



## BOROUGH OF LEONIA

### COUNCIL- Reorganization Meeting ~ Minutes ~

Jonathan Mandel, Borough Clerk

312 Broad Avenue  
Leonias, NJ 07605  
<http://www.leonianj.gov/>

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**January 3, 2024**

**8:15 pm**

**Leonias Senior Center**

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The Reorganization Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Leonias was held in person at the Leonias Senior Center at 305 Beechwood Place, Leonias, NJ, and virtually via GoToMeeting on January 3, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 8:15 pm by Mayor Ziegler.

Those present were led in the Flag Salute by Councilmember Joanne Choi Terrell.

Mayor Ziegler asked for confirmation that Bergen County Clerk John Hogan has certified the election results of Mayor William Ziegler, Councilmember Diane Scarangella, and Councilman Jordan Zeigler. The Borough Clerk confirmed the same.

Mayor Ziegler read the following statement: "In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the notice requirements have been satisfied. Notice of this meeting by the December 17, 2023 Sunshine Notice containing the time, date, place, and online access information was published in the Record, Star-Ledger, and has been posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board and the Borough website."

Judge Benjamin Choi administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Ziegler, who was joined by his family.

Mayor Ziegler administered the Oath of Office to Councilmember Diane Scarangella, who was joined by their family.

Former Mayor Judah Zeigler administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Jordan Zeigler, who was joined by his family and friends.

**PRESENT:** Mayor William Ziegler, Councilman Grandelis, Councilman Christoph Hesterbrink, Councilmember Diane Scarangella, Councilmember Joanne Choi Terrell, and Councilman Jordan Zeigler

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Borough Clerk Trina Lindsey  
Deputy Borough Clerk Jonathan Mandel

***Presentations/Remarks*****Councilmember Scarangella**

Councilmember Scarangella spoke as to their desire to run for office to ensure that as many people's voices can be heard as possible. Volunteers are critical in the Borough of Leonia and the more people that come to take leadership roles the stronger and more inclusive it will be. Councilmember Scarangella had asked Mayor Ziegler to work with the Mayor's Advisory Committee and Racism and Equity as it is something that needs to be brought back to the community. Councilmember Scarangella thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the Borough of Leonia.

**Councilman Zeigler**

Councilman Zeigler thanked everyone for putting their trust in him to serve the Borough of Leonia. Councilman Zeigler recognized his grandparents, parents, brother, cousins, and family for their support. Councilman Zeigler also recognized his coworkers from the Bergen County Superintendent of Elections Office. Councilman Zeigler spoke about his side job as a soccer referee and the valuable lessons he learned of sticking with your crew no matter the challenges faced as well as working hard and being willing to communicate. Councilman Zeigler also recognized his close friends who came to support him in his inauguration. Councilman Zeigler thanked everyone for the faith placed in him.

**Mayor Ziegler's State of the Municipality Address:**

Mayor Ziegler read the following into the record:

To see so many good friends, neighbors, and family here is truly gratifying and humbling. (Sue, my Mom, my son Brad and his girlfriend Jamie – my other son, Justin, is in Lagos, Nigeria with my daughter in law Lucy where it's 2:30 am so he has a good excuse.).

Thank you for such a wonderful turnout. To have Judge Ben Choi is also an honor, and I am very pleased he swore me in. Thank you, Judge Choi. I know you had to make some last minute adjustments to your schedule to be here.

I would be remiss not to mention someone very special to me who can't be here. Former Congressman Harold "Cap" Hollenbeck planned to swear me in. He was my first real boss from my seven years in Washington and a huge mentor. He married Sue and me in our Leonia backyard. I have always felt a personal and professional connection to Judge Hollenbeck. I know he is here in spirit, and I wish Cap a speedy recovery.

I am humbled by Leonians' confidence in me to serve as your Mayor. It is an honor and opportunity I take very seriously. Regardless of whether you're a Democrat, a Republican or an Independent – I will work for all of you and listen to all. Working cooperatively with the rest of the governing body, I will always do what I believe is best for Leonia. You can count on it.

