

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

May 18, 2021

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, 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, May 18, 2021, 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 18, 2020.

The roll was then called as follows:

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

There was no review or revisions of the agenda.

Adoption of Minutes

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 16, 2021 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

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

Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Powers, Resolution (9-A), Authorizing Awarding of Bid for Veterans' Park Site Lighting Improvements, was presented for adoption.

Resolution No. 173-21

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 bids were received and publicly opened for the project known as **Bid No. 21-05 – Veteran's Park Site Lighting Improvements**; and

WHEREAS, six (6) bids were received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Kane Communications, LLC, who submitted a bid in the amount of \$109,295.00, 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;

Acct.	Ord. No.	Name	Amount
C-04-55-474-227	2361-20	Recreation Township Wide Park Improvements	\$105,519.32
C-04-55-454-296	2328-19	Veteran's Park & village Park Parking Lots	\$3,775.68

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 Kane Communications, LLC, 572 Whitehead Road, Suite #201, Trenton NJ 08619 in the amount of \$109,295.00; 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 Bobbitt, Lewis, Powers, Ryan and Mayor Kownacki.
 Absent: None.
 Abstain: None.

Introduction of Ordinances

Mayor Kownacki read by title, an ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PRIVATE SALE OF CERTAIN LANDS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE"

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the Ordinance authorizes the private sale of land owned by the Township situated on Lawn Park Avenue (Block #1304, Lot 3 and 7). Lot 3 is assessed at \$375 and Lot 7 is assessed at \$750. The lots were offered for sale last year as part of a program to eliminate land that is Township-owned that serves no useful purpose to the Township. There were no successful or interested buyers at that time; however, they have been approached by adjacent lot owners for acquisition of the two parcels. The parcels are not buildable they are just going to be added on to what the purchasers already have so it is appropriate that they move forward with the sale.

The Ordinance No. 2396-21 was 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 2388-21 ESTABLISHING PROVISIONS GOVERNING SPECIAL DUTY ASSIGNMENTS FOR POLICE OFFICERS”

Mr. Nerwinski advised that the Ordinance is just a bit of a house keeping of an ordinance that was recently passed regarding special duty assignments. It eliminates a paragraph within the ordinance with regard to emergency needs for police services.

The Ordinance No. 2397-21 was 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 ORDINANCE NO. 2247-16 ESTABLISHING RATES FOR SEWER SERVICE”

Ordinance No. 2393-21

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NOS. 2120-12, 2002-09, 1660-01, 1976-08 AND 1876-06 ESTABLISHING RATES FOR SEWER SERVICE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that Section 20-1A of the Lawrence Township Administrative Code entitled ‘Sewers and Sewage Disposal’ is hereby amended as follows:

Section 20-1A Sewer Connection – Schedule of Rates for Sewer Services

A. Fixed Charge

- 1. Single family residential, multi-family residential, hotel/motel, and commercial. There will be a charge of [~~\$43.00~~] \$55.00 annually for each residence (including individual apartments in apartment complexes) and each individual non-residential unit.
- B. Fees Attributable to Operation and Maintenance Charges
 - 1. All users shall be subject to an additional fee attributable to Operation and Maintenance charges of \$4.80 per cubic feet of water...
- D. Rate Charges for Unmetered Premises
 - 1. Charges for residential sewer service for premises without metered sewer or water connections shall be based on an estimated annual water consumption of fourteen thousand two hundred (14,200) cubic feet. Applying the Operation and Maintenance charges of \$4.80...
 - a. Each unmetered residential use \$681.60
 - b. Each residential use shall be charged the fee for Debt Service, Billing and Administration [~~\$43.00~~] \$55.00.
 - 2. Charges for sewer service for hotels and motels without metered sewer or water connections shall be based on an estimated annual water consumption of six thousand four hundred and fifty (6,450) cubic feet. Applying the Operation and Maintenance charges of \$4.80 per hundred...
 - a. Each unmetered room \$309.60
 - b. Each room shall be charged the fee for Debt S Service, Billing and Administration [~~\$43.00~~] \$55.00.
 - 3. Charges for sewer service for all other uses without metered sewer or water connections shall be based on an estimated annual water consumption of fourteen thousand two hundred (14,200) cubic feet for up to ten fixtures. Each additional fixture shall be estimated at one thousand four hundred and twenty

(1,420) cubic feet. Applying the Operation and Maintenance charges of \$4.80 per hundred...

- a. Each use up to ten fixtures \$681.60
- b. Each additional fixture] \$68.16
- c. Each use shall be charged the fee for Debit Service, Billing and Administration [\$43.00] \$55.00.

