

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

February 5, 2019

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, February 5, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was then 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, February 5, 2019, 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 19, 2018.

The roll was then called as follows:

Present: Councilmembers Kownacki, Lewis, Powers and Mayor Bobbitt.
Absent: Councilman Maffei.

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

Special Proclamations, Recognitions and Presentations

2019 Department Budget Presentations

Mr. Nerwinski advised that Peter Kiriakatis, CFO, will give a brief presentation regarding their submission of the 2019 Recommended Municipal Budget to the Council and their inquiries from their budget review as he felt it was important for Mr. Kiriakatis to have a couple of minutes to present some of the larger items in the budget so when they talk about the smaller additions they will have a foundation as to the mindset in the formulation of the budget. He then turned the floor over to Mr. Kiriakatis.

Mr. Kiriakatis greeted the Council and proceeded to discuss the following matters:

- ❖ The budget calendar due dates from October to July and the submission of the Annual Debt Statement to the DLGS (2/10/19) and due dates being revised because of the FAST system not up and running; possible delay of the Budget Introduction and Adoption; closure of the yearend books and the accounting system back open and the Municipal Auditors coming back to start the financial statements and the final audit. (Mr. Nerwinski noted that the FAST system is supposed to be a system where municipalities use one form in presenting their budget materials to the State)
- ❖ The regeneration of surplus as it relates to the Excess in amount to be Raised by Taxes*, Excess in Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated*, Excess in Delinquent Taxes*, Misc. Revenues not Anticipated and Lapses of Prior Year Appropriations (*Sources of Revenue for Municipal Budgets with restriction).
- ❖ 2019 Budget Revenues (revenues anticipated in budget to fund appropriations) as it relates to the Surplus \$5,650,000 (increase of \$200,000 and represents 36.34% of Surplus Balance), MRA \$16,011,849.76 includes Grants, Delinquent taxes (\$830,000) and the Amount to be Raised by Taxes \$26,691,541.69 (represents 2 cent increase), 1 cent tax rate equals \$462,589.71 and a 2 cent increase on average \$281,285 assessment equals \$56.26.
- ❖ Key Miscellaneous Revenues Changes YE 2018 compared to YE 2017 as it relates to the Court (Increase of \$125,000), Impound (Increase of \$61,000), Sewer (Increase of \$177,000), Interest (+\$217,000) and UCC Fees (+598,000) excluding \$664,000 March BMS Permit. A general discussion took place relative the reduction in Court revenues.
- ❖ Key Appropriations Changes – MCIA – New Contract Year 1: 40% Increase +\$40,000, Solterra – New Contract Year 1: 15% Increase \$138,000, ELSA – Imbalance in Revenue and Appropriations +100,000; S&W – Contractual Increase +350,000, Debt Service: 2019 3%, 2018 2% increase +\$100,00 and Reserved for Uncollected Taxes (Mr. Kiriakatis noted that the Non-spending Appropriation, Board of Education and County receiving full tax apportionment and the Township bearing the cost of uncollected taxes within the budget - 2019 Appropriation: \$4,106,000. A brief discussion took place relative to uncollected taxes and the Township full bearing the cost.
- ❖ Lawrence Township Breakdown of 2018 Tax Rate - \$52.99 of every \$100 going towards School Tax, \$26.05 of every \$100 going towards County Tax, \$19.90 of every \$100 going towards Municipal Tax and \$1.06 of every \$100 going towards Municipal Open Space Tax. (Mr. Kiriakatis noted 80% goes to the Schools/County and 20% the Township picks up.)

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2019 Municipal Budget Presentation
Recreation - Nancy Bergen, Superintendent of Recreation

Ms. Bergen greeted the Council and distributed handouts to everyone regarding her 2019 budget presentation for the Lawrence Recreation Department that is comprised of the Office on Aging/Senior Center and the Special Events Divisions which fall under the Superintendent of Recreation and advised that the Department plans, promotes and coordinates dozens of activities related to Park Management - planning, development of park areas and recreation facilities; Recreation Programming - planning, making and implementing a variety of recreation activities and Public relations, program promotion, community relations and customer service. The goal of the Recreation Department is to provide programs that enrich the quality of life for Lawrence residents by promoting an active lifestyle and encouraging social interaction.

