

REGULAR MEETING
LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
COUNCIL MEETING ROOM – UPPER LEVEL

February 16, 2010

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, at 7:00 P.M.

Prior to the opening of the meeting, Mayor Powers announced that it is a very special and historic evening as it is the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts, an organization that was started in 1910. And, advised that the Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance will be led by representatives from Boy Scout Troop 27.

Mayor Powers further commended Mr. Krawczun, Greg Whitehead, Director of Public Works and his staff, on the excellent job they did in tackling the two major snowstorms within a three day time period and proceeded to elaborate on the difficult task and all the compliments they received from the residents.

At the commencement of the meeting Mayor Powers read the following statement of proper notice:

“Adequate notice of this meeting of the Lawrence Township Council being held on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, has been provided through the posting of the annual meeting schedule of said Council in accordance with Section 13 of the Open Public Meetings Act”.

The roll was then called as follows:

- Present: Councilmembers Bostock, Kownacki, Mount, Puliti, andd Mayor Powers.
- Absent: None.

Also, in attendance were Richard S. Krawczun, Municipal Manager, and Kevin Nerwinski, Esq., Municipal Attorney.

Proclamations and Honors

Mayor Powers invited Fred Vereen, resident of Lawrence Township, and Dennis Waters, Township Historian, to the podium to discuss the historical documents that Mr. Vereen donated to the Township detailing the history of the

Eggerts Crossing neighborhood and the following Proclamation honoring ‘Black History Month’.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black History throughout our American experience; and

WHEREAS, the history of people of African heritage goes back thousands of years and includes some of the greatest, most advanced and innovative citizens in the history of human existence from which we can draw inspiration; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have played significant roles in the history of New Jersey State's economic, cultural, spiritual and political development while working tirelessly to maintain and promote their culture and history; and

WHEREAS, as a result of their determination, hard work, intelligence and perseverance, African Americans have made valuable and lasting contributions to Lawrence Township, Mercer County and the State of New Jersey, achieving exceptional success in all aspects of society including business, education, politics, science, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month is a time for all Americans to remember the stories and teachings of those who helped build our nation, took a stance against prejudice to build lives of dignity and opportunity, advanced the cause of civil rights, and strengthened families and communities; and

WHEREAS, during Black History Month all Americans are encouraged to reflect on past successes and challenges of African Americans and look to the future to continue to improve society so that we live up to the ideals of freedom, equality and justice;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael S. Powers, Mayor, on behalf of the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey do hereby proclaim the month of February 2010 to be

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

in Lawrence Township and encourage all residents to join with us in celebrating the achievements of African Americans and commit ourselves to raising awareness and appreciation of Black History Month by participating in educational events honoring Black Americans and the many contributions they have made to civilization throughout history

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A. Receiving of Fred Vereen’s Papers and Memorabilia to the Lawrence Township Historical Collection

Mayor Powers proceeded to discuss the significance of the historical documents and thanked Mr. Vereen for his generous donation. In addition, he thanked Mr. Waters for helping to ensure that the historical papers remained in the Lawrence Township.

Mr. Waters echoed Mayor Powers’ comments with regards to the importance of the many decades of archival material – such as letters, newspaper clippings, memos, photographs, etc., that Mr. Vereen collected in his many, many years of working in the Lawrence Township Eggerts Crossing community.

Mr. Waters advised a few months ago Mr. Vereen stated his interest in finding a permanent home for all the material he had collected over the years so that the information could be available to scholars, students and researchers who might want to know more about what has taken place over the years in Lawrence Township.

Mr. Waters advised that there are many first rate archival repositories in New Jersey, any number of which would have welcomed all the materials into their collection. So, for that, they are very grateful that Mr. Vereen has chosen to place the materials in the Lawrence Township archives located in the Winona Nash Room at the Lawrence Branch of the Mercer County Library on Darrah Lane.

Mr. Waters indicated that they are very fortunate from a timing standpoint and not just because it helps to commemorate "Black History Month" that they have an intern from the History Department of Rider University working at the Library this semester and she will be busy logging in and cataloging all the materials. And, once that work is completed, they will make the material available to students and researchers who are interested in knowing that the history of Lawrence is permanently available and archived within the Township.

