

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

October 1, 2019

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, October 1, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was then opened with the Inspiration and Pledge of Allegiance, led by the 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, October 1, 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: Councilmember 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

There were no proclamations or presentations.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Review and Revisions of Agenda

Mr. Nerwinski advised that he no longer needs a Closed Session to discuss labor negotiations. Mr. Roskos noted that he still needs an Executive Session to discuss items dealing with affordable housing.

Adoption of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Lewis, the Minutes of Closed Session Meeting of September 17, 2019 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.
Absent: None.
Nays: None.

Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, Resolution (9-A), Authorizing a Contract to Rehabilitate E-17 Carver Place, was presented for adoption.

Resolution No. 310-19

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, September 4, 2019, bids were received and publically opened for the rehabilitation of E-17 Carver Place; and

WHEREAS, one (1) bid was received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Windsor Guild, LLC who submitted a bid in the amount of \$24,900.00 to perform the tasks required in the rehabilitation; 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 9-19-56-853-299 (Affordable Housing Trust Fund); and

WHEREAS, Windsor Guild, LLC has performed satisfactorily; and

WHEREAS, the owner of E-17 Carver Place has been deemed eligible to participate in the rehabilitation program;

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 Manager, the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk hereby authorize the acceptance of the bid and the execution of a contract with Windsor Guild, LLC, P. O. Box 4, Windsor NJ 08561 in the amount of \$24,900.00 for the purpose of rehabilitating E-17 Carver Place.

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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On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, Resolution (9-B), Authorizing a Contract to Rehabilitate 710 Eagles Chase Drive, was presented for adoption.

Resolution No. 311-19

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, September 4, 2019, bids were received and publically opened for the rehabilitation of 710 Eagles Chase Drive; and

WHEREAS, one (1) bid was received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Windsor Guild, LLC who submitted a bid in the amount of \$19,300.00 to perform the tasks required in the rehabilitation; 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 9-19-56-853-299 (Affordable Housing Trust Fund); and

WHEREAS, Windsor Guild, LLC has performed satisfactorily; and

WHEREAS, the owner of 710 Eagles Chase Drive has been deemed eligible to participate in the rehabilitation program;

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 Manager, the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk hereby authorize the acceptance of the bid and the execution of a contract with Windsor Guild, LLC, P. O. Box 4, Windsor NJ 08561 in the amount of \$19,300.00 for the purpose of rehabilitating 710 Eagles Chase Drive.

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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On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, Resolution (9-C), Authorizing a Contract to Rehabilitate 1 Roxboro Road, was presented for adoption.

Resolution No. 312-19

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, September 17, 2019, bids were received and publically opened for the rehabilitation of 1 Roxboro Road; and

WHEREAS, two (2) bids were received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Silviu Nedelcu Painting & Remodeling that submitted a bid in the amount of \$21,775.00 to perform the tasks required in the rehabilitation; 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 9-19-56-853-299 (Affordable Housing Trust Fund); and

WHEREAS, Silviu Nedelcu Painting & Remodeling has performed satisfactorily; and

WHEREAS, the owner of 1 Roxboro Road has been deemed eligible to participate in the rehabilitation program;

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 Manager, the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk hereby

authorize the acceptance of the bid and the execution of a contract with Silviu Nedelcu Painting & Remodeling, 4475 Route 27, Princeton NJ 08540 in the amount of \$21,775.00 for the purpose of rehabilitating 1 Roxboro Road.

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

There was no introduction of ordinances.

Adoption of Ordinances

Mayor Bobbitt read by title, an ordinance entitled, "BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE NO. 2258-17 BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY IN ORDER TO REVISE THE DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPROVEMENT HEREIN"

Ordinance No. 2342-19

BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS BOND ORDINANCES
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 2258-17, finally adopted April 4, 2017, amended by Ordinance 2270-17, finally adopted July 18, 2017, amended by Ordinance 2271-17, finally adopted July 18, 2017, amended by Ordinance 2275-17, finally adopted September 19, 2017, amended by Ordinance 2290-18, finally adopted February 20, 2018 be and are hereby amended to add the following purposes:

Improvements of Municipal Buildings consisting of: "Police/Court Flooring Replacement..."

Acquisition of Various Computer and Office Equipment consisting of: “Security Camera Upgrades and Monitoring”.

