

1 **Council Meeting/Work Session**  
2 **Minutes**  
3 **February 4, 2008**

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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*

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8 Mayor Heveran called the meeting to order.

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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, Raspa-Gore, Raucchi*

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

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  
30 Mr. Cliff Evans 219 Overlook Avenue – Spoke in opposition to the dog run in Lakeview  
31 Park. Councilman Puzzo corrected a statement made by Mr. Evans who was quoting an  
32 article in the newspaper.

33  
34 Mr. Bruscoe – 490 Grand Avenue spoke to the Governing Body regarding sewer  
35 problems he is having.

36  
37 Rae Kornblit – 596 Broad Avenue – Spoke against the dog run in Lakeview Park.  
38 Mayor Heveran suggested the neighbors who object to the off leash hours in Lakeview  
39 Park meet and come up with a proposal that might keep everyone happy.

40  
41 Bert Castro - 592 Broad Avenue, spoke against the dog run in Lakeview Park.

42 **PRESENTATION**

43  
44 Mr. Cid Wilson – made a presentation regarding First Night Out. Council President  
45 Hawkins endorsed the idea. Councilman Puzzo would like the Police Commission and  
46 Mr. Wilson to meet with Chief Ziegler to organize the program.

47  
48 Mr. Don Smartt – Gave an overview of the various projects Real Estate Committee has  
49 been working on. The Committee has come to some conclusions as to what the goals  
50 should be; evaluation of all commercial property within the Borough; evaluation of the  
51 role of the Central Business District as commercial center within the Borough; and based  
52 upon the number of properties owned by Borough, the Borough is by far the largest  
53 single property holder in the Borough; the Borough will be seen as a major player in the  
54 central business district as the civic and public heart of the Borough. Evaluating the light  
55 rail as it impacts on the Borough.

56  
57 Bill Russell, 325 Beechwood Place – Mr. Russell wanted emphasize there is a balancing  
58 of the long and short term opportunities.

59  
60 Mayor Heveran asked when the reports would be presented. Mr. Smartt stated that by  
61 early summer you will have a work product that has been subject of at least 3 community  
62 meetings and if more meetings are required then it may be longer. Mayor Heveran said  
63 she would like to have the report before 2009.

64  
65 Councilman Puzzo explained the make-up of the Committee.

66  
67 Council President Hawkins stated that Mr. Smartt has brought to the attention of the  
68 Committee many issues that the committee was not aware of.

69  
70 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

71 Minutes held until the next meeting.

72  
73 **RESOLUTIONS**

74  
75 Council President Hawkins pulled the following Resolutions: 08- 57, 61 and 64.

76  
77 Councilman Puzzo pulled 61 entirely after a meeting with the Finance Committee, Mr.  
78 Ritvo and representatives the Leonia Retirement Housing. Mr. Giblin feels this should be  
79 done as an Ordinance. It should be ready for the next meeting.

80  
81 Councilman Puzzo questioned 08-51 and 08-54. Both Resolutions were pulled for  
82 another meeting.

83  
84 Councilman Choi questioned a payment of the Bill List. Borough Administrator Terhune  
85 explained these are an annual fee paid by the Borough for fire hydrants.

86  
87 Council President Hawkins asked for a discussion on 08-55.

88  
89 Mayor Heveran also had a question on the bill list. Borough Administrator Terhune  
90 explained this is for the DPW.

91

92 Mayor Heveran questioned a payment on page 22 – wireless internet service, Council  
93 President Hawkins stated this is for the pool.  
94 Councilman Puzzo mad a motion to approve Resolution 08-49, 08-50, 52, 53, 56, 58, 60,  
95 62 and 63, seconded by Councilman Raucci all in favor none opposed Resolutions  
96 approved.  
97  
98 Resolution 08-57 – Councilman Raucci made a motion to approve 08-57 as amended,  
99 seconded by Councilman Raucci. Roll call vote all in favor none opposed Resolution  
100 approved.  
101  
102 Resolution 08-61 held for a later meeting.  
103  
104 Resolution 08-64 Council President Hawkins thanked the Transportation Committee for  
105 laying the foundation for the Resolution. Councilman Puzzo made a motion to approve  
106 08-64, seconded by Councilman Raucci. Roll call vote all in favor none opposed.  
107 Resolution 08-64 approved.  
108  
109 Councilman Puzzo made a motion to approve Resolution 08-65 dedicating Friday as  
110 Giants appreciation Day in Leonia, seconded by Councilman Raucci. Roll call vote all in  
111 favor none opposed.

