

1 **Council Meeting/Work Session**
2 **Minutes**
3 **July 6, 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:** *Brian Giblin, Borough Attorney, Jack Terhune, Borough*
16 *Administrator, Fran Lehmann, Borough Clerk, Lynn Hemmer,*
17 *Deputy 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 **APPOINTMENT**
26

27 **PRESENTATION**
28

29 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

30 Karen Peters, 142 Park Avenue; Mrs. Peters inquires why two people are getting increases
31 to do the work of one person. Councilman Knott had no comment. Mr. Terhune explained
32 the money is not coming out of the budget. The funds are from the Life Hazard fees
33 charged by the Fire Prevention Bureau. The resolutions have nothing to do with property
34 maintenance whatsoever.
35

36 Nina Gaetjens, 351, Oakdene Avenue; Ms. Gaetjens inquired if the Governing body has
37 considered hiring a Traffic Officer. With all the building in Palisades Park on Oakdene
38 there are parking issues. Councilman Hawkins explained the issue has been discussed and
39 the Borough is currently utilizing Special Officers who are allowed to issue certain tickets.
40 Mr. Terhune explained that collectively the three special ones that utilized in this capacity
41 cannot exceed twenty hours. Councilman Hawkins stated that Leonia Police officers two –
42 three times more ticket than officers in other municipalities.
43
44

45 Elizabeth Frentzel 238 Van Orden; Ms. Frentzel spoke against Ordinance 09-11
46
47 Karl Fritsch, 324 Beechwood Place; Mr. Fritsch spoke about mid block crosswalks in
48 other municipalities.
49
50 Pastor David Wehrle Methodist; Pastor Werhle introduced himself to the Governing Body.
51
52 Roland Weimer, 329 Moore Avenue; Mr. Weimer also spoke about the need for a
53 sidewalk in that area. Mr. Weiner also spoke about the Complete Streets Grant that is
54 available.”

55
56 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

57
58 Council Minutes June 20, 2011 – Councilman Whitter made a motion to approve as
59 amended the Minutes of June 20, 2011, seconded by Councilman Choi. All in favor none
60 opposed.

61
62 Closed Session Minutes June Session, June 20,2011 – Council President Raucci seconded
63 by Councilman
64 Choi to approve the Closed Session Minutes of June 20, 2011. Roll call vote all in favor
65 none opposed.

66
67
68 Council Meeting June 20, 2011 – Councilman Hawkins, seconded by Councilman Choi,
69 made a motion to approve the Minutes of June 20, 2011. Roll call vote; all in favor none
70 opposed. Minutes approved.

71
72 Closed Session Minutes June 20, 200 – Council President Raucci, made a motion to
73 approve the Closed Session Minutes of June 20,2011 seconded by Councilman Hawkins.
74 Roll call vote; all in favor none opposed. Minutes approved.

75
76 **RESOLUTIONS**

77 Councilman

78
79 Resolutions 11-138-11-155, - Council President Raucci seconded by Councilman
80 De Simone made a motion to approve the resolutions, Roll call vote all in favor none
81 opposed.

82
83 **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE**

84 **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE**

85 Adoption of Ordinance 09-11 entitled:
86 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 80 OF THE CODE OF THE**
87 **BOROUGH OF LEONIA TITLED "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

88 **Clerk Read by Title**

89 **Public Hearing**

90

91 Elizabeth Frentzel 238 Van Orden; Ms. Frentzel spoke against Ordinance 09-11. Ms.
92 Frentzel referred to an article in the June 11, 2011 Record.
93
94 Eric Bortz 221 Columbus Avenue, Palisades Park; Spoke against the Club License.
95
96 Karl Fritsch 324 Beechwood Place; Mr. Fritsch said the license is good for the American
97 Legion and good for the Borough of Leonia.
98
99 Councilman Whitter explained there has been a bar there for decades with no limitations.
100 There will be a more structured position in place. There is not an open door policy to the
101 public to just walk in and drink. No other organization fits the criteria in the Borough.
102
103 Mr. Giblin explained there are substantial restrictions in place.
104
105 Roland Weimer 329 Moore Avenue; Mr. Weimer inquired about the “pocket license.” The
106 Borough Clerk explained. Mr. Weimer commended the American Legion for what they are
107 trying to do.
108
109 Pastor Neiderer Holy Spirit church; Pastor Neiderer read an excerpt from the law and
110 noted the church qualifies under the law. Pastor Neiderer does not know of any good that
111 comes from alcohol.
112
113 Mr. Fabio Castilblanco, 94 Paulin Blvd.; Mr. Castilblanco stated his father owns a wine
114 distribution business and he feels this is a positive thing the Governing Body is allowing.
115 Steve Hutnick 262 Leonia Avenue; Mr. Hutnick stated he understands the concerns of the
116 residents but the American Legion will have to follow the rules of the A.B.C. The license
117 is good for one year then it has to be renewed if it does not work out hen it will not be
118 renewed.
119
120 Tony Kowidge 419 Broad Avenue; Mr. Kowidge spoke regarding the Ordinance.
121
122 Valdice Nicholas, 508 Nordhoff Drive; Mr. Nicholas is Vice President of NBC News and
123 he just attended the Global Initiative. There is a very positive thing coming out of this.
124 PTSD or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder caused by seeing the results of roadside bombs
125 etc. Returning Veterans will only talk to other Veterans as they understand what they are
126 going through.
127
128 Leah Roland 186 Crescent Road; Mrs. Roland said change is hard. Mrs. Roland spoke
129 about Tuesday night court.
130
131 Pastor Neiderer stated data indicates alcohol abuse is 30% higher in veterans. Parking is
132 an issue.
133
134 Members of the Governing body discussed the Ordinance and asked questions of Mr.
135 Giblin.
136

