

# 2025 MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S ANNUAL REPORT

**Presented by**

Kevin P. Nerwinski, ESQ  
Lawrence Township  
Municipal Manager, QPA

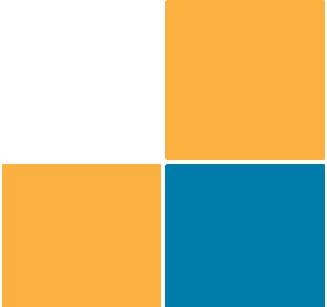


**Fiscal responsibility at  
the core, strategic action  
in motion, community  
always in focus.**

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## Introduction

It is my pleasure to present the inaugural Annual Report of the Municipal Manager for the Township of Lawrence. This report has been prepared to provide residents, business owners, elected officials, employees, and community stakeholders with a comprehensive overview of municipal operations, accomplishments, challenges, and initiatives undertaken throughout the calendar year. Moving forward, the Township's goal is to publish this report annually by the end of January following the year under review, thereby establishing a transparent and informative record of municipal government operations and public service delivery.

Located in the heart of Mercer County, Lawrence Township encompasses approximately 22 square miles and serves a population of roughly 33,000 residents. Our community is home to established neighborhoods, thriving businesses, major educational institutions, healthcare facilities, parks, open space, and transportation corridors, making Lawrence Township a dynamic and diverse place to live, work, and visit. Municipal government plays a critical role in maintaining the quality of life our residents expect by delivering essential public services, including public safety, public works, recreation, engineering, code enforcement, finance, planning, and administrative operations.

This Annual Report reflects the collective efforts of the Township Council, department heads, municipal employees, volunteer committees, and community partners who work each day to provide responsive and effective local government services. The information contained in this report is intended not only to highlight operational achievements and ongoing projects but also to provide greater public understanding of the many functions performed by municipal government throughout the year. On behalf of the Township administration, I extend my appreciation to the residents and businesses of Lawrence Township for their continued support and engagement in our community.

Kevin P. Nerwinski, Esq.  
Municipal Manager/QPA  
Township of Lawrence

# Township Administration

## LEADERSHIP

### MUNICIPAL MANAGER / QPA

**Kevin P. Nerwinski, Esq.**

*Municipal Manager / QPA*

☎ 609-844-7005

✉ [knerwinski@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:knerwinski@lawrencetwp.com)

### DEPUTY MUNICIPAL MANAGER / CPM

**Christopher Longo**

*Deputy Municipal Manager*

☎ 609-844-7010

✉ [cmlongo@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:cmlongo@lawrencetwp.com)

## DEPARTMENT HEADS

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**Kevin P. Nerwinski, Esq.**

*Director*

☎ 609-844-7005

✉ [knerwinski@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:knerwinski@lawrencetwp.com)

### FINANCE

**Peter Kiriakatis**

*Chief Financial Officer*

☎ 609-844-7015

✉ [pkiriakatis@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:pkiriakatis@lawrencetwp.com)

### HEALTH

**Keith Levine**

*Health Officer*

☎ 609-844-7089

✉ [klevine@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:klevine@lawrencetwp.com)

### MUNICIPAL COURT

**Nicole Finacchio**

*Court Administrator*

☎ 609-844-7098

✉ [nicole.finacchio@njcourts.gov](mailto:nicole.finacchio@njcourts.gov)

### PUBLIC SAFETY

**Christopher Longo**

*Director*

☎ 609-844-7010

✉ [cmlongo@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:cmlongo@lawrencetwp.com)

### PUBLIC WORKS

**Gregory Whitehead**

*Director*

☎ 609-587-1894

✉ [gwhitehead@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:gwhitehead@lawrencetwp.com)

### RECREATION

**Nancy Bergen**

*Superintendent*

☎ 609-844-7067

✉ [nbergen@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:nbergen@lawrencetwp.com)

### MUNICIPAL CLERK

**Tonya D. Carter \***

*Municipal Clerk, R.M.C.*

☎ 609-844-7001

✉ [clerk@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:clerk@lawrencetwp.com)

## DIVISION HEADS

### CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL

**James DeForte**

*Construction Official*

☎ 609-844-7056

✉ [jdeforte@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:jdeforte@lawrencetwp.com)

