

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

June 19, 2018

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, June 19, 2018, at 6.00 p.m.

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

At the commencement of the meeting Mayor Bobbitt 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, June 19, 2018, 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." Said Notice was forwarded to The Trentonian, The Times and The Princeton Packet on December 26, 2017.

The roll was then called as follows:

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

Also in attendance were Kevin Nerwinski, Esq., Municipal Manager and David Roskos, Esq., Municipal Attorney.

Special Proclamations, Recognitions and Presentations

Gregory Whitehead, Director of Public Works
Proposed Change in Brush Regulatory Ordinance

Mr. Whitehead greeted everyone and thanked the Mayor, Council and Municipal Manager for giving him an opportunity to speak about the issues the Public Works Department is having with the Municipal Brush Collection Program and imparted it is not a new issue, it is an issue that has been building for the last few years. The matter has been discussed at staff meetings, with residents, neighbors and they have had arguments with landscapers over the brush situation. They have done everything possible to table the issue, kick the issues down the road, and still the issues exist. The Brush Collection Program now needs some serious tweaking to save the program and

they are not recommending that the program be canceled, reduced or closed down at the compost site, they are just looking to make some changes to preserve the program for what it costs for labor, to collect, process, enforce and haul away.

Mr. Whitehead imparted with the current program they collect brush 10 months out of the year with the exception of November and December when they have leaf collection only. And, in January, they collect Christmas trees then they get right back into picking up brush unless the roads are snow covered and they have to pull the trucks off the roads. The Township is divided into four (4) zones and they are the same zones the town has had for the past 25 years and thus far the zone coverage works pretty well. Every street is collected once per month and their department provides a lot of education being a lot of folks think its the entire 'week of' so they keep putting piles of brush out to be collected. They also collect brush on Route 1, Route 206 and all county roads and the current rule is for residents to place their brush on the streets no greater than 4 feet from the edge, materials can be piled 3 feet in height and 8 inches in caliper and that the materials exhibited for Council's view do not conform to any of those rules. Grass clippings are supposed to go out in bags with the regular trash for collection; because if the grass is placed in the cart the heat causes it to harden like cement and when shaken causes the trash cart to crack down the middle and the town is out of \$55.00 given they have to buy another tractor trailer full of blue carts. Primarily, at this time of the year the grass ruins the carts but; if, the grass is bagged and tied then it just falls out like regular trash.

Mr. Whitehead advised that the collection will be limited to brush and tree prunings as the brush program was designed for yard waste and trimmings. So, if a person trims their bush or has a branch they cut up they put it out in the road the weekend of their collection and the Township will pick it up so it does not go out in the landfill and the brush is not piled in their yards; but, the program has turned into tree contractors taking down entire trees and throwing them into the municipal roadway. The contractor is collecting monies from the residents, leaving the debris in the roadways and now the rest of the taxpayers are on the hook for the Township spending four hours to clean up somebody's tree that is in the road when prior to it was private property and the owners responsibility and now it is the town's issue. The same rules apply for tree stumps which are the homeowner's responsibility as well and proceeded to discuss photos of some homeowners dragging the large branches out in chains and the tree contractors leaving a mess for Public Works to clean up and advised it is also a problem the Health Department has been struggling with for years because law-abiding neighbors call very upset on the neighbors who have materials out in the road for a month or material that does not belong in the road.

Mr. Whitehead advised a few years back they had a big thing with brush and leaves being closer than 10 feet from a storm drain and causing drains to clog and that the Township Council can drive around within ten minutes and see (50) fifty of them covered so when it rains the debris covers the drains then he gets fifty calls from the Police Department reporting that various roads throughout the town are flooded which is no more than a clogged drain from somebody's brush. Also, they do not collect

diseased material and firewood because the Township has no way of disposing of it. So, if a resident throws old firewood out on the street there is nothing Public Works can do with it as DEP does not allow it at the compost facility and Britton does not want the diseased wood, either; therefore, it is on the homeowners to dispose of it, not the Township and proceeded to review a pie chart of the road division and the 3500 hours they spent collecting brush with only a half a crew (5 employees) after everyone is given their assignments to take care of 22 square miles of town and 200 lane miles of road and indicated it is simple to see that a number of things are lacking such as storm drain repairs, sinkholes, making signs, tree trimming, crack sealing, pothole filling and taking care of open space. All of which he needs more hours in as the leaves and brush are starting to swallow up their department.

Mr. Whitehead stated that there is a cost for the service and that the labor with benefits was just a little over \$140,000 for 2017, diesel fuel was \$10,500 and for the last several years they have had to resort to a disposal contract with Britton because once the Compost Facility is filled up the gate has to be closed, Princeton cannot bring any more material given DEP does not allow them to go outside their markers so they have to dispose of things at Britton which they have to pay for as well. Last year, the Township paid Britton \$32,000 and this year, as of June, they are already at 10,000 yards - that is the same amount they collected in all of last year and they still have the rest of the year to go. The refuse trucks are very expensive to buy outright and the town is paying about \$90,000 per year for bonding, interest and payments and when all the trucks get cycled out they will have another request in the 2019 Capital Budget for a compactor truck which he does not want to purchase given they have other needs. But the repairs and maintenance on the trucks are really off the charts. The cost last year was \$36,000. And, the trucks are made for garbage so they have to be augmented to take brush and it is a lot of steel and hydraulics that needs welding, repairs and maintenance; but, it is the most economical way of picking up brush because for one compacted dump truck they would have to run six or seven dump trucks back and forth so the method they are using is a great time saver...but it does cost money.

