

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

May 4, 2010

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was opened with a Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, led by the Municipal Clerk.

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, May 4, 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, and Mayor Powers.

Absent: None.

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

---

Proclamations and Honors

There were no proclamations or honors.

---

Review and Revisions of Agenda

There were no revisions to the agenda.

---

## Public Participation

Ms. Lisa Burke, 278 Fountayne Lane, stated that she is a homeowner in Liberty Green and is present at tonight's meeting to express her concern and objection to the passage of Resolution (8B) Authorizing the Release of Right-of-Way and Storm Drainage Performance Bonds for K. Hovnanian Companies/ Liberty Green. And, although she is the sole voice speaking on behalf of her Association the problem is of grave concern to many homeowners who live in Liberty Green, it's just they were uninformed by Management concerning the scheduling of the resolution and she found out accidentally and proceeded to discuss the chronic drainage problem they have been experiencing and the ongoing relationship the Association has had with K. Hovnanian, and the company's failure to meet their obligations under the Transition Agreement despite numerous repeated contacts by the Association's Attorney and the Management Company.

Ms. Burke indicated the Township is their last hope of rectifying the situation with K. Hovnanian, as they feel if the Performance Bonds were released to the company they will no longer feel obligated or accountable to anyone and will not fulfill their obligation to correct existing problems in the development. So, if permissible by law, she would like the Council to table Resolution (8B) until further review of the situation. After a short discussion relative to Ms. Burke's remarks, there was no objection by Council to table Resolution (8B) to further investigate the complaint.

Ms. Joan Kabala, 80 Texas Avenue, stated she has a concern about NJ Transit buses that come up and down her street every 15 minutes when there is a sign posted stating no vehicles over 4 tons allowed on the street and advised that the Management of the Lawrence Shopping Center stopped the buses from dropping off passengers and parking in their area - so they now make drop-offs at the end of her street. She further indicated last year she received a letter from the Township stating she could not park on the street although she pays taxes to live there and questioned whether or not the buses paid taxes or if it is permissible for them to use the road to drop off passengers especially since the street has not been paved and is in bad condition.

Mayor Powers advised that the Township is actually in the process of doing the 2010 Capital Road Projects for roads that are subject to repaving and other improvements. And, Mr. Krawczun advised that the "stop" line on Texas Avenue and Princeton Pike has been reviewed by the Township Engineer, and because right-hand turns are permitted on Texas Avenue and the driver needs to have site of the northbound traffic traveling south it is a safety hazard to set the line back any farther. Further, Texas Avenue is a public street that buses are permitted to use, but the Lawrence Shopping Center is private property, so the owner has the right to ask the buses not to park or utilize the area. A short discussion followed relative to alternative bus routes.

Mr. Kownacki asked Mayor Powers whether or not the article printed in the Lawrence Gazette was true concerning the Township acceptance of an extra \$10,000 from Rider University in lieu of taxes which would bring the total contribution to \$25,000, and if any of the other Councilmembers were ever informed of this decision because he was under the impression that they were expecting a higher contribution from both schools – The Lawrenceville School and Rider University – to help balance the municipal budget, and that all the members of Council needed to vote on it.

Mayor Powers advised that he gave a State of the Township Address speech at Rider University sponsored by Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce and during that time he had an opportunity to speak with President Rozanski about Lawrence Township's economic situation and as an intervention President Rozanski proposed an increase of \$10,000 in aid that has been traditionally provided to the Township. But, advised nothing has been accepted and the meeting to further discuss the proposal with Dr. Rozanski is scheduled for May 6<sup>th</sup>, at which time Councilman Bostock will be present to discuss additional aid to the Township. A brief discussion followed relative to the matter.

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

---

#### Adoption of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Bostock, seconded by Mr. Puliti, the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of April 21, 2010 were approved without corrections.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Bostock, Kownacki, Puliti, Mount and Mayor Powers.  
Nays: None.

---

#### Introduction of Ordinances

Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$1,078,700 INCLUDING THE AMOUNT OF \$245,000 EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED AS A GRANT AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$792, 015 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF."

Mayor Powers advised that the Ordinance is part of the Township’s annual Road Improvement Program that would include assessment work, milling, overlay and incidental work for over 100 miles of roadway within the jurisdiction of the Township.

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						

~~

Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, “BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY AND APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$1,066,300 AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,012,985 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.”

Mr. Krawczun advised that the Ordinance is a Capital Ordinance authorizing the expenditure of public funds and issuance of debt for various capital purchases of equipment, building improvements, public safety equipment and other items for municipal operations. A brief discussion followed relative to the payoff period.

