

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

July 19, 2016

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 6:30 P.M.

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

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

STATEMENT OF PROPER NOTICE: “Adequate notice of this meeting of the Lawrence Township Council being held on Tuesday, July 19, 2016 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 Bobbitt, Kownacki, Lewis and Powers.
Absent: Councilmember Mayor Maffei.

Also in attendance were Richard Krawczun Municipal Manager, and Township Attorney David Roskos.

Special Proclamations, Recognitions and Presentations

There were no special Proclamations, Recognitions or Presentations.

Public Participation (5-minute limitation per speaker)

Lauren Makin former Lawrence resident came to voice her opinion as of why she feels people and soldiers are committing suicide. She states that, struggling to find work, losing housing and a negative environment are some of the causes. Ms. Makin stated that she herself is a victim and survivor of rape and she came to encourage the Township to reach out to the public on such matters. Councilman Powers suggested that Ms. Makin reach out to “CONTACT of Mercer County,” which is a private organization for individuals that suffer from depression and suicidal thoughts.

Councilwoman Lewis also suggested that she speak with someone in the Health Department regarding the matter.

Sam Pangaldi, President of Slackwood Fire Company, came before Council to ask about the delay in the LOSAP funds and to also get a better understanding of the program. Mr. Krawczun explained due to a change in banks there has been a delay in funding and that Length of Service Award Program is a retirement plan and not a savings account from which participates can withdraw from at will. Mr. Pangaldi also asked if he could be provided with some sort of information or policy on when Township employees or volunteers are covered under workers compensation for accidents while on duty and whether or not they are considered 24 hour employees. Mr. Krawczun replied that he would provide Mr. Pangaldi information clarifying his request regarding Township employees as well as information regarding volunteer workers not being eligible for workers compensation.

Review and Revisions of Agenda

Councilmember Lewis requested Resolution Nos. 265-16-(9-B) Bid Award-Ambulance Billing Services; (10-B) Bond Ordinance Providing for Point Blank Active Shooter Vest; and 294-16 (18-CC) Resolution Release a Performance Bond to Auto Lenders be added to the agenda. There was also a request for adding discussion of the potential litigation with Avalon Run to the Executive Session 290-16 (18-Y).

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Bobbitt, the Agenda was amended to include the above revisions.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Bobbitt, Kownacki, Lewis, and Powers.
Nays: None.
Absent: Mayor Maffei.

Adoption of Minutes

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Bobbit, the Minutes of Regular Meetings of April 7, 2015, April 21, 2015, May 5, 2015, July 21, 2015, August 18, 2015, September 1, 2015, September 15, 2015, October 6, 2015, October 20, 2015, November 5, 2015, January 1, 2016, January 5, 2016, February 2, 2016, February 23, 2016, March 1, 2016, and April 19, 2016 were approved on the following roll call vote:

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Bobbitt, Kownacki, Lewis, and Powers.
Nays: None.
Absent: Mayor Maffei.

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Bobbit, the Minutes of Regular Meetings of May 19, 2015, June 16, 2015, December 1, 2015, January 19, 2016, March 15, 2016 and May 3, 2016 were approved on the following roll call vote:

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Bobbitt, Kownacki, and Lewis.
Nays: None.
Absent: Mayor Maffei.
Abstain: Councilmember Powers.

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Bobbit, the Minutes of Regular Meetings of May 17, 2016, June 21, 2016 and May 17, 2016 were approved on the following roll call vote:

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Bobbitt, Kownacki, and Powers.
Nays: None.
Absent: Mayor Maffei.
Abstain: Councilmember Lewis.

Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

Mayor Maffei asked for comments from the public. There being none, Mayor Maffei asked for comments from Council. There being none, public participation was closed. On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Bobbitt, the following Resolution was presented for adoption.