Mr. Whitehead stated that the service is costing them over \$300,000 and this year they have surpassed last year's cost and that the storms in March did contribute to some of the cost: but, the cost is always factored in as they know the storms will affect the Brush Pickup Program and proceeded to review in detail the steady increase in brush collection since 2015 totaling \$500,000 compacted garbage truck loads of brush, brush being placed at the curb on incorrect weeks, residents requesting special brush pickups outside of their zone schedules, residents and landscapers placing brush at the curb after their designated pickup week, thereby creating a safety issue for bicyclists who have to ride out onto the roadways, brush being an eyesore and nuisance to the other neighbors who abide by the rules, brush being piled too high and cut incorrectly in size, brush causing street sweeping problems and the landscapers and residents claims of not knowing the rules and regulations regarding brush pickup when the Township Officials seeks compliance.

Mr. Nerwinski inquired if there was any evidence when they pick up of contractors bringing materials into Lawrence from other towns. Mr. Whitehead replied yes. They have caught some of the landscapers dumping debris from other towns and explained that some of the landscapers may have a couple of routes in Princeton and/or West Windsor and upon completion end up with a half load on the trucks then they come to Lawrence finish the work and dump all of the debris at that residence so when the homeowner comes home they do not check the piles they just see that the landscaper has done the job. But, it creates a big problem for Public Works as the debris ends up in the storm drains and clogs the drain. And, per DEP regulations, the Township is responsible to clean the storms drains and they have 2100 storm drains in Lawrence which have to be cleaned, inspected, repaired and logged for the DEP inspection and the yard waste makes it worst with drains being plugged up with that kind of material and proceeded to discuss a display of pictures with piles of brush causing hazards on the streets, time consuming, costly, damaging to municipal equipment and triggering residential complaints as well as causing Public Works to close the Ecological Center that is filled and having to grind materials daily until they can reopen for brush drop-off.

Mr. Whitehead advised that there are a few things they would like to do to stabilize the program for the future to try and get it back to normal which includes the following: material piles not to exceed 12 foot in length which is not currently specified in the municipal ordinance, prohibiting stumps and tree trunks and changing the diameter of the branches and trunks from 8 inches to 6 inches being the 8 inches is really 9 or 10 inches and the heavy wood that will not compact or break is ruining a lot of their compactor trucks and those are the proposed bulk changes they are looking to do with the material pile length being the biggest item they are looking to change as they have never had a restriction on the length and proceeded to review some photos of branches spoking through the headlights of the equipment and the damages caused to the equipment by the large amount of branches collected as well as some of the creative inventions his staff came up with to try and protect the equipment from the beating of the large materials.

Mr. Whitehead advised moving forward they want to develop an educational program for the residents - one daytime program and one evening program to explain the new ordinance and distribute educational materials and mailers. They can probably use funds from the recycling grant to send a mailer to every homeowner explaining the issue and the changes in the program and spread the word through Facebook, Twitter and the town's website to make sure they get the message out. Additionally, they will mail out information to all of the homeowners associations to make sure they know the new rules and to spread the word to folks in their association and suggested they compile a list of landscapers and send them a copy of the letter as well regarding the changes and penalty for violating the new regulations; because unless everyone is educated on the new rules it will continue to be an ongoing problem. And, although, they will have enforcement the object is not to give out summonses, they just want cooperation and compliance and continued to elaborate on the new rules and pictures of piles that are in compliance versus non-compliance.

Mr. Whitehead briefly discussed the Brush Collection Program being a very popular program and some of the neighboring towns having similar issues and requiring that the materials be tied up and put in paper bags and indicated everyone is changing their regulations a little bit and he is just asking for a very fair way of keeping the program, kind of the way it is now...but with a few more restrictions as well as having a lot of compliance with the landscapers as it relates to them following the residential zone schedule so that the piles are not an eyesore to other residents or a parking or safety hazard with the branches being out in the roadways.

Mr. Nerwinski advised that he has met with Mr. Whitehead, Chief Ubry, Carol Chamberlain, Health Officer, Peter Kiriakatis, CFO, several times about this issue and he expressed to them that he is not going to tell them how to do their jobs as they are highly experienced professionals but he is available to assist them in any way and indicated Mr. Whitehead presented a good version of what he and his staff go through with some of the residents as the residents have come to expect such a high level of service that the Township is a victim of their own success in terms of what they deliver and that is why he requested Mr. Whitehead to come before the Council and give them a sense of what they have been dealing with for a while so when the changes are implemented everyone will understand that the services are not being taken away.

Mr. Nerwinski stated, secondly, it should be clear to everyone that commercial contractors are coming in and seeing a way of making a profit because they do not have to get rid of any of the materials; they are just putting it on the side of the road for the Township to collect. With regards to the enforcement, Mr. Whitehead spoke about the Township Police and Lawrence Court involvement as there has to be a consistency on what the town enforces in their own laws. The reeducation process will be for a small minority of citizens that do not pay attention to the ordinance at all and there is an element that the town will have to consistently and routinely provide the residents with if they want to maintain the service for a variety of reasons – public safety, resources and DEP requirements as it relates to the Ecological Center, etc.

Mr. Nerwinski advised that he has asked Mr. Roskos to work on one global brush policy ordinance with those basic terms and he will also be delegating someone to enforce the ordinance...not for purpose of making money; but, to try and preserve this service that a lot of other towns do not provide. And, if they remain consistent they will arrive at the place where they want to be with regards to homeowners doing some yardwork and placing a small amount of brush at the curb of their property instead of commercial landscapers placing large piles of material at the curb for Public Works to pick up and reiterated the various ways information can be delivered and the need for the Council to take the next step in supporting the Public Works Department, Health Department and Police Department in doing so.

