

1 **Council Meeting/Work Session**
2 **Minutes**
3 **September 21, 2009**

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 7:30pm*

7
8 Mayor Heveran called the meeting to order.
9

10 Mayor Mary Heveran asked the assembly to stand while Council President Choi led in
11 the Pledge of Allegiance.
12

13 **Council Present:** *Mayor Heveran, Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard,*
14 *Puzzo, Raspa-Gore, Raucci*

15
16 **Council Absent:** *None*

17
18 **Also Present:** *Brian Giblin, Borough Attorney, Fran Lehmann, Borough Clerk*
19

20
21 **Absent:** *Jack Terhune, Borough Administrator*
22

23 **OPEN MEETING STATEMENT**

24
25 Conditions of the Open Meeting Act have been met by Notice placed on the Bulletin
26 Board at Borough Hall and notices sent to the Official Newspaper.
27

28 Mayor Heveran noted the Fire Exit.
29

30 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

31
32 Rachel Stern – 44 Paulin Boulevard – Ms. Stern spoke about the streets in the area of
33 Paulin Boulevard. They are very narrow and are concerned that when 604 Main Street is
34 built, traffic in the area will be unbearable. Ms. Stern also expressed concern about the
35 traffic that will be generated in the area once the new Gulf Station on Route 46 is
36 completed. Ms. Stern expressed concern with the traffic near the park. Ms. Stern asked
37 the Governing Body to reconsider regulations in this area.
38

39 Debbie Sciarra 174 Fort Lee Road – Thanked Mayor Heveran for her assistance in
40 finding her family a home after they lost their home in a fire. Ms. Sciarra had questions
41 regarding the Senior Housing. Mayor Heveran stated this will be on the agenda later in
42 the meeting; hopefully her questions will be answered when she explains what will be
43 occurring in the near future.
44

45 Peter Knott – 17 Wood Terrace – Mr. Knott agreed with Ms. Stern’s comments. Mr.
46 Knott stated he is trying to get a copy of the settlement for 604 Main Street. Mr. Giblin
47 will send a copy to the Borough Clerk’s office.
48

49 Charles Silverstein – 356 Grand Avenue – Mr. Silverstein brought to the attention of the
50 Governing Body that the Library is very noisy once school is dismissed for the day. He
51 has spoken to Director Bigelow who is looking into allowing the children to utilize the
52 lower level of the Library. Many of them are there until their parents pick them up.
53 Councilwoman Raspa-Gore will bring it up for discussion at the next meeting of the
54 Library Board.
55

56 **PRESENTATION**

57
58 Darius Levine – 174 Sylvan Avenue – Mr. Levine presented a flag to the Borough that
59 was flown over the Capital Building on, August 14, 1995. Mr. Levine read the
60 accompanying certificate.
61

62 Mr. Charles Callari – American Traffic Solutions 16 Schaffer Road, Bridgewater – Mr.
63 Callari made a presentation to those assembled regarding the placement of cameras that
64 would film cars going through red lights and generating summonses from the
65 photographs taken at the time. Mr. Callari answered the questions posed by the
66 Governing Body.
67

68 **APPOINTMENTS**

69
70 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

71
72 Minutes – Council Meeting, September 9, 2009 – Councilman Hawkins made a motion to
73 approve the minutes of the Meeting of September 9, 2009 as amended. Councilman
74 Norgaard seconded the motion. Roll call vote; all in favor none opposed.
75

76 Closed Session – September 9, 2009 – A motion was made by Councilman Norgaard to
77 approve the Closed Session Minutes as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Raspa-
78 Gore. Roll call vote, all in favor none opposed.
79

80 **RESOLUTIONS**

81
82 A motion was made by Councilman Norgaard, seconded by Council President Choi to
83 approve Resolutions 09-186 through 09-193. Roll call vote, Councilpersons Choi,
84 Hawkins, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raucci and Raspa-Gore voted yes. Councilman Hawkins
85 voted no on Resolution 09-193. Resolutions approved.
86

87 **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

88
89 **Finance, Administration and Personnel** – Councilman Puzzo – Nothing to report at this
90 time.