Mr. Waters stated as time goes on they hope to find ways to use the materials for the basis of research, exhibitions and many other things; but, their main priority is to get the material in-house and organized and they are well on their way with that process. In closing, he thanked Mr. Vereen on behalf of the Township and indicated how pleased they were that he decided to leave the collection in its home – here in Lawrence.

Mr. Vereen started his comments by thanking God for enabling him to sustain the journey through all the turmoil or he never would have made it and for sending all the people that helped to make the journey possible, as it is not a one-man journey – but rather a real community effort.

Mr. Vereen proceeded to discuss in detail all the material that was collected over the 35 to 40 years which he indicated is mainly comprised of community people and volunteers who made it all happen. He then thanked the Mayor and Council for memorializing the documents, news articles and pictures that illustrate the evolution of the Eggert Crossing community.

Mr. Vereen also thanked Mr. Waters and his Assistant, Laura Nawrocki, and the student intern from Rider University who is assisting them with the process. He further thanked Edith, who could not be present this evening, but who assisted in categorizing much of the material prior to it being turned over to the library and indicated the material should be exposed to others especially young adults, the community of higher education and religious institutions who played a major part of the evolution of Lawrence.

Mr. Vereen proceeded to discuss some of the history related to “Black History Month” and “Negro History Week” and the connection between the two events, to include a brief history regarding the spirit founder, Dr. Carter G. Woodson. In addition, he read two quotes, one written by Dr. Carter G. Woodson and the other by Fredrick Douglas regarding the philosophy of reform with respect to human liberties.

In closing, Mayor Powers welcomed and gave special recognition to the following individuals: Harold Vereen, former Councilman/Deputy Mayor; former Councilmen/Mayors, Thomas Wilfrid and Mark Holmes; and Rev. Joan Semenek for her great support and relief efforts for Haiti.

Review and Revisions of Agenda

The Municipal Manager advised that there is a need to amend Resolution 8L (Closed Session) on the Agenda to include discussions concerning personnel matters and to update Resolution 9A, Authorizing Awarding Contract for the Dyson Tract, to include addition language.

The Municipal Attorney further advised that Resolution 8L (Closed Session) needs to be amended to include discussions concerning the Carter Road Homeowners Associations litigation.

On a motion by Mr. Puliti, seconded by Mr. Bostock, the Agenda was amended to include discussions concerning personnel matters, inclusion of additional language and litigation during closed session.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilman Bostock, Kownacki, Puliti, Councilwoman Mount, Mayor Powers.

Nays: None.

Public Participation

Ms. Carmela Roberts, 3000 Princeton Pike, advised that she is the Merit Badge Counselor for Troop 27 Boys Scouts and she is present tonight with a group of five scouts who are in the process of earning their Citizen in the Community Merit Badge and one of the requirements is for them to attend a Town Council Meeting, observe the meeting and possibly leave with a topic of interest they can discuss afterwards. She then thanked the Council for their time.

Mayor Powers advised that they are present on a very good night, as they will be discussing the budget which is always exciting.

Mr. William Holmes, 47 Altamawr Avenue, commented on the celebration of "Black History Month" and the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts, as it relates to W.E.B. DuBois, an African-American scholar, who traveled to Europe and recognized the work of an astute youth group there, and upon his return to the United States he thought it would be good to have a group such as that in America. And, as a result of that the Boy Scouts was formulated into the organization that it is today. Further, he felt it interesting to mention this fact for the record and very important for the young Scouts who may not know the history surrounding the Boy Scouts.

Mayor Powers further discussed the Eagle Scouts celebration that they just recently had for a young man the helps out at the Nature Center and advised that Lawrence Township has been the beneficiary of several Eagle Scout projects – such as the Smith Tower, butterfly bushes and the benches. And, indicated how the community really benefits from the Scouts and how honored they are to have the five representatives present at tonight's meeting and proceeded to thank them for their service.