Mayor Bobbitt thanked the Township Manager and Mr. Whitehead for the brush collection presentation and advised that Mr. Whitehead answered a lot of his questions regarding cost and labor which is one of his biggest concerns and the Township complying with DEP storm water regulations which are getting tighter. He also likes the

idea of them educating and reeducating residents about what they need to do and how they need to do it. So, the first step is to amend the Ordinance and get it to the point where they can get the information out to the residents and he thinks the Nature Center would be a great place to start as well as the various sources of social media. As for enforcement, once the community is educated everything else will fall in place. He then asked if there were any comments from Council.

Councilmember Powers stated they are the victims of their own success because when Public Works comes through people can eat off the street which is really amazing. But, one of the things that is troubling is the \$311,000 cost (a penny on the tax rate) with the volume and cubic yards and the town being on pace of 15,000 cubic yards when the number of houses have not increased and the landscapers getting smarter by thinking they can dump the material instead of putting it in their trucks thereby subsidizing their cost by having Lawrence Township Public Works Department pick it up. He then discussed the Township having a Peddler/Solicitor Ordinance when people come in to peddle goods and asked Mr. Roskos if they could require the landscapers to purchase a license to cover the \$311,000 cost that they are profiting from that is causing problems for the community.

Mr. Roskos stated they could require licenses but the idea is that the Township does not want to be in the business of collecting the landscapers waste. The message has to be "take your waste with you" and whatever price they are providing to the homeowner includes removal because Lawrence Township is not the dumping ground of Mercer County. Furthermore, he knows how great Lawrence Township is in terms of pick up and he thinks the Township should send out a township-wide mailing regarding the issue being they have done such a great job for so many years when people see a change in the brush schedule they will think a service is being taken away instead of them trying to preserve a program and proceeded to discuss educating the community and provisions being set for violators who deposit waste in Lawrence. Additional dialogue took place relative to the administrative cost associated with the matter.

Councilmember Lewis questioned if people are allowed to drop brush off at the Ecological Center and if so part of the education campaign should be letting people know that they can do it on their off weeks; because, as a resident, she knows there are times the work can only get done on the off weeks so part of the education should include folks knowing there is a place to drop off. As for bagging the grass and waste, a lot of peoples' reaction in trying to be eco-friendly is that it is not compostable, so they do not use the bags; they put it out to the curb not understanding it is going into the stormwater system. So, doing education on that aspect is really important. And while she thinks the landscapers are a huge problem there is another issue and imparted she lives in a neighborhood that is 60 years old with well-established trees and the large branches are starting to fall off during the storms which is starting to happen in a lot of places in the Township and proceeded to discuss the procedure for homeowners under the proposed ordinance for disposal of branches larger than 6 inches in diameter and creating a process for violators instead of having business owners go through a permitting process that could make it difficult for residents to find help for a service they

clearly like and onerous on business owners trying to do business in Lawrence Township.

Councilmember Maffei asked Mr. Whitehead how well they know the contractors that do business in Lawrence Township. Mr. Whitehead advised that some of the regular contractors they know very well as they do business at the Ecological Center and some they do not come in contact with. And advised as an option when they have the capacity and residents are allowed to bring brush over for free and the landscapers can also drop off at the Ecological Center with a letter from the homeowners for that day. Homeowners can also have their contractor place the brush in their yard until their zone schedule because by placing the piles out prior to their pickup week allows the materials to get wet and heavy and puts the homeowners at an impasse when it comes to removal and restated the importance of educating the public and enforcement being the key to getting everyone on board much like when they started the Blue Cart Garbage Program.

Councilmember Maffei stated he likes the idea of the town making the contractors remove the work that they do being they have the option of getting rid of the material by taking it to the compost facility at no cost. Further, contractors should be informed regarding the process of removal for any work they perform in Lawrence Township.

Mr. Powers reiterated his position again with regards to the commercial contractors registering with the Township so that there is no misinterpretation of the ordinance. Mr. Whitehead stated what he likes about Mr. Powers' proposal is if a company is required to register then they will have the owner's information so if they have a problem they will know who to contact because a lot of times they do not know given the vehicles have no name, telephone or truck number then they are gone and the Township is stuck. Additional dialogue took place relative to looking into a no fee registration to help with the enforcement.

Mayor Bobbitt thanked Mr. Whitehead for his presentation and stated the devil is in the detail, wished him best of luck and stated the Council will review the proposed ordinance and give him some feedback at the next meeting.

Public Participation

Mr. John Ryan, 128 Villanova Drive, greeted everyone and commended the Public Works Department on the great job they do. He then questioned with the proposed change to brush collection what residents are supposed to do cleanup-wise after a storm. Mr. Nerwinski advised that the Council is flexible in that type of situation so it is not a black and white issue. They accommodate residents all the time in special circumstances and a storm makes it a different category.

Mr. Ryan stated with regards to the cracked garbage cans he drills a hole under the lip of his garbage can to prevent it from cracking due the saturated grass clippings and moisture buildup from the heat which seems to work and asked if the Township ever considered purchasing garbage cans with an opening to combat the problem. Mr. Whitehead replied that drilling holes in the garbage cans is against DEP regulations as they do not want leaky garbage juice trailed on the roads from the trucks and advised that they do have vented carts that are made when a person has automated service for debris pickup like they have in Florida with all the palm trees and a couple of years ago they did consider that as an option but found that it was not going to work for the Township. Additional discussion took place relative the commercial landscapers leaving large piles of brush and residents not knowing their proper zone schedule.