Resolution No. 264-16

WHEREAS, a bid was awarded to Discover Construction, LLC for services for a project known as the **2016 Concrete Program** in the amount of \$124,095.00, as outlined in Resolution No. 204-16 and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to amend this contract in the amount of \$10,601.89, resulting in a new contract maximum of \$134,696.89, said increase allowed by statute without re-bid; and

WHEREAS, Change Order No. 1 reflects supplemental items required during construction; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-14, a Certificate of Availability of Funds has been provided and the accounts to be charged for the additional increase is C-04-55-410-233 (Ordinance 2228-16 – Various Capital Improvements – Slackwood Fire Driveway Apron - \$1,249.73); C-04-55-410-235 (Ordinance No. 2228-16 – Various Capital Improvements – Lawrenceville Fire Driveway Apron - \$6,206.91) and C-04-55-421-242 (Ordinance No. 2229-16 – Various Road Improvement – Concrete Program - \$3,145.25);

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

1. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute an amended agreement with Discover Construction, LLC, 2207 U.S. Highway 130, Dayton NJ 08810 for a revised amount not to exceed \$10,601.89.00 and availability of funds has been certified for said amount.
2. Notice of this resolution shall be published in the Lawrence Ledger as required by law within ten (10) days of its passage as required by law.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Bobbitt, Kownacki, Lewis, and Powers.
Nays: None.
Absent: Mayor Maffei.

~~~

Mayor Maffei asked for comments from the public. There being none, Mayor Maffei asked for comments from Council. There being none, public participation was closed. On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Bobbitt, the following Resolution was presented for adoption.

Resolution No. 265-16

**WHEREAS**, on July 19, 2016, bids were received for Bid 16-10, Ambulance Billing Services; and

**WHEREAS**, two (2) bids were received and reviewed by the Township Manager and the Coordinator of Emergency Management and the lowest responsible bidder DM Medical Billings, 88 S. Lakeview Drive, Bldg. #2, Gibbsboro, New Jersey 08026, who submitted a bid of 5.5% of fees collected.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the Township is hereby authorized to award Bid No. 16-10, Ambulance Billing Services, to DM Medical Billings, in the amount of 5.5% of fees collected for a contract period of August 1, 2016 through July 31, 2017 with the option to renew for a second year.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Bobbitt, Kownacki, Lewis, and Powers.  
 Nays: None.  
 Absent: Mayor Maffei.

---

Introduction of Ordinances

Mayor Maffei read by title, an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 13 OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINSTRATIVE CODE ENTITLED 'MOTOR VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC'"

Mr. Krawczun advised that the amendment to the Ordinance amends previously adopted regulations for through streets and stopping and standing location on Lawrence Township roads. This Ordinance will completely repeal the existing ordinance and re-established this as the new ordnance.

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

| COUNCIL      | AYE | NAY | PRESENT | ABSENT | ABSTAIN | MOVE | SECOND |
|--------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|---------|------|--------|
| Mr. Bobbitt  | X   |     |         |        |         |      | X      |
| Mr. Kownacki | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Ms. Lewis    | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Mr. Powers   | X   |     |         |        |         | X    |        |
| Mayor Maffei |     |     |         | X      |         |      |        |

~~~

Mayor Maffei read by title, an ordinance entitled, “BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING APPROPRIATION \$10,624 FROM THE CAPITAL FUND BALANCE PROVIDING FOR POINT BLANK ACTIVE SHOOTER VESTS, BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY”

Mr. Krawczun stated the amendment to the Ordinance was funded by the General Capital Fund Balance and the expenditure will not incur any additional debt. The vests are just an extra precaution for the safety of the police officer and one vest will be placed in each police vehicle.

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

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVE	SECOND
Mr. Bobbitt	X						X
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Ms. Lewis	X						
Mr. Powers	X					X	
Mayor Maffei				X			

Adoption of Ordinances

Mayor Maffei read by title, an ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2241-16 SALARY ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE-UNCLASSIFIED AND/OR EXEMPT, SEASONAL, EMERGENCY (NON-UNION) EMPLOYEES FOR 2014-2016.”

Mr. Krawczun stated the amendment would affect the non-classified or exempt seasonal employees. The Ordinance adds the position of part-time Park Attendant for the Township’s parks on evenings and weekends. It also adds a Clerk position and adjusts the salary grade for the Court Administrator.