There being no one else who wished to address Council, Mayor Powers closed Public Participation.

Adoption of Minutes

There were no minutes for adoption.

Introduction of Ordinances

Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 6A OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE ENTITLED 'FEES: THE CONSOLIDATED LICENSE, PERMIT AND FEE CHAPTER.'"

Mr. Krawczun advised that the Ordinance will amend the Administrative Code by establishing a fee of \$100 for minor repairs to sewage disposal systems (septic systems), as the current ordinance requires a \$500 fee for alterations of

existing systems and does not include fees for repairs and proceeded to discuss the importance of inspections and the ordinance in detail.

The Ordinance was introduced and approved on the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. Bostock	X						X
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Mrs. Mount	X						
Mr. Puliti	X					X	
Mayor Powers	X						

Resolutions

Mr. Krawczun provided a brief overview of Resolution (8A), Authorizing the Adoption of a Multi-Jurisdictional Flood Mitigation Plan; and Resolution (8B) Authorizing the Signing of Deeds to Correct Property Line Boundary for Colonial Bowling Lanes and Resolution (8E), Authorizing Grant Agreement between the Township and DEP for 2009 Business Stimulus Fund Grant (\$7,000).

Resolution Nos. 100-10 (8A) thru 113-10 (8N)) were approved by the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. Bostock	X						
Mr. Kownacki	X						X
Mrs. Mount	X					X	
Mr. Puliti	X						
Mayor Powers	X						

Cited Resolutions are spread in their entirety in Resolution Book Volume No. 2 of the Township of Lawrence.

Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

Mayor Powers asked for comments from the public. There being none, Mayor Powers asked for comments from the Council. There being no additional comments from the Council, public participation was closed. On motion by Mr. Bostock, seconded by Mr. Puliti the following resolution was presented for adoption:

Resolution No. 114-10

WHEREAS, on Thursday, January 7, 2010 bids were received and publicly opened for the project known as the **Dyson Tract Remediation**; and

WHEREAS, fourteen (14) bids were received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Op-Tech Environmental Services, Inc. who submitted a bid in the amount of \$2,181,807; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:50-14, a Certificate of Availability of Funds has been provided and the account to be charged is C-04-55-321-222; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that pursuant to the recommendations of the Municipal Engineer, the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a contract with Op-Tech Environmental Services in the amount of \$2,181,807; and

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this contract is awarded pursuant to a fair and open process and is subject to New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection approval.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this contract is also subject to New Jersey Economic Development Authority approval for funding under the Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund - Municipal Grant Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Manager is hereby authorized to draft the necessary agreement, subject to the approval of the Municipal Attorney as to form and content thereof.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilman Bostock, Kownacki, Puliti, Councilwoman Mount, Mayor Powers.
Nays: None.

Adoption of Ordinances

Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 6A 'FEES: THE CONSOLIDATED LICENSE, PERMIT AND FEE CHAPTER' OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINSTRATIVE CODE"

Mayor Powers asked for comments from the public. There being none, Mayor Powers asked for comments from Council. There being none, public participation was closed.

Ordinance No. 2046-10

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 6A,
'FEES: THE CONSOLIDATED LICENSE, PERMIT AND FEE CHAPTER'
OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

Section I.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that Chapter 6A entitled 'Fees: The Consolidated License, Permit and Fee Chapter' of the Lawrence Township Administrative Code is hereby amended as follows:

Section 6A-24 Miscellaneous Fees

(e) Septic Tank Abandonment \$50.00

Section II. Repealer

All ordinances or parts of same inconsistent with any provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section III. Severability

If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance shall be declared invalid for any reason, the remaining portions of said ordinance shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect.

Section IV. Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after adoption thereof.

Additions are underlined _____
Deletions are in bracketed []

The Ordinance 2046-10 was adopted on the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. Bostock	X						X
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Mrs. Mount	X						
Mr. Puliti	X					X	
Mayor Powers	X						

Budget Presentations –

Mayor Powers advised that the Municipal Manager has presented his 2010 Recommendation Budget to Council and part of the budget process is for the various Department Heads to come before the Council and present their specific budgets; a process he indicated will be taking place over the next month or two. He then turned the floor to the following Department Heads.