Ms. April Armstrong, 180 Franklin Corner Road, inquired about the Human Relations Committee Welcoming Resolution on the agenda for discussion this evening as it relates to Lawrence Township being a fair and welcoming town and advised that she is present this evening to speak in support of its passage and proceeded to discuss her being part of a group that has had discussions concerning their neighbors and others in the community who do not feel safe and the need for the legislation to be passed. She further discussed her living amongst people of all different nationalities from all parts of the world who have spoken to her regarding their feelings and treatment in Lawrence and the importance of passing the resolution that would send a message as to what kind of community they live in and whom they love among them and why the matter is important to a lot of people in Lawrence and advised when they had the Forum back in January they had quite a few people in favor of the resolution and she hopes the Council receives the proposed resolution favorably tonight.

Mr. Paul Larson, Chair of the Lawrence Township Trails, Open Space and Stewardship Advisory Committee and Lawrence Historical Society, Trustee, stated on behalf of both groups he would like to thank Mr. Whitehead and the Department of Public Works for the great job they do in taking care of the parks, the cleanup of four nor'easters in three weeks, painting and getting the Brearley House up to speed. He further advised that the current Historian, Professor Brooke Hunter, is in the audience and that she provided a letter of support for the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee's proposal to establish a memorial to Captain James Lawrence and that the Lawrence Historical Society is also working on a letter in support as well.

Review and Revisions of Agenda

There was no review or revision of the agenda.

Adoption of Minutes

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 20, 2018 were approved on the following roll call vote:

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

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

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 6, 2018 and March 20, 2018 were approved on the following roll call vote:

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

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

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Minutes of Closed Session Meeting of May 15, 2018 were approved on the following roll call vote:

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

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

Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

Mayor Bobbitt asked for comments from the public. There being none, Mayor Bobbitt asked for comments from Council.

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, Resolution (9-A), Authorizing Awarding of Bid for Resurfacing of Princeton Pike, was presented for adoption.

Resolution No. 194-18

WHEREAS, on Thursday, May 31, 2018 bids were received and publicly opened for the project known as **Resurfacing of Princeton Pike**; and

WHEREAS, five (5) bids were received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Earle Asphalt Company who submitted a bid in the amount of \$233,413.13, 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-04-55-426-240 (Ordinance 2257 – Princeton Pike Overlay); 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 Earle Asphalt Company, P. O. Drawer 556, Farmingdale NJ 07727 in the amount of \$233,413.13; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this contract is awarded pursuant to a fair and open process and is subject to New Jersey Department of Transportation approval;

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

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Mayor Bobbitt asked for comments from the public. There being none, Mayor Bobbitt asked for comments from Council.

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, Resolution (9-B), Authorizing Awarding of Bid for the 2018 Concrete Program, was presented for adoption.

Resolution No. 213-18

WHEREAS, on Thursday, May 31, 2018 bids were received and publicly opened for the project known as **2018 Concrete Program**; and

WHEREAS, five (5) bids were received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Pioneer General Contracting who submitted a bid in the amount of \$181,920.00, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:50-14, a Certificate of Availability of Funds has been provided and the accounts to be charged are as follows:

| Acct.           | Ord. No. | Name                                            | Amount      |
|-----------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| C-04-55-410-233 | 2228-16  | Slackwood Fire Driveway Apron                   | \$13,750.27 |
| C-04-55-441-240 | 2296-18  | Willow Road & Hendrickson Road                  | \$10,000.00 |
| C-04-55-441-241 | 2296-18  | Kingsbrook Phase 2                              | \$15,000.00 |
| C-04-55-441-243 | 2296-18  | Old Denow Road                                  | \$5,000.00  |
| C-04-55-441-244 | 2296-18  | Albermarle Road, Fred Vereen Jr & Landover Road | \$15,000.00 |
| C-04-55-441-245 | 2296-18  | Princess Road (at Franklin Corner Road)         | \$5,000.00  |
| C-04-55-441-246 | 2296-18  | Heritage Way and Allegheny Avenue               | \$15,000.00 |
| C-04-55-441-247 | 2296-18  | Lawrence Avenue & Rossa Avenue                  | \$10,000.00 |
| C-04-55-441-248 | 2296-18  | Roxboro Road                                    | \$33,169.73 |
| C-04-55-441-249 | 2296-18  | Roundabout Modifications (The Gatherings)       | \$30,000.00 |
| C-04-55-442-240 | 2296-18  | Maplewood Avenue                                | \$5,000.00  |
| C-04-55-442-242 | 2296-18  | Woodmont Development                            | \$10,000.00 |
| C-04-55-442-243 | 2296-18  | Senior Citizen Parking Lot                      | \$5,000.00  |
| C-04-55-442-244 | 2296-18  | Slackwood Firehouse Concrete Apron (rear)       | \$10,000.00 |

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 Pioneer General Contracting, P. O. Box 67, Bradley Beach NJ 07720 in the amount of \$181,920.00; and

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

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Mayor Bobbitt asked for comments from the public. There being none, Mayor Bobbitt asked for comments from Council.

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, Resolution (9-C), Authorizing Awarding of Bid for the 2018 Road Improvement Program, was presented for adoption.

Resolution No. 214 –18

WHEREAS, on Thursday, May 31, 2018 bids were received and publicly opened for the project known as **2018 Road Improvement Program**; and

WHEREAS, five (5) bids were received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Mecco, Inc. who submitted a bid in the amount of \$1,265,013.50, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:50-14, a Certificate of Availability of Funds has been provided and the accounts to be charged are as follows:

Acct.	Ord. No.	Name	Amount
C-04-55-395-247	2208-15	Various Road Improvements	\$29,999.00
C-04-55-395-249	2208-15	Various Road Improvements	\$12,363.78
C-04-55-396-230	2208-15	Various Road Improvements	\$8,005.00
C-04-55-397-242	2208-15	Various Road Improvements	\$1,900.00
C-04-55-419-240	2229-16	Various Road Improvements	\$4,475.26
C-04-55-419-244	2229-16	Various Road Improvements	\$22,500.00
C-04-55-420-249	2229-16	Various Road Improvements	\$3,425.00
C-04-55-427-242	2257-17	Various Road Improvements	\$23,704.48
C-04-55-653-299	----	Municipal Improvement (Woodmont Roadways)	\$25,817.00
C-04-55-654-299	----	Municipal Improvements (Woodmont Roadways)	\$25,817.00
C-04-55-441-240	2296-18	Willow Road & Hendrickson Road	\$80,000.00
C-04-55-441-241	2296-18	Kingsbrook Phase 2	\$279,326.88
C-04-55-441-242	2296-18	Province Line Road (north of Carson)	\$70,000.00
C-04-55-441-243	2296-18	Old Denow Road	\$35,000.00
C-04-55-441-244	2296-18	Albermarle Road, Fred Vereen Jr & Landover Road	\$70,000.00
C-04-55-441-245	2296-18	Princess Road (at Franklin)	\$25,000.00

		Corner Road)	
C-04-55-441-246	2296-18	Heritage Way and Allegheny Avenue	\$70,000.00
C-04-55-441-247	2296-18	Lawrence Avenue & Rossa Avenue	\$55,000.00
C-04-55-441-248	2296-18	Roxboro Road	\$92,680.10
C-04-55-442-240	2296-18	Maplewood Avenue	\$15,000.00
C-04-55-442-241	2296-18	Stream Drive, Lake Court & Lake Drive (portion)	\$10,000.00
C-04-55-442-242	2296-18	Woodmont Development	\$110,000.00
C-04-55-442-243	2296-18	Senior Citizen Parking Lot	\$35,000.00
C-04-55-446-243	2296-18	Striping	\$25,000.00
8-16-56-843-299	2296-18	Village Park Path Phase 3	\$60,000.00
8-16-56-843-299	2296-18	Village Park Parking Lots Phase 1	\$75,000.00

; 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 Meco, Inc., P. O. Box 536, Clarksburg NJ 08510 in the amount of \$1,265,013.50; and

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

Introduction of Ordinances

Mayor Bobbitt read by title, an ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2261-17 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12 OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED "LICENSES"

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the Ordinance amends a previous ordinance related to "secondhand goods" dealers as it caps their annual electronic database fee to an amount not greater than the annual dealer license. The fee was disproportioned due to the decrease in dealers doing business in the Township. The initial fee application and

license fee is \$250 and it is utilized to help law enforcement track stolen goods, offset the cost of the computer program for transactions and protect the community.

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

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

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Mayor Bobbitt read by title, an ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13 OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE ENTITLED "MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" AS IT PERTAINS TO GORDON AVENUE"

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the Ordinance amends Chapter 13 of the Administrative Code for Gordon Avenue. The amendment removes the "no parking" restriction along the southern side of Gordon Avenue, 35 feet west of the Lawrenceville Fire House parking lot to Bergen Street, to improve and produce more parking (20 parking spaces) opportunities for customers and visitors to the Lawrenceville Main Street area and shops and to address the firehouse concerns with individuals unbeknownst to them parking in their lot and interfering with the snow plowing and other tasks. A study was done by Lieutenant Drew of the LTPD Traffic Bureau and James Parvesse, Municipal Engineer. Both determined that the parking can be done safely. Additional dialogue took place as to whether there is any open land that could possibly be used for parking to alleviate the problem and the road in question being privately owned.

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

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

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### Adoption of Ordinances

Mayor Bobbitt read by title, an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A "SAFE EXCHANGE ZONE" FOR RESIDENTS CONDUCTING PRIVATE TRANSACTIONS FROM ONLINE MARKETPLACES"

Ordinance No. 2298-18

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A "SAFE EXCHANGE ZONE"  
FOR RESIDENTS CONDUCTING PRIVATE TRANSACTIONS  
FROM ONLINE MARKETPLACES

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that it hereby establishes a "Safe Exchange Zone" located in the area of the Municipal and Police Parking Lot of the Municipal Complex located at 2207 Lawrence Road, Lawrence Township, NJ, for conducting in-person, private transactions involving a Township resident that have been facilitated through either online (or other market places), and to be designated the "Safe Exchange Zone".

Section 1: Exchange of Certain Items Prohibited

The private exchange of the following items will not be permitted:

- A. Motor vehicles
- B. Weapons
- C. Illegal Contraband
- D. Alcohol
- E. Items that do not fit in a ten-foot-by-ten-foot parking space

Section 2: Responsibility and Liability of the Township

Township officials will not provide police personnel or Township staff to witness any transactions in person; however, the video surveillance by and in proximity to police personnel is meant to provide a safer place to complete the transaction and to increase the public's peace of mind when engaging in such transactions with unfamiliar individuals within the Safe Exchange Zone.

The Township of Lawrence makes no guarantees, assurances, or promises with respect to the condition or authenticity of any items exchanged between private parties.

The Township of Lawrence makes no guarantees, assurances, or promises as to the safety or security of any in-person transactions that may take place on Township property.

The Township of Lawrence makes no guarantees, assurances, or promises as to availability of the Safe Exchange Zone at any particular date or time.

The Township of Lawrence is establishing this Safe Exchange Zone to advance the public good; however, nothing in this ordinance is intended to, nor should this ordinance be interpreted in any way, to waive or release the Township's defenses or immunity from suit under the New Jersey Tort Claims Act, NJSA 59:1-1 et. seq.

Section 3: Safe Practices Encouraged

The Township encourages all persons to engage in such transactions in daylight hours only; to bring a cell phone along in case of an emergency; to notify friends and/or family of the intention to meet to conduct such a transaction; to never invite strangers to the home or agree to meet at a stranger’s home; and to reconsider any transaction with someone who refuses to meet at the Municipal Complex.