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. 2342-19 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, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OF A PORTION OF THE COST RELATING TO LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENTS AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT IN CONNECTION THEREWITH”

Mr. Roskos explained that the Ordinance was introduced back in the summer and asked that it be held over because there were still some negotiations taking place between the City of Trenton and the State which are now concluded and that it is a good program for Lawrence Township residents in the sense that it will be a Special Assessment paid over 5 (five) years with a maximum cost of \$1000 as it would far exceed a \$1000 if the homeowner had to replace the lateral themselves without the special assessment providing for a portion of the cost. So, it is a good program in terms it is funded in part by the State for those individuals who are currently serviced by a lead lateral with a good lead residue which is positive news. He was also informed that Hamilton Township will be adopting their ordinance tonight and Ewing Township will be adopting their ordinance next week.

Councilwoman Lewis inquired as to how residents can find out if they qualify and whether there is a list on Trenton Water Works website.

Mr. Nerwinski answered through Trenton Water Works site there is a way for customers to register and their information will be processed. And, if they have any questions they can also ask Trenton Water Works to come out to take a look at the lead line to see if it needs replacing. Also, he is a TWW customer and he went online and registered his information and has already received a confirmation email as to whether his lateral needs to be replaced.

Mr. P.J. Vinch, A-19 Carver Place, asked for clarification with regards to who is required to pay for the lateral above a \$1000. Mr. Roskos and Mr. Nerwinski explained the cost of the lateral is \$1000 per household. So, if it cost \$3000 to replace a customer's lateral the customer would only be required to pay a \$1000 under the Lead Service Program and the State/Trenton Water Works would pick up the rest. An exchange of dialogue ensued relative to where the lead lines begin and ends and who is responsible for the cost.

Ms. Patricia Connelly, 3 Irwin Place, advised that she received information regarding the Lead Service Program in the mail and it had the Municipal Clerk's name listed on the letter but when she called the Municipal Clerk's Office the staff had no knowledge of what she was talking about so they transferred over to the Municipal Manager's Office where she inquired as to why the Township sent the letter out that no one in the Clerk's Office was aware of and she also inquired about the exhibit that was referenced but not included with the letter. Mr. Nerwinski advised that the letter was sent out through Trenton Water Works as it is their public utility and program and Lawrence Township is one of four towns within the utility required to participate through this ordinance and that is why the staff in the Clerk's Office could not provide any information regarding the matter. A general discussion ensued relative to some of the dates in the letter being incorrect and the Municipal Clerk's Office being unaware of the information included in the letter required by law and how a homeowner can determine whether or not they have lead pipes.

Ordinance No. 2343-19  
(previously introduced as Ordinance No. 2337-19)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, IN THE  
COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE SPECIAL  
ASSESSMENT OF A PORTION OF THE COST RELATING TO LEAD  
SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENTS AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION  
OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT IN CONNECTION  
THEREWITH

**WHEREAS**, the City of Trenton (the "**City**") and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (the "**DEP**") entered into that certain Administrative Consent Order, dated July 26, 2018 (the "**ACO**"); and

**WHEREAS**, among other things, the ACO identifies the need for the City's water utility, Trenton Water Works ("**TWW**"), to replace lead-lined service lines connecting the TWW main water distribution system lines to the meters on the privately-owned properties within the system ("**LSLs**"), at a rate of 7% of the system every 6 months (the "**LSL Replacement Project**"); and

**WHEREAS**, this effort includes the City and 3 neighboring municipalities served by TWW, specifically the Township of Lawrence (the "**Township**"), and Ewing and Hamilton Townships (together, the "**Municipalities**"); and

**WHEREAS**, the County and Municipal Water Supply Act, *N.J.S.A. 40A:31-1 et seq.* (the "**Water Supply Act**"), specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:31-5*, provides that "[o]ne or more local units . . . are authorized and empowered: a. . . . [t]o acquire, construct, improve, extend, enlarge or reconstruct and finance water supply facilities, and to operate, manage and control all or part of these facilities and all properties relating thereto"; and

**WHEREAS**, *N.J.S.A. 40A:31-5* further provides that "[o]ne or more local units . . . are authorized and empowered: b. . . . [t]o issue bonds of the local unit or units to pay all or part of the cost of the water supply facilities"; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "water supply facilities", as used in the Water Supply Act, includes:

The replacement of service connection to a publicly-owned water system, from the distribution main onto privately-owned real property and into the privately-owned structure, when used in reference to a project undertaken for the purpose of replacing lead-contaminated service connections, regardless of possible private service connection ownership, so long as the project is (1) an environmental infrastructure project . . . and (2) funded either by loans from the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank . . . or by loans issued through the Department of Environmental Protection.