Ordinance No. 2242-16

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2241-16
SALARY ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE – UNCLASSIFIED AND/OR
EXEMPT, SEASONAL, EMERGENCY (NON-UNION) EMPLOYEES FOR 2014-2016

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 2014-2016.”

Section II. Salaried Employees

The attached list of salaried positions and job titles, Schedule A and Schedule B, are hereby authorized and assigned the appropriate salary ranges for 2014-2016 and are determined by date of hire as an employee of Lawrence Township.

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 to the cost of the said health benefit premium for medical and prescription coverage as required by law, specifically Chapter 78, P.L. 2011. All employees hired on or after January 1, 2014 shall contribute based upon the year four rates specified by said law and to be made an Appendix to a successor Agreement.

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, 2014, 2015 and 2016:

Position of Job Title	Basis	2014	2015	2016
Armed Court Attendant	Hourly	\$23.16	\$23.61	\$24.14
Emergency Medical Technician	Hourly	\$20.50	\$20.90	\$21.37
Firefighter	Per Diem	\$130.00	\$135.00	
Firefighter	Hourly			\$17.50
Laborer (Seasonal)	Hourly	\$10.53	\$10.74	\$10.98
Life Guard	Hourly	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 \$35.75	Federal Minimum Wage up to \$35.75	Federal Minimum Wage up to \$35.75
Position of Job Title	Basis	2014	2015	2016
Recycling Coordinator	Per Annum			\$4,090
Fire Crew Coordinator	Per Annum			\$4,090
School Traffic Guard	Hourly	\$16.10	\$16.41	\$16.78
Secretary/Board & Committee	Per Annum*	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,800.00
Tax Search Officer	Per Annum	\$10,687.00	\$10,895.00	\$11,141.00
Zoning Officer	Per Annum	\$4,971.00	\$5,068.00	\$5,182.00

Municipal Court Attendee	Hourly	\$20.77	\$21.18	\$21.65
Park Attendant	Hourly			\$15.00
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

* 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 employee hired before January 1, 2013 and covered by this agreement shall in addition to his/her regular wages and benefits, be paid longevity based upon years of service as of December 31, 2013 with the Township in accordance with the following amounts. Said amounts to be paid to an employee shall not be adjusted beyond the longevity amount being received by an eligible employee as of December 31, 2013. Longevity shall be pensionable and included as part of the employee’s regular pay. Any employee hired on or after January 1, 2014 shall not be eligible to receive longevity pay at any time in the future. Length of Service

Beginning in year 8 through year 11	\$ 800
Beginning the 12 th year through year 15	\$1,100
Beginning the 16 th year through year 19	\$1,400
Beginning the 20 th year through year 23	\$1,700
Beginning the 24 th year through year 27	\$2,000
Beginning the 28 th year and beyond	\$2,300

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, salaries and benefits 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 take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption.
- B. All salary or compensation provided for and by this ordinance shall be effective the first day of January.

Additions are underlined _____

Ordinance 2242-16 was approved on the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVE	SECOND
Mr. Bobbitt	X						X
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Ms. Lewis	X						
Mr. Powers	X					X	
Mayor Maffei				X			

Manager’s Report –

Mr. Krawczun submitted invoice listings for the month of July 2016 in the amount of \$1,064,382.32.

Mr. Krawczun discussed a Notice that was received from NJDOT regarding the Shutdown Order for Transportation Funds that was adopted on July 6th and it being extended and in effect until further notice. He then reviewed some of the jobs that are on hold in Lawrence Township.

Mr. Krawczun distributed a letter from Central Jersey Transportation Forum (CJTF) regarding updated information for the Council to read at their leisure.

Mr. Krawczun discussed handouts that were distributed at the last Council Meeting regarding the standards and procedures for keeping live chickens in the Township. He indicated that Lawrence Township’s current Land Use Ordinance restricts where a shelter or chicken coop can be placed on a private property which is a challenge to residents who want to raise chickens.