### FIRE MARSHAL

**Edward Tencza**

*Fire Marshal*

☎ 609-844-7021

✉ [etencza@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:etencza@lawrencetwp.com)

### MUNICIPAL ENGINEER

**James Parvesse, P.E., C.M.E.**

*Municipal Engineer*

☎ 609-844-7084

✉ [jparvesse@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:jparvesse@lawrencetwp.com)

### OFFICE ON AGING

**Lillian LaSalle \***

*Executive Director*

☎ 609-844-7049

✉ [llasalle@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:llasalle@lawrencetwp.com)

### TAX ASSESSOR

**Henry J. Nonnenberg, Jr., C.T.A.**

*Tax Assessor*

☎ 609-844-7040

✉ [hnonnenberg@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:hnonnenberg@lawrencetwp.com)

### TAX COLLECTOR

**Susan E. McCloskey, C.T.C.**

*Municipal Tax Collector*

☎ 609-844-7041

✉ [taxcoll@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:taxcoll@lawrencetwp.com)

\* (Municipal Clerk) Appointed by Governing Body and Tenured

\* (Lillian LaSalle) Retired April 2026

### GENERAL INFORMATION

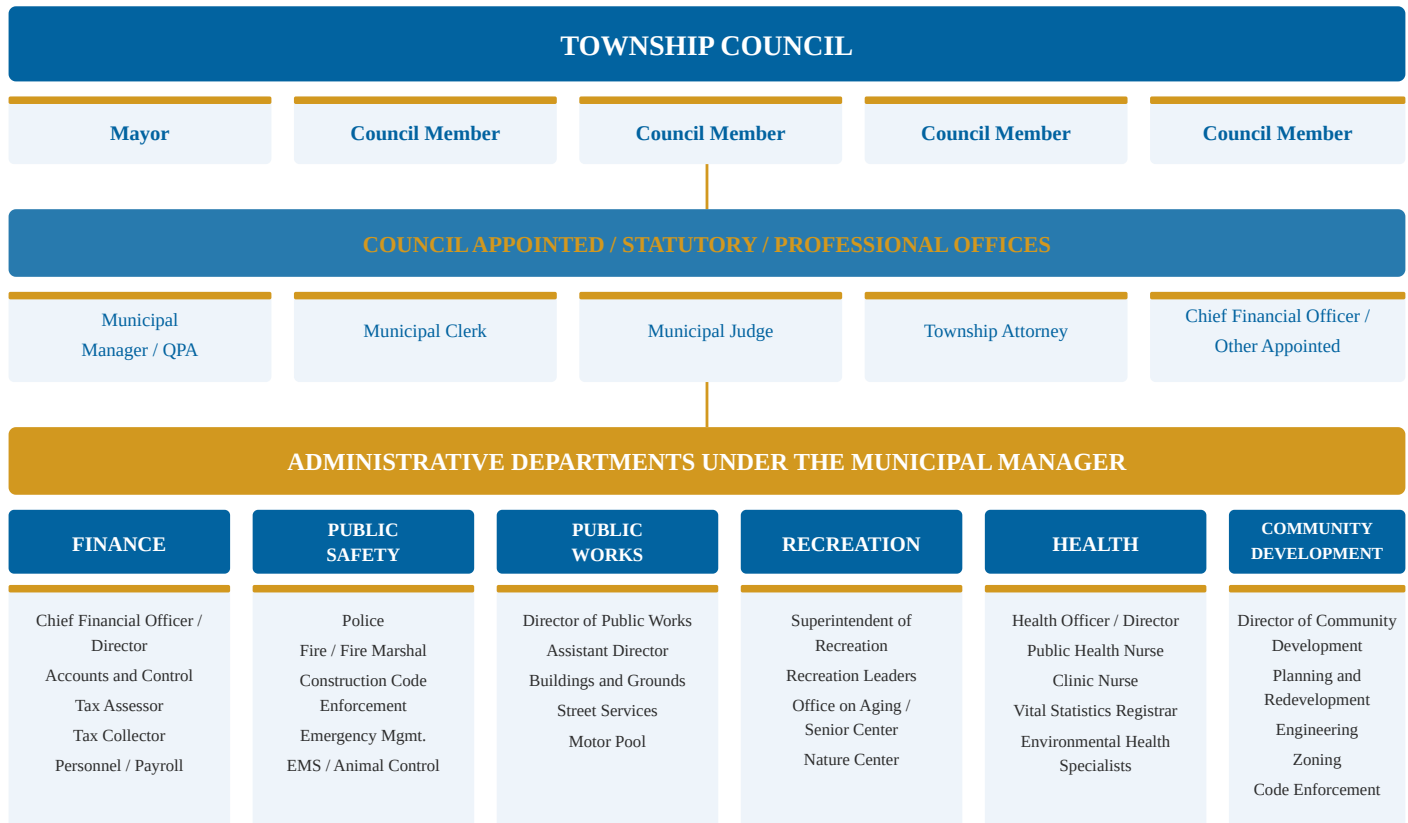
Township of Lawrence · 2207 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Main: (609) 844-7000 · Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM · [www.lawrencetwp.com](http://www.lawrencetwp.com)