As Chief Executive Officer of the Borough, I am also the Chief Communications Officer. Leonians must stay well-informed about events and key issues. Let's minimize surprises by enhancing communication channels. We plan to update and revamp the website, utilize Nixle messages, share YouTube videos on key topics, leverage the listserv, make use of the new digital sign in front of the library and host more Town Halls. My

commitment is to disseminate information in a way that suits the public, recognizing that some methods may be more effective than others. By providing more information about what's going on we can invite more informed participation.

Hopefully this heightened awareness will inspire more individuals to step forward as volunteers, ready to contribute and be a part of the solutions we need. Leonia thrives because of the dedication of our volunteers—they are the backbone of this community. Many of these volunteers are being appointed this evening. Including our fire officers who run an essential 24/7 operation for us.

The good news is through the hard work and commitment of all our volunteers and staff— the Governing Body and everyone else— we have ensured the stability of our borough. But we are currently faced with challenges that demand collective effort.

The next few years will either plot a course for Leonia's continued uniqueness and success, or we could succumb to external development pressures which threaten to subsume our community like has happened elsewhere across New Jersey. As Mayor John Stenken told me many years ago, there are three things which make Leonia special: "First is zoning, second is zoning and third is zoning." You don't have to look far to see what happens when you don't have good zoning to keep in check developer interests.

If you look at a satellite view of Leonia and the surrounding communities, you can readily distinguish the boundaries of our town. We are like a green island in the middle of a more developed expanse. People move to and stay in Leonia because we offer quiet, tree-lined streets, great municipal services, and a strong school system. Children can play in their backyard, have friends on their block, and grow up in an idyllic community a mere stone's throw away from the NYC skyline. It is truly the best of both worlds.

Unfortunately, there are some unscrupulous developers out there who look at our community as a rich target of opportunity.

We should proactively work with responsible developers who share our vision— A Leonia with a more balanced representation of commercial and retail establishments to ease the burden we currently put on today's homeowners while protecting the very residential character of our borough that makes us so special. We have 93% of our taxpayer burden borne by homeowners today. This is not sustainable. Compare this to any of our surrounding communities, and we are much higher than typical.

So a big test of the next few years is to ensure our Quality of Life is maintained through strict zoning regulations while proceeding with sensible redevelopment plans to emphasize more commercial and retail below Grand Avenue on Fort Lee Road and along Willow Tree Road.

Tonight, I will be appointing a Mayor's Advisory Board to work directly with me on redevelopment and to develop recommendations for our governing body. I expect this advisory board to get to work quickly.

I'm asking them to take the redevelopment plan recently reported out by the Planning Board and adjust it to better reflect the input of our citizens, and to massage it so it can get the majority of Leonians behind it. Part of this task is communication and education. Part of this task is making necessary changes that reflect the political realities, priorities, and interests of a clear majority. I've also asked Leonia's #1 taxpayer and largest employer, Kulite Industries, to serve on it particularly since they are within the redevelopment area. As a clean industry

and socially responsible corporate neighbor their voice at the table is an important step in the right direction. As Leonians we should recognize that Kulite's success is our success too.

This reorganization meeting tonight will put some of the essential players in the right roles to help us move forward. As we progress through these appointments, please listen to the diversity of boards, committees, commissions and ask yourself if there is anything that appeals to you. What can you do for Leonia to help us meet some of the challenges we are facing today? There is something out there for everyone, especially for the recently retired who have a little extra time on their hands.

As we tackle the challenges associated with redevelopment, we must also in the near term focus on the 2024 budget. 2024 will be one of the more difficult budget years in a while. In truth, they are all hard and we're not likely to get out of this reality for years. At least not until we get more revenue that requires less burden on municipal services.

In 2024, we are losing Pandemic funding which, by itself is \$500,000 hit. We used this money to fund the vaccine clinics and, to a much larger extent, Police Salaries and Wages. We are expecting another substantial state-mandated increase in pension and benefit costs. We also have the costs associated with the beginning of the revaluation/reassessment process. Yes, another county mandated revaluation is just around the corner.

With inflationary pressures, we know this poses a particularly challenging budget effort these next few months. I've asked Councilman Christoph Hesterbrink to lead our budget formulation efforts for the governing body as Chair of the Finance Committee. It's fair to say the Finance Committee and our very capable CFO, Issa Abbasi, have their work cut out for them this year. I have full confidence in them and so should you.