Ms. Bergen proceeded with an overview of the following items: Recreation/ Office on Aging staff - Jeffery Radice, Recreation Leader, Megan Cook, Part-Time Recreation Clerk, Lillian LaSalle, Executive Director of Office on Aging, Leonard Spellman, Recreation Attendant/Van driver for the seniors and Coral Phillips, Senior Citizen Program Aide at the Senior Center; Recreation Organizational Chart as it relates the Recreation Advisory Committee, Senior Citizen Executive Committee, Municipal Manager, Superintendent of Recreation, lifeguards/pool staff, program instructors/camp counselors, supervisors, coaches, part-time employees, partnering organizations and the many volunteers who assist with the various activities between the two divisions. The Patriotic Committee and Friends of the Nature Center who also work closely with the department and the Recreation Department's office hours, pool hours, park facilities, nature center, various programs at BOE facilities and senior center with hours of operations ranging from 8:30 a.m. -10:00 p.m., Monday - Sunday.

Ms. Bergen continued to highlight pictures in the handout of Lawrence Township parks, fields, facilities, community gardens and special events planned and coordinated by the Recreation Department – such as the Colonel Hand March, Mother Nature Festival, Memorial Day Parade, Fourth of July Fireworks, Red, White and Bang Kids Triathlon, Community Day, Veterans Day and the Township Municipal Tree Lighting Ceremony; 2018 Accomplishments – Outdoor Fitness Equipment at Village Park, Installation of an artificial turf on Bocce Courts at Veterans Park, Implemented a Girls Travel Basketball Team into the Recreation Basketball Program, New STEM Camps at the Lawrence Nature Center, Managing the lease agreement of the Storage Building for the Youth Volunteer Sports Organizations, Successfully moved the Township Veterans Day Ceremony to the Municipal Building, Increased enrollment in the basketball programs and swim team, Increase Participation at Special Events, Added an additional Saturday Art Class and created classes by grade levels and Lawrence Night at the Trenton Thunder Game; 2019 Strategic Goals – Promote programs and activities currently being offer and encourage participation by the community by improving marketing materials and distributions, Continue to increase participation at Specials

Events (Ms. Bergen thanked the Council for coming out and supporting the Special Events), Offer a Park Fitness Program using the new outdoor fitness equipment, Offer an additional week at the STEM Camp at the Nature Center, Implement an Eagle Scout Project Form in order to manage and direct any Eagle Scout Project requests, Add an “Adventure Camp” to the Summer Camp Program for people who enjoy outdoor activities, Move Community Day to Central Park to familiarize the park and encourage participation for the entire community and Dog Park improvements.

Ms. Bergen reported that the Lawrence Township Office on Aging/Senior Center continues to be a hub of activities providing socialization, nutrition and recreation programs geared toward keeping Lawrence Township seniors 60 and older active, healthy and happy. She proceeded to highlight the following matters:

- Pictures taken of various activities, programs and special events and the 2018 Office on Aging Program Monthly Participation by Class/Group prepared by Lillian LaSalle, Executive Director of Office on Aging, which included a report of senior programs - bingo, chorale, creative art classes, exercise, hula and line dancing, mah-jongg, tai-chi exercise, van service, yoga and other recreational programs and total number of participates (23,098).
- 2018 Office on Aging and Senior Center Highlights –Holiday Craft Days, Lawrence Township Police Medicine Drop Off Day, Fascination: Viewing and Discussing, A Raisin in the Sun/Group Outing, 2018 Lawrence Senior Cruise, Lawrence Hopewell Trail Walk, Graduate Student Capstone Project regarding Diabetes education and information, 100th Birthday Celebration for Penny Kohler, Black History Month
- 2019 Senior Center/Office of Aging Strategic Goals – continuing to offer programming with the Interact Club at the High School, Spring Dress for Mary Poppins, Jr. at the Middle School, Elementary School technology and robotics program, High School student volunteers for required community service and other collaborative efforts including student card sharing for holidays, Increase Interaction with Rider University students including intern options, Expand travel programs to offer excursions to local theatre productions, day trips and overnight trips and cruises, Offer Health related series and programs like the Diabetes Self-Management Program, Engage the Executive Committee to come up with Mission and Vision statement for the Office and Senior Center and Pursue in-house publishing options for the Poetry and Memoir Writing groups at the Senior Center