# Organizational Chart

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE Organization Chart — 2025



# Form of Municipal Government

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Lawrence Township operates under the Council-Manager form of government, adopted in 1970 under the provisions of the Faulkner Act (N.J.S.A. 40A:69A-81 et seq.). Under the statute, each municipality under this article shall be governed by an elected council and by an appointed municipal manager, and by such other officers and employees as may be duly appointed pursuant to this article, general law or ordinance.

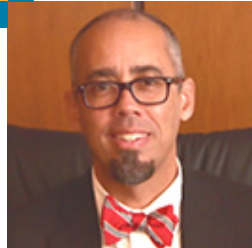
The governing body consists of five Council Members elected at large to serve four-year terms. Elections are partisan and held every two years in November, with terms staggered to maintain continuity in leadership. The Mayor is selected by the Council from among its members and serves a two-year term. Acting by majority vote, the Township Council enacts legislation, establishes municipal policy, and provides general oversight of government operations.

The Council-Manager form of government allows our elected officials to focus on setting policy and representing residents, while a professional manager oversees the day-to-day operations of the Township. It is a system designed to deliver efficient, accountable, and stable local government - blending public accountability with professional expertise to serve the long term interests of our community.

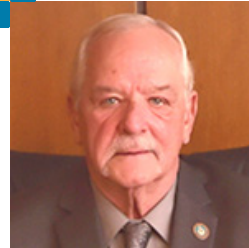




# Township Council



**Christopher Bobbitt**  
*Mayor*  
Mayor Term 1/1/26 to 12/31/2027



**James Kownacki**  
*Council*



**Patricia Hendricks Farmer**  
*Council*  
Mayor Term 1/1/24 to 12/31/2025



**Amanda Santos**  
*Council*



**Bonne O'Flanagan Giglio**  
*Council*

In 2025, the Township Council was composed of Mayor Patricia Hendricks Farmer and Councilmembers Christopher Bobbitt, James Kownacki, Olympia l'Loiu Perry, and John Ryan. In March 2025, Councilmember Ryan resigned from his elected position, creating a vacancy on the governing body. Amanda Santos was appointed to fill the unexpired term for the remainder of the year, ensuring continuity in Council operations and representation.

During the November 2025 general election, Councilmembers Christopher Bobbitt and James Kownacki were re-elected to new four-year terms. Amanda Santos was also elected to a four-year term, transitioning from her appointed role to an elected one. In January 2026, Councilmember Perry resigned from her elected position, creating a vacancy on the governing body. Bonne O'Flanagan Giglio was appointed to fill the unexpired term for the remainder of the year, ensuring continuity in Council operations and representation. Their continued service provides stability and experienced leadership for the Township moving forward.

# Office of the Municipal Manager



Kevin P. Nerwinski, Esq., has served as the Municipal Manager for Lawrence Township since May 2017. In the Council-Manager form of government, the powers and duties of the “Manager” (N.J.S.A. 40:69A-95 and Article IV, Section 10-29 of the Lawrence Township Code) are as follows:

The Manager, subject to policies established by the Council, shall:

A. Be the chief executive and administrative officer of the Township and supervise all departments of the Township government.