Section 4: Purpose, Violations and Penalties

The purpose of this ordinance is to establish a safe space for the conduct of private transactions involving Township residents facilitated by online (or other marketplaces). Any violation of this ordinance shall be subject to the general penalties established in Ordinance No. 1878-06.

Section 5: Severability

If any paragraph or provision of this ordinance shall be adjudicated to be invalid or unenforceable, such determination shall not, to the extent severable, affect any other paragraph or provision of this ordinance, which shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.

Section 6: Repealer

All ordinances and provisions thereof inconsistent or conflicting with the provisions of this ordinance be and the same hereby are repealed to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency.

Section 7: Effective Date

This ordinance shall become effective twenty (20) days after final adoption and publication thereof in accordance with law.

Ordinance No. 2298-18 was introduced and approved on the following roll call vote:

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

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Mayor Bobbitt read by title, an ordinance entitled, “BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ORDER TO REVISE THE DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPROVEMENT HEREIN”

Ordinance No. 2299-18

BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE
BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ORDER TO REVISE THE DESCRIPTION
OF THE IMPROVEMENT HEREIN

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) as follows:

Section 1:

- a. Section 3 (a) of Bond Ordinance 2211-15, finally adopted March 17, 2015, be and are hereby amended to add the following purposes:

Acquisition of Various Computer and Office Equipment consisting of ...“Wireless Access Points, CAT6 Patchpanels, Network Switches, Cabling and equipment necessary for WiFi Connectivity in Municipal Buildings...”

Section 2:

The capital budget of the Township of Lawrence is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of inconsistency herewith. The resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director of Local Government Services is on file with the Clerk and is available there for inspection.

Section 3:

This amending bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Ordinance No. 2299-18 was introduced and approved on the following roll call vote:

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

Manager's Report –

Mr. Nerwinski submitted invoice listings for the month of June 2018 in the amount of \$963,432.97.

Mr. Nerwinski imparted Reed Gusciora, Lawrence Township Municipal Prosecutor, was recently elected as the Mayor for the City of Trenton and his effective date to start is July 1 if there is no challenge to the results of the election which leaves the Township two (2) weeks to find a Municipal Prosecutor to fill the vacancy. And, he has selected Alfred Vuocolo a Township resident with 25 years of experience as a municipal prosecutor who served as a Prosecutor for Lawrence Township Court when he was the Municipal Court Judge so he has seen his work firsthand. In addition, he has the perfect disposition and arrangement as he lives right down the road and can provide the Township with a full-time Municipal Prosecutor focused on working with cases with the Police Department in a way that would most likely reduce overtime situations that often arose from certain circumstances.

Mr. Nerwinski advised that he also met with Mr. Vuocolo to discuss his expectations regarding the position which is to approach the job in a different more full-time way and he is a good fit due to his limited civil practice as it would allow him to provide the Township with the full service they are seeking. And given the Municipal Prosecutor is the appointment of the Manager he did not do a full blown search for the position as Mr. Vuocolo was the first person that came to mind who would be able to seamlessly takeover and do an extremely good job and continued to discuss the importance of residents and others first exposure to Municipal Court being a good experience where they feel they are heard, treated fairly and with respect even if they do not like the outcome of the case and to him that is a win and he has seen Mr. Vuocolo do that time and time again and that is why he feels he is perfect candidate for the job and the Township is very lucky to retain him so quickly and for him to be available.

Councilmember Lewis questioned if there would be an additional cost or benefits associated with this more full-time position. Mr. Nerwinski replied historically Lawrence Township is not paying any more than any other town for the position; it is an appropriately paid position that should be more full-time. Additional discussion ensued relative to the appointment reducing police overtime as it relates to the new municipal prosecutor being available outside of the municipal court schedule and officers not being required to come in at different scheduled times or on overtime and that being a benefit both monetarily and preparedness for the prosecutors.

Mr. Nerwinski stated the town hired a new police officer who is a transfer. The paperwork has been filed from the Trenton Police Department for a Lawrence Township

resident, Timothy Wallace, who is highly motivated and very happy to be part of the Lawrence Township Police Department and discussed the Municipal Budget as it relates to their worries with an influx of pending retirements in the next five years and the police force falling below average and the hiring of Mr. Wallace giving the Township an opportunity to get someone on the road in patrol immediately which they are really happy about.

Mr. Nerwinski stated dovetailing on the issue, it broke in such a way that the Administration just conducted interviews for (2) two Class III Officers along with the Principal of Lawrence High School, Superintendent of the Board of Education and President of the Board of Education, Kevin Van Hise and that the Township budget provided for one officer. But, they met with the Board of Education and asked if they would pay for another officer so the schools would have better coverage and they agreed without hesitation. So, the schools now have two very qualified candidates, retired Lawrence Township Police Officer Rick Doldy and another retired officer from Ewing Township. Both officers have been vetted with extensive interviews and they still have one more element to go before they are qualified to have a gun in their possession in schools. And, with the transfer officer they may have another School Resource Officer which would allow them to provide coverage for the High School, Middle School and Junior High and the BOE has signaled that they are willing to pay a share of the cost for the School Resource Officer which will give them three trained officers, highly motivated and ready to start for the 2018 and 2019 school year. A general discussion followed relative to the Township continuing conversation with the School Board of getting an officer in the elementary schools to start building that foundation of trust prior to the students' teenage years and the three to five year plan to have Class III Officers in all of the Township schools.

Attorney's Report –

Mr. Roskos stated with regards to another extension to finalize the Mount Laurel litigation the Court Master came up with 17 items for Lawrence Township to complete and Brian Slauch has been working diligently on completing that task and the Master has agreed to the extension as being a reasonable request. They are also going to speak with the Judge about the matter presumably being extended to the end of August or first week of September.