A. Health Department – Carol Chamberlain, Health Officer, 2010 Budget Presentation

Ms. Chamberlain distributed copies of her 2009 Annual Health Report and advised that she would be reviewing in detail the report which highlights the Health Department’s activities, programs and mandated municipal services that is required by law from the State Health Department and/or DEP. She further advised that the Report is designed to provide the Council with basic knowledge of the various programs and activity levels taking place within the Department and proceeded with an in-depth review relative to her staff, shared services and their day-to-day function. A question and answer period took place relative to Ms. Chamberlain’s budget presentation.

Mayor Powers and Council thanked Ms. Chamberlain for her report.

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**B. Recreation Department – Steven Groeger, Superintendent of Recreation, 2010 Budget Presentation**

Mr. Groeger distributed copies of his 2010 Budget Report and advised that the Recreation Department consists of three separate divisions; the Recreation Division, Special Events and the Office of Aging and their primary function is to provide activities that make people happy and healthy, as stated in previous years. He then proceeded to review each departmental function, program activities for boys and girls to include camps, the safety town program, social and special events programs, health screening, lectures and activity programs for seniors, grants and sponsorships, as well as, expenditures, anticipated and

generated revenue that helps to offset the programmatic cost associated with the three divisions. A question and answer period took place relative to Mr. Groeger's presentation.

Mayor Powers and Council thanked Mr. Groeger for his presentation.

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### **Manager's Report –**

Mr. Krawczun reported that the Public Safety Committee has been very active in their first two meetings of year (2010) and proceeded to handout a "draft" copy of an Ordinance for the Council to review which he indicated was distributed at their February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, laying out their proposed operational structure for Lawrence Township Fire Services that will be operating under the Division of the Department of Public Safety.

Mr. Krawczun stated that the proposal will identify the responsibilities of the Fire Departments, Fire Chief, Fire Marshall and Emergency Management Director, to include assigning an Administrator of the Fire Services. In addition, the Ordinance will identify the process and protocol for the Township which is the same intent and idea the fire companies had before when they established their previous by-laws and operating procedures. He further advised once the Public Safety Advisory Committee comes back with a recommendation he will be bringing the proposed ordinance before the Council for approval. Some discussion took place relative to the proposal.

Mr. Krawczun also distributed copies of a proposed Resolution to Council outlining the policy on how the Township will purchase fire apparatuses in the future and advised that the policy has actually been reviewed and accepted by the Public Safety Advisory Committee and he will be bringing that resolution forward in the same format for the Council's consideration.

Mr. Krawczun advised that the policy will standardize equipment to better implement cross utilization of apparatuses amongst the three fire companies so that they can begin to standardize their inventory and parts, train personnel for repairs, cross utilize firefighters among fire companies and become more efficient from an operational standpoint. Some discussion took place relative to the proposed resolution and cross-training on apparatus.

Mr. Krawczun stated a few weeks ago he was asked by the Council to look at the 1990 Charter Study and research the cost of the study and based on his investigation he has prepared a memorandum for the Council's review summarizing his findings.

Mr. Krawczun advised that the purchase orders and the detail budget summary records from back then have all been purged, as they are all past their statutory retention period. But, they did find an Audit Report from 1990 that showed an appropriation for the Charter Study Commission under Other Expenses with a modified budget appropriation of \$17,095, and against that appropriation was a charge of \$16, 348.

Additionally, they found a Professional Service Contract that was awarded to a firm in Clifton, New Jersey to serve as a consultant to the Commission; however, there was no contract amount stipulated in the resolution. So, based on that information they can only conclude that the cost was \$16,348.

Mr. Krawczun further advised that he had a conversation with some of the staff at the Center for Government Services at Rutgers University who will provide guidance and oversight of the process to the Governing Body and Commissions that are established. And, their thought is that the general supply cost is around \$5,000, but the wildcard that will drive up the cost is the expense associated with the printing, distribution of sample ballots and actual election costs depending on the preference of the municipality.