B. Execute all laws and ordinances of the Township.

C. Appoint and remove all department heads, office directors and other officers, subordinates and assistants for whose selection or removal no other method is provided by the Charter or this chapter; except that he may authorize the head of a department to appoint and remove subordinates in such department; and report all appointments or removals at the next meeting thereafter of the Council.

D. Negotiate contracts for the Township subject to the approval of the Council; make recommendations concerning the nature and location of Township improvements, and execute Township improvements as determined by the Council.

E. See that all terms and conditions imposed in favor of the Township or its inhabitants in any statute, public utility franchise or other contract are faithfully kept and performed, and upon knowledge of any violations call the same to the attention of the Council.

F. Attend all meetings of the Council with the right to take part in the discussions, but without the right to vote.



# Office of the Municipal Manager



G. Recommend to the Council for adoption such measures as he may deem necessary or expedient, keep the Council advised of financial conditions of the Township, make reports to the Council as requested by it and at least once a year make an annual report to the Council on the administration of the Township government.

H. Investigate at any time the affairs of any officer or department of the Township.

I. Act as head of any department in the event of a vacancy or the absence or disability of a department head, or designate another Township officer to serve temporarily in such event.

J. Have custody, management and control of all Township property which is not otherwise allocated or assigned to a department by this Code.

K. With the approval of the Council, arrange for such insurance and suretyship coverage as may be required to protect the Township against risks of loss from whatever cause. All insurance policies and surety bonds shall be filed for safekeeping with the Township Clerk.

L. Perform such other duties as may be required by Charter, ordinance or resolution of the Council.

In addition to the responsibilities above, Kevin serves as the Township's Qualified Purchasing Agent, Director of Community Development, and Director of Affordable Housing.

Kevin's administrative assistant is Donna Kania (Tel. 609.844.7005 and Email - DKania@Lawrencetwp.com).

# Office of the Municipal Manager



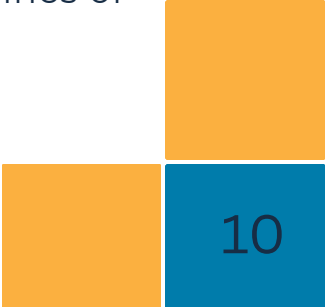
## **Manager's Comment on 2025:**

2025 proved to be a challenging year, but our Department Heads and their staff rose to the occasion by continuing to deliver high-quality services within the constraints of the approved municipal budget.

Compared to many similarly sized communities, Lawrence Township operates with a lean workforce; however, year after year, our employees demonstrate creativity, adaptability, and dedication in carrying out the Township's mission. The community benefits directly from their professionalism, commitment, and public service.

One of the most significant operational decisions made during the year was the creation of the Deputy Municipal Manager position. Christopher Longo (Tel. 609.844.7010 and Email [CMLongo@Lawrencetwp.com](mailto:CMLongo@Lawrencetwp.com)), retired Chief of Police, assumed this role and was designated by the Manager to serve as Director of Public Safety, overseeing the Township's Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services operations.

As the Township's fire service continues its transition from a primarily volunteer organization to a combined volunteer-career department, the position requires substantial time, coordination, and leadership. Chris has worked tirelessly to establish a clear and constructive path forward, helping to strengthen public safety operations while fostering cooperation and support among those serving on the front lines of emergency response.



# Office of the Municipal Clerk



Tonya Carter entered her fourth year as Lawrence Township Municipal Clerk in 2025, was reappointed to a three-year term, and received tenure. Her team includes Deputy Municipal Clerk Nicole Hillman, Assistant Municipal Clerk Donna McLaughlin, and Part-Time Account Clerk Lois Comack.

The office serves as the Township's central administrative and record-keeping body, with core responsibilities spanning four areas: Council support (agendas, minutes, and administrative assistance to the Mayor and Council); records management and OPRA administration; election administration as Chief Administrative Officer for all municipal elections and Registrar of Voters; and licensing and permitting for a wide range of municipal licenses. The office also serves as custodian of the Municipal Seal.