Deletions are in brackets []

Additions are underlined _____

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						

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Mayor Kownacki read by title, an ordinance entitled, "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE IN THE COUNTY OF THE MERCER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,597,550, INCLUDING ANY TRANSPORTATION TRUST GRANT FUNDING TO BE USED TO OFFSET BONDS OR NOTES OR NOTES, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,836,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF"

Ordinance No. 2394-21

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,597,550, INCLUDING ANY TRANSPORTATION TRUST GRANT FUNDING TO BE USED TO OFFSET BONDS OR NOTES, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,836,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

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

**Section 1.** The improvement described in Section 2 of this bond ordinance is hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Township of Lawrence, in the County of Mercer, New Jersey as a general improvement. For the improvement or purpose described in Section 2, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$2,597,550 including the sum of \$761,550 as the down payment required by the Local Bond Law. The down payment is now available by virtue of provision for down payment or for capital improvement purposes in one or more previously adopted budgets.

**Section 2.** In order to finance the cost of the improvement or purpose not covered by application of the down payment, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$1,836,000 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

**Section 3.** (a) The improvement hereby authorized and the purpose for the financing of which the bonds to be issued is the improvement of roads involving: (1) Road improvement program consisting of mill and overlay: Colonial Lakeland (Mayflower, Bunker Hill, Stevens, Presidents, Lake, Cambridge, Nathan Hale, Villanova, Lakedale & Glenview Drive), Van Kirk Road and other various Townshipwide road repairs, including Road Striping and other streets identified in the Lawrence Township Road Improvement Program, maintained by Township Engineers, to the extent of available funds; (2) Concrete Improvements incidental to overlay and all work and materials therefore or incidental thereto; (3) CMAQ Signal Improvements (Princeton Pike & Fackler Road, Princeton Pike & Province Line Road); (4) Traffic Signal Improvements West Long Drive at Route 206; (5) Harney's Corner Sidewalk Extension.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for the improvement or purpose is as stated in Section 2 hereof.

(c) The estimated cost of the improvement or purpose is \$2,597,550.

**Section 4.** All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer, provided that no note shall mature later than one year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall determine all matters in connection with notes issued pursuant to this ordinance, and the Chief Financial Officer's signature upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local Bond Law. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of

delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

**Section 5.** The capital budget of the Township of Lawrence is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any 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 the Division of Local Government Services is on file with the Clerk and is available there for public inspection.

**Section 6.** The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The purposes described in Section 2 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses. They are all improvements that may be lawfully undertaken as general improvements, and no part of the costs thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The average period of usefulness, and the reasonable life thereof, within the limitations of the Local Bond Law is 20.00 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$1,836,000 and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$30,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated costs indicated herein for the purpose of improvements. (Is this enough? Section 20 includes design work.)

**Section 7.** Any grant moneys received for the purposes described in Section 3 hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvements or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.



**Section 8.** The Chief Financial Officer of the Township is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Township and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Township. The Chief Financial Officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Township pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Township and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, the in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Township fails to comply with its undertaking, the Township shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

**Section 9.** The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Township for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

**Section 10.** The Town hereby makes the following covenants and declarations with respect to obligations determined to be issued by the Chief Financial Officer on a tax-exempt basis. The Town hereby covenants that it will comply with any conditions subsequent imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), in order to preserve the exemption from taxation of interest on the obligations, including, if necessary, the requirement to rebate all net investment earnings on the gross proceeds above the yield on the obligations. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the Town to deem the obligations authorized herein as bank qualified for the purposes of Section 265 of the Code, when appropriate. The Town hereby declares the intent of the Town to issue bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 2 of this bond ordinance and to use the proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance. This Section 7 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of Treasury Regulations §1.150-2 or any successor provisions of federal income tax law.

**Section 11.** This bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

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   |     |         |        |         |      |        |

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Mayor Kownacki read by title, an ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$258,450 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY"

Ordinance No. 2395-21

ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$258,450.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, in the County of Mercer, New Jersey as follows:

Section 1. \$258,450.00 is hereby appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund for various capital improvements in and by the Township of Lawrence, in the County of Mercer, New Jersey (the "Township") as set forth below:

Purpose	Appropriation and Estimated Cost
A. Various Equipment consisting of but not limited to: Streets & Roads: Automated Refuse Receptacles	\$39,000
B. Buildings and Structures: Public Works Storage Building	\$219,450
TOTAL	\$258,450

Section 2. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by law.

