

REGULAR MEETING
LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
COUNCIL MEETING IN LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM
AND BY TELE-CONFERENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, ET SEQ. AND EXECUTIVE ORDER 107

September 15, 2020

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, 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 Kownacki 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, September 15, 2020, 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, 2019.

The roll was then called as follows:

Present: Councilmembers Bobbitt, Powers, Lewis and Mayor Kownacki.

Absent: Councilman Ryan. (The Municipal Clerk stated that Mr. Ryan is unable to be with them this evening)

Also in attendance were Kevin Nerwinski, Esq., Municipal Manager (by tele-conference), David Roskos, Esq., Municipal Attorney and Peter Kiriakatis, Certified Finance Officer.

Special Proclamations, Recognitions and Presentations

There were no proclamations or presentations.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Review and Revisions of Agenda

The Municipal Clerk requested that the Agenda be amended to add Resolution (18-H.15) – Authorizing Amending the Contract to Golden Crown Contractors for Slackwood Firehouse renovations.

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

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

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

Adoption of Minutes

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 18, 2020 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Lewis, Powers and Mayor Kownacki.
Absent: Councilmember Ryan.
Abstain: Councilman Bobbitt.

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Minutes of Closed Session Meeting of August 18, 2020 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Lewis, Powers and Mayor Kownacki.
Absent: Councilmember Ryan.
Abstain: Councilman Bobbitt.

Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

There was no awarding and rejection of bid.

Introduction of Ordinances

Mayor Kownacki read by title, an ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 435 OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE ENTITLED ‘MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC’ – Handicapped Parking.”

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the Ordinance amends the Administrative Code entitled “Motor Vehicles and Traffic” to add a handicapped parking space in front of 133 Michigan Avenue.

The Ordinance No. 2366-20 was introduced and approved on the following roll call vote:

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

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Mayor Kownacki read by title, an ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 156 ‘FEES’ OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.”

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the Ordinance amends the Administrative Code to remove a duplicate fee, and remove the fee for well water sampling (a service no longer provided by the Township).

The Ordinance No. 2367-20 was introduced and approved on the following roll call vote:

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

Mayor Kownacki read by title, an ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 435 OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE ENTITLED ‘MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC’

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the Ordinance amends the Administrative Code entitled “Motor Vehicles and Traffic” establishing a 35 mph speed limit on Business Route 1 in both directions from Brunswick Circle to Lake Drive.

Prior to formal introduction, Mayor Kownacki asked the 35 mph could be extended to Texas Avenue and was advised by Mr. Nerwinski that the Township does not have jurisdiction over that portion of Route 1, so all speed limit changes would have to be done by the State of New Jersey.

The Ordinance No. 2368-20 was introduced and approved on the following roll call vote:

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

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Mayor Kownacki read by title, an ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2279-17 AMENDING THE CONSOLIDATED LICENSE, PERMIT AND FEE CHAPTER OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE”

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the Ordinance amends Ordinance No 2279-17 under the consolidated license, permit, and fee chapter of the Lawrence Township Administrative Code to include fees for the electric vehicle charging stations.

The Ordinance No. 2369-20 was introduced and approved on the following roll call vote:

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

Adoption of Ordinances

Mayor Kownacki read by title, an ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 435 OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE ENTITLED ‘MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC’ – Handicapped Parking.”

Ordinance No. 2365 -20

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 435 OF THE
LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE
ENTITLED 'MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC'

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that Chapter 435 of The Lawrence Township Administrative Code entitled 'Motor Vehicles and Traffic' be and is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. Article II – Stopping, Standing and Parking

Sec. 13-4 – Parking prohibited – At any time, except by vehicles bearing special identification for handicapped persons.

(5) Special Vehicle Parking (Handicapped)

Restricted parking spaces shall be established as set forth below and only those persons who are handicapped and who possess a special vehicle identification shall park in such designated parking space.

- a. 64 feet eastbound from the prolonged curb line of Brunswick Pike and Valley Forge Avenue (S/E corner) for a distance of 22 feet on Valley Forge Avenue on the south side of 1894 Brunswick Pike.
- b. 138 feet eastbound from the prolonged curb line of Brunswick Pike and Pear Street (N/E corner) for a distance of 22 feet in front of 766 Pear Street.
- c. 340 feet eastbound from the prolonged curb line of Rt. 206 (Lawrence Road) and Fairfield Avenue (S/E corner) for a distance of 22 feet in front of 81 Fairfield Avenue.
- d. 180 feet westbound from the prolonged curb line of Hopewell Avenue and Slack Avenue (S/W corner) for a distance of 22 feet in front of 115 Slack Avenue.
- e. 263 feet eastbound from the prolonged curb line of Princeton Avenue and Myrtle Avenue (S/E corner) for a distance of 22 feet, in front of 57 Myrtle Avenue

