

1 **Council Meeting/Work Session**
2 **Minutes**
3 **January 14, 2008**

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 7:32pm*

7
8 Mayor Heveran called the meeting to order.

9
10 Mayor Mary Heveran asked everyone to stand while Council President Hawkins led in
11 the Pledge of Allegiance.

12
13 **Council Present:** *Mayor Heveran, Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard,*
14 *Puzzo, Raucci*

15
16 **Council Absent:** *Councilwoman Raspa-Gore*

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

20
21 **OPEN MEETING STATEMENT**

22
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 Mayor Heveran pointed out the Fire Exit.

27
28 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

29 Hagop Baghdadian, 420 Hazlitt Avenue – Asked the main reason for making these
30 streets one-way? Mayor Heveran explained this will be discussed after the Transportation
31 Committee Presentation.

32
33 No one else spoke.

34
35 **PRESENTATION**

36
37 Matt Brennan 53 Palmer Place – Mr. Brennan made a presentation on behalf of the
38 Transportation Committee (copy attached) which includes parking in the Overpeck Park
39 near the stables. Mr. Brennan gave an overview of the discussions and recommendations
40 made by the Transportation Committee to the engineers looking into building a station in
41 Leonia.

42 Mayor Heveran thanked Mr. Brennan for the presentation and all the work the committee
43 has done. Mayor Heveran asked if the members of the Council had any questions?

44
45

46 Council President Hawkins thanked the Committee for their work. Council President
47 Hawkins noted that Edsall Boulevard would not be an advisable place for a station as
48 there is one planned for the area by Shop-Rite.
49 Council President Hawkins would like to have the Borough Engineer review the proposal
50 and make a recommendation where they feel would be a good place for a station in
51 Leonia.
52
53 Adrienne Albanese, 132 High Street – asked Council President Hawkins why he did not
54 feel Edsall Boulevard was a good place for a station? Council President Hawkins stated
55 that it a good distance from Shop Rite. Council President Hawkins explained his
56 reasoning for opposing a station at Edsall Boulevard.
57
58 Councilman Puzzo thanked the Committee for their work, and inquired if they have
59 worked with other communities. Mr. Brennan explained he has worked with Tenafly.
60 Councilman Puzzo is in agreement with Committee and asked the Borough Attorney to
61 prepare a resolution for the next meeting to be sent to the Freeholders, Assembly, Senate,
62 Governor Corzine and Congressman Rothman. Councilman Puzzo asked Mr. Brennan to
63 work with Mr. Giblin on a resolution so it will be ready for the February 4th meeting.
64
65 Councilmen Raucci, Choi and Norgaard thanked the Committee for all the work they
66 have done.
67
68 Council President Hawkins made a motion, seconded by Councilman Puzzo to move the
69 discussion on one-way streets up on the agenda. All in favor none opposed.
70
71 Mr. Giblin explained to everyone why the Mayor and Council are considering making the
72 streets around the proposed 604 Main St. one-way streets.
73
74 Mayor Heveran explained that the Governing Body is looking for ways to protect Leonia
75 from the increase of traffic. One of the ways that is being considered is to make the
76 streets one-way if not 24/7 than during specific hours.
77
78 Hagop Baghdadian, 420 Hazlitt Street – inquired if the proposed building has been
79 approved. Mayor Heveran stated no. Ms. Baghdadian does not feel it is practical to
80 make these streets one-way streets.
81
82 Councilman Puzzo asked Mr. Giblin if changing the configuration of the Borough streets
83 now prior to the Fort Lee approving the project. Mr. Giblin stated now would be better as
84 it would impact the traffic study. Councilman Puzzo asked if this would have any
85 ramifications on the building as planned. Mr. Giblin stated it would definitely need to be
86 scaled back.
87
88 Jean Roma, 428 Lester Street – Asked why the deterrent has to be the actual action? Mr.
89 Giblin stated just telling them is not good enough if we tell them Borough is going to do
90 they do not have to take it into account. If the Borough changes the streets to one-way

91 they have to take it into account. Councilman Raucci stated the Borough could change
92 the Ordinance if they cut it in half but he does not think that will happen.