Mr. Krawczun stated there was a question posed at the last meeting relative to the number of tax-exempt properties for The Lawrenceville School and Rider University and advised that they have the information available for The Lawrenceville School, but not for Rider University, as they are still reviewing the information which is not as extensive as The Lawrenceville School. He then proceeded with a brief explanation of the off-campus/on-campus residences and current assessments for the properties owned by The Lawrenceville School.

Mr. Krawczun provided the Council with a sample copy of a resolution that the Administration received from the New Jersey League of Municipalities urging the State Legislators to pass substantial reform for the binding arbitration process for police and fire and stated if they are in support of the resolution he will schedule it for the next Agenda.

Mr. Puliti advised that there is another resolution that the Municipal Clerk distributed requesting the State to establish municipal service fees to be paid by students attending colleges, universities and boarding schools within the Township. After a brief discussion, it was a unanimous decision amongst the Council to review the two resolutions and email Mr. Krawczun their responses.

Mr. Krawczun stated that the Administration submitted (3) three requests for funding – one to the office of Congressman Holt and the other two to the offices of Senators Lautenberg and Menendez, in the hope that the Township will be eligible for Federal Funding for the following three projects:

- The Flood Mitigation Plan that was just adopted this evening which will provide for the stabilization of the stream banks on several tributaries to the Shabakunk Creek in the amount of \$150,000.
- The Energy Audit Program to improve and upgrade the physical structure of the (3) three fire station buildings in the amount of \$300,000.
- Funding to improve the Nature Center in the amount of \$50,000, as the participation level has increased and improvements are needed for the drainage, lighting and parking in that area.

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**Attorney's Report –**

There was no Attorney's report.

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**Clerk's Report –**

There was no Clerk's report.

**Council Initiative/Liaison Reports –**

Councilmember Kownacki's report:

- Mr. Kownacki reported tomorrow will be his first Public Health forum and he's looking forward to a good meeting as he feels the Health Department provides excellent programs to the community.

Councilmember Mount's report:

- Mrs. Mount reported that a few elected officials and residents had a question and answer session with the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and some of the 4<sup>th</sup> Graders regarding the parks.
- Mrs. Mount stated she attended a County meeting concerning a possible bike route from Washington-Crossing State Park to Hopewell down Lawrenceville-Pennington Road and advised that numerous meetings have taken place regarding the proposal and the Baker Group is assigned to work on the project.
- Mrs. Mount reported that the Route 1 Redevelopment Committee met and they are still working with the architects on the design

- Mrs. Mount advised that the Business Task Force is working on a vital campaign to promote people to shop and use local businesses by possibly creating a loyalty card where residents can earn cash-back incentives when they shop locally.
- Mrs. Mount stated the Green Team is working on a Water Barrel Program which consists of 50-gallon drums being placed on the downspouts to collect water and on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> they will be meeting with a new Artist Co-op that is located in Lawrence, to discuss a water barrel painting deal and other programs.
- Mrs. Mount stated they are having another Business and Energy Program on Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, and that the First Choice Bank will be present to talk about how businesses can take advantage of the New Jersey Green Energy Program in terms of businesses upgrading their energy appliances and reducing cost. And, advised that they had a very good turnout the last time they had the event.
- Mrs. Mount reported that Dennis Waters, Township Historian, is going to give the keynote speech at the Historical Society event on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 p.m., and that he has done a lot of research, interviews and picture taking for the event – so it should be very interesting event.

Councilmember Puliti's report:

- Mr. Puliti advised that the Recreation Advisory Committee is focusing on the budget, to include discussions concerning programs, events and the solicitation of sponsorships that would help offset some of the cost and avoid the elimination of recreational programs which the Superintendent of Recreation discussed earlier during his budget presentation.
- Mr. Puliti stated on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. they are having the lighted crosswalk ceremony and urged all to attend and Mr. Krawczun proceeded with a rundown of all who had been invited to attend the event.

Councilmember Bostock's report:

- Mr. Bostock had no Liaison report.