I'm going to close on a high note. This is a dream job for me. Yes, this volunteer job comes with a fair share of trials and tribulations. But I get something incredibly valuable out of the experience. I get to represent all of you and make decisions which I believe are in the best interest of a town I love and the only hometown I have ever known. I got to travel the world several times over during my corporate career, but there is truly no place like home. I have every intention of staying here in Leonia until the very end. And with your help, I hope to leave behind, through my service, a better Leonia than otherwise might have been.

Thanks again for the honor to serve as your next Mayor. Now let's get to work.

### ***Election of Council President***

#### **RES. 2024-03A Appointment of Council President**

[2024-03A\\_Appointment of Council President\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)

Councilmember Terrell nominated Councilman Hesterbrink for the role of Council President.

Motion by Councilmember Terrell, second by Councilman Zeigler, that Resolution #2024-03A be approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Councilman Grandelis:	aye	Councilmember Terrell:	aye
Councilman Hesterbrink:	abstain	Councilman Zeigler:	aye
Councilmember Scarangella:	aye		

### ***Appointments***

#### **RES. 2024-04 Appoint Borough Administrator**

[2024-04\\_Appoint Borough Administrator\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

Mayor Ziegler spoke to Marisa Mesropian's extraordinary background, attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and acquiring a Bachelor's in Mathematics and Computer Science and is also in possession of an MBA in Finance. Ms. Mesropian has worked professionally at Accenture with the Mayor and was also a banker at Citibank on Wall Street, handling billions of dollars in transactions and funds. More recently she has served as a Director of Operations in the international product services market. Mayor Ziegler feels that Ms. Mesropian is eminently qualified and is looking forward to working with her in the position of Borough Administrator.

Motion by Council President Hesterbrink, second by Councilmember Terrell, that Resolution #2024-04 be approved.

Councilman Grandelis wished to speak as to how this is not the first time an individual has been appointed to a position where there is a need for training. Councilman Grandelis stated that there is a lot of training that must occur and that Mayor Ziegler has stepped up and said that he will take charge to perform the training.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Council President Hesterbrink:	aye	Councilmember Terrell:	aye
Councilman Grandelis:	aye	Councilman Zeigler:	aye
Councilmember Scarangella:	aye		

#### **RES. 2024-05 Appoint Borough Clerk**

[2024-05\\_Appoint Borough Clerk\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

Mayor Ziegler explained that Jonathan Mandel's appointment to Borough Clerk is a Leonia success story. Mr. Mandel joined the Borough of Leonia as an intern and quickly distinguished himself through his contributions to the Borough, moving almost seamlessly into the Deputy Clerk role under the leadership and certification of Borough Clerk Trina Lindsey who had very graciously taken on the additional responsibilities. Mr. Mandel worked very hard and passed all the certifications to become Borough Clerk, learning in mid-December that he passed the state examination.

Motion by Councilman Zeigler, second by Councilmember Terrell, that Resolution #2024-05 be approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Council President Hesterbrink:	aye	Councilmember Terrell:	aye
Councilman Grandelis:	aye	Councilman Zeigler:	aye
Councilmember Scarangella:	aye		

### ***Appointments of Borough Professionals***

#### **RES. 2023-06 Appoint Borough and Tax Appeal Attorney**

[2024-06\\_Appoint Borough and Tax Appeal Attorney\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

#### **RES. 2023-07 Appoint Labor Attorney**

[2024-07\\_Appoint Labor Attorney\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

#### **RES. 2023-08 Appoint Borough Auditor**

[2024-08\\_Appoint Borough Auditor\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

#### **RES. 2023-09 Appoint Borough Engineer**

[2024-09\\_Appoint Borough Engineer\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

#### **RES. 2023-10 Appoint Bond Counsel**

[2024-10\\_Appoint Bond Counsel\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

#### **RES. 2023-11 Appoint Borough Prosecutor**

[2024-11\\_Appoint Borough Prosecutor\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

#### **RES. 2023-12 Appoint Public Defender**

[2024-12\\_Appoint Public Defender\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

#### **RES. 2023-13 Appoint Risk Management Consultant**

[2024-13\\_Appoint Risk Management Consultants\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

#### **RES. 2023-14 Appoint Borough Architect**

[2024-14\\_Appoint Borough Architect\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

#### **RES. 2023-15 Appoint Grants Consultant**

[2024-15\\_Appoint Grants Consultant\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