Ms. Bergen advised that the Recreation Department, Office on Aging and Special Events operating budget remains the same for 2019 and her Capital Budget Request for Recreation is new playground equipment for Hamnett Park for ages 2-5 years old (\$18,000) and replace slide and climber playground equipment at Eldridge Park (\$10,000) which has not been upgraded for a long while. Her request for Office on

Aging is to replace the office copier (\$5,000) and chairs in the main room at the Senior Center (\$21,000) that are dirty, worn and too heavy for the seniors to move around.

In closing, Ms. Bergen thanked the Council and Municipal Manager for their support and participation in the Recreation Department/ Office on Aging special events and members of the 2018 Patriotic Committee, 2018 Senior Executive Committee, 2018 Recreation Advisory Committee and the 2018 Friends of the Nature Center for all of their help with the programs and special events. She then opened the floor for questions and comments.

Mr. Nerwinski noted that Ms. Bergen spearheads a lot of employee related events that happens during lunch at no cost to the Township but really builds morale and a sense of team spirit within the building and acknowledges the important service they provide to the community. The events included a Super Bowl luncheon where everybody wore their favorite football jersey and brought in a dish as well as an ice cream social that took place on the first day of summer.

Mayor Bobbitt expressed his appreciation for the proposed changes of moving the park for Community Day and implementing an Eagle Scout Project Form presented during Ms. Bergen's presentation. A brief comment and question period took place relative to the various methods of communication to get the word out regarding all recreational activities and programs being offered, notifying participates of cancellations, sending reminders notices for those who do early enrollment and her budget request for a purchase of new copier at the Senior Center as it relates to leasing versus owning and having a centralized copy location. The Township Council thanked Ms. Bergen for the great job her department does.

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**2019 Municipal Budget Presentation**  
**Health Department, Carol Chamberlain, Health Officer**

Ms. Chamberlain greeted the Council and advised that the State requires the Health Department to submit an annual report based upon the State's "Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local Boards of Health, N.J.A.C. 8:52 and to review it with the Township Council." She then thanked the Council for an opportunity to present the 2018 Annual Report and her 2019 budget request.

Copies of the 2018 Annual Report were distributed for the Council to view at their leisure regarding the Health Department's day-to-day functions, mission, full-time and per diem staff, department highlights, services provided, health department activities, programs, vital statistics, various public and health services, cooperative purchases, grants, inter-local agreements, shared services and partnerships they have with other agencies that are governed by the State Health Department, Department of Environmental Protection, Licensing and Inspections, public health preparedness, animal control and future initiatives. Ms. Chamberlain proceeded to highlight the following matters:

- The Health Department participation in the completion of the Greater Mercer Public Health Partnership Community Health Needs Assessment in 2018; a county-wide assessment which was conducted in cooperation with four area healthcare facilities as well as the seven local health departments and the Mercer County Department of Health and Human Services. Lawrence Township having 321 residents who completed the online survey and the Mercer County Community Needs Assessment now completed and posted on the Township's website. The document being 300 pages long and the Community Health Improvement Plan being developed based on the needs identified and will be completed by early spring.
- Township Officials continuing to work with Trenton Water Works officials to inform residents of drinking water quality conditions and share information on how those conditions are being addressed. Trenton Water Works sending out eight notifications in 2018 regarding violations of drinking water standards, water line flushing notices and information about the lead service line replacement program. The Health Department also sending out notices to tenants who live in apartment complexes and do not receive a water bill or notifications from TWW. Outreach public sessions held for residents, one of which was conducted at the Senior Center in October, and TWW officials first meeting with all the Health Officers to review some of the corrective actions implemented and other improvements which are proposed to the water system.
- The Health Department working with universities and colleges (Rider, Rutgers and College of New Jersey) in the area to host interns and the hosting (5) five interns last year being very beneficial to the Department as they had one intern who revised their entire Communicable Disease Manual and they had another intern who put together a safe toolkit for older drivers and a screening event offering hearing and vision test for seniors and that same intern who happens to be a Lawrence resident interest in creating a Vision Zero Policy which was passed by the Health Advisory Board and they are hoping to get it passed township-wide and it deals with reducing bicycle accidents, traffic and pedestrian accidents that are preventable through education, engineering, etc. The Health Department's staff working in conjunction with the Mercer County Health Department to identify three additional sites as fixed facilities in Lawrence Township to distribute medication in the event of an emergency.
- New program for Flu Shots implemented in 2018 by the Health Department where they are contracted with Rite Aid to do the shots instead of doing it in-house because of the Affordable Care Act the vaccine is covered under most people insurances. Rite Aid administering the flu shot at no cost to the Township, accepting all insurances and doing

the reimbursements, the shots being administered with familiar staff from the Health Office with no change in services, Rite Aid administering 20 more vaccinations than previous year and the new program having a cost-savings of \$7,000 to \$7,500.

- Future Initiatives as it relates to the Community Needs Assessment and completion of the Community Health Improvement Plan and the health department addressing the goals noted in the plan upon completion and then focusing on the Vision Zero idea by increase activities to encourage and support the Vision Zero Policy in Lawrence Township. The Health Department 2019 audit of Public Practice Standards compliance by the New Jersey Department of Health and one of the goals of the health department noted in the audit is to improve documentation of continuous quality improvement activities and routinely assess its activities to identify more efficient ways to complete task and through better documentation and tracking the department hopes to improve the quality of its work.

In 2006, Lawrence Township being designated as a participating town in the Mayor's Wellness Campaign by the New Jersey Healthcare Quality Institute. Councilman Powers signing the Mayor's Wellness Campaign Pledge during that time period and the Township's re-up of the Pledge on an annual basis at the request of the NJ Healthcare Quality Institute. The Township's participation over the years in programs promoted by the Mayor's Wellness Campaign and the Health Department striving to enhance its involvement in the Wellness Campaign by increasing participation in wellness activities at all age levels including school age children, adults and seniors in 2019. And, the health department focusing on Conversation of Your Life; a program that addresses the importance of end of life decision making and advance care planning which falls under the wellness campaign.

Ms. Chamberlain concluded her presentation by stating that there are no changes in the Health Department's 2019 operating budget and her budget request for 2019 is for a part-time Health Educator given a lot of the work is being done by a variety of the staff mainly Chris Buck, Animal Control Officer, and Kathy Korwin, Public Health Nurse, who coordinate a lot of the activities and programs and that a health educator would coordinate those types of tasks thereby alleviating some of the burden from them. Her next request pertains to Animal Control and the new animal control truck that is in need of some animal equipment which is included in her budget request. She then opened the floor for comments and questions.

After the presentation there was a brief question and answer period between members of Council and Ms. Chamberlain relative to the change in meeting time for the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Alliance, her department request for a Health Educator and how the position would tie into the Community Needs Assessment and the Mayor's Wellness Campaign and her request for a part-time employee in the 2018 budget

working well for the department, proposed centralization of Health Departments in Mercer County and the need for Lawrence to have their own health department, after which Mayor Bobbitt and Council thanked Ms. Chamberlain for her presentation and the wonderful job her department does with such a small staff.

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2019 Municipal Budget Presentation
Construction Department, Anthony Cermele, Construction Code Official

Mr. Cermele greeted the Council and distributed copies of his 2019 Budget Report and advised that he has included a breakdown of the last 10 years of what his department has collected in construction fees and 2018 being the best year the Construction Department has ever had in the 40 years he has been with Lawrence Township and that a copy of the report is provided to the Municipal Manager every month. And, thanks to Mr. Nerwinski, Municipal Manager, and Mr. Kiriakatis, CFO, he now has a full clerical staff which he has not had in 14 years that helps them get through all the permit process and the inspectors ready for their morning and afternoon inspections. He noted one of the clerical employees is bi-lingual which is also very helpful.