93
94 Kathy Malloy, 424 Hazlitt Street – Mrs. Malloy asked how this would enforced and
95 asked about making Rte. 46 inaccessible by making them dead ends. Mr. Giblin
96 explained how it would be enforced.

97
98 Councilman Norgaard suggested barricading the end of Rte. 46.
99

100 Councilman Raucci inquired if the emergency services and the garbage truck maneuver if
101 we make them dead ends. Mr. Giblin said all this needs to be reviewed with those
102 departments.

103
104 Mayor Heveran thanked the residents for attending and sharing their opinions.

105
106 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

107 Council Meeting/Work Session, December 3, 2007 - Council President Hawkins made a
108 motion to approve as amended the Minutes of December 3, 2007, seconded by
109 Councilman Puzzo. Roll call vote; Councilpersons Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo,
110 Raucci voted yes, Councilwoman Raspa-Gore was absent. Minutes approved.

111
112 Closed Session – December 3, 2007, Councilman Puzzo made a motion to approve the
113 Closed Session Minutes of December 3, 2007, seconded by Councilman Raucci. Roll call
114 vote; Councilpersons Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raucci voted yes, Councilwoman
115 Raspa-Gore was absent. Minutes approved.

116
117 **RESOLUTIONS**

118
119 Council President Hawkins inquired what the payment to CSX was for on Resolution 08-
120 43. Borough Administrator Terhune said he would have the answer by making a phone
121 call.

122
123 Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Council President Hawkins made a motion to approve
124 Resolution 08-44 – 08-46. Roll call vote; Councilpersons Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard,
125 Puzzo and Raucci voted yes. Councilwoman Raspa-Gore absent; Resolutions approved.
126 Councilman Raucci wished Officer Chung a safe return he is being deployed to
127 Afghanistan.

128
129 **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

130
131 **Finance, Administration and Personnel** – Councilman reported that work has begun on
132 the budget for 2008.

133
134 **Laws and Ordinances** – Councilwoman Raspa-Gore was absent.

135

136 **Police** – Councilman Raucci reported that the negotiations are progressing and should
137 have something to report in the near future.

138
139 **Fire** – Councilman Norgaard – Nothing to report.

140
141 **Ambulance** – Councilman Choi reported that for 2007 the Ambulance Corps responded
142 to 805 calls 180 of which were for Mutual Aid. There are currently 25 active members
143 and the corps is in need of members.

144
145 **Public Works** – Council President Hawkins reported that leaf pick-up is ongoing due to
146 the leaves dropping late and the ice storm that delayed in the pick-up of the leaves.

147
148 **Real Estate and Insurance Committee** – Councilman Puzzo reported the Real Estate
149 Committee met on Wednesday, January 9th. Mr. Smartt will attend the February 4th
150 meeting to report to the Governing Body and discuss his recommendations.

151
152 **Administration** – Mr. Terhune reported on the Grand Avenue traffic. Spring Street is
153 moving along well. There will be two (2) OEM training classes for the DPW arranged by
154 David Haenelt. Mr. Terhune referred to a memo concerning an error on the Community
155 Calendar.

156 Resolution 08-47 – Council President Hawkins made a motion, seconded by Councilman
157 Puzzo to close Borough Hall on February 11, 2008 for Lincoln’s Birthday. All Council
158 present voted yes. Resolution approved. Mr. Terhune referred to a letter from the
159 Borough of Teaneck regarding the Salt Shed. Mr. Giblin will prepare the necessary
160 resolution for the next meeting.