#### **RES. 2023-16 Appoint Borough Planner**

[2024-16\\_Appoint Borough Planner\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

#### **RES. 2023-17 Finance Advisor**

[2024-17\\_Appoint Independent Registered Municipal Advisor\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

Motion by Council President Hesterbrink, second by Councilmember Terrell, that all resolutions for professional appointments be approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Council President Hesterbrink:	aye	Councilmember Terrell:	aye
Councilman Grandelis:	aye	Councilman Zeigler:	aye
Councilmember Scarangella:	aye		

## **Mayoral Nominations with Council Consent**

*\*TBD represents Councilman Ziegler's Vacated Seat*

### **DPW Committee**

Councilmember Scarangella	Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Councilman Grandelis	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Council President Hesterbrink	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

### **Facilities Committee**

Councilman Zeigler	Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Mayor William Ziegler	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
*TBD	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

### **Finance Committee**

Council President Hesterbrink	Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
*TBD	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Councilman Zeigler	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

### **Human Resources Committee**

Councilmember Terrell	Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Councilman Grandelis	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Councilmember Scarangella	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

### **Law and Ordinances Committee**

Councilmember Terrell	Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
*TBD	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Councilman Zeigler	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

### **Council Liaisons to Boards, Commissions and Committees**

Board of Health	Councilman Grandelis	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Board of Education	Councilman Zeigler	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Building Department	Council President Hesterbrink	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Emergency Medical Services	Councilman Grandelis	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Environmental Commission	Councilmember Scarangella	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Historic Preservation Commission	Councilmember Scarangella	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Library Board of Trustees	*TBD	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

Planning Board Class III	Council President Hesterbrink	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Recreation Commission	Councilman Grandelis	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Shade Tree Commission	Councilmember Scarangella	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Welcome Committee	Councilmember Terrell	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

Motion by Councilman Grandelis, second by Councilwoman Terrell, that the Council Committee and Council Liaisons to Boards, Commissions, and Committees appointments be approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Council President Hesterbrink:	aye	Councilmember Terrell:	aye
Councilman Grandelis:	aye	Councilman Zeigler:	aye
Councilmember Scarangella:	aye		

### **Citizen Appointments**

#### **Board of Health**

Dr. Anthony Vassallo	Full Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2026
Steve Saccoletti	Full Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2026*
Soo Chung <i>RPH</i>	Full Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2026
Ingrid Brennan, RN	Full Member (Unexpired)	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Martha Bonilla	Full Member (Unexpired)	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

***\*Steve Saccoletti for 2024 will instead be serving in the position of Alternate I, Term Expiration 12/31/2025***

#### **Environmental Commission**

Noelle Terrell	Full Member (Unexpired Term)	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Patrick Botten	Full Member (Unexpired Term)	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Karen Marx	Alternate I	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Justin Ferrao	Alternate II	Term Expiration 12/31/2024



**Historic Preservation Commission**

Carmita Sanchez-Fong	Class A	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
David Braun	Class B	Term Expiration 12/31/2027
Linda Green	Class C	Term Expiration 12/31/2027
John Kender	Alternate II	Term Expiration 12/31/2025

**Recreation Commission**

Jason Klein	Full Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2028
Anthony Vassallo	Full Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2028
Judah Zeigler	Full Member (Unexpired Term)	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Christine Muir	Alternate I	Term Expiration 12/31/2028

**Welcome Committee**

Suzie Park	Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Jackie Gobbo	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Marisa Mesropian	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Scott Tamagny	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

Motion by Councilmember Terrell, second by Councilman Zeigler, that the Mayoral Appointments with Council Consent be approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Council President Hesterbrink:	aye	Councilmember Terrell:	aye
Councilman Grandelis:	aye	Councilman Zeigler:	aye
Councilmember Scarangella:	aye		

**Mayoral Appointments****Board of Police Commissioners**

*TBD	Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Councilmember Terrell	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Council President Hesterbrink	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

**Fire Committee**

Councilman Grandelis	Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Councilman Zeigler	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Councilmember Scarangella	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

**Planning Board**

Michael DeGidio	Class IV	Term Expiration 12/31/2027
Ira Gold	Class IV	Term Expiration 12/31/2027
Damee Choi	Alternate II	Term Expiration 12/31/2025