*N.J.S.A. 40A:31-3d*; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has prepared and filed with the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (the "**NJIB**") and the DEP a planning information document in connection with the replacement of all or a portion of 2,600  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch LSLs for properties served by TWW with copper lines (the "**LSL Replacement Project – Phase 1**"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Local and Other Improvements Law, *N.J.S.A. 40:56-1, et seq.* (the "**Local Improvements Law**"), specifically *N.J.S.A. 40:56-1*, provides that "[a] local improvement is one, the cost of which, or a portion thereof, may be assessed upon the lands in the vicinity thereof benefitted thereby"; and

**WHEREAS**, *N.J.S.A. 40:56-1(j)(1)* provides that:

The installation of a service connection to a system of water . . . owned by a municipality or otherwise including all such work as may be necessary for supplying water . . . to real estate for whose benefit such services are provided. This authorization includes, but shall not be limited to, the installation of service connections to a publicly-owned water system, from the distribution main onto privately-owned real property and into the privately-owned structure, for the purpose of replacing lead-contaminated service connections, regardless of possible private service connection ownership, so long as the project is (a) undertaken as an environmental infrastructure project . . . and (b) funded either by loans from the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank . . . or by loans issued through the Department of Environmental Protection; and

**WHEREAS**, thus, under the Water Supply Act, the City, the Township and the Municipalities may work together to undertake the LSL Replacement Project and finance such project using proceeds of bonds or notes from the NJIB, and under the Local Improvements Law, the City, the Township and the Municipalities may specially assess a portion of the costs thereof on properties specially benefitted thereby in the respective municipalities, including those in the Township more particularly described in **Exhibit A** hereto (the “**Township Benefitted Properties**” and each a “**Township Benefitted Property**”); and

**WHEREAS**, on February 13, 2019, the Local Finance Board (“**LFB**”) approved financing, by the City through the NJIB, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000, in connection with the LSL Replacement Project – Phase 1; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 21, 2019, the governing body of the City adopted Ordinance No. 19-16, entitled “Bond Ordinance Providing for the Lead Service Line Replacement Program in the Trenton Water Works Service Area, by and in the City of Trenton, in the County of Mercer, State of New Jersey; Appropriating \$15,000,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$15,000,000 Bonds or Notes to Finance the Cost Thereof” (the “**LSL Bond Ordinance**”), providing for the LSL Replacement Project – Phase 1 in the area served by TWW and authorizing the issuance, by the City, of up to \$15,000,000 in general obligation bonds or notes to finance the cost thereof on behalf of the City, the Township and the Municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has awarded two contracts, totaling \$16,488,250, in connection with the LSL Replacement Project – Phase 1; and

**WHEREAS**, the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, *N.J.S.A.* 40A:65-1, *et seq.* (the “**Shared Services Act**”), authorizes local units of this State, including the City, the Township and the Municipalities, to enter into agreements (each a “**Shared Services Agreement**”) with any other local unit or units for the joint provision within their several jurisdictions of any service which any party to the agreement is empowered to render within its own jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, although the City intends to finance the costs of the LSL Replacement Project – Phase 1 pursuant to the LSL Bond Ordinance, including the portions of such project to be undertaken in the Township and the Municipalities, the City intends to enter into a Shared Services Agreement with the Township and each Municipality, pursuant to which (a) each such municipality will impose a special assessment on the Benefitted Properties located therein (the “**Special Assessment**”) in an amount equal to the lesser of (i) the benefit conferred on the Municipality Benefitted Properties, (ii) \$1,000 per Benefitted Property and (iii) the costs of the LSL Replacement Project – Phase 1 net of any principal forgiven by the NJIB in connection with the NJIB Loan described herein, representing a portion of the costs associated with the portion of the LSL Replacement Project – Phase 1 applicable to the respective Benefitted Properties, to be collected by the City, and (b) the City will undertake the responsibility to enforce the collection of the Special Assessment payments from the owners of the Township Benefitted Properties and the Municipality Benefitted Properties (the “**Property Owners**”), if necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township intends to conduct public outreach to determine which Property Owners identified in **Exhibit A** hereto desire to participate in the LSL Replacement Project and, thus, will be subject to the Special Assessment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township now desires to impose the Special Assessment against the Township Benefitted Properties to recover a portion of the costs associated with the LSL Replacement Project - Phase 1.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** The recitals hereof are incorporated by reference as it is set forth at length herein.