#### 113 INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

114  
115 Introduction of Ordinance 02-08 entitled:

116 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LEONIA**  
117 **ESTABLISHING FEES AND PROCEDURES FOR**  
118 **REIMBURSEMENT OF MAYOR’S EXPENSES IN CONNECTION**  
119 **WITH WEDDING AND CIVIL UNION CEREMONIES**

120 **Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title**

121 **Motion** was made by Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Council President  
122 Hawkins to adopt on first reading Ordinance 02-08.

123  
124 **ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore,  
125 Raucci, voted yes Ordinance 02-08 Introduced.

126  
127 Introduction of Ordinance 03-08 entitled:

128  
129 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 123 TITLED “FEES” BY**  
130 **ADDING ARTICLE IV POOL MEMBERSHIP FEES.**

131 **Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title**

132 **Motion** was made by Council President Hawkins, seconded by Councilman Choi  
133 to adopt on first reading Ordinance 03-08.

134  
135 **ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore,  
136 Raucci, all in favor none opposed. Ordinance 03-08 Introduced.  
137 Introduction of Ordinance 04-08 entitled:

138  
139 **LEONIA BOROUGH ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING**  
140 **THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S PARTICIPATION IN THE**  
141 **EAST BERGEN FIREFIGHTERS MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION**

142 **Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title**

143  
144 **Motion** was made by Councilman Raucci, seconded by Councilman Norgaard to  
145 adopt on first reading Ordinance 04-08.

146  
147 **ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore,  
148 Raucci voted yes. Ordinance 04-08 Introduced.

149  
150 Introduction of Ordinance 05-08 entitled:

151  
152 **ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AN EASEMENT OF ACCESS**  
153 **AND USE BY LEONIA RETIREMENT HOUSING**  
154 **CORPORATION ON BOROUGH OWNED LAND LOCATED ON**  
155 **LOT 7 IN BLOCK 901**

156 **Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title**

157  
158 **Motion** was made by Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Councilman Raucci to  
159 adopt on first reading Ordinance 05-08.

160  
161 **ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore,  
162 Raucci, voted yes Ordinance 05-08 introduced.

163  
164 **Introduction of Ordinance 06-08 entitled:**

165  
166 **ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO.**  
167 **15-07 APPROVING AN EXCHANGE OF LANDS BETWEEN**  
168 **THE BOROUGH OF LEONIA AND LEONIA**  
169 **RETIREMENT HOUSING CORPORATION, ITS**  
170 **SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS**

171 **Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title**

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**Motion** was made by Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Councilman Choi to adopt on first reading Ordinance 06-08.

**ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore, Raucci, voted yes all in favor none opposed.

**Introduction of Ordinance 07-08 entitled:**

**ORDINANCE TO PERMIT THE GRANTING OF AN ACCESS AND PARKING EASEMENT OVER A PORTION OF LOT 7 IN BLOCK 901, OWNED BY THE BOROUGH OF LEONIA, AND ON BEHALF OF LOT 6.01 IN BLOCK 901, OWNED BY LEONIA RETIREMENT HOUSING CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS**

**Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title**

**Motion** was made by Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Councilman Choi to adopt on first reading Ordinance 07-08.

**ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore, Raucci voted yes. Ordinance 07-08 introduced.

**Introduction of Ordinance 08-08 entitled:**

**ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE A TEMPORARY EASEMENT ON LOT 7 IN BLOCK 901 FOR PURPOSES OF LEONIA RETIREMENT HOUSING CORPORATION'S CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADDITIONAL BUILDING**

**Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title**

**Motion** was made by Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Councilman Norgaard to adopt on first reading Ordinance 08-08.

**ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore, Raucci voted yes Ordinance 08-08 introduced.

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE**

Adoption of Ordinance 01-08 entitled  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF LEONIA BY DELETING AND REPEALING ARTICLE VII OF**

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**CHAPTER 11, KNOWN AS ORDINANCE 11-32 AND 11-33 THEREOF,  
TITLED WEB SITE COMMITTEE.**

**Borough Clerk Read the Ordinance by Titled  
Public Hearing - No one spoke**

**Motion** was made by Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Council President Hawkins to adopt on final reading Ordinance 01-08

**ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore, Raucci voted yes. Ordinance 01-08 adopted

Mayor Heveran asked if any member of the Council wished to pull anything from the agenda for discussion.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a.) Yamato Texaco Property – Councilman Puzzo referred to letter from Mr. Giblin regarding the Yamato Texaco Property. Mr. Giblin feels an answer from the DEP should be forth coming in a month.
- b.) Concept of Design Review Board – Councilman Puzzo deferred to Mr. Giblin who explained that traditionally these ordinances have been struck down by the Courts. Mayor Heveran and Councilman Puzzo both said they would like this set up as an advisory board that people can go to for help. Mr. Giblin explained his reservations about such a board. Councilman Puzzo explained the advisory board would advise people in keeping with the Historic nature of the town. The Governing Body discussed their various concerns.
- c.) Joint Meeting with Mayor and Council, Planning Board and Board of Adjustment – Mayor Heveran explained both of these boards would like to meet with the Council. Mayor Heveran suggested March 10<sup>th</sup> instead of having them or any other board that wishes to attend come to a Council Meeting. Mayor Heveran asked the members of the Governing Body to look at their calendars and see if the date works for them.
- d.) Light Rail/Shared Service with Tenafly – Borough Administrator reviewed a letter he received from Tenafly regarding a noise engineer to review the plans and establish noise free zones in Tenafly. Councilman Hawkins would like to have our engineers review this as well

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a.) Request for Handicapped Parking Spaces – Councilman Raucci referred to a memo from Officer Spagnola. Councilman Raucci is recommending the request for a space on Highwood Avenue Chief Ziegler agreed. Councilman Raucci does not feel the request for High Street is warranted he has spoken with Chief Ziegler, DPW Superintendent and Mr. Terhune. This home has a

260 driveway that can accommodate the car. The space is not in front of the home  
261 of this individual but across the street in front of a neighbor's home.  
262 Councilman Puzzo asked for an opinion from Mr. Giblin. Mr. Giblin said it is  
263 at the discretion of the Governing Body. Mr. Giblin said it should be  
264 introduced on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>.

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- 266 b.) National Night Out – Councilman Puzzo nothing further to discuss at this  
267 time.
- 268
- 269 c.) Architectural Review Board – Mayor Heveran nothing further to discuss.  
270
- 271 d.) East Bergen Mutual Aid Ordinance Discussion/Introduction – Ordinance  
272 introduced.
- 273
- 274 e.) Intersection Improvements – Fort Lee Rd. and Broad Avenue Mr. Terhune  
275 and Mayor Heveran met with the County Engineer and there will be a  
276 designated left turn light at this intersection at no charge to the Borough.  
277
- 278 f.) Fort Lee Road – Overpeck Park Traffic Signal – Mr. Terhune deferred to  
279 Council President Hawkins who reviewed the proposal for the traffic signal.  
280 Council President Hawkins also explained the Overpeck Relief Valve project.  
281
- 282 g.) LOSAP Cost of Living Increase for Leonia Fire Department – Councilman  
283 Norgaard reviewed the request from the Fire Department. A resolution will be  
284 prepared for the next meeting.  
285
- 286 h.) Creation of Walls on Washington Terrace, Christie Lane, Hazlitt, and Lester –  
287 Mayor Heveran suggested walls that do not cross the entire road, they will  
288 enable emergency services to have access. The access will be for traffic to  
289 enter the area. This will be used to deny access from possible construction  
290 project and traffic from Rte. 46.  
291
- 292 i.) Ordinances – Mayor Heveran referred to a memo from Councilwoman Raspa-  
293 Gore.  
294
- 295 j.) Creation of Mayor's Advisory Board Mayor Heveran asked for a motion to  
296 approve Resolution 08-66 before a motion was made the Council discussed  
297 the Resolution. Councilman Puzzo made a motion to approve as amended  
298 Resolution -8-66, seconded by Councilwoman Raspa-Gore. Roll call vote all  
299 in favor none opposed. Resolution approved.  
300