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 stated he would like to continue the conversation in regards to the Cannabis Law and Opt-Out Ordinance which was discussed at the last meeting and that he and the Municipal Planner and Zoning Officer engaged in conversation and they prepared a memorandum, dated May 17, 2021, which he sent to members of Council yesterday that provides for the planning and passing of the Ordinance that basically confines, geographically, retail sales of marijuana to an area between Franklin Corner Road along Route1 towards Princeton for cannabis businesses. It also provides for a plan that Class 1 Cannabis Cultivator, Class 2 Cannabis Manufacturer, Class 3 Cannabis Wholesaler, Class 4 Cannabis Distributor and Class 6 Cannabis Delivery, be placed in certain specific areas and zones. And, if the Council would like he can review all the recommendations to what they believe is an appropriate step in terms of passing an Opt-Out Ordinance or if they have reviewed the recommendations and have specific questions they can proceed with the conversation.

Councilman Bobbitt stated when he hears Opt-Out as it pertains to Cannabis Businesses it sounds like they cannot do anything; but, in reading the Memorandum provided to the Council that does not seem to be the case and asked Mr. Nerwinski to expand on what it means to opt-out. Mr. Nerwinski explained opt-out is a term that has been used that authorizes a municipality to regulate on its own whether or not to have any of the six marketplace categories of licensed cannabis businesses or permit and regulate or prohibit any one or more of the classes from operating cannabis businesses within their community with some exceptions related to cannabis delivery businesses and they must act on the matter by August 22, 2021. He additionally indicated if the Township chooses not to do an Opt-Out Ordinance then a cannabis business would be allowed to operate anywhere in the Township within that zone unless they have a statement verbalizing what they want and where they want the business to be included or excluded within the municipality.

Councilman Ryan inquired if the Opt-Out Ordinance is going to include regulations regarding Medical Marijuana. Mr. Nerwinski replied ‘no’ that is a totally different.

Councilwoman Lewis opened by thanking Mr. Nerwinski for the information regarding Land Use guidance on Cannabis Legalization and indicated what is in the memo is a good description and an important illustration about the retailer and delivery pieces of cannabis on Route 1. But, she also feels that the cultivator and manufacturer pieces, in particular, are going to be really important in revitalizing some of the office parks that are going to be empty due to COVID and thanked Mr. Nerwinski again for giving them a way to thoughtfully enter the marketplace in a way that does not do harm to the residents or to the fabric of the community while they see how this works.

Councilwoman Lewis asked Mr. Nerwinski in considering the Ordinance if he had any conversations with the Police Chief about additional needs being they are all cash businesses and she knows there have been problems in other areas due to the activity. Mr. Nerwinski replied 'yes' he has had numerous conversations with the Police Chief about his thoughts on the impact on the police department with the legalization of cannabis and the Chief understands that Lawrence is a community that does want to take part in this cannabis business so his main concerns are just general law enforcement concerns and he does not see a need to increase patrol or anything like that at this time. She then asked as they move closer in preparing the Opt-Out Ordinance to allow for the businesses, will the local sales tax be included in the ordinance as they do not want to opt-out out of that piece when preparing it. Mr. Nerwinski replied it is his understanding in speaking with some of his counterparts that the taxation is not part of this particular ordinance. They would be adopting a separate ordinance as the Opt-Out Ordinance is separate and apart from their ability to tax; but, they intend to pass another ordinance once they receive more guidance.

Mr. Nerwinski further cautioned the Council about Elizabeth McManus, Township Planner, being very passionate about the Township not getting involved in the growing aspect of marijuana in the agricultural zones. So, the classic growing outside as a farming enterprise which is something she believes, and he agrees, is not appropriate for their particular community; especially, where it would be situated and some of the concerns around those operations and she felt the Township addressed its ability to embrace the other classes in having them in industrial zones. He then asked if members of Council agreed with that assumption. Members of Council agreed.

Councilman Powers stated to piggyback on Councilman Bobbitt's question regarding the Opt-Out Ordinance, if they do not act by the August 22nd window the Township would be prohibited for a 5-year period from taking any action. Mr. Nerwinski further advised that anybody who came in within that 5-year window will be grandfathered in, so now is the time to act. And, they all can agree that they do not want retail sales of cannabis in their neighborhoods. They want them to be destination sites which are clear sites for them to identify between Franklin Corner Road all the way up to Quakerbridge Road and there are a host of good opportunities as the 15 or so companies that have engaged him in discussions over the past three years have all identified those areas and that is where the interest is and it fits within the community.

Mr. Nerwinski then asked members of Council their wishes with regards to bringing forth an ordinance for introduction. After a brief discussion, it was the

consensus of the Council that a draft ordinance be prepared for review prior to the introduction of the ordinance.

Mr. Nerwinski reported that Greg Whitehead, Director of Public Works, indicated that the Spring Mulch Delivery Program has ended and the Township beat last year's numbers with 293 deliveries amounting to a little under \$10,000 in revenue. Last year, they made 272 deliveries and moved 879 cubic yards back into the community. So, it a program that is really catching on because of the quality and, hopefully, they will continue to expand on that. He also indicated the department did a great job - it was an idea well executed by Mr. Whitehead and he thanks him for that.