**Section 2.** The Township hereby makes and levies a special assessment against the Township Benefitted Properties. Such special assessment shall be made by the Township’s tax assessor or, at the Township’s option under the Shared Services Agreement, by the City’s tax assessor, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:56-21, and levied in the manner provided by law. Such special assessment shall be as nearly as possible in proportion to and not in excess of the lesser of (i) the peculiar benefit, advantage or increase in value that the respective lots and parcels of real estate shall be deemed to receive by reason of the LSL Replacement Project – Phase 1; (ii) the costs allocable to a particular recipient property, as determined by the TWW and its professionals, including costs of advertising, financing, inspection and engineering, net of any principal forgiven by the NJIB in connection with the portion of the NJIB Loan applicable to the Township Benefitted Properties; or (iii) \$1,000 per Benefitted Property. After taking into account the amount of the principal forgiveness from the NJDEP in connection with the NJIB Loan, if any, the City will contribute the difference between (i) to the cost of such improvements and (ii) the lesser of (A) the peculiar benefit, advantage or increase in

value that the respective lots and parcels of real estate shall be deemed to receive by reason of the LSL Replacement Project – Phase 1 and (B) \$1,000 per Benefitted Property.

**Section 3.** Notice is hereby given to the owners of the Township Benefitted Properties that, at the time the LSL Replacement Project – Phase 1 has been completed, the Township intends to make and levy a special assessment, in the amount set forth in Section 2 hereof, on the parcels identified in **Exhibit A** hereto whose owners subsequently notify the Township they desire to participate in the LSL Replacement Project. The City will finance the balance of the costs associated with the LSL Replacement Project as described herein.

**Section 4.** The number of installments within which the Special Assessment is levied on the lots and parcels of real estate benefited by the improvement is twenty (20), it being intended that the assessment shall be payable in installments over five (5) years from the date of the payment of the first installment. The first of such installments shall be due and payable on the first February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1 occurring after the confirmation of the assessment by the City, and each subsequent installment and interest, if any, shall be payable, on February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1 of each year thereafter until paid in full. In case any such installment shall remain unpaid for thirty (30) days after the time it shall become due and payable, unless otherwise provided by subsequent resolution of the City Council pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:56-35, the whole assessment or the balance thereof shall become and be immediately due and payable, shall draw interest at the rate imposed upon the arrearage of taxes in the City and shall be collected in the same manner as provided by law for other past-due assessments. Such assessment shall remain a lien upon the land described herein from the effective date of this ordinance until the assessment, with all installments and accrued interest thereon, shall be paid and satisfied. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Township shall have the right to waive default as may be permitted by law. Any Property Owner shall have the right to pay the whole of any assessment or any balance of installments with accrued interest thereon, if any, at one time.

**Section 5.** Subject to the execution by the City and the Township of the Shared Services Agreement, the City is hereby authorized to undertake any such actions as may be necessary to enforce the collection of the Special Assessment imposed on such Township Benefitted Properties in accordance with the same procedure by which the City may enforce such payments on City Benefitted Properties under applicable law.

**Section 6.** The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute and attest, as applicable, the Shared Services Agreement, in substantially the same form as that on file with the Township Clerk, together with such additions, deletions and modifications as deemed necessary by the Mayor upon consultation with the Township's legal counsel.

**Section 7.** If any part(s) of this ordinance shall be deemed invalid, such part(s) shall be severed and the invalidity thereby shall not affect the remaining parts of this ordinance.

**Section 8.** This ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption.

Ordinance No. 2343-19 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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**Manager’s Report –**

Mr. Nerwinski distributed copies of the 2019 Best Practices Checklist which he indicated the Township is required to respond to each year and that the questions they responded on the Checklist this year are totally new questions and asked that the Council look over the survey and let him know if they have any questions. He additionally indicated because the questions are new and carry no points they were able to whittle them down to one or two over the entire Survey and that the Survey is more of the State wanting information regarding the town and the Checklist is how they are required to provide that information.

Mr. Nerwinski reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mayor’s Cup is coming up which is a soccer game between Lawrence High School and Notre Dame High School and it will be taking place on October 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m. at the Rider University Ben Cohen Field. He further reported that Lawrence Community Day is taking place the following day, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at Central Park instead of Village Park this year and they will be putting up a digital sign in front of the Town Hall advising residents of the change. Mr. Nerwinski stated they thought it was a good idea to start rotating the event in different areas of the Township to give residents a sense of what Lawrence has to offer throughout the township instead of one location.

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the Township hired a new fireman, Jaime Orochena, who started today and he is a really nice young man full of energy and excitement, and he thinks he is going to recharge the existing career force and that everybody is looking forward to having him come aboard, getting trained and up to date on everything.