161
162 **Mayor** – Mayor Heveran reported on correspondence she received; American Red Cross
163 is hosting a Heroes Breakfast nominations need to be received by January 25, 2008;
164 Historic Preservation Grant Deadline is 2/29/08; and Peter Knott has resigned from the
165 Shade Tree Commission. Mayor Heveran attended a concert at the Civil War Drill Hall.
166 There will be another concert on March 9th at All Saints Church. Mayor Heveran thanked
167 Mr. Terhune, Ms. Hemmer, Police, Recreation, DPW and Borough Clerk and members of
168 the Council for all the work that was done for her inauguration

169
170 Resolution 08-43 – Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Councilman Raucci made a motion
171 to approve Resolution 08-43. All in favor none opposed.

172
173 **Special Bodies** –

174
175 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

176 a.) Yamato Texaco Property – Councilman Puzzo asked Mr. Giblin to send a
177 letter to a Supervisor at the DEP due to the unresponsiveness of the individual
178 who received the resolution regarding Yamato/Texaco Property.

179
180 b.) Salt Shed/Share Service –the Council discussed various areas if the agreement
181 that need to worked out with Teaneck.

182 c.) Swim Pool Fees – Mr. Terhune reported that he has been meeting with Mrs.
183 Chalkin and Mrs. Davidson and the Ordinance will be ready for introduction
184 at the next meeting.
185

186 **NEW BUSINESS**

- 187 a.) Amendment to Borough Administrator Ordinance (Mayor Heveran) held
188 for a later meeting
189 b.) Ordinance to Create Mayor’s Advisory Board Consisting of Three
190 Members (Mayor Heveran)
191 c.) One Way Streets – Lester, Christie, Hazlitt and Washington Terrace
192 (Mayor Heveran)
193 d.) Mayor’s Marriage Ordinance (Mayor Heveran) will be introduced on
194 February 4th.
195

196 **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE**

197
198 Introduction of Ordinance 01-08 entitled
199 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF**
200 **LEONIA BY DELETING AND REPEALING ARTICLE VII OF**
201 **CHAPTER 11, KNOWN AS ORDINANCE 11-32 AND 11-33 THEREOF,**
202 **TITLED WEB SITE COMMITTEE.**
203

204 **Motion** was made by Council, seconded by Council to introduce on fist reading
205 Ordinance 01-08
206

207 **ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raucci voted
208 yes. Councilwoman Raspa-Gore absent; Ordinance 01-08 Introduced.
209

210 Councilman Raucci will act as Liaison to Local Assistance Board.
211

212 **CORRESPONDENCE**

213
214 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

215 Cliff Evans, 219 Overlook Avenue – Spoke in opposition of the dog park in Lakeview
216 Park.
217

218 Dwayne Wright, 600 Broad Avenue – Spoke in opposition to the dog park in Lakeview
219 Park.
220

221 Mrs. Castro, 592 Broad Avenue – Spoke in opposition to the dog park in Lakeview Park.
222

223 Rae Kornblit, 596 Broad Avenue – Spoke in opposition to the dog park feels the park has
224 become a quality of life issue.
225

226 Victor Panaligan, 588 Broad Avenue – Spoke against the dog park.
227

228 **CLOSED SESSION**

229

230 Council President Hawkins made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss the
231 Borough Administrator's Appointment, seconded by Councilman Norgaard. All in favor
232 none opposed.

233

234 Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Councilman Raucci made a motion to come out of
235 Closed Session to approve Resolution 08-48. All in favor none opposed.

236

237 Councilman Puzzo made a motion to Approve Resolution 08-48 which read as follows:
238 to provide the Borough Administrator with a 3½% increase for 2007 and a 3½% increase
239 for 2008 retroactive to January 1 and an additional 10 days vacation for 2008. All in
240 favor none opposed.

241

242

243 **ADJOURN**

244

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

247

248 As there was no further business before the Governing Body, the meeting was adjourned
249 at 10:20PM

250

251 Respectfully submitted,

252

253

254

255 Fran Lehmann

256 Borough Clerk