**Shade Tree Commission**

Mark Spiegel	Full Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2028
Ann Sullivan	Full Member (Unexpired Term)	Term Expiration 12/31/2026
Arnold Trachtenberg	Alternate I	Term Expiration 12/31/2028
Sandy Pancrazi	Alternate II	Term Expiration 12/31/2027

**Library Board of Trustees**

William Ziegler	Member (Mayor)	Term Expiration 12/31/2027
Suzie Park	Full Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2028
Charlotte Houghton	Mayor's Alternate	Term Expiration 12/31/2027
Dr. Brian Gatens	Superintendent of Schools	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

**Environmental Commission**

William Russell	Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
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**Mayor's Sculpture Garden Advisory Committee**

Marilyn Torre	Co-Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Jim Healy	Co-Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Mary Martire	Vice President	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Roxanne Ettinger	Treasurer	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Karen Elder	Secretary	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Sydney Stern	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
April Choi	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Erica Blumenfeld	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Brandi Gil	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Sandy Pancrazi	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Richard Stenken	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Karen Marx	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Judy Wailes	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

**Mayor's Advisory Committee on the Arts**

Allen Terrell	Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Matt Dine	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Charlotte Houghton	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
April Choi	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

**Mayor's Advisory Committee on Pedestrian Safety and Transportation**

Justin Ferrao	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Neo Antonides	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
George Giaquinto	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Paul King	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Mike Gobbo	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Mark Brown	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Alec Melman	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

**Mayor's Stigma-Free Task Force**

Caroline Westin-Garcia	Chair	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Muhamed Abbass	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Alyssa Dreyer Delaney	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Aly Giannantonio	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Joanne Green	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Stella Jang	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Maryellen Peters Neu	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Jamie Sclafane	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Jacki Szabo	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Isabelle Van Sickell	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Judy Wong	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Michele Zeigler	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Emily Gelbard	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

**Mayor's Advisory Committee on Racism & Racial Equity**

Diane Scarangella	Liaison	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Ruth Fofana	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Supriya Shankar	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Eric Gugick	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Jiwon Kim	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Ellen Healy	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Margaret King	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Loryn Williams	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Skylar Oliver	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Owen Sheridan	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Dan Pasky	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Shivani Ghoshal	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Eudrick Bote	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Lana Hamadeh	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Martha Bonilla	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Ingrid Carretero	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

**Mayor's Advisory Committee on Redevelopment**

Dr. Frank Livelli	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Peter Pulice	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Kulite Senior Executive	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Bahram Sayari	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Maureen Davis	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Damee Choi	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Patrick Botten	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Jeff Sammis	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Gilbert Friedman	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

**Mayor's Advisory Committee on TV and Movie Production**

Lisa Cullen	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Pat Capone	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024
Ben Ascitutto	Member	Term Expiration 12/31/2024

**Consent Resolutions****RES. 2024-18 Appoint Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators**[2024-18\\_Appointment of Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-19 Appoint Police Physician**[2024-19\\_Appoint Police Physician\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-20 Appoint Assessment & Tax Search Officer**[2024-20\\_Appoint Tax Assessment and Search Officers\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-21 Appoint PACO, Personnel Officer & Sexual Harassment Officer**[2024-21\\_Appoint PACO Personnel Officer & Sexual Harassment Officer\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-22 Appoint Fund Commissioner**[2024-22\\_Appoint Fund Commissioner\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-23 Appoint Fire Marshal**[2024-23\\_Appointment of Fire Marshal\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-24 Appoint Deputy Fire Marshal**[2024-24\\_Appoint Deputy Fire Marshal\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-25 Appoint Emergency Management Council**[2024-25\\_Appointment of Emergency Management Council\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-26 Appoint ADA Compliance Officer**[2024-26\\_Appoint ADA Compliance Officer\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-27 Appoint Municipal Court Judge**[2024-27\\_Reappointment of Municipal Court Judge\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-28 Adopt Rules of Order**[2024-28\\_Adopt 2024 Rules of Order\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)[Rules of Order Updated 1-03-2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-29 Mayor & Council Meeting Schedule**[2024-29 Mayor & Council Meeting Schedule.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-30 Official Newspapers**[2024-30\\_Official Newspapers\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