91
92 **Laws and Ordinances** – Councilwoman Raspa-Gore – Nothing to report at this time.
93
94 **Police** – Councilman Raucci – Reported on the following topic: Councilman Raucci
95 reported the Police Committee will meet within the week. The parking regulations by
96 ACS are working well although there were a few glitches the first few days of school.
97 Everything is working very well now. Burglaries are continuing and the Police are asking
98 the assistance of the public, as well as from the County. There are more plain clothes
99 officers in the area. Several of the surrounding municipalities are experiencing the same
100 problem. If anyone sees anything that may be suspicious, please call the Police
101 Department. A retirement has been finalized in the Police Department. Looking at going
102 to twelve hour shifts. New signs are up on Crescent Avenue. Councilwoman Raspa-Gore
103 said she has registered for “Twitter”. Drop-off on Crescent is going well. Councilwoman
104 Raspa-Gore inquired if summonses were being issued for the “Do Not Enter Sign” the
105 Board of Education puts out every morning at 6:00 AM. There is nothing in the Leonia
106 Code allowing it.
107
108 **Fire** – Councilman Norgaard – Councilman Norgaard reported that there were 28 calls
109 for August.
110
111 **Ambulance** – Council President Choi, no report at this time.
112
113 **Public Works** – Councilman Hawkins reported everything is working at this time.
114
115 **Real Estate and Insurance Committee** – Councilman Puzzo nothing at this time.
116
117 **Administrator** –Administrator Terhune was absent, no report.
118
119 **Mayor** – Mayor Heveran reported she attended the “911” Memorial Service in Overpeck
120 Park with Council President Choi and Councilman Hawkins. Mayor Heveran attended the
121 opening of Soccer Season with Council President Choi and Councilman Norgaard. There
122 are now over 600 children participating in the program. Soccer is now working with
123 Palisades Park and Edgewater and there are children from Englewood who want to play
124 soccer but because of their religion cannot participate on a Saturday and the games here
125 are on Sunday. Mayor Heveran attended a breakfast for the Israeli First Responders who
126 were here sharing their experiences with other first responders. Mayor Heveran attended
127 the opening of the new Emergency Room at Englewood Hospital. There are now 40
128 rooms, a pediatric section and a pediatric waiting area. Mayor Heveran attended the
129 International Day of Peace at the Methodist Church. There was a large diversity of
130 people. Mayor Heveran also attended the Korean Thanksgiving Festival of Chusok with
131 Council President Choi, Councilman Hawkins and former Mayor Pacicco. Council
132 President Choi thanked Mayor Heveran on behalf of the Korean Community for the
133 proclamation.
134
135
136

137 **Special Bodies**

138
139 Councilman Norgaard - The Dudley C. Allen Park dedication will be October 31.
140 Councilman Hawkins reported that the application for Leonia to become a NJ Sustainable
141 Committee was completed and sent out on Friday. A municipality needed 100 points,
142 Leonia had 140 points. Councilman Hawkins reviewed some of the incentive programs.

143
144 **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE**

145
146 **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE**

147 Adoption of Bond Ordinance 16-09 entitled:

148
149 **BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF NEW**
150 **ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY**
151 **IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF LEONIA, IN THE COUNTY OF**
152 **BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF**
153 **\$23,350 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN**
154 **PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE**
155 **SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF**
156 **BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE**
157 **OF SUCH BONDS .**

158 **Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by title.**

159 **Public Hearing no one spoke**

160
161 **Motion** made by Councilman Hawkins, seconded by Council President Choi to
162 adopt on final reading Ordinance 16-09

163
164 **ROLL CALL**, all Council members voted yes.