Clerk's Report –

There was no Clerk's report.

Unfinished Business –

A. Discussion Regarding May 16th Human Relations Committee Welcoming Resolution Recommendation –

Councilmember Powers noted that chairs of the Human Relations Committee Teresita Bastides-Heron and John Gaskins are in the audience this evening and invited them up to podium. Prior to their speech, Councilmember Powers provided a brief background regarding the “Welcoming Resolution”. He indicated that the Human Relations Committee had the Immigration Forum at their January 17th meeting and the chairs were able to obtain Chief Ubry to be a speaker, representatives from the schools, Principals Bailey and Robinson and a clergy from Lawrence Road Presbyterian Church and out of that meeting Chief Ubry spoke about how the Lawrence Township Police operationally work or not work with U.S. Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) and one of feedbacks that came from that meeting was for the Town to do a “welcoming resolution” similar to what other communities have done. The resolution was supposed to be done back in March but they had a nor’easter and April’s meeting was devoted to preparing for Diversity Day. Finally, at the May 16th meeting they were able to review a resolution from Hopewell and Maplewood and operational rules from the Mercer County Sheriff’s Office. He then turned the floor over to Ms. Heron and Mr. Gaskins to further discuss the Committee’s decision.

Ms. Bastides-Heron and Mr. Gaskins greeted the Council. Ms. Heron reiterated Councilmember Powers’ comments regarding the January 17th Immigration Forum (ICE) as it relates to the discussion and notables in attendance. She then discussed a letter of recommendation from the Human Relations Committee unanimously recommending Resolution No. 3-17 adopted by the Township of Maplewood for adoption by the Township Council and advised after reading and studying many welcoming resolutions from various New Jersey towns the HRC felt Maplewood was best suited for Lawrence Township so they are recommending it as a guide for the Mayor and Council as they believe passing a similar resolution will be instrumental in encouraging that people are treated in a dignified and special manner regardless of their immigration status and that Lawrence remains a welcoming community.

Councilmember Powers noted that there were some tweaks made to the Maplewood resolution at the HRC meeting and that the edits have been given to the Council and proceeded to review some of the recommended changes that included striking Paragraph 7 that deals with police operations which

Chief Ubry already has in the Police Department and the Paragraph 11 which appoints Township Officials to monitor what is going on with the Federal Immigration Laws and the HRC thinking it should be more of a function of the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office and Township Officials working with the Prosecutor's Office to monitor what is happening at the Federal level.

Mayor Bobbitt stated he appreciates all the background work and hard work both the committee and community have done and he knows that the Township employees do a wonderful job with serving the community which he thinks has made Lawrence Township a vibrant and a diverse place to live. Unfortunately, they live in times where things can change on a dime and change from being good to maybe not so good so he appreciates the proposed resolution and asked if the Township Attorney had an opportunity to review it.

Mr. Roskos stated he has reviewed the proposed resolution and he has some concerns with some of the provisions and although he understands the tenor of the resolution there are some provisions that should be revised. He then asked the desire of the Council with regards to him editing the resolution and them revisiting the matter at the next meeting.

Councilmember Kownacki stated he has some questions regarding the proposed resolution and he feels the Council will not be ready for the next meeting. Mayor Bobbitt stated in fairness to both the Township and the community they should take their time, get all the pieces together and do it right so they do not have any issues down the road.

Councilmember Maffei suggested they bring in Chief Ubry and some other officials to discuss the matter. Mayor Bobbitt stated respectfully as someone who attended the ICE meeting he does not recall Chief Ubry expressing no reservations in terms of much of the wording in the proposed resolution. Councilman Powers stated the concern is whether illegal activity is being promoted by adopting this type of resolution and immigrants understanding the various forms and roles of government as it pertain to immigration.

Councilwomember Lewis stated first and foremost the adoption of the Welcoming Resolution is very important and the Council should adopt it given it is a great concern that is very real to many people in the community on a daily basis and she thinks it is helpful to reaffirm to anyone who has had contact with any Township employee to know that Lawrence is a fair and welcoming community. But, the sad fact of the matter is if a person is concerned that any contact with government is going to lead to their deportation they will have some relief by the adoption of this resolution and suggested as they review the matter it is important for them to affirm in the beginning of the resolution that the Township has had a commitment to being a fair and welcoming community and that the employees of Lawrence

Township have continued to provide those services which would be an important piece that serves as the tenor of the resolution. The resolution should also reaffirm to everyone that this is not something new; it is something the Township has had in place for many years and the passage of this resolution is just memorializing for those residents who may have a concern.

Mayor Bobbitt asked Mr. Roskos if he could give them a flavor of what his concerns might be just for the benefit of both Council and the public. Mr. Roskos advised beyond typos he is uncomfortable with Paragraph 3 as it relates to registration or reporting of individuals based on religion, race, ethnicity, national origin or immigration status given he has not spoken to the Chief of Police to know what the Police Department is required to report as they are not part of ICE and do not enforce immigration laws so he will clean up the resolution and send it out after he speaks to the Chief.

An at length discussion followed relative to Mr. Roskos' comments regarding reporting requirements, questionable language regarding departments, employees and officials of the Township complying with the United States and New Jersey Constitutions, NJ Attorney General Directives and Federal and State Nondiscrimination Laws, Lawrence Township Police and Lawrence Schools non-enforcement of immigration laws and the overall resolution needing to be tweaked.