**RES. 2024-31 Designating Depositories**[2024-31\\_Designating Depositories\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-32 Authorizing Signatures on Borough Drafts/Checks**[2024-32\\_Authorizing Signatures on Borough Drafts Checks\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-33 Payments between Meeting Dates**[2024-33\\_Payment between Meeting Dates\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-34 Cash Management Plan**[2024-34\\_Adopt Cash Management Plan\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)  
[Cash Management Plan.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-35 Authorize CFO to process Payment Voucher – Community Development Program Services**[2024-35\\_Authorize CFO to process Vouchers for Payment for Services performed under Community Development Program\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-36 Change Funds**[2024-36\\_Change Funds\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-37 Authorizing Interest Rate and Grace Period for Delinquent Taxes**[2024-37\\_Authorizing Interest Rate and Grace Period for Delinquent Taxes\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-38 Authorizing a Standard Tax Sale**[2024-38\\_Authorizing a Standard Tax Sale\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-39 Returned Check Fee**[2024-39\\_Returned Check Fee\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-40 Use of Borough Property**[2024-40\\_Use of Borough Property\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-41 Safety Committee**[2024-41\\_2024 Safety Committee\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-42 Cancellation of Small Balances**[2024-42\\_Cancellation of Small Balances\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-43 Authorizing the Hiring of Temporary Personnel due to Workers Comp Injuries**[2024-43\\_Hiring Temporary Personnel Due to Workers Comp. Injuries\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-44 Bulk Mailing**[2024-44\\_Bulk Mailing\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-45 Class I Special Law Enforcement Officers**[2024-45\\_Appoint Class I Special Law Enforcement Officers\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-46 Class II Special Law Enforcement Officer**[2024-46\\_Appoint Class II Special Law Enforcement Officer\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

**RES. 2024-47 Property Maintenance Officer**[2024-47\\_Appoint Property Maintenance Officer\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-48 Appoint Construction Official, Building Sub Code Official & Building Inspector**[2024-48\\_Appointment of Construction Official, Building Subcode Official and Building Inspector\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-49 Appoint Electrical & Plumbing Inspectors**[2024-49\\_Appointment of Electrical and Plumbing Inspectors\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-50 Appoint Zoning Officers**[2024-50\\_Reappointment of Zoning Officer\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-51 Temporary Budget**[2024-51\\_2024 Temporary Budget\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)[2024 Temporary Budget.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-52 Temporary Pool Budget**[2024-52\\_2024 Temporary Pool Budget\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)[2024 Temporary Budget – Swimming Pool Utility](#)**RES. 2024-53 Mutual Aid Deployment & Force Interlocal Agreement**[2024-53\\_Mutual Aid Deployment Force Interlocal Agreement\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-54 Authorize CFO to Disburse Funds in Case of Emergencies**[2024-54\\_Auhtorizing the Chief Financial Officer to disburse funds in case of emergencies\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-55 Authorize Temporary Investment of Excess Funds in All Accounts**[2024-55\\_Temporary Investment of Excess Funds in all Accounts\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-56 Authorize Tax Assessor to File Assessor Appeal to Correct Assessments**[2024-56\\_Authorize the Tax Assessor to File Tax Assessor Appeals for the Purpose of Correcting Assessments\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-57 Authorize Interlocal Service Agreement – Solid Waste Disposal**[2024-57\\_Authorize Interlocal Service Agreement – Solid Waste Disposal\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**~~RES. 2024-58 Appoint Borough Historian~~**[~~2024\\_58\\_Appoint Borough Historian\\_1.03.2024.pdf~~](#)**RES. 2024-59 Authorize Continuation in Bergen County Cooperative Purchasing**[2024-59\\_Authorize Continuation in Bergen County Cooperative Purchasing\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)**RES. 2024-60 Year End 6% Penalty**[2024-60\\_Year End 6% Penalty\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)

**RES. 2024-61 Resolution Eliminating Claimant Certifications on Certain Types of Transactions**

[2024-61\\_Resolution Eliminating Claimant Certifications on Certain Types of Transactions\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)

**RES. 2024-62 Authorize Agreement between Leonia DPW and Holy Name Hospital for Drug Testing**

[2024-62\\_Authorize Agreement with Holy Name Medical Center for Random Drug Testing\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)

**RES. 2024-63 Confirm Reappointment of Planning Board Secretary**

[2024-63\\_Confirm Reappointment of Planning Board Secretary.pdf](#)

Motion by Council President Hesterbrink, second by Councilmember Terrell, that the Consent Agenda be approved.