Mayor Powers' report:

Mayor Powers reported on the following items:

- Mayor Powers advised that they have a Mayor's Route 1 Task Force that meets at the beginning of the each month which was started last year when Councilwoman Mount was Mayor, and to keep the momentum and united front going the six Mayors from South Brunswick to Lawrence get together monthly to discuss methods of dealing with NJDOT on various traffic issues along the Route 1 Corridor and proceeded to review some of the issues they are currently working on.
- Mayor Powers stated that the "Relay for Life" event was cancelled due to the snow, but on Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. they will have a kickoff meeting at the high school and that Rider University is doing their own "Relay for Life" event. He urged all to get involved as it is a very worthy cause and more information will follow.
- Mayor Powers advised that the Shade Tree Commission is reviewing the Township's Shade Tree Ordinance due to a pending Supreme Court case regarding contributions from developers for offsite shade tree installations and he will keep them posted on the outcome of that case.
- Mayor Powers stated that the Human Relations Committee met yesterday and they are working on Diversity Day that will be taking place at the Senior Center on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and because they receive so much support from local vendors for the event they are working on thank you cards to be sent them to show how much the Committee appreciates their support during these hard economic times. Further, Eleanor Horne has submitted an application to join the Committee and that application will be brought forward for approval at the next meeting.
- Mayor Powers stated in light of the Boy Scouts 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cub Scout Pack 28 will be having a celebration at the Chauncey Conference Center at ETS on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m., and all of the Council is invited to attend.

- Mayor Powers stated that the “Ask the Mayor” discussion is Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at Candela’s, and that he and Mr. Krawczun will be there from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to answer any questions or address any concerns of the residents.
- Mayor Powers briefly discussed the Mayor’s Legislative Day event scheduled for February 24<sup>th</sup>. Also, the Budget Summit to review and discuss the 2010 Recommended Municipal Budget has been rescheduled for Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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**Written Communications –**

There was no written communication.

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**Old Business –**

A. Discussion Relative to Boards and Committees Consolidation

Mayor Powers advised that there have been previous discussions relative the possible consolidation of the Growth and Redevelopment and the Route 1 Committee as well as some other boards and committees.

Mr. Bostock requested copies of all the Ordinances pertaining to the establishment of the various Boards and Committees to enable further review of opportunities to consolidate committees.

Mrs. Mount inquired about the status of unveiling the “Welcome to Lawrence” signs at various entrances of the Township.

Mr. Krawczun advised that they are waiting on approval from DOT to place the sign at the Brunswick Avenue location and they have no current information regarding the Federal City Road location, so they will do a follow-up with DOT.

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B. Discussion Relative Change in Government Referendum

Mayor Powers stated that Councilman Bostock suggested that the Governing Body review the Township’s current form of government in terms of surrounding municipalities forms of government operate, and that the Township

Attorney has provided them with information relative to the Faulkner Act and the Options for Change if they wish to move forward with the process.

Afterwards, an at length discussion took place relative to the advantages/ disadvantages associated with the current form of government the Township operates under, as well as, if and how they would like to proceed with the process.

The Municipal Clerk advised that there is a very fine timeline if the Governing Body plans to move forward with this process as the deadline to submit a public question to the County Clerk is August 20<sup>th</sup> for the November Election, and if they have to adopt an Ordinance they will need two readings for that process. So, if it is their desire to move forward they need to start the public hearings as soon as possible in order to meet the required deadline. A brief discussion followed relative to the history of previous Mayors and their terms of office.

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**New Business –**

Mr. Puliti discussed a Legislative Bill that was passed and endorsed by Senator Shirley Turner permitting municipalities to adopt an ordinance requiring landlords to post a bond for problem houses that are investigated numerous times due to complaints and advised that several municipalities at the shore have adopted the policy. He then asked the consensus of the Council with regards to adopting the policy in Lawrence.

Mr. Krawczun advised that he has already asked the Police Department and the Housing Office to review the policy to see how it could be applicable in Lawrence.

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There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned.

9:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

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Kathleen S. Norcia, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

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Michael S. Powers, Mayor