

1
2 **Council Meeting/Work Session**
3 **Minutes**
4 **June 16, 2008**

5
6 *A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Leonia, Bergen County,*
7 *New Jersey, was held this evening in the Borough Hall Annex, commencing at 7:32pm*
8

9 Mayor Heveran called the meeting to order.

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

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

16
17 **Council Absent:** *None*

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

21
22 **OPEN MEETING STATEMENT**

23
24 Conditions of the Open Meeting Act have been met by Notice placed on the Bulletin
25 Board at Borough Hall and notices sent to the Official Newspaper.

26
27 Mayor Heveran pointed out the Fire Exit.

28
29 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

30 Cliff Edmonds, 219 Lakeview Avenue – Mr. Edmonds spoke in protest of the
31 continuation of off leash dogs in Lakeview Park. Mr. Edmonds presented the Mayor and
32 Council with a petition.

33
34 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

35
36 Council Meeting, May 19, 2008 – Council President Hawkins made a motion to approve
37 the minutes of May 19, 2008, seconded by Councilman Norgaard. Roll call vote:
38 Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo and Raucci voted yes, Councilwoman Raspa-Gore
39 abstain. Minutes approved.

40
41 Closed Session Minutes of May 19, 2008 – Council President Hawkins made a motion to
42 approve the minutes of closed session of May 19, 2008, seconded by Councilman Choi.
43 Roll call vote; Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo and Raucci voted yes, Councilwoman
44 Raspa-Gore abstain. Minutes approved.

46 Council Meeting June 2, 2008 – Council President Hawkins, seconded by Councilman
47 Raucci made a motion to approve the minutes of June 2, 2008. Roll Call all in favor none
48 opposed. Minutes approved.

49

50 Closed Session Minutes June 2, 2008 – Council President Hawkins, seconded by
51 Councilman Norgaard made a motion to approve the Closed Session Minutes of June 2,
52 2008. Roll Call all in favor none opposed. Minutes approved.

53

54 **RESOLUTIONS**

55

56 **Resolution 08-145** - Councilman Raucci requested it be held for a separate vote.

57

58 **Resolution 08-146** – Councilman Choi requested it be held for a separate vote.

59

60 Council President Hawkins made a motion to approve Resolution 08-142 through 08-144,
61 08-147 through 08-152 seconded by Councilman Norgaard. Roll call vote; Hawkins,
62 Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo, Raspa-Gore and Raucci voted yes,. Resolutions approved.

63

64 **Resolution 08-145** – Councilman Puzzo made a motion to approve Resolution 08-145,
65 seconded by Councilman Choi. Roll call vote Councilpersons Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard,
66 Puzzo and Raspa-Gore voted yes. Councilman Raucci abstained his street is one of the
67 streets being repaired. Resolutions 08-145 approved.

68

69 **Resolution 08-146** - Council President Hawkins made a motion to approve Resolution
70 08-146, seconded by Councilman Norgaard. Roll call vote Councilpersons Hawkins,
71 Norgaard, Puzzo Raspa-Gore and Raucci voted yes, Councilman Choi abstained he owns
72 one of the liquor licenses. Resolution 08-146 approved.

73 **REPORTS**

74

75 **Standing Committees**

76

77 **Finance Administration & Personnel** – Councilman Puzzo nothing new
78 at this time; still waiting to hear from the State.

79

80 **Laws & Ordinances** – Councilwoman Raspa - Gore reviewed the
81 recommendations from Laws and Ordinances regarding the resident
82 permit parking. The Committee is also reviewing the abandoned vehicle
83 ordinance. Councilwoman Raspa-Gore also suggested the alternate side of
84 the street parking needs to be reviewed as well.

85

86 **Police** – Councilman Raucci reported the grievance was settled in favor of
87 the Police Officer. This will be discussed in closed. The PBA has given a
88 verbal acceptance on the contract. Five resumes were received for the
89 Patrol Lt. Position, the Police Commission will meet to review the
90 resumes then interview the candidates. Councilmen Raucci and Puzzo met
with Cid Wilson and Chief Ziegler regarding National Night Out.

91 Councilman Raucci commended the Fire Department and the DPW for an
92 outstanding job during the storm last week. There was a meeting today
93 with a Japanese-Korean group at the Library who met with the
94 representatives of the Police Department regarding safety. Councilman
95 Choi stated it was very well received but would like to have more
96 programs like this but in the evening so more can attend.
97

98 **Fire** – Councilman Norgaard reported there were 22 calls in the month of
99 May, 11 of which occurred during the storm; 8 calls were for electric
100 wires; 3 calls for generators for oxygen tanks by residents without electric.
101 Saturday the power went out again and a generator was needed for
102 oxygen. Improvements to the kitchen are moving along. The Fire
103 Department is preparing for the carnival they have contacted other
104 municipalities for stand by.
105

106 Councilman Raucci inquired to the status of the generator for the DPW.
107 Mr. Terhune stated it is not in the Capital Ordinance. Mr. Chace is going
108 to see if there is one available through the military surplus
109

110 **Ambulance** – Councilman Choi nothing at this time.
111

112 **Public Works** – Council President Hawkins - the DPW did a stellar job
113 cleaning up from the storm.
114

115 **Real Estate and Insurance** – Councilman Puzzo reported the Economic
116 development Committee met and there will be a “Town” meeting on
117 September 22, 2008 at the High School.
118