Mr. Cermele went on to discuss his annual budget of about \$1.3M and five year comparison details of the Construction Code Division as it relates to issuance of inspections (approximately 9,000 a year); collection of fees (\$2.7M); issuance of sub-code permits averaging 5200 in the last 5-years; Lawrence Township issuing almost as many building permits as Hamilton Township which is three times the size of Lawrence; departmental staff/duties – 13 employees which includes (3) part-time employees and (8) eight full-time employees including himself and at least (5) five of his main officials, 3 to 4 hours a day, working on the Bristol-Myers-Squibb site just doing inspections as BMS is one of their biggest players along with ETS, The Lawrenceville School and Rider University. And, Lawrence Township having 12 malls to inspect (5 or more stores in a single location is considered a mall) and the issuance of permits that keeps the Construction Department constantly busy with seventy (70%) of the fees being commercial which is the reverse of what they had in 2007. So, his 2019 budget request is for (1) one part-time building inspector for approximately 20 hours a week.

Mr. Cermele stated last year Councilwoman Lewis inquired about the long turnaround period (3 to 4 weeks) for building permit for a deck and advised that his department is now down to (1) one week and that concludes his report. He then opened the floor for questions and comments.

Mr. Nerwinski noted the struggle they have is trying to strike a balance between all the major projects that is happening in the Township which takes a lot of their resources and residents in the Township who need permits and the Department trying to find a balance between the building projects and the taxpayer who has certain expectations. So, they have to make the timeframe quicker and that is what the extra

employees do for the department and proceeded to elaborate on the need for the additional employees and the new website really being interactive on the construction part by allowing people to complete the paperwork online and not physical have to come in to start the process which will enable a more productive turnaround period and provide better customer service.

After the presentation a general question and answer period took place between members of Council and Mr. Cermele relative to his budget request for additional staffing and the additional staff meeting the long-term needs of the department, after which Mayor Bobbitt thanked Ms. Cermele for his presentation.

Engineering Department, James F. Parvesse, Township Engineer

Mr. Parvesse greeted the Council and distributed a handout with a general overview relative to the functions of the Lawrence Township Engineering Department as it relates to review of development applications for the Planning and Zoning Boards, technical assistance to other departments, and general assistance in interpreting zoning requirements, guidelines and maps for the public, implementing the annual Capital Improvement Program, as authorized and funded by Council, by planning and prioritizing the need, obtaining grants for project funding, collecting information and preparing plans and specifications for the construction of various public projects, the Engineering Department managing, supervising and inspecting the construction of both public and private improvements within the Township, maintaining the tax maps, geographic information system, flood zone maps and general engineering records.

Mr. Parvesse went on to review specific responsibilities as it relates to the following matters: Developing and Implementing the Capital Improvement Program, Serving as the Planning and Zoning Board Secretary, serving as the Planning and Zoning Board Engineer, serving as the Zoning Officer, inspecting all public and private improvements associated with land development, managing grant opportunities and applications for funding on a Township-wide basis, preparing grant applications and coordinate awarded projects with associated agencies, ensuring compliance with NJDEP Municipal Stormwater Tier A Permit Requirements, maintaining the municipal tax maps, geographic information system and general records, providing technical assistance to property owners and support to all Township departments and committees.

Mr. Parvesse advised that his proposed 2019 operating budget for the Engineering Division is generally consistent with the funding levels in 2018. As part of his budget recommendation in 2018, Brenda Kraemer, Assistant Municipal Engineer, was changed from part-time to full-time and she is doing a great job. The change has proved to be revenue neutral (no increase in operating budget) and has enabled the Engineering Division to better utilize their in-house staff and reduce the amount spent on consultants.