- f. 204 feet westbound from the prolonged curb line of Ohio Avenue and Puritan Avenue (N/W corner) for a distance of 22 feet in front of 716 Puritan Avenue.
- g. 324 feet eastbound from the prolonged curb line of Princeton Avenue and Myrtle Avenue (S/E corner) for a distance of 22 feet in front of 51 Myrtle Avenue.
- h. 141 feet eastbound from the prolonged curb line of Slack Avenue and Princeton Pike (S/E corner) for a distance of 22 feet, in front of 143 Slack Avenue.
- i. 99 feet northbound from the prolonged curb line of Pine Street and Brunswick Avenue, for a distance of 22 feet, in front of 1117 Brunswick Avenue.
- j. 518 feet westbound from the prolonged curb line of Brunswick Avenue and Lanning Avenue (N/W corner) for a distance of 22 feet, in front of 944 Lanning Avenue.
- k. 70 feet westbound from the prolonged curb line of Brunswick Avenue and Lanning Avenue (S/E corner) for a distance of 22 feet on the side of 1279 Brunswick Avenue.
- l. 56 feet southbound from the prolonged curb line of Greenfield Avenue and Rubert Street (S/W corner) for a distance of 22 feet on the side of 49 Greenfield Avenue.
- m. 268 feet eastbound from the prolonged curb line of Princeton Avenue and Lanning Avenue (S/E corner) for a distance of 22 feet in front of 961 Lanning Avenue.
- n. 191 feet eastbound from the prolonged curb line of Brunswick Pike and Puritan Ave (N/E corner) for a distance of 22 feet in front of 758 Puritan Avenue.
- o. 188 feet eastbound from the prolonged curb line of Brunswick Pike and Puritan (S/E corner) for a distance of 22 feet in front of 759 Puritan Avenue.
- p. 219 feet eastbound from the prolonged curb line of Princeton Avenue and Lanning Avenue (N/E corner) for a distance of 22 feet in front of 968 Lanning Avenue.

Section 2. This ordinance supercedes all previous ordinances that relate to the designation of handicapped parking on streets and roadways within the Township of Lawrence.

Section 3. Severability.

If any provisions of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions, which shall be deemed severable therefrom.

Section 4. Repealer.

All ordinances or parts of same inconsistent with any provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall become effective twenty (20) days following the adoption thereof in accordance with law.

Additions Underlined _____
 Deletions in brackets { }

Adopted: September 15, 2020

The Ordinance was adopted after the public hearing thereon, on the following roll call vote:

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

Manager’s Report –

Mr. Nerwinski submitted invoice listings for the month of September 2020.

Mr. Nerwinski reported that that preparation of the 2021 Municipal Budget is underway and due to the pandemic the Budget is being carefully crafted around the loss of revenue as well as anticipated loss of revenue while attempting to reduce the financial impact to the residents as much as possible.

Attorney’s Report –

Mr. Roskos reported that they have propounded Discovery in the Trenton Water Works case and they are seeking to understand the TWW financial situation as well as its current staffing. The Show Cause ordered by the Department of Environmental Protection is taking place Thursday morning (September 17th) and the City of Trenton has filed opposition stating that it has proceeded diligently; but, the State has responded and clearly indicated that they need a Court Order to hold the City’s feet to the fire so the City does what they promise to do which dates as far back as two years ago and is still not done.

Clerk’s Report –

There was no Clerk’s report.

Unfinished Business –

There was no unfinished business.

New Business –

There was no new business.

Public Participation (3-minute limitation per speaker) –

Mr. Paul Larson reported that Saturday, September 26th, in front of Town Hall is the dedication for the 100th Anniversary of the World War I Monument that currently stands in from of the Municipal Building.

Resolutions

Resolution Nos. 260-20 (18-A.1) through 285-20 (18-H.15) with the exception of Resolution 271-20 was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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

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Resolution No. 271-20 (18-H.8)) was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

Cited Resolution is spread in its entirety in the Resolution Books of the Township of Lawrence.

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**Council Initiatives/Liaison Reports –**

Mayor Kownacki thanked everyone who showed up for the 911 Ceremony and indicated that he called the Municipal Manager on Tuesday morning and in that short time they were able to gather enough people to pull together the ceremony and next year is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and they are looking to do bigger and better things. He again thanked the Municipal Manager and everyone for their attendance.

Mr. Nerwinski noted that the 911 Ceremony would not have happened the way it did without Greg Whitehead, Director of Public Work, immediately responding to the request and taking care of the physical aspects of the gazebo. Also, Nancy Bergen, Superintendent of Recreation, and Jack Oakley, Emergency Management Coordinator, for their hard work so he does not want to take all the recognition as there are a lot of people who work hard for the town and they are better because of it.

Councilman Bobbitt advised that the Growth & Redevelopment Committee has started to meet again remotely and they had a good conversation with Kelly Edelstein from Main Street talking about all of the hard work the businesses have been doing on Main Street in terms of opening up their patios such as Vidalia's, with having outdoors seating and making do with the Governors Executive Orders as well as trying to keep the community safe. So, it is great to see businesses abiding by the rules in an attempt to keep their businesses viable.

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**Written Communications –**

There was no written communications.

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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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James S. Kownacki, Mayor