwin Ave. Mr. Terhune reviewed the request
135 with the members of the Governing Body. Councilman Whitter asked about
136 alternate side parking. Mr. Terhune explained it is 24/7 the car does not
137 need to be moved.
138 Resolution 11-145 – Councilman Whitter made a motion to approve Resolution 11-
139 145 authorizing a Handicap Parking Space on Gladwin Ave., seconded by
140 Councilman Choi. Roll call vote all in favor none opposed.
141

142 **CORRESPONDENCE**

143 144 145 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

146 Eric Bortz 221 Columbus Avenue. Palisades Park – Mr. Bortz is a member of the Holy
147 Spirit Lutheran Church expressed his concern about the waiver the church was asked to
148 sign. Mr. Bortz inquired if the residents in the area need to be notified. Mr. Giblin replied
149 not necessary. Mr. Bortz spoke about the veterans returning home. Mr. Bortz said Pastor
150 Neiderer has worked diligently for the community.
151

152 Ernest Liberatore 121 Woodridge Place; Mr. Liberatore said the delays at the TV Clinic
153 are serious the sidewalks are in disrepair. Mr. Liberatore stated he is favor of Servicemen
154 getting whatever they need. Mr. Liberatore said he supports “green initiatives”
155 wholeheartedly. Mr. Giblin stated the property owners are liable if the sidewalks are a
156 safety hazard.
157

158 Tony Kowidge 419 Broad Avenue; American Legion has several pails that are on wheels
159 the High School students are welcome to use them. Mr. Kowidge met with Pastor
160 Neiderer. The American Legion has a full website that show all the programs that are
161 available to the members and the returning veterans.
162

163 Dennis Castro, 1621 Bergen Boulevard; The American Legion is not just for veterans but
164 also for the families. Val Nicholas is the new service manager for the Legion; in that
165 capacity he can assist in issues that returning veterans may have.
166

167 Theresa Tietjen, 134 Palisade Avenue; Mrs. Tietjen told the Governing Body that 100,000
168 in academic awards and scholarships were given to students. Any asphalt for Palisade
169 Avenue. Mr. Terhune explained that the design is done but there is no money this year.
170 The Toyota property on the corner is a disgrace. There needs to be handicap parking space
171 by St. John’s. Mrs. Tietjen was advised to see Chief Ziegler.
172

173 Leah Roland 136 Crescent Avenue; Mrs. Roland thanked Mayor Heveran for joining the
174 protest to cut women’s health which has been vetoed twice. Mrs. Roland asked if a
175 pedestrian marker cone could be placed by the Library crossing on Fort Lee Road. Drivers
176 do not yield to pedestrians. Mrs. Roland commented on a recent approval by the Board of

177 Adjustment. Mr. Giblin cautioned the Governing Body about responding in case there is
178 an appeal.

179

180

181 Charles Silberstein 356 Grand Avenue; Mr. Silverstein reported that several months ago a
182 women was walking and fell in that area he helped her up she had a lot scrapes and cuts
183 but went on her way. Mr. Silverstein also announced he was Chaplin for the Legion and he
184 also works with the returning veterans.

185

186 Eric Bortz 221 Columbus Avenue, Palisades Park; Pastor Neiderer did not say the waiver
187 was deceptive, Mr. Bortz said it.

188

189 **CLOSED SESSION (H)**

190 Council President Raucci made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel,
191 seconded by Councilman Knott. All in favor.

192

193 **ADJOURN**

194 Councilman Whitter made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman De
195 Simone. All in favor none opposed.

196 As there was no further business before the Governing Body, the meeting was adjourned at
197 9:22 PM.

198

199 Respectfully submitted,

200

201

202 Fran Lehmann

203 Borough Clerk

204

205 THE PRECEDING IS A CONCISE STATEMENT INTERPRETED BY THE
206 BOROUGH CLERK AND MAY NOT INDICATE THE PRECISE INTENT OF THE
207 GOVERNING BODY. THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ARE TAPED AND
208 AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOROUGH CLERK.