

1 **Council Meeting/Work Session**
2 **Minutes**
3 **December 15, 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 7:35pm*

7 Mayor Heveran called the meeting to order.

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

10 **Council Present:** *Mayor Heveran, Councilpersons, Hawkins, Choi, Norgaard, Puzzo,*
11 *Raspa-Gore, Raucchi*

12
13 **Council Absent:** *none*

14
15 **Also Present:** *Brian Giblin, Borough Attorney, Fran Lehmann, Borough Clerk,*
16 *Jack Terhune Borough Administrator*

17
18 **OPEN MEETING STATEMENT**

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

21 Mayor Heveran pointed out the Fire Exit.
22

23 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

24 No one spoke.
25

26 **PRESENTATION**

27
28 Mayor Heveran read the plaque that was presented to Mr. Tucker who has resigned from
29 the Shade Tree Commission at the end of the year. Mr. Tucker was a member of the Shade
30 Tree Commission from 1993 through 2008. Councilman Choi, who is Liaison to the Shade
31 Tree Commission participated in the presentation. Mr. Tucker thanked the Mayor and
32 Council.
33

34 Mayor Heveran also read a plaque to be presented the Mr. Van Zilen who will be retiring
35 at the end of the year after 30 years of service to the Borough of Leonia.
36

37 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

38
39 Council Meeting December 1, 2008 – Council President Hawkins, seconded by
40 Councilman Choi made a motion to approve the Minutes. Roll call vote all in favor none
41 opposed.
42

43 Closed Session Minutes December 1, 2008 – Held for discussion in Closed Session.

44 Closed Session November 10, 2008 – Council President Hawkins made a motion to
45 approve the Closed Session Minutes, seconded by Councilman Raucci. Roll call vote all in
46 favor none opposed.

47

48 **RESOLUTIONS**

49

50 Resolution 08-252 – Councilman Norgaard asked if the Contract from the County of
51 Bergen for Animal Control Services could be done within the Borough instead of
52 outsourcing. Mr. Terhune explained this could not be done in house as someone has to be
53 certified. After a brief discussion the Resolution was placed back on the consent agenda.

54

55 Resolution 08-250 – Councilwoman Raspa-Gore had a question regarding a payment on
56 the Bill List. Mr. Terhune answered her question.

57

58 Resolutions 08-249 – 08-255 – Council President Hawkins made a motion seconded by
59 Councilman Norgaard to approve the Resolution. Roll Call Vote all in favor none opposed.

60

61 **REPORTS**

62

63 **Standing Committees**

64 **Finance Administration & Personnel** - Councilman Puzzo – Councilman
65 Puzzo stated his report will be given in Closed Session.

66

67 **Laws & Ordinances** – Councilwoman Raspa-Gore – no report. There is a
68 draft Ordinance to be discussed under unfinished business

69

70 **Police** – Councilman Raucci – Councilman Raucci reported the intern
71 program is moving ahead very well. Councilman Raucci reported on a
72 meeting held with the Police Chief and the Superintendent of Schools and
73 the Principal of ACS regarding the pick-up and dropping of the children.
74 There was a meeting with the Chief and the Administrator to discuss Over
75 Time.

76

77 **Fire** – Councilman Norgaard – Councilman Norgaard reported there were
78 32 calls for the month of November. Councilman Norgaard reported IKEA
79 Paramus donated a “2002 Gem Car” to be used at events in the Overpeck
80 Park. There will be no cost to the Borough for the car. The kitchen is
81 finished in the fire house. Regarding the turn out gear fire department is not
82 completely up to date. The Chief has filed a grant through Homeland
83 Security for the remainder of the gear. Councilman Norgaard reported the
84 Fire Department is in need of two trucks. They are proposing to trade in
85 three trucks and receive two new trucks at the same time. There will be no
86 bells and whistles. The Fire Department is looking at ways to finance the
87 purchase. One possibility would to lease both trucks.

88

89 **Ambulance** – Councilman Choi reported there are currently 3 people still
90 taking classes.

91
92 **Public Works** – Council President Hawkins leaf clean-up is almost
93 complete. The tree situation on Park Avenue and Palmer Place has
94 addressed and the tree will be removed in the spring. The yard at the DPW
95 has been cleaned. The road from Fort Lee Road to the DPW will be paved.

96
97 **Real Estate and Insurance** – Councilman Puzzo reported on the last
98 meeting of the year.