Mr. Parvesse proceeded to highlight the following Accomplishments in 2018:

- Managed grant opportunities and applications for funding on a Township wide basis. In 2018, they applied for 13 grants totaling about \$5M and received about 6 grants totaling about \$1.6M with 2 pending totaling \$1M compared to 2017 where they applied for 5 grants totaling about \$500,000 and only received 3 grants at about \$300,000 which was a tremendous increase in grants. (Mr. Nerwinski noted they took a leap of faith when they spoke about moving Ms. Kraemer from part-time to full-time as the Assistant Engineer and one year later it is working out as planned with neutral cost to the taxpayer, the Township having another full-time engineer being the point person for all things grant related and it paying off in positive way.)
- Completed approximately \$2.3M in capital roadway improvements throughout the Township.
- Advanced the Township's goal of achieving the Goal Star Standard in energy conservation under the Sustainable Jersey Program which they did by establishing the 2017 Carbon Footprint which is a baseline that shows going forward how the Township is reducing energy usage and they are now advancing a Municipal Facilities Solar Project that will generate 85 percent of the towns total usage.
- Expanded the concrete program to improve safety and accessibility for residents at reasonable cost to property owners and fixed approximately \$57,000 in 2018 of damaged sidewalks for homeowners throughout the Township.

Mr. Parvesse stated the Engineering Division 2019 Goals and Priorities is to continue to provide a high level of service to administration and public while advancing their goals and priorities from the prior year, prepare and amend the LUO to address recommendations from the Zoning Board and other concerns that have been identified during a variety of applications, comments from business owners and resident concerns, prepare an amendment to the Master Plan to incorporate the bike and pedestrian path system into the Circulation Element, utilize the DVRPC Transportation Community Development Initiative Grant to engage the community and develop a proposed plan for Brunswick Pike Streetscape and lastly expand the mapping available on the Township website for use by the community and staff to include tax maps, water, sewer, flood, trails and storm water outfalls. He then opened the floor for questions and comments.

After the presentation a comment and question period took place between Mr. Parvesse and the Council regarding the Master Plan amendment for the bike and pedestrian path system as it relates to speaking with the Health Officer about connecting it to the Vision Zero Policy concerning pedestrian, the Green Watering System for the Brunswick Pike Streetscape, Mr. Parvesse contacting the County/State about the curbing and sidewalks being installed at the intersection of Princeton Avenue

and Route 206 (Harney's Corner) to the Brunswick Circle for kids that walk to and from school in that area and his request, and need for a new copier to print, copy and scan large documents, maps and plans.

Mr. Nerwinski noted that Mr. Parvesse is the point person for the Solar Project and he asked that the bid be awarded and once they get through the process Mr. Parvesse will come before Council and describe what the plan will be going forward and the Council will have an opportunity to asked questions at the time. Mayor Bobbitt thanked Ms. Parvesse for his all his hard work and be a great resource to the Council and Township.

Public Participation

Ms. Zarinah Shakir, 2350 Princeton Pike, voiced her concern regarding personal and personnel issues at the Senior Center relative to the usage of the senior van and who is entitled or not entitled to ride on the van, the computer room being locked and not open during the posted hours of operation, unnecessary monitoring of the computer room that has a sign-in sheet and her lack of appreciation of being treated childlike by Lillian LaSalle, Director of Office on Aging, and sometimes her assistant, Coral Phillips, as she is a 70 year old woman who would like to be treated respectfully and proceeded to discuss Ms. LaSalle's demeanor sometimes being very brash and curt towards individuals and other seniors and them being too afraid to speak to the matter before the Council or unaware of the Council Meeting schedule.

Ms. Shakir spoke of another matter with regards to an individual at the Senior Center being able to have Bible Study and her being turned down when she offered to do Koranic and other kinds of classes associated with her Muslim faith and advised that she has done many programs since she started attending the Senior Center such as Black History, Jewish New Year and Kwanzaa which is a secular piece not about faith. And, she will touch base with Mr. Nerwinski and Ms. Bergen regarding the matter to try to quickly resolve the issues discussed this evening and imparted the last time she came before Council approximately two years ago regarding the matter of the printer not having ink for 6 months the very next day the matter was resolved so she knows things do get done by the Township Council and she hopes this matter can get resolved in the same manner and get things back on track. Further, she is not here this evening to expose or speak negatively about Ms. LaSalle or anybody else; but, she is a senior, taxpayer and she wants for her and others who attend the Senior Center to be treated kindly and appropriately. She then thanked the Council for their time, after which Mayor Bobbitt thanked Ms. Shakir for her comments and asked that she follow-up with the Municipal Manager as he thinks he will be a valuable resource to her.