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						

~~

Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TO CREATE A GREEN TEAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE.”

Mrs. Mount recommended that the Ordinance be **tabled** being the Green Team is scheduled to meet tomorrow and the postponement will provide the volunteers the opportunity to review the ordinance extensively prior to adoption.

After a short discussion relative to the recommendation, the Ordinance was **tabled** 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						

~~

Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER."

Mr. Krawczun stated within the Local Budget Law there is a Local "CAP" Law which limits certain items of appropriation in the municipal budget to increase no more than 2.5% or the Cost of Living Adjustment or whichever is less. Additionally, the Governing Body is authorized by the same law to adopt a "CAP Bank" Ordinance which allows an increase not to exceed 3.5% over the previous year appropriations and allows any additional amount to be banked and used for the current budget year or one of the two succeeding budget years and proceeded with a review of the Township's current "CAP Bank" budget.

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

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

---

Resolutions

Resolution Nos. 178-10 (8A) thru 188-10 (8K) with the exception of Resolution 179-10- 8B (tabled) were approved by 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						

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

---

**Introduction of the 2010 Municipal Budget**

Mayor Powers gave a brief overview of what has taken place between the Council, Municipal Manager and various Department Heads over the last several months in terms of all the variables that helped to craft the 2010 Municipal Budget and advised that they now have the official State version of the 2010 budget that Mr. Krawczun will be reviewing shortly.

Mr. Krawczun distributed copies of the 2010 Municipal Budget and proceeded to discuss the introduction of municipal budget and the adoption process, to include the decrease in the proposed tax rate of \$.07 to \$.06 due to a successful pension contribution appeal and a reduction in appropriations which reduced the surplus, after which Mayor Powers and Council thanked Mr. Krawczun and the Administration for all their hard work in preparing the budget and gave their closing remarks.

Resolution Nos. 189-10, Introduction of the 2010 Municipal Budget, was introduced and approved on the following roll call vote:

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

---

Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

There was no award or rejection of bids.

---

Adoption of Ordinances

Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING CERTAIN JOB CLASSIFICATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Mayor Powers asked for comments from the public during which time the following resident asked to be heard:

Mrs. Patricia Connelly, 3 Irwin Place, asked if the \$.06 tax increase additional to the proposed \$.09 increase by the School Board and is her calculation correct in thinking that her total tax increase is \$.15 per \$100 of the assessed value of her property.

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the School Board and Municipal Government are two separate entities and the only powers that the Governing Body has is in regards to the municipal budget not the school budget, so she would have to contact the School Board concerning their tax increase.

Some discussion took place between Mayor Powers and Councilman Bostock relative to the various unions' Collective Bargaining Agreement process and his opinion regarding the negotiation process.

There were no additional comments from the members of Council or from the Public and Ordinance No. 2050-10 was adopted on the following roll call vote:

Ordinance No. 2050-10

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING CERTAIN JOB CLASSIFICATIONS  
AND PROVIDING COMPENSATION FOR THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES  
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section I. Short Title

This ordinance shall be known and may be recited as "The Salary Ordinance of the Township of Lawrence – Unclassified and/or Exempt, Seasonal, Emergency (non-union) Employees for 2010-2013."

Section II. Salaried Employees

The attached list of salaried positions and job titles are hereby authorized and assigned the appropriate salary ranges for 2010-2013.

This ordinance will continue the Township’s consistent policy of providing comparable fringe benefits to exempt employees during their active service as that provided to Supervisors, CWA Local 1032, through their collective bargaining agreement. The Township will still maintain the flexibility of granting retiree benefits to exempt employees hired after January 1, 2011. Accordingly, employees covered by this ordinance that are eligible for health and/or prescription benefits shall contribute three percent (3%) of their premium for coverage selected commencing January 1, 2011.

Section III. Part-Time or Seasonal Employees

The following part-time or seasonal positions and job titles are hereby authorized and assigned the following pay maximums commencing January 1, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013:

<b>Position of Job Title</b>	<b>Basis</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
Emergency Medical Technician	Hourly	19.00	19.50	20.00	20.50
Firefighter	Per Diem	125.00	125.00	130.00	130.00
Laborer (Seasonal)	Hourly	9.75	10.00	10.28	10.53
Life Guard	Hourly	Federal Minimum Wage up to 15.00	Federal Minimum Wage up to 15.00	Federal Minimum Wage up to 15.00	Federal Minimum Wage up to 15.00
Recreation Aid	Hourly	Federal Minimum Wage up to 34.00	Federal Minimum Wage up to 34.90	Federal Minimum Wage up to 34.90	Federal Minimum Wage up to 35.75
School Traffic Guard	Hourly	14.90	15.29	15.71	16.10
Secretary/Board & Committee	Per Annum*	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00
Tax Search Officer	Per Annum	9,890.00	10,147.00	10,426.00	10,687.00
Zoning Officer	Per Annum	4,600.00	4,720.00	4,849.00	4,971.00
Municipal Court Attendee	Hourly	19.22	19.72	20.26	20.77
All Others	Hourly	Federal Minimum Wage up to Step 1 in Applicable Job Title	Federal Minimum Wage up to Step 1 in Applicable Job Title	Federal Minimum Wage up to Step 1 in Applicable Job Title	Federal Minimum Wage up to Step 1 in Applicable Job Title

\*Denotes title paid monthly. All other titles bi-weekly.

Section IV. Eligibility



The ranges in Section II of this ordinance shall pertain to individuals employed by the Township of Lawrence on or after the effective date of this ordinance.

Section V. Longevity

- A. Each full time employee shall be entitled to longevity pay based solely on the length of full time employment with the Township of Lawrence. The payment shall be made in conjunction with the payment of the base rate of compensation as defined in this ordinance and shall be in accordance with the following schedule:

<b>Length of Service</b>	<b>2010-2013</b>
Beginning in year 8 through 11	\$ 800
Beginning the 12 <sup>th</sup> year through year 15	1100
Beginning the 16 <sup>th</sup> year through year 19	1400
Beginning the 20 <sup>th</sup> year through year 23	1700
Beginning the 24 <sup>th</sup> year through year 27	2000
Beginning the 28 <sup>th</sup> year and beyond	2300

- B. Longevity pay, as heretofore set forth, shall become effective January 1<sup>st</sup> or July 1<sup>st</sup>, the date nearest to the anniversary date of employment.

Section VI. Other Personnel and Working Conditions

All other functions, responsibilities and rights not specifically enumerated in prior sections of this ordinance shall be judged to be within the province of management, subject only to the laws, rules and regulations of the New Jersey Department of Personnel, the provisions contained in applicable agreements (if any) or policy manuals, and by the issuance of Administrative Directives by the Municipal Manager.

Section VII. Repealer

All other ordinances or parts of ordinances adopted prior to the date of this ordinance that are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed insofar as they relate to or concern the job classifications listed in this ordinance.

Section VIII. 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 IX. Effective Date

- A. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption thereof.
- B. All salary or compensation provided for and by this ordinance shall be effective the first day of January.

The Ordinance 2050-10 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						

---

**Manager’s Report –**

Mr. Krawczun reported that Mr. Robert Guadagnino, President of Lawrenceville Point Homeowners Association, came to the last meeting and addressed the Council about several concerns in his development and indicated that he, Mayor Powers and Jim Parvesse, Township Engineer, met with Mr. Guadagnino and after reviewing the brick pavers issue at the entrance, it was determined that the problem stemmed from some type of structural deficiency and before the Township could get involved they would have participate in the Township’s Homeowners Repair Program. Additionally, they provided Mr. Guadagnino with information on the reimbursement for snow removal and discussed the curbing and sidewalk problem.

Mr. Krawczun advised that Robert Ramsey, Township Public Defender, retired as of Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, and the Administration will be placing an advertisement seeking a new public defender to fill his position; but until someone is hired to replace Mr. Ramsey he will serve in that role as a volunteer.

Mr. Krawczun stated last Friday evening he had an opportunity to travel to Menlo Park to represent Lawrence Township and accept the Award for Heritage Village, which is an age/income restricted housing development located on Business Route 1 that was recognized by the New Jersey Planning Officials and awarded the 2010 Achievement and Planning Award. In addition, Clark Caton Hintz along with Community Investment Strategies, Inc. (CIS) was present and also recognized for the project.

---

**Attorney's Report –**

Mr. Nerwinski had no Attorney's report; but indicated he has worked with Mr. Ramsey for a long time and he has gone above and beyond the call of duty in his position. In addition, he is a well established Attorney in the State of New Jersey, talented and proficient in four languages and he has learned a lot from him personally. So, he hopes the Town Council would consider giving him a Proclamation for his service to the Township. Some discussion followed relative to some of Mr. Ramsey's talents.

---

**Clerk's Report –**

There was no Clerk's report.

---

**Written Communications –**

There were no written communications.

---

**Old Business –**

There was no old business.

---

**New Business –**

There was no new business.

---

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

7:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen S. Norcia, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael S. Powers, Mayor