119 **Borough Administrator** – Mr. Terhune – Mr. Terhune referred to a letter
120 sent to Senator Weinberg from the Leonia Retirement Housing
121 Corporation. Three DPW employees from the Borough of Edgewater
122 assisted in the removal of downed trees. A chipper was rented and an
123 outside tree service was used to remove the trees on Ames Avenue, Park
124 and Paulin Boulevard. The Streetscape project is moving along well. Mr.
125 Terhune is looking into having steel poles installed for an additional place
126 to hang banners. Raimondo Construction – Mr. Terhune met with them
127 and a portion of the property is in Palisades Park. Councilman Puzzo
128 suggested that Mr. Terhune speak with Ms. Elliott the Borough Engineer,
129 and see if she has the survey that was done on the property. The tennis
130 courts in Wood Park were scheduled to be completed on June 16th. A large
131 portion of the fence was damaged due to the storm. The Elms Street lot
132 survey was done today. Mr. Terhune reported on the road program.
133

134 **Mayor Heveran** – Mayor Heveran commended the Fire Department,
135 Police Department and DPW for the outstanding job they did last week in
136 the storm. Mayor Heveran asked the Borough Clerk to contact

137 Mayor Merse from Edgewater and invite her, the Superintendent of Public
138 Works and the DPW from Edgewater to the next meeting. Mayor Heveran
139 reported that Dennis Castro is going back to Iraq for his fourth tour of
140 duty. Mayor Heveran is going to meet on June 17, 2008 with chair of
141 Planning and Zoning Board and the co-chairs, Councilmen Puzzo and
142 Raucci and Jack Peters the Construction Official. Mayor Heveran
143 explained the format that Mr. Smartt will use for the “Town Meeting” to
144 be held on September 22nd. This will be the first of three meetings.
145 Additionally Mayor Heveran will be hosting “Town Meetings” as well.
146 Mayor Heveran reminded the Council that issues that need to be addressed
147 are to go through the Administrator. This procedure avoids
148 miscommunication and keeps open the lines of communication.
149

150 **SPECIAL BODIES** -

151 Councilman Norgaard would like a resolution prepared for the next
152 meeting supporting the proposed bill for Historic Preservation.
153 Councilman Norgaard reported on old documents that are in the attic at
154 Police Headquarters. They are currently being reviewed by David Boyd
155 and will be placed on exhibit in the Library. Mayor Heveran suggested he
156 also check Chief Chace as the fire department also has hand written logs
157 of fire calls.
158

159 **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE**

160
161 **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE**

162
163 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 164 a) Yamato - Councilman Puzzo inquired on how to get Yamato to move on
165 the pumping of the wells. Mr. Giblin explained the conversation he had
166 with the Borough Engineer. Councilman Puzzo requested that a report be
167 forwarded as soon as it is available. The Council discussed the process.
168

169 **NEW BUSINESS**

- 170
171 a) Cancellation of July 21, 2008 Meeting – Mayor Heveran stated that since
172 the Council Meetings have been moving so well and there are no bills and
173 vouchers to be paid that meeting she proposes canceling the meeting.
174 Members of the Council agreed.
175
176 b) Councilman Puzzo reviewed a letter from Mr. Ritvo, Attorney for LRHC
177 looking to have the fees waived by the Borough for the required building
178 permits. Mr. Giblin explained the adverse effects of waiving the fees.
179 After a lengthy discussion by the members of the Governing Body all
180 agreed it was in the best interest of the Borough not to waive the building
181 permit fees. Mr. Terhune will advise Mr. Ritvo.
182

- 183 c) Kulite - Grand Avenue Property – Councilman Puzzo explained that
184 Kulite owns two properties on Grand Avenue and would like to have them
185 rezoned to commercial as there is a small office strip across the street.
186
- 187 d) 3 Way Stop Willow Tree and Schor Road – Councilman Puzzo stated Mr.
188 Peters brought this to his attention with the construction going on in that area
189 he feels a stop light would be warranted. After a brief discussion the Council
190 agreed to refer the issue to the Traffic Officer for his review and
191 recommendation.
192
- 193 e) Councilman Raucci reported to the Mayor and council that Mr. Peters is
194 requesting the Ordinance regarding grass and removal and cutting of such is
195 reviewed. Mr. Peters issued 30 warning notices that give residents 72 hours to
196 cut the grass. The council discussed various options and asked Mr. Giblin to
197 contact other municipalities to see what they do.
198

199 **CORRESPONDENCE**

200
201 Mayor Heveran read a letter from Pastor Niederer, Pastor of Holy Spirit Church
202 commending Mrs. Zygiel, the Health Department nurse.
203

204 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

205
206 Limited to five minutes (5) per speaker at the discretion of the Chair (duration 30
207 minutes)
208

209 Barbara Marchant, 128 Spring Street – inquired about the apron that was installed
210 on Grand Avenue by the store that sells marble. There wasn't an apron
211 previously. Mr. Terhune will review the plans and contact the contractor.
212

213 **CLOSED SESSION (G)**

214
215 Councilman Puzzo made a motion seconded by Councilman Raucci to go into
216 Closed Session to discuss the following:
217 604 Main Street
218 Litigation
219

220 **ADJOURNMENT** (10:00pm unless motion to extend)

221
222 A motion was made by Councilman Puzzo, seconded by Councilman Raucci to adjourn
223 the meeting.
224

225 There be no further business before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm
226

227 Respectfully submitted,
228

229

230

231 Fran Lehmann, Borough Clerk

232

233 4/10/2023