Throughout 2025, the Clerk's Office processed applications efficiently, met statutory deadlines, and collaborated closely with the Health Department, Code Enforcement, and Public Safety to maintain compliance with state and local regulations.

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE Municipal Clerk's Office — 2025 Statistics

| LICENSE / PERMIT    | LICENSE / PERMIT           | LICENSE / PERMIT           |
|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Dog Licenses 2,229  | Rental Registrations 883   | Bingo & Raffle Licenses 52 |
| Cat Licenses 586    | Business Registrations 436 | Gathering Permits 86       |
| OPRA Requests 1,046 | ABC Liquor Licenses 28     | Solicitor Licenses 6       |
| Kennel / Pet Shop 3 | Massage Establishments 1   | Firearms Applications 1    |
| Precious Metals 2   | Limo Letters 1             | Towing Licenses —          |

DOG & CAT LICENSES

2,815

OPRA REQUESTS

1,046

TOTAL LICENSES ISSUED

3,347

# Finance Department

Under CFO Peter Kiriakatis, the Finance Department maintained rigorous fiscal oversight throughout 2025 — managing the Township's budget process from preparation through adoption, serving as primary liaison with the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services, and providing financial analysis to support policy decisions, labor negotiations, and capital planning. Following budget adoption, the CFO maintained strict control over appropriations, requiring certification of available funds before any expenditure and overseeing all budget transfers, emergency appropriations, and grant amendments. Beyond statutory duties, the CFO's independent guidance helped balance community priorities with responsible stewardship of taxpayer resources.

Peter Kiriakatis originally filed for retirement effective October 1, 2025, but agreed to remain in his position as Chief Financial Officer to assist the Township until the governing body identified and appointed the appropriately qualified successor. Following an extensive search and interview process, the governing body selected Mr. Christopher Hart to assume this critical leadership role. Mr. Hart will officially take over as the Township's Chief Financial Officer on July 1, 2026. Since being hired in February, Mr. Hart and Mr. Kiriakatis have been working closely together to ensure a smooth and orderly transition in this vital area of municipal operations.

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE Finance Department — 2025 Operations

REQUISITIONS PROCESSED

2,960

PURCHASE ORDERS

4,015

INDIVIDUAL VENDORS

8,897

CASH RECEIPTS

4,250

CHECKS ISSUED

3,587

ELECTRONIC TRANSFERS

420

FORMAL RESOLUTIONS

80

FINANCIAL CONTROLS

276

Bank Reconciliations

General Ledger Reconciliations

276

# Finance Department

## Recommended Municipal Budget Message

**REVISED: March 17, 2026**

**NOTE:** Figures in [ ] represent 2025 amounts.

As we present the 2026 Municipal Budget, it is important to acknowledge that Lawrence Township, like households and businesses throughout our region, continues to experience rising costs across virtually all areas of operation. Increases in goods, services, utilities, insurance, contractual obligations, and statutory mandates, many of which are beyond the Township's control, have had a direct impact on this year's budget. While any tax increase is understandably unwelcome, there are circumstances in which adjustments are necessary to maintain essential public services and fiscal stability. The 2026 budget includes a two-cent increase in the municipal tax rate, the first municipal increase since 2023. This measured adjustment allows the Township to responsibly address external cost pressures while maintaining and improving the service levels our residents expect.

The total Municipal Budget is **\$60,964,152.37** [60,445,007.25].

The recommended municipal tax rate for 2026 **represents a 2-cent increase from last year** and is **.672** [.652] 1 cent = **\$477,582.03** [\$475,445.93]

The amount to be raised by taxation in 2026 is **\$32,093,972.64** [\$31,000,179.39], an increase of **\$1,093,793.25** [\$214,461.00].

The levy cap bank available from 2023, 2024, and 2025 is **\$6,716,286** [\$5,403,374], and we will use \$0 to remain within the 2% tax levy cap. NOTE: The 2023 cap bank of **\$3,486,786** [\$894,055] expires this year, leaving a usable "cap bank" of **\$3,293,013** [\$4,509,319].<sup>1</sup>

The 2025 year-end Surplus balance is **\$21,283,549.66** [\$22,091,314.27], down from a 2024 year-end balance of **\$22,091,314.27**, a decrease of \$807,764.61. The Surplus balance remaining available after applying an amount as anticipated 2026 revenue will be **\$11,968,549.66** [\$12,776,314.27], a decrease of \$807,764.61 over the 2025 remaining balance.