Mr. Krawczun then distributed information to Council compiled by the Municipal Engineer that summarized the standards for keeping of live chickens adopted by a nearby Municipality. He then asked that the Council review the information so that there can be discussion at the next meeting. Ms. Lewis proposed that limits be set to create standards for setbacks for the buildings within the yards and create standards based on the lot size for housing chickens. A general discussion, comment and question period took place relative to Councilwoman Lewis' proposal.

Mr. Krawczun distributed an article from the New Jersey Tax Collectors & Treasurers Association about pending legislation addressing the matter of reducing interest that is charged on delinquent taxes and the concerns of municipalities which he thought the Council might find interesting since Senator Shirley Turner from their legislative district is one of the key sponsors.

Mr. Krawczun discussed the Lawrence Township Employee Handbook regarding personnel policy which has been completely revised and will be placed on the next Agenda for adoption. He thanked Debbie Monroe, Payroll Supervisor, and his assistant, Yvette Martinette, as well as the labor counsel for their collaboration on the handbook, and advised that copies have been provided to the Unions for their review and they have responded to the unions with any concerns they may have had and/or incorporated suggestions or made changes based on their comments. Upon adoption distribution of the handbook will be provided to all employees.

Mr. Krawczun advised that there will be a Screening Committee Meeting with the Planning Board on Thursday, July 21st at 4:00 pm downstairs in the lower level conference room at Town Hall to review the application submitted by Lennar Builders for a housing development at the Greenacres Country Club site.

Mr. Krawczun reported that the 2015 Audit Report was a clean audit with no comments or recommendations and asked the Council wishes with respect to the Municipal Auditor coming before them to speak on the matter. Mr. Powers stated traditionally they have had many years of clean audit findings so there is no need for a presentation. The other members of Council concurred.

Attorney's Report –

Mr. Roskos briefly discussed the Appellate Division reversing Judge Troncone's decision in terms of the 'gap period' for Affordable Housing meaning there will be an Appeal to the Supreme Court and no final resolution to the matter although it is somewhat encouraging that an Appellate panel is demonstrating that they cannot ask the Trial Courts to come up with regulations for calculations on such a mass scale.

Clerk’s Report –

There was no Clerk’s report.

Unfinished Business –

There was no unfinished business.

New Business –

There was no new business.

Public Participation (3-minute limitation per speaker) –

There was no public participation.

Resolutions

Resolution Nos. 266-16(18-A) through 294-16(18-CC) were approved by the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVE	SECOND
Mr. Bobbitt	X						X
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Ms. Lewis	X					X	
Mr. Powers	X						
Mayor Maffei				X			

Cited Resolutions are spread in their entirety in the Resolution Books of the Township of Lawrence.

Council Initiatives/Liaison Reports –

Ms. Lewis mentioned that National Night Out is scheduled for August 2nd from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm., at Town Hall and that the Lawrence Township Police Department has done a wonderful job in making that event larger, and she thinks now more than ever it is important to make sure the community is actively engaged with the police department and encouraged everyone to attend.

Ms. Lewis stated on a good note there were almost 50 students at Safety Town this year which is a great example of young kids being active with the Police Department with a number of activities this summer.

Mr. Powers mentioned Mr. Onofri from the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office who appeared before Council back in December 2015 to speak about police shootings and police use of force as well as the 2015 Directive that established principles to maintain and protect the integrity of ongoing investigations and the rights of the accused and how proud he was of New Jersey and the Lawrence Township Police Department in terms of their proactive nature in this matter prior to the escalation of the current police shootings.

Mr. Bobbitt advised that the Awards ceremony for the Growth & Redevelopment Committee is coming up and people can go to the website and submit any names for small or large businesses.

Ms. Lewis stated they had a wonderful Fourth of July fireworks display that took place at Rider University on Friday, July 1st, and it was a great success and that the Council would be remised if they did not thanked the Recreation Department, Recreation Committee and all the staff including the police and fire who assisted at the event.

Written Communications –

There were no written communications.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tonya D. Carter, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Attest:

David C. Maffei, Mayor