Mr. Nerwinski further reported that Governor Murphy announced yesterday the lifting of New Jersey's travel advisory which outlined the testing and quarantine recommendations for individuals coming in and out of the State. The Governor ordered that the travel advisory is no longer in place for both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. But, Mr. Nerwinski is still requiring Lawrence Township employees who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated to return to work on the 6th day after returning to New Jersey without a Covid-10 test. Or, the employee may return to work on the 4th day after returning to New Jersey with a Covid-19 test. He feels, as the Manager, he has an obligation to protect the other employees as they are not all vaccinated, by choice, at this point in time. So, given that circumstance he thinks this is the best course of action and that policy will be distributed to employees tomorrow.

Attorney's Report –

Mr. Roskos stated he has a brief update on the Mt. Laurel Litigation for closed session. He then reported that the Township was approached by a group that wants to redevelop the Wenczel Tile site located on Bakers Basin Road near the Dempsey Fire facility; a site characterized by old tile, literally a landfill. And indicated that they have had discussions with the interested party who has knowledge of the history of the site and he is not quite sure how they are affiliated with the prior ownership; but, they know a lot about the site. They have been trying to persuade the Township to enter into an agreement with them where they would seek a State grant, the Brownfield Remediation and Contamination Act, that allows municipalities to hold tax sale certificates or pass ordinances indicating that they will acquire property much like they did with the Pit Stop and like they are going to try and do with the Kraft Cleaners. The group has been very persistent in terms of their desire to work with Township, agreeing to indemnify the Township, and reminding them as a municipality their liability as a contaminated site is much more limited than it would be for a private company.

Mr. Roskos explained that the Grants are to be provided to public entities and that the group was requesting that the Township assign the Tax Sale Certificates that the Township holds to them and in turn they would run the program to save the Township time, energy, work and would allow Jim Parvesse, Township Engineer, to concentrate more on his municipal engineering post instead of the remediation post he

has taken on. After listening and asking them to detail their proposal they have come to the conclusion that they are not going to take public monies which arguably would be used to put a piece of property that is morbid back on the tax rolls; but, would be a misuse of grant monies. Essentially, it would be aiding a private party while at the same time cleaning up site. So, for that reason along with other reasons, the proposal is unacceptable, and he just wanted to apprise the Council of the situation in case they are approached about the situation.

Mr. Nerwinski further explained the difference between the Wenczel property and the Pit Stop is they have an agreement to take over ownership of the Pit Stop after the site is cleaned and there is no further action and it is going to be a passive park. All within the regulations of receiving the grant monies; but, the proposal for the Wenczel site was a little removed from that which is not appropriate for the Township at this time.

Clerk’s Report –

There was no Clerk’s report.

Unfinished Business –

There was no unfinished business.

New Business –

Councilwoman Lewis stated she asked last year for the Public Works Department to do something for Gay Pride Month and they did a really great job. So, she is asking again this year (early) since it starts in June, for the Township Manager to do something this year. Mr. Nerwinski suggested multi-color lighting at Town Hall with no language at all. There was no objection from the Council.

Public Participation (3-minute limitation per speaker) –

There was no public participation.

Resolutions

Resolution Nos. 174-21 (18-C.1) through 195-21 (18-H.7) with the exception of 194-21 (18-H.6) 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. 194-21 (18-H.6), Authorizing Appointment to the Planning Board, 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   |     |         |        |         |      |        |

Naeem Akhtar  
 Unexpired 2-year Alternate #1 position with a term ending 12/31/21

Leslye Scipio  
 Unexpired 2-year Alternate #2 position with a term ending 12/31/22

Alan Di Scullo  
 Unexpired 4-year Regular position with a term ending 12/31/24

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 reported that the Memorial Day Parade is set for Saturday, May 29 at 10:00 AM starting at the Lawrence High School. And, indicated the community would like to see them carry on so they are going to give it their best shot through this pandemic year. All are invited to attend and he will leave it up to the individual members of Council as to whether they would like to walk.

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**Written Communications –**

**A. Letter from Linda Levy Regarding Speeding on Main Street** – A general comment and question period took place relative to Ms. Levy’s complaint regarding the large trucks and speeding on Route 206 in the Village of Lawrenceville and speeding being a general concern in all parts of the Township. Further discussion took place relative to the matter stipulated in the letter that when called in as a traffic enforcement issue that should have gone through the police chain of command and addressed by the Chief and not Council. Mr. Nerwinski noted that Chief Caloiaro has been informed of the matter and the Police Department has really been making themselves more visual in terms of traffic enforcement, situating themselves in very strategic places and traffic enforcement is creating a safer environment in the community which is really good to see.

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

7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen S. Norcia, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
James S. Kownacki, Mayor