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 October 16, 2018 were approved on the following roll call vote:

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

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

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On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Minutes of Closed Session Meeting of January 15, 2019 were approved on the following roll call vote:

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

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

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Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

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

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the bid is the kickoff to the Solar Energy Project that went to bid for the second time and now hits on all parameters for which the Township is looking. And, Mr. Roskos, Township Attorney, along with Mr. Kiriakatis and Mr. Parvesse will be working together to button up all the details in the Agreement before it is executed. Mayor Bobbitt made mention of a letter sent to the Municipal Manager stating the solar project estimated savings of \$1M over a 15-year period. Mr. Nerwinski stated that the project is no cost to the township and they are hoping to achieve the savings indicated and protecting people from adverse weather with the solar carports.

On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Kownacki, Resolution (9-A), Authorizing Awarding Bid for Power Purchase Agreement with Greenskies Renewable Energy, was presented for adoption.

Resolution No. 88-19

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 bids were received and publicly opened for the project known as **2019 Solar Energy Project**; and

WHEREAS, four (4) bids were received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials as detailed in the attached bid tabulation; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Eznergy NJ, LLC in partnership with Greenskies Renewable Energy, LLC; and

WHEREAS, Eznergy is a certified NJ Clean Energy solar power installation company and will construct the solar facilities with financing, operation and maintenance services provided by their partner, Greenskies Renewable Energy, LLC;

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 15-year Power Purchase Agreement with Greenskies Renewable Energy, LLC consistent with the rate provided by Eznergy and the requirement in the bid proposal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Power Purchase Agreement is subject to the review and approval of the Municipal Attorney as to form and content thereof.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Kownacki, Powers and Mayor Bobbitt.  
Absent: Councilman Maffei.  
Abstain: Councilwoman Lewis.

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Introduction of Ordinances

Mayor Bobbitt read by title, an ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$57,191.65 THEREFOR AND DIRECTING THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OF THE COST THEREOF"

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the Ordinance is part of the Sidewalk Improvement Program that residents participated in and it will provide appropriations in the amount of \$\$57,191.65 for sidewalks, curbs and driveway aprons improvements along various streets.

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

There was no adoption of ordinances.

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**Manager’s Report –**

Mr. Nerwinski stated he has nothing of substance to formally report at this meeting except the Administration is preparing the 2019 Municipal Budget and they are in negotiations with the Fraternal Order of Police in the Police Department which he will update the Council on in closed session at the next meeting.

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**Attorney’s Report –**

Mr. Roskos reported that he will be bringing forth at the next meeting the Landlord Registration Inspection Ordinance that he and the Municipal Clerk recently worked on regarding fees.

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**Clerk’s Report –**

There was no Clerk’s report.

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**Unfinished Business –**

There was no unfinished business.

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**New Business –**

There was no new business.

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**Public Participation (3-minute limitation per speaker) –**

There is no public participation.

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**Resolutions**

Resolution Nos. 73-19 (18-G.1), Authorizing Support for Sustainable Jersey Grant Application through the PSE&G Foundation, 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.

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Resolution Nos. 74-19 (18-A.1) through 89-19 (18-H.7) 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 –

Mr. Powers reported that the Shade Tree Advisory Committee got one new applicant and they are working on another candidate. And, in terms of reducing the membership to meet the requirement of a quorum to conduct business, they discussed having alternates on the committee and they do have the State Federation Forestry Plan renewal coming up and until the Committee has a quorum it cannot be done so they need to get rolling on that as soon as possible.

Written Communications –

A. Letter from Frank Joworisak Regarding Diesel Particulates – No Discussion

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

8.02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kathleen S. Norcia, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

Christopher Bobbitt, Mayor