

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SAFETY  
COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
2207 Lawrence Road  
Lawrence Township, New Jersey 08648**

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**Minutes**

**Tuesday, November 27, 2018**

Members Present: James Kownacki, Council Liaison  
Chief Brian Caloiaro, Lawrence Township Police Chief  
Jack Oakley, Emergency Management Coordinator  
Edward Tencza, Fire Marshal  
Carol Chamberlain, Health Department Community Representative  
Chief Chris Pangaldi, Slackwood Fire Company  
Ray Nagy, Lawrenceville Fire Company  
Chief Ryan Dlabik, Lawrence Road Fire Company  
Mike Burzachiello, Community Representative  
Elissa Grodd Schragger, Community Representative  
William Holmes, Community Representative  
Michael Oakley, Community Representative

Members Absent: Kevin Nerwinski, Municipal Manager  
Anthony Cermele, Construction Official  
Chief Mike Filandro, Lawrenceville Fire Company  
Jitesh Patel, Community Representative

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jack Oakley at 6:31 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes for August 21, 2018 meeting were reviewed by the Committee. A motion was made by Mike Burzachiello and was seconded by Ryan Dlabik to approve the minutes as written. All were in favor.

Public Participation

John (Jack) Gortikowski was present at the meeting. He spoke about his concerns with the street light not working at 1894 Brunswick Pike. Jack Oakley advised that he would contact someone and get the street light on. Also is concerned about pedestrians crossing mid-block on Route #1 by CVS and the Viva Dance Studio, "someone is going to get hit". Finally, he expressed his concern about the excessive speeding between Whitehead Road and the Brunswick Circle on Route #1. Speed limit has always been 40 mph. Township has attempted to have it lowered to 35 mph; however, the State of NJ will not allow it to be lowered. Speed limit for a divided highway is 40 mph and that is what the State is keeping it at. Mr. Gortikowski also requested that a sign for the Slackwood Firehouse indicated that there is a firehouse on the side street and motorists need to be aware and cautious of fire equipment entering the roadway during an emergency. Jack Oakley mentioned the light has been changed

to assist with firetrucks entering Route #1. Traffic and speeding on Main Street (Route 206) in Lawrenceville was also brought to the attention of the Committee. Lawrence Township was promised a "Main Street America" look from the State, but it is not turning out that way. Jack Oakley advised that he would have the Township Manager look into this and contact Kimberly Nance from the State DOT to get some type of feedback. Mr. Gortikowski had no further comments.

### Old Business

Health Report: Carol Chamberlain advised the Committee that there was nothing new to report on.

Emergency Apparatus Reports: All fire companies were represent at the meeting tonight. Chris Pangaldi reported that all equipment is in-service. Chief Dlabik reported Station 22has one engine out-of-service. Ray Nagy, Station 23, reported that the telesquirt is out-of-service

Chief Caloiaro had nothing to report.

Media Articles: Chief Caloiaro and Ed Tencza suggested posting Safe Shopping tips, portable heating and Christmas tree safety tips on the website and it should also be posted on Twitter and Facebook.

### New Business

Mike Burzachiello brought up concerns regarding the speed limit on Princeton Pike between Texas Avenue and the Route #206 intersection. He has seen motorists doing up to 60 mph in the evening between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Between Carr Avenue and Texas it is very bad and getting worse. The possibility of having a speed limit warning sign with red/blue strobe lights flashing may deter motorists.

Jack Oakley began a discussion regarding the single family house explosion that occurred on November 24<sup>th</sup>. He congratulated the fire departments and all emergency personnel who were at the scene on the great job they did. Ryan Dlabik agreed that a good effort was put forth by all who assisted with the emergency. Two neighboring houses were saved. The two homeowners suffered burns. One victim was badly burnt and was taken by chopper to hospital.

Discussion then moved to the problems with fire hydrants and two were not functioning properly the evening of this house explosion. There are several fire hydrants in the Township that are reported to not be working properly without sufficient water pressure. Trenton Water Works is responsible for the hydrants and has been advised several time of faulty hydrants. Carol Chamberlain will call her contact at Trenton Water Works. It was suggested that the Township periodically check our own hydrants to ensure they are functioning properly. A Photo Gauge was suggested in order to ensure their functionality.

### Other Business/Correspondence

Mike Burzachiello asked the Committee if the issue with parking at the Islamic Circle of Mercer County on Lawrence Station Road has been resolved. They cleaned up the area and removed all the debris and created a small stone walkway.

Ed Tencza reminded us that LA Fitness will be moving into Lawrence Shopping Center. The old furniture building will be taken down and the fire departments have been permitted to use the building for fire training before it comes down. As new storage facility has been approved and will be built on Princess Road.

Jack announced the next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2019.

### Adjournment

Having no further business to be brought before the Committee, a motion to adjourn was made by William Holmes, second by Chief Caloiaro and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Yvette Martinette*