The cash reserve balance for tax appeals is **\$8,019,491.18** [\$8,019,491.18].

The decrease in outstanding debt continues. The 2010 closing balance was **\$30,797,000**. The 2025 closing balance is **\$5,992,000** [\$8,365,000], reducing our debt by **\$2,423,000** from last year. For 2026, we have budgeted another **\$2,423,000** in debt reduction.

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<sup>1</sup> Not including the 2026 Levy Cap Bank of \$1,198,001.36 available upon adoption for subsequent years.



# Finance Department

In addition, the year-end reserve balance in the Lawrence Township Self-Insurance Fund is **\$1,573,667.93** [\$1,620,853.08]; the 2026 Municipal Budget has an Appropriation of \$120,000 to fund this decrease. The Municipal Open Space Fund balance is **\$5,209,692.25** [\$4,031,028.28].

## REVENUE

Revenues that support the municipal budget come from multiple sources and are placed in one of four categories: ***Surplus, Miscellaneous Revenues, Receipts from Delinquent Taxes, and the Amount to be Raised by Taxation (or current tax receipts)***. The amount of revenue from each category anticipated to support the municipal budget is controlled by state statutes and regulations. Those legal restrictions are in place to ensure the fiscal solvency of New Jersey municipalities. Generally defined, the statutory restrictions are as follows: (1) surplus is limited to the amount available from fund balance cash, (2) miscellaneous revenues are limited to no more than the amount realized in cash in the immediately preceding fiscal year for each revenue source, (3) receipts from delinquent taxes are limited to the collection percentage realized in cash against receivable balances of the prior year, and (4) current taxes are the default revenue necessary to close any gap in revenues to balance the budget against appropriations.

The legal provisions that regulate the utilization of revenue in an operating budget must be applied alongside a local policy that anticipates revenues at levels that can be sustained in future budgets, and that considers the replenishment of cash surplus. Receipts in excess of what is anticipated in the budget are credited to surplus at year-end; it is simply the regeneration of surplus. The development of revenue estimates must consider not only the current budget but also future budgets. Failure to craft a budget without sustaining revenues for future use will lead to diminished support of appropriations and increase the demand for taxation. This long-term approach has been applied to prepare the recommended budget.

Cash Surplus (anticipated) as budget revenue results from the fiscal activity of the immediate prior fiscal year. The amount of Surplus to be applied as budget revenue comes from a known year-end balance. The significant contributors to generating a cash surplus are revenue realized in excess of amounts anticipated in the prior budget year, lapsed 2024 appropriations reserves, and miscellaneous revenue not anticipated. Cash surplus is anticipated as revenue in the 2026 recommended municipal budget of **\$9,315,000** [**\$9,315,000**]. Surplus is fifteen and twenty-eight one hundredths percent (15.28%) of total budget revenues.

Miscellaneous Revenues are from known and recurring sources (e.g., permit fees, interest income, and state aid). The amount of revenue from this category is limited by statute to not being anticipated in the current year's budget in excess of what was collected from that same identical source in the immediately prior year. Miscellaneous Revenues are thirty and nineteen one-hundredths percent (30.19%) [31.34%] of total budget revenues.

Receipts from Delinquent Taxes are payments on outstanding prior-year tax receivables and tax title liens held by the municipality. The year-end tax receivable balance is **\$1,337,012.82** [\$1,267,670.36]. The 2026 budget anticipates **\$1,150,000** [**\$1,150,000**] as revenue from this source. Delinquent tax revenue is one and eighty-nine one hundredths percent (1.89%) of the total budget.

Property taxes are the amount necessary to balance the budget, with revenues equal to appropriations. Property taxes, also referred to as the "*Amount to be Raised by Taxation*," are the



# Finance Department

difference between the total of all budget appropriations and the total of anticipated revenues. The amount to be raised by taxation in the 2026 budget is **\$32,093,972.64** [\$31,000,179.39], an increase of **\$1,093,793.25** [\$214,461.00]. The revenue from property taxes is fifty-two and sixty four one-hundredths percent (**52.64%**) [51.33%] of total revenues.