137 A motion was made by Councilperson Whitter, seconded by Council President
138 Raucci to adopt on final reading Ordinance 09-11.
139

140 **ROLL CALL** Councilperson, Raucci, De Simone, Hawkins, Knott, Whitter voted yes
141 Councilman Choi abstained Ordinance approved.
142

143 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

144 a) Use of Ambulance Corps Building (Mayor Heveran) Mayor Heveran reviewed the
145 memo from Chief Ziegler. Councilman Hawkins stated every department need
146 improved facilities not sure the whole building can go to the Police Department.
147 Councilman Hawkins stated he will continue to have discussions with Mr.
148 Terhune. Councilman Raucci stated they do need more space.
149

150 b). Sale of Ambulance to Rochelle Park (Mr. Terhune) Mr. Terhune explained he was
151 contacted by Rochelle Park and they are willing to pay \$25,000 for one of the
152 ambulances. Councilman Choi asked what the market value was. Mr. Terhune
153 stated there is no market value for an ambulance because they are specific items
154 installed. Councilman Knott said if they are willing to pay \$25,000 go for it.
155

156 c) Clothing Bins for Sports Boosters (Mr. Terhune) Mr. Terhune reviewed his memo
157 regarding the installation of clothing bins. Mr. Terhune stated the Sports Boosters
158 would like to put the bins near the ambulance building. Mr. Terhune has
159 experience with company. Councilman Hawkins said he has had experience with
160 people sleeping in the bins. The Council agreed to approve the bins on a yearly
161 basis. Council President Raucci asked where the bins would be placed. Mr.
162 Terhune stated either by the vending machines or next to the building.

163 Councilman Hawkins asked to have Fort Lee Road Traffic placed on the Agenda. The
164 members of the Governing Body agreed. Councilman Hawkins stated we are a shortcut
165 between the Turnpike and the George Washington Bridge.. Councilman Hawkins
166 asked the Governing Body to consider petitioning the Turnpike and Port Authority to
167 provide an officer when a back-up occurs or to supply the salary for one officer. The
168 Governing Body discussed the issue. Mr. Terhune did inform everyone that the
169 emergency services do receive a small stipend when they are called to an accident
170 scene on the turnpike.
171

172 **NEW BUSINESS**

173
174 **CORRESPONDENCE**

175
176 Mayor Heveran asked if everyone had read the letter from Diane Ford. Mayor Heveran
177 asked Mr. Terhune to have Chief Zeigler check Warwick Lane and advise if “slow -
178 children at play” sign is warranted.
179
180
181
182

183 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

184

185 Tony Kowidge, 419 Broad Avenue; Mr. Kowidge stated if the police department would
186 like to use the American Legion facilities for training please contact him to make the
187 arrangements.

188

189 Ingrid Brennan, 53 Palmer Place; Mrs. Brennan brought to the attention of the Governing
190 Body that the planting in front of the Leonia Market is in dire need of attention.

191

192 Roland Weimer 329 Moore Avenue; Leonia cannot escape its geography the traffic is not a
193 Leonia problem but a regional problem.

194

195 Tony Kowidge 419 Broad Avenue; Mr. Kowidge told the Governing Body there are four
196 lights not functioning two in front of CVS and two in front of Manor Beverage.

197

198 **CLOSED SESSION J**

199 Council President Raucci made a motion to go into Closed Session, seconded by
200 Councilman Hawkins all in favor none opposed.

201

202 **ADJOURN**

203 Council President Raucci made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman
204 Hawkins. All in favor none opposed.

205

206 As there was no further business before the Governing Body, the meeting was adjourned at
207 9:53 PM

208

209

210 Respectfully submitted,

211

212

213

214 Fran Lehmann

215 Borough Clerk