

1 **Council Meeting/Work Session**
2 **Minutes**
3 **March 17, 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, Raucci*

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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**

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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 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

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30 No one spoke.

31
32 **PRESENTATION**

33 Mr. Robert Drexel Tax Attorney explained to the Mayor and Council why they were
34 seeing what appears to be an exorbitant amount of tax appeals. Mr. Drexel stated many of
35 them were pending for several years and are now settled. Mr. Drexel answered the
36 questions presented by the Mayor and Council.

37
38 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

39
40 Council Meeting – December 17, 2007 – Council President Hawkins made a motion to
41 approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Councilman Puzzo. Roll Call Vote;
42 Councilmembers Hawkins, Choi, Puzzo and Raucci voted yes. Councilmembers
43 Norgaard and Raspa-Gore abstained. Minutes approved.

44
45 Closed Session Minutes – December 17, 2007 – Council President Hawkins, seconded by
46 Councilman Raucci made a motion to approve the Closed Session Minutes of December

47 17, 2007. Roll Call Vote; Councilmembers Hawkins, Choi, Puzzo and Raucci voted yes.
48 Councilmembers Norgaard and Raspa-Gore abstained. Minutes approved.

49
50 Reorganization Minutes – January 7, 2008 – Council President Hawkins made a motion
51 to approve the Reorganization Minutes, seconded by Councilman Choi. Roll call vote:
52 Councilpersons Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore and Raucci voted yes.
53 Minutes approved.

54
55 Council Meeting – January 14, 2008 – Council President Hawkins made a motion to
56 approve the minutes of January 14, 2008, seconded by Raucci. Roll call vote;
57 Councilpersons Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo and Raucci voted yes, Councilwoman
58 Raspa-Gore abstained.

59
60 Closed Session – January 14, 2008 – Council President Hawkins made a motion to
61 approve the Close Session Minutes of January 14, 2008, seconded by Councilman
62 Raucci. Roll call vote; Councilpersons Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo and Raucci
63 voted yes, Councilwoman Raspa-Gore abstained.

64
65 Council Meeting – February 4, 2008 – Council President Hawkins made a motion to
66 approve the Minutes of February 4, 2008, seconded by Councilman Raucci. Roll call vote
67 all in favor none opposed. Minutes approved.

68
69 Closed Session Minutes – February 4, 2008 – Councilman Hawkins made a motion to
70 approve the Closed Session Minutes of February 4, 2008, seconded by Councilman Choi.
71 Roll call vote all in favor none opposed. Minutes approved.

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73 Council Meeting Minutes – February 20, 2008 – Councilman Norgaard made a motion to
74 approve the minutes of February 20, 2008, seconded by Councilman Choi. Roll call vote
75 Councilpersons Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo and Raucci voted yes. Council President Hawkins
76 and Councilwoman Raspa-Gore abstained. Minutes approved.

77
78 Closed Session Minutes – February 20, 2008 – Councilman Raucci, seconded by
79 Councilman Norgaard made a motion to approve the Closed Session Minutes of February
80 20, 2008. Roll call vote Councilpersons Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo and Raucci voted yes.
81 Council President Hawkins and Councilwoman Raspa-Gore abstained. Minutes
82 approved.

83
84 **RESOLUTIONS**

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86 Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Council President Hawkins, made a motion to approve
87 Resolutions 08-55, 08-85 – 08-95. Roll call vote all in favor none opposed. Resolutions
88 approved.

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94 **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

95

96 Finance, Administration and Personnel – Councilman Puzzo reported that the Budget has
97 been introduced and work on the budget will continue. The Mayor and Council discussed
98 various ways to cut the budget.

99

100 Laws & Ordinances – The Fire Prevention Ordinance is ready to be submitted.

101

102 Police – Councilman Raucci gave a report regarding Police activities.

103

104 Fire – Councilman Norgaard reported that he met with the Chief, Deputy Chief and the
105 Captain. He will be attending the drill on Wednesday, March 19, 2008, there where 30
106 calls in January and 26 in February.