On a roll call, the vote on the Consent Agenda was recorded as follows:

Council President Hesterbrink:	aye	Councilmember Terrell:	aye
Councilman Grandelis:	aye	Councilman Zeigler:	aye
Councilmember Scarangella:	aye		

**RES. 2024-28 Adopt Rules of Order**

[2024-28\\_Adopt 2024 Rules of Order\\_1.03.24.pdf](#)  
[Rules of Order Updated 1-03-2024.pdf](#)

Pulled by Councilman Zeigler for further discussion

Councilman Zeigler wished to ensure that the Mayor and Council is set to adopt the rules of order as amended during the Sine Die prior. Borough Attorney Chewcaskie confirmed as such.

Motion by Councilman Zeigler, second by Council President Hesterbrink, that the RES. 2024-48 be approved.

On a roll call, the vote on the Consent Agenda was recorded as follows:

Council President Hesterbrink:	aye	Councilmember Terrell:	aye
Councilman Grandelis:	aye	Councilman Zeigler:	aye
Councilmember Scarangella:	aye		

**RES. 2024-58 Appoint Borough Historian**

[2024-58\\_Appoint Borough Historian\\_1.03.2024.pdf](#)

Pulled by Councilman Zeigler for a separate vote

Motion by Council President Hesterbrink, second by Councilmember Terrell, that the RES. 2024-58 be approved.

On a roll call, the vote on the Consent Agenda was recorded as follows:

Council President Hesterbrink:	aye	Councilmember Terrell:	aye
Councilman Grandelis:	aye	Councilman Zeigler:	abstain
Councilmember Scarangella:	aye		

### **Oaths of Office – 2023 Fire Department Officers**

Mayor Ziegler administered the oath of office for the following officers of the Leonia Volunteer Fire Department for the year 2024:

Chief John B. Dunn  
 Deputy Chief John Biondi  
 Captain John (Jack) M. Dunn  
 Lieutenant James McArdle  
 Lieutenant Danny Panarotto  
 Lieutenant Richard Quinton Jr.  
 Lieutenant Nolan Stendor

### **Public Comment**

Michelle Kaufman, 146 Webb Avenue, River Edge, NJ attended the meeting on behalf of Bergen WEDO (Women’s Empowerment Democratic Organization) to honor Councilmember Scarangella with a certificate of achievement.

Former Mayor Judah Zeigler, 201 Christie Street, congratulated the newly elected officials and noted they have the support of every Leonian. Mayor Zeigler invited the mayor and members of the public to attend an event at Dante’s Italian Restaurant to congratulate those newly elected.

Former Mayor Robert Pacicco, welcomed the new Mayor and Council and gave words of advice to Councilman Zeigler, noting it is the perfect time to pass the torch to the new generation.

Former Mayor Mary Heveran, 562 Broad Avenue, congratulated the newly elected Mayor and Council. Mayor Heveran spoke about how it is a daunting task and requires you to vote with your conscience and vote for the people. Mayor Heveran seeing the diversity shown on the Council is pleased and proud to be a Leonian.

Robert Pawlick, 292 Broad Avenue, thanked the previous administration for their service and congratulated the newly elected.

Chief John Dunn, Leonia Fire Department, spoke as to how in the past several individuals stepped up to help the Fire Department in its time of great need. Chief Dunn thanked Judah Zeigler, Pasquale Fusco, and Maureen Davis for what they have done to save the Fire Department and also congratulated the newly elected.

Santiago Forster, 5 Farragut Place, Morristown, NJ spoke as to his friendship with Councilman Zeigler and how he could vouch for the character of the Councilman along with his principles and values as a person. Mr. Forster stated that the Borough of Leonia has a true worker who is looking for the best for Leonia and will do the best for it.



Former Councilman Pasquale Fusco, 212 Fort Lee Road, is proud to hand off his office to the next generation and has faith that they will do a great job for the municipality.

The record will reflect that no further comments were entered into the chat window accessible through GoToMeeting nor via the United States Postal Service.

***Adjournment:***

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, on a motion by Councilman Zeigler, second by Councilman Grandelis, and unanimously carried, to adjourn this meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Mandel,  
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