99
100 **Borough Administrator** – Mr. Terhune the mansard roof on the DPW has
101 been completed. Millbrook, the company that removes the leaves cleaned
102 up the area around the DPW. All the stumps have been mulched. The State
103 is setting brass bench marks along Grand Avenue identifying State
104 property. All the new streetscape lights with the exception of one are lit.
105 The

106
107 **Mayor** – Mayor Heveran reported she attended the closing ceremony for
108 AYSO. Mayor Heveran also attended the “Shield Award” Ceremony the
109 award this year went to Sgt. Chris Jones was honored from the Police
110 Department and the “Pappy O’Toole” award went to Robert Moran. Mayor
111 Heveran and Council President Hawkins attended a dinner for the
112 Englewood Area Home Foundation they are going to meet 4 times a year.
113 The new Web site looks wonderful. Tickets are going to be available for the
114 New Jersey Nets game on January 2 at the Recreation Center. Mayor
115 Heveran read a letter from Gene Bassarelli, Franco’s Metro Restaurant,
116 thanking the Borough for the recognition given to them for the Health Fair.

117 118 **LEONIA RETIREMENT HOUSING**

119 Mr. Harold Ritvo, Attorney for Leonia Retirement Housing asked the members of
120 the Governing Body to adopt four resolutions (one resolution was part of the
121 consent agenda). Mr. Ritvo explained the need for each one.

122
123 Councilman Puzzo made a motion to approve Resolution 08-256 through 08-258,
124 seconded by Councilman Raucci all in favor none opposed Resolutions approved.

125 126 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 127 a) Yamato/Texaco - (Councilman Puzzo). Councilman Puzzo deferred to Mr.
128 Terhune who reported he is investing what the clean up could cost the Borough.
129
130 b) Long Term Disability – (Borough Administrator) - The Governing Body
131 discussed various proposals.
132
133 c) Skateboard Park – (Mayor Heveran) Mayor Heveran explained that the Sports
134 Boosters are starting fund raising for the skateboard park. As everyone is aware

135 the Mayor and Council do not want to use tax dollars to build the skateboard
136 park.

137
138 d) Draft Ordinance Personnel Policies - (Councilwoman Raspa-Gore) - Various
139 changes were discussed by the Council. The proposed ordinance will be sent to
140 the Risk Manager for his review. Fire Chief Chace gave some insight to the use
141 of the vehicles.

142
143 e) Salt Dome – Fort Lee – (Councilman Puzzo) – Councilman Puzzo reported he
144 spoke to the Administrator of Fort Lee and they are interested in sharing the
145 salt dome with the Borough. Mr. Terhune reported that Fort Lee needs only
146 300 tons of salt and the current design of the dome can accommodate both
147 municipalities. Since Fort Lee has finished their meetings for the year this will
148 be discussed further in 2009.

149

150 **NEW BUSINESS**

151 a) Award for Women in History Month – (Mayor Heveran) Mayor Heveran asked the
152 members of the Governing Body for suggestions she said it could be an individual
153 or an organization. Councilman Puzzo suggested “PEO” a group that raises money
154 for tuition for women going to college. Councilman Puzzo will get more
155 information for the next meeting.

156
157 b) Donation of 2002 Gem Car – (Borough Administrator) Mr. Terhune referred to a
158 memo. Mr. Terhune explained the acceptance if the Governing Body so chose
159 needed to be done by resolution. Councilman Norgaard made a motion to accept the
160 donation of the 2002 Gem Car, seconded by Council President Hawkins, Roll call
161 vote; all in favor none opposed. The Resolution was given the number 08-259.

162

163 c) Sanitary Sewage User Fee – (Councilman Puzzo) this item was held, will be
164 discussed in early 2009

165

166 d) Pension Deferral - (Borough Administrator) Mr. Terhune explained the proposed
167 new bill to the Governing Body and stated he would keep them informed of
168 progress on the proposal.

169

170 e) Bulletin Board on Leonia Market – (Mayor Heveran) – Mayor Heveran read a letter
171 from Mrs. Cassidy. Mr. Terhune explained that the bulletin board is private
172 property. Mr. Terhune will arrange for the notices to be put on the bulletin board in
173 front of the Recreation Center.

174

175 **CORRESPONDENCE**

176

177 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

178 Ron Chace – 120 Leonia Avenue – Mr. Chace gave a further explanation on the purchase
179 of fire trucks.

180

181 **CLOSED SESSION**

182 A motion was made by Council President Hawkins, seconded by Councilman made a
183 motion to go into Closed Session for the discussion of 604 Main Street, Personnel.

184

185 **OPEN SESSION**

186

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

189

190 **Council Absent:** *none*

191

192 **Also Present:** *Brian Giblin, Borough Attorney, Fran Lehmann, Borough Clerk,*
193 *Jack Terhune Borough Administrator*

194

195 RESOLUTION 08-260 – Council President Hawkins made a motion seconded by
196 Councilman Norgaard to approve Resolution 08-260. All in favor none opposed.

197

198 **ADJOURN**

199 Council President Hawkins made a motion to adjourn seconded by Council Raucci. All in
200 favor none opposed.

201

202 As there was no further business before the Governing Body, the meeting was adjourned at
203 10:35PM

204

205

206 Respectfully submitted,

207

208 Fran Lehmann

209 Borough Clerk