301 At the suggestion of Mr. Giblin Councilman Puzzo made a motion to authorize Mr.  
302 Harold Ritvo, Attorney for Leonia Retirement Housing to represent the Borough before  
303 the Planning Board, seconded by Councilman Raucci. All in favor none opposed.  
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**CORRESPONDENCE**

Councilman Puzzo made a motion to extend the meeting for 30 minutes, seconded by Council President Hawkins all in favor none opposed.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Barbara Marchant – 128 Spring Street thanked the Council for approving the Resolution on Light Rail.

Kelly Ann Pokrywa – 131 Irving Street expressed some concerns regarding the walls on the streets in the area of Rte. 46.

Dominick Sussini 360 Broad Avenue asked for clarification of the number of merchants are on the Real Estate Committee. Mayor Heveran read the list. Mr. Sussini asked the levels of the benzene? Mr. Giblin explained the letter from the DEP the levels were detected downstream.

Mrs. De Colle 219 Overlook Avenue – Commended the Governing Body on preserving the safety of the Borough. Spoke against the Lakeview Park dog run.

Mr. Edwards, 219 Overlook – Spoke against the Lakeview Park Dog Run and the discord it is causing in the Community.

Terry Tietjen – 134 Palisade Avenue – the street is a disgrace the hot patch is falling apart. There is a group home on the street and the streetlight in between the group home and hers is insufficient, Mrs. Tietjen requested that it be reviewed.

Robert Pacicco, 530 Grandview Terrace- Commended the Mayor and Council for working so diligently through the agenda. Mr. Pacicco thanked Mr. Smartt for the work he is doing with the Real Estate Committee. Mr. Pacicco also feels the National Night Out is an awesome idea.

Kathy Pecht, 214 Fort Lee Road – thanked the Mayor for getting the turn lane. Brought to the attention of the Council the crosswalk by the Library she would like to see it addressed.

Ingrid Brennan, 53 Palmer Place – There is graffiti on the fence by the entrance of Wood Park. Councilman Raucci responded the owner has been notified. Mr. Giblin stated if the property owner has been notified by the Property Maintenance Official then a summons maybe issued. Ms. Brennan asked if the benches at the bus stops along Broad Avenue from Oakdene to Lakeview could be maintained better, the paint is chipping.

Carolyn Sobering, 834 Wood Ridge Place – the home that is under construction north of the entrance of Wood Park where construction has stopped, was walking along Leonia



352 Avenue because of the rain there was a mud slide from the property onto the sidewalk.  
353 The sidewalk is uneven but because of the mud she did not see it, slipped in the mud and  
354 broke her ankle. Mr. Giblin stated that is a public hazard and he can be fined. In the  
355 absence of the Property Maintenance Officer the Police can issue a summons. The  
356 Borough can remedy the situation and charge him for the work.

357

358 Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Councilman Raucci made a motion to extend the  
359 meeting for 15 minutes.

360

361 **CLOSED SESSION**

362

363 Acquisition of Property Appraisals

364 Discussion and Possible Introduction of Ordinance

365

366 **ADJOURN**

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

370

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

373

374 Respectfully submitted,

375

376

377

378 Fran Lehmann

379 Borough Clerk