165
166 Adoption of Ordinance 17-09

167 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF**
168 **LEONIA, CHAPTER 245 THEREOF, ENTITLED “STORMWATER**
169 **CONTROL”, BY AMENDING SECTION 245-2 “DEFINITIONS’,**
170 **RENUMBERING SECTIONS 245-11 AND 245-12 AND BY ADDING A**
171 **NEW SECTION 245-11 ENTITLED “PRIVATE STORM DRAIN INLET**
172 **RETROFITTING” AND A NEW SECTION 245-12 ENTITLED “REFUSE**
173 **CONTAINERS/DUMPSTERS.”**

174 Borough Attorney Giblin asked to have the Ordinance tabled as the Borough
175 Engineer had some changes to be made.

176 **Public Hearing**

177
178 **Motion** made by Councilman Hawkins, seconded by Councilman Raucci to table
179 the Ordinance.

180
181 **ROLL CALL**, all Council members voted yes. Ordinance tabled.

185 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 186 a) Time Warner Cable – this item was held until October 5th and will be
187 discussed in Closed Session under negotiations.
188 b) H2M Proposal for Light Rail – this item held until October 5th.
189 c) Fees - Councilman Raucci explained the Ordinance needs to be amended and
190 he will meet with Mr. Alampi and the Building Official.
191 d) Elm Place Lot - Councilman Raucci explained that at some point it may be
192 necessary to add more red spaces. This will be reviewed at a future date.
193

194 **NEW BUSINESS**

- 195 a) Street Closure Request – Mr. Weimer who put the request in explained the
196 event to the Governing Body. After a brief discussion Mr. Weimer withdrew
197 his request, as the event will be held in two adjoining yards.
198 b) Senior Housing – Mayor Heveran explained that Leonia Retirement Housing
199 is required by law to advertise in newspapers in various languages. The
200 advertisement must be placed in all the papers at the same time. The new
201 section cannot be limited to Leonians only. But priority can be given in the
202 older section of the residence to Leonians.
203

204 **CORRESPONDENCE**

205
206 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

207
208 Maryann Gorman - 150 Vreeland Avenue – Ms. Gorman feels the units should be
209 available to US Citizens only. Ms. Gorman also asked how a person would know if they
210 are in the lottery. Mayor Heveran asked Mr. Brennan if he could perhaps explain some
211 of the issues at this time.
212

213 Matt Brennan – 53 Palmer Place Mr. Brennan explained how the process will work.
214 Mayor Heveran said a notice will be on the Borough Website and that there will be a
215 presentation at the meeting of October 5th.
216

217 Ernest Liberatore – 121 Woodridge Place – Mr. Liberatore asked the Council to have
218 property maintenance have the property that was TV Clinic cleaned up. There is a lot of
219 grass growing through the sidewalk. The property is now very unsightly. Councilman
220 Raucci will talk to the Property Maintenance Official. Mr. Liberatore asked the
221 Governing Body to support Assembly Bill 3907. It supports and identifies funding for
222 High Performance Green Building Demonstration Project.
223

224 Charles Silverstein - 356 Grand Avenue – Mr. Silverstein asked if the website Mayor
225 Heveran was referring to was the LTA site. Mayor Heveran said not that is not the
226 official site of the Borough. The official site is www. leonianj.gov. Mr. Silverstein asked
227 if the red light discussion would produce ratables. Mayor Heveran stated no. Mr.
228 Silverstein asked about the green neighborhood watch signs that used to be up around the
229 Borough. Mayor Heveran explained that a few years ago old rusted and bent signs were
230 removed. Mr. Silverstein said maybe now would be a good time to put them back up.

231
232 Roland Weimer – 329 Moore Avenue – asked about the Elm Place parking lot fees and
233 when they were going to be increased. Mayor Heveran said not until January 2010.
234

235

236 **CLOSED SESSION**

237

238 Councilman Hawkins made a motion to go into Closed Session, seconded by Councilman
239 Raucci to discuss the following: Litigation

240

241 All in favor none opposed.

242

243 **ADJOURN**

244

245 Councilman Raucci made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Norgaard. All
246 in favor none opposed.

247

248 As there was no further business before the Governing Body, the meeting was adjourned
249 at 10:15PM

250

251 Respectfully submitted,

252

253

254

255 Fran Lehmann

256 Borough Clerk