Mr. Nerwinski reported that he attended a meeting today at New Jersey Department of Transportation relative to the longstanding matter concerning the residents of Long Acres who have appeared before the Council multiple times about a noise wall due to the increasing disturbance to the quiet enjoyment of their properties along I-295. They were able to orchestrate a meeting between Senator Turner and NJDOT Officials and the residents of that neighborhood who also attended the meeting and provided an amazing presentation setting forth the history of the struggle they have undertaken since 1988 to get to this point of a sound barrier wall that was approved in 2005 to be built, designed and funded and thus far has not been built. Mr. Nerwinski indicated that it was a really good meeting; the DOT pledged that they are going to reevaluate and renew the residents request under today's standards and hopefully the measures taken will be positive for them.

Mr. Nerwinski stated that he received a proposal for a Fire Study from a consultant and as previously explained the Study is really for the purposes of exploring where Lawrence Township is in their firefighting program and how the volunteers and the careers are matching up in providing fire service to the Township as well as what improvements can be made and where the fire services will be in 5 years. So, as part of the process he has received the proposal and has had a conversation with the principals of the consulting firm, all highly qualified individuals, and he will report back to the Council at a later time with regard to whether or not he recommends proceeding with the study and advised that this matter has been the center of discussion for many years with money already being allocated a number of years ago; and, when he first started as the Manager he wanted to better understand the Township's fire services so he could have a better idea of what it entails and meaningfully participate in the study and he feels they are now at that point where they can do it and he is looking forward to the results.

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**Attorney's Report –**

There was no Attorney's report.

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**Clerk's Report –**

There was not 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) –**

*Ms. Patricia Connelly, 3 Irwin Place*, inquired about the Boil Water Advisory as it relates to the residents not being notified sooner given she had already showered, brushed her teeth and had her coffee before finding out there was a water advisory from an email she received from the people at work and questioned the reason for the delay in communication with this type of an emergency.

Mayor Bobbitt stated the Municipal Manager can provide more details regarding the matter but it is his understanding that the Boil Water Advisory came right around the time everyone was going off to work. Mr. Nerwinski went on to explain the series of events that started at approximately 6:15 a.m. with Trenton Water Works posting information on their website about the Boil Water Advisory. And, approximately 30 minutes later they contacted each Health Official from Ewing, Hamilton and Lawrence with the exception of Hopewell advising them about the boil water advisory, after which Lawrence Health Officer contacted the Chief of Police and other officials in the Police Department and they did a Reverse 911 System call notifying area residents of the situation and that Lawrence Township being guided by whatever information is provided to them at that time by Trenton Water Works and proceeded to discuss his concern with some of the deficiency in the timing as it relates to notifying the appropriate health officials and plans to correct the problem. He then requested that Ms. Connolly send an email to him and he would provide her with links to sign up for immediate access to information regarding Lawrence Township and Trenton Water Works.

*Mr. Nicholas Sferra, 116 Oaklyn Terrace*, stated he realizes that the Township and Trenton Waters Works are two separate entities but he is calling upon the Township to either legislate or lean on Trenton Water Works because when there is an issue with the quality of water he does not feel he should have to opt in to find out if the water is bad given the utility has his information on record and should be required to do a reverse call to their customers. And, he was glad to hear that all the schools were notified about the Boil Water Advisory and that the schools provided the students with bottled water but in the future maybe they could also notify the parents a little sooner.

Mr. Nerwinski advised that he will contact the School Superintendent tomorrow to discuss the issue and that Mr. Sferra is 100 percent correct with regards to Trenton Water Works non-communication during water emergencies and DEP applying more pressure to TWW to start work on communicating better with their customers. A general discussion ensued relative to the residents' lack of understanding with regards to Trenton Water Works being its own entity and the Township having no jurisdiction over

their decision-making and Lawrence Township being one of their customers and notified in the same manner as the rest of their customers. Additional dialogue took place relative to TWW communication getting better under the new administration and school/government officials establishing better communication procedures for emergency situations.

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**Resolutions**

Resolution Nos. 313-19 (18-B.1) through 323-19 (18-H.4) 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.

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**Council Initiatives/Liaison Reports –**

Councilman Kownacki reported that the 112<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery located right across the street from the park will be having an event the same day as Community Day, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Museum from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. where people can come and see the military paraphernalia and invited everyone to attend. He also reported that the new building will be done next spring for everyone to visit as well. Mayor Bobbitt noted it is a great place to go and learn a little bit of history about the New Jersey National Guard.

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**Written Communications –**

- A. 2018 Best Practices Submitted by Peter A. Kiriakatis, Chief Finance Officer – (Distributed and Discussed during the Manager’s Report)

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

7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

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Kathleen S. Norcia, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

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Christopher Bobbitt, Mayor