Mr. Nerwinski stated he understands the sensitive nature of the matter; but, if the resolution is passed in this form or some other he as the Municipal Manager will ensure that the 180 employees of the Township know that the passage is not a reflect of anything they have done; because the Township has all good people and there is not a department, employee or official that conditions Township services or benefits on matters of immigration or citizen status. So, on behalf of the Township employees he would like to publicly state that Lawrence Township has very good employees and in the last 25 years he has served in many different positions and in his opinion this is a wonderful community in terms of its Police Department and employees and how they handle people under really difficult circumstances to include when residents feel they do not have to treat the employee with human respect just because they pay taxes.

Mr. Nerwinski also thanked Ms. Lewis for her initial comment of focusing on the "whereas" in the resolution to acknowledge who Lawrence Township is as community already and to reaffirm what people think is important because he does not want this to be construed as some type of indictment that needs to happen. The Township has good people who base everything on respect for others and they do not need the resolution; but, if that is what the elected officials and the community wants that's fine and their decision. Ms. Lewis commented on some of the tweaks she has already made to the draft

resolution and it being a memorialization of things already happening with regards to respect for others and the residents knowing that is the case.

Ms. Bastide-Heron stated she hopes by next month the Council can come to some kind of resolve on this very important issue as it cannot wait. The government is changing, the Federal government is separating the parents from the children which she feels is horrible and advised that she has been a resident of Lawrence Township for 18 years and she does not want to see that type of trouble in Lawrence as the police have been very polite and work well with the citizens of Lawrence. Also, they do not expect the police or the school board to be agents of ICE as the Constitution states every child regardless of ethnicity, race, religion, etc. has the right to an education and citizens of Lawrence who have not committed a crime have the right to feel safe and worry-free about being deported and because the issue is so important she will be putting the burner under the Council to get this done by the next meeting. A brief discussion took place relative ICE as it relates to warrants and the deportation process of illegal immigrants.

Mayor Bobbitt concluded the meeting by thanking Ms. Bastide-Heron and the Human Relations Committee for their passion regarding the matter and to those who attended the ICE Forum in January and for continuing to check the status of the matter and reiterated again that one of the beautiful things about Lawrence Township is that they are a diverse and welcoming community irrespective as to what happens with the resolution it is up to the Township Council, staff and residents to maintain being a welcoming community and he looks forward to seeing all of them at next month meeting.

Ms. Bastide-Heron distributed fliers relative to Greater Eldridge Park Neighborhood Association 5th Annual Neighborhood Picnic taking place on Saturday, June 23rd – 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. and invited all to attend.

New Business –

There was no new business.

Public Participation (3-minute limitation per speaker) –

There was no public participation.

Resolutions

Resolution Nos.181-18 (18-A.1) through 215-18 (18-I.1) were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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

Council Initiatives/Liaison Reports –

Mayor Bobbitt reported that the Growth and Redevelopment Committee has been looking at the Lawrence Shopping Center and John Conroy, who is Chair, has been reaching out to some of the other committees as well In addition, he has been talking with the Township Manager about the Shopping Center and asked if he had any comments.

Mr. Nerwinski stated that the Administration met two days ago with the owners of the Lawrence Shopping Center and they will be filing the appropriate application with the Planning Board for approval of L.A. Fitness to make it a state-of-the-art fitness center and it will be located where the old furniture store existed and the plans look amazing. The owners also shared their vision and plans for the façade of Lawrence Shopping Center which looks awesome and that the work will be starting with hopes of being completed by October; but the building portion will take a couple of years.

Mr. Nerwinski further stated that the new owners know what they are doing and they have indicated at multiple meetings that they buy and do not sell. They have been around for 60 years and they take a long time identifying shopping centers and retail establishments that they want to own, improve and hold as an asset...so they are here to stay and the plan is to improve the Lawrence Shopping Center and make it a very profitable place where residents can go. So, they expect to receive the application in the next few weeks, the façade is being worked on and new leases are being signed and he is really excited about their vision for the Shopping Center.

Mayor Bobbitt inquired about the new owners coming before Council to share their vision for the Lawrence Shopping Center. Mr. Nerwinski advised with all the moving parts in play it would not be appropriate at the present time. A general discussion ensued relative to the appropriate time and information that can be shared with the Council regarding plans for the Shopping Center and the Environmental

Resource Committee research concluding that their name change will not affect any funding sources or grant applications and their request to be placed on the next Council agenda.

Councilmember Lewis stated that the 4th of July Fireworks will be taking place on Saturday, June 30th. The Health Advisory Committee has passed around a Pledge form to join the Mercer County Campaign to end the stigma of mental illness and addiction and anyone can go onto the Mercer County Division of Health website to sign the form and the Committee is encouraging members of Council and the public to do so.

Councilmember Kownacki thanked the Patriotic Committee for the Memorial Day Parade and for all the work they have done and indicated the Recreation Committee was recognized and thanked for its efforts and the Patriotic Committee was not so he just wanted to publicly thank everyone for their participation and hard work. Mayor Bobbitt stated the Parade was amazing and thanked them again for their hard work and participation.

Written Communications –

- A. Letter from Historic Preservation Advisory Committee in Support of the Concept to Establish as Memorial to Captain Lawrence – No Discussion
- B. Petition from Residents of Puritan Avenue Requesting the Installation of Speed Bumps – Mayor Bobbitt asked if anyone rode through the area to check out the request. Mr. Nerwinski replied that they received frequent requests regarding speed bumps and things like that and there is a process in place to do a traffic study as they have to meet a certain percentile; but, it is being handled

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned and Council went into Closed Session.

7.47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kathleen S. Norcia, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

Christopher Bobbitt, Mayor

Re-opening of the Regular Meeting of Council:

8:03 p.m.

After the Closed Session discussion, the meeting was reconvened to include Resolution 216-18 – Authorizing a Salary Increase for the Municipal Manager in the amount of 4%.

Resolution No.216-18 was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned at 8.05 p.m.