When calculating the tax rate, it is necessary to know not only the amount of taxes to be collected but also the value of taxable property in the municipality, also known as Net Valuation Taxable. The 2026 net valuation taxable is **\$4,775,820,300** [\$4,754,459,300], an increase of **\$21,361,000** [\$32,912,700] over the previous year. The increase in the taxable value, though 35% less than last year, helps to support budget growth.

The new amount of taxable value results in one penny on the tax rate, equaling **\$477,582.03** [\$475,445.93]. The recommended municipal tax rate for 2026 is **.672** [.652], a **2-cent increase**. A residential property owner with a property valued at the 2026 average residential assessment of **\$289,900** [\$287,570] will pay **\$1,948.13** [\$1,874.96], or \$73 more, as the municipal portion of their property taxes.

## APPROPRIATIONS

While crafting the 2026 recommended municipal budget, the challenge remains in implementing financially efficient services at an appropriate level. New Jersey municipal budgets are restricted by law (Appropriation Cap) to limit designated appropriations from increasing no more than "2.5% or the cost of living adjustment, whichever is less, with exceptions." For fiscal year 2026, per the NJ DCA, the cost-of-living adjustment was **2.0%** [2.50%]. Below is a list of significant increases in appropriations:

| <u>Appropriation</u>                            | <u>Increase</u>       |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Employee Health Benefits Inside & Outside CAPS. | \$1,380,840.41        |
| Salary & Wages                                  | \$1,146,500.00        |
| Pensions PFRS & PERS                            | \$217,826.59          |
| GSMJIF                                          | \$156,660.55          |
| MCIA Recycling                                  | \$66,485.00           |
| Social Security/Medicare                        | <u>\$49,000.00</u>    |
| Total                                           | <b>\$3,017,312.55</b> |

The recommended budget includes \$55,000 to the Lawrence Township Unemployment Fund, \$120,000 to the Self-Insurance Trust Fund, and \$51,000 to the Lawrence Township Accumulated Sick Leave Trust Fund. These are consistent annual budget contributions.

Lawrence Township municipal employees are provided health benefits, or may qualify for a cash payment in lieu of those benefits, if they meet the applicable eligibility requirements of the health care program. Health benefits are provided through the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program (NJSHBP), which dictates specific benefits and co-payments. Employees contribute a percentage of the premium for their applicable coverage, and the salary levels guide these percentage contributions. Employees will contribute **\$1,980,861.46** [\$1,445,109.38] toward their health benefits. The Employee Group Health Insurance appropriation increased **\$1,380,890.41** [\$832,791.62] (26.32%). The appropriation increased due to rate changes, participation, and new hires.

# Finance Department

Lawrence Township employees are members of the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS), Police and Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS), or Defined Contribution Retirement Plan (DCRP). Participation in these systems requires contributions from employees and the employer. Police and Fire employees contribute ten percent (10%) of their salary, and civilian employees contribute seven and fifty-hundredths percent (7.50%) for PERS and five and one-half percent (5.5%) for the DCRP. The employer rates of contribution are thirty-six and seventy-five hundredths percent (36.75%) for police, sixteen and thirty-six hundredths percent (**16.36%**) [17.11%] for PERS, and three percent (3%) for the DCRP participants. The 2026 appropriations are PFRS **\$2,353,708** [\$2,186,575], PERS **\$1,328,426.09** [\$1,267,260], and DCRP **\$9,500** [\$9,500]. The State of New Jersey fully administers the pension system. Lawrence Township is billed annually for the employer's share of the pension liability to PFRS and PERS. The systems are valued on prior wage levels, two years prior for PERS and PFRS

The Ewing Lawrence Sewerage Authority (ELSA) provides sewer treatment services to Ewing Township and Lawrence Township. The cost of that service is controlled by ELSA and is apportioned to each municipality based on the flow levels received at the plant. Each town will pay the debt service on specific projects that benefit its community. For 2026, the annual charge for Lawrence Township is **\$6,239,552.26** [\$6,210,531.76] with no rate increase to the end users (township residents). The appropriation is paid from sewer service fees collected separately