107

108 Ambulance – Councilman Choi had no report

109

110 Public Works – Council President Hawkins reported the incident involving an employee
111 was handled to the satisfaction of the DPW Committee. Council President Hawkins
112 reported he met with Mr. Terhune regarding possible cuts in the DPW Budget for the
113 coming year. Mayor Heveran reported on a tree that fell on Christie Street during the
114 previous storm. The tree was down across the road for a day until PSE&G arrived
115 because of downed wires. Mayor Heveran also reported she has heard from many
116 residents about the outstanding job done by the DPW.

117

118 Real Estate and Insurance – Councilman Puzzo reported the Committee met to finalize
119 the Smart Growth Grant application.

120

121 Borough Administrator – Mr. Terhune reported to the Governing Body on a training
122 session held for Borough Supervisors by the Joint Insurance Fund. Mr. Terhune reported
123 on the road program for 2008. Council President Hawkins spoke about Lakeview. Mr.
124 Terhune had Mr. Yanovich contact the DEP case manager for Yamato that the 30 days
125 has expired. Mr. Terhune and Ms. Elliott met with the DPW Superintendent and Engineer
126 from Teaneck to go over the salt shed. Teaneck will have a smaller facility as well as the
127 shared facility. Mr. Terhune is exploring a new recording system for the use by the
128 Borough Clerk, Court Clerk, Planning and Zoning Boards so all the bodies can utilize the
129 Annex. Mr. Terhune is also exploring an Interlocal agreement with the Borough of
130 Oradell for the revaluation that needs to occur. This could result in a 20% tax savings.

131

132 Mayor Heveran reported on a program she attended with Councilman Choi celebrating
133 the break from Japanese rule in Korea. Mayor Heveran also reported on a meeting at
134 Senator Weinberg's office on shared services. Mayor Heveran reported on a ground
135 breaking she attended at Englewood Hospital.

136

137 Special Bodies – Council President Hawkins brought everyone up to date on the
138 Overpeck Relief Valve project. Council President Hawkins and Councilman Choi were

139 present at the Easter Egg Hunt the children had a great time. The Transportation
140 Committee is continuing to meet. Councilman Choi reported that on March 18, 2008 the
141 Provident Bank is going to hold a Community Party the Mayor and Council is invited.
142

143 **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

144
145 Introduction of Ordinance 13-08 entitled:

146
147 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 194-30A TITLED**
148 **“SCHEDULE I – NO PARKING” BY ADDING THERETO.**

149
150 **Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title**

151
152 **Motion** was made by Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Councilman Raucci to
153 adopt on first reading Ordinance 13-08.

154
155 **ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore,
156 Raucci voted yes Ordinance 13-08 introduced.

157
158 Introduction of Ordinance 14-08 entitled:

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160 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 232-3 (F) TITLED**
161 **“PERMITTED TYPES OF SIGNS” BY ADDING THERETO**

162
163 **Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title**

164
165 **Motion** was made by Councilwoman Raspa-Gore, seconded by Council President
166 Hawkins to adopt on first reading Ordinance 14-08.

167
168 **ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore, Raucci voted
169 yes. Councilman Norgaard abstained. Ordinance 14-08 introduced.

170
171 **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE**

172
173 Adoption of Ordinance 09-08 entitled
174 **AN ORDINANCE CREATING A CERTAIN HANDICAPPED PARKING**
175 **SPACE AND AMENDING A PORTION OF CHAPTER 194 OF THE**
176 **CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF LEONIA**

177 **Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title**
178 **Public Hearing – No one spoke**

179
180 **Motion** was made by Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Council President
181 Hawkins to adopt on final reading Ordinance 09-08.

182
183 **ROLL CALL** Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore,
184 Raucci voted yes. Ordinance 09-08 adopted.

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Adoption of Ordinance 10-08 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 49-4 TITLED “TABLE OF ORGANIZATION” BY DELETING AND REPEALING ORDINANCE 49-4 AND REPLACING IT WITH A NEW ORDINANCE 49-4, “TABLE OF ORGANIZATION”.

**Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title
Public Hearing – no one spoke**

Motion was made by Councilwoman Raspa-Gore, seconded by Councilman Puzzo to adopt on final reading Ordinance 10-08.

ROLL CALL Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore, Raucci

Adoption of Ordinance 11-08 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 194-12C TITLED “EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN TRUCKS” BY DELETING AND REPEALING ORDINANCE 194-12C AND REPLACING IT WITH A NEW ORDINANCE 194-12C, “EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN TRUCKS”.

**Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title
Public Hearing no one spoke**

Motion was made by Councilman Raucci, seconded by Councilman Choi to adopt on final reading Ordinance 11-08.

ROLL CALL Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore, Raucci voted yes. Ordinance 11-08 adopted.

Adoption of Ordinance 12-08 entitled:

ORDINANCE TO APPROVE A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH LRHC URBAN RENEWAL, L.P.

**Borough Clerk read the Ordinance by Title
Public Hearing - Mr. Harold Ritvo – Attorney for Leonia**

Retirement Housing thanked the Mayor and Council.

Motion was made by Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Councilman Raucci to adopt on final reading Ordinance 12-08.

ROLL CALL Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore, Raucci voted yes. Ordinance 12-08 adopted.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Yamato (Councilman Puzzo) – Councilman Puzzo noted this was discussed under the Administrator’s report.
- b) Off Leash Hours Lakeview Park (Councilman Puzzo) – Councilman Puzzo requested this item be held until April 7, 2008 meeting. Councilman Puzzo stated he would like to discuss at that time the Council’s position on the off leash hours.
- c) Overpeck Park & Ride (Jack Terhune) – Mr. Terhune the plans from the County were not ready for this meeting.
- d) Funding for National Night Out (Councilman Puzzo) – Councilman Puzzo would like to find \$2,000 in the police budget to help fund the project.
- e) Oratam and Cumley Parking Ordinance (Councilwoman Raspa-Gore) Councilwoman Raspa-Gore ordinance was introduced.
- f) Welfare Director (Jack Terhune) – Mr. Terhune referred to minutes of the January 30, 2008 Local Assistance Board meeting the committee appointed Jillian Raimondo as the Director of the Local Assistance Board. The Council can appoint Ms. Raimondo on an interim basis until an agreement can be reached. The Governing Body discussed the appointment. Council President Hawkins made a motion to approve Resolution 08-96 to appoint Ms. Raimondo as Acting-Welfare Director, seconded by Councilman Raucci. Roll call vote all in favor none opposed.
- g) American Legion/Commander McCloy Site (Councilman Puzzo) Councilman Puzzo reported that he and Councilman Raucci have met with Mr. Hutnick, a representative from the American Legion. They decided a spot in Sylvan Park playground would be appropriate. The American Legion is going to fund the plaque. Saturday, June 14, 2008 will be the dedication.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Sign Ordinance – Sign Ordinance was introduced.
- b) Councilman Puzzo requested the Off Street Parking be reviewed as to the necessity of having alternate parking on Saturdays until 1pm.
- c) Council President Hawkins would like to create a Committee for a Sustainable Leonia that would consist of residents and experts.

277 Mayor Heveran asked Mr. Giblin if she receives a letter from a resident that states “read
278 aloud” is she required to do so. Mr. Giblin stated no, it is correspondence and it becomes
279 a matter of public record.

280

281 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

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283 None

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285 **CLOSED SESSION**

286

287 A motion was made by Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Councilman Raucci to adjourn
288 the public portion of the meeting and go into Closed Session to discuss the following:

289 Property Appraisal

290 Personnel

291 All in favor none opposed.

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293

294 Councilman Puzzo seconded by Councilman Raucci made a motion to adjourn. All in
295 favor none opposed.

296

297 There being no further business before the Governing Body the meeting was adjourned at
298 10:03PM.

299

300 Respectfully submitted,

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302

303 Fran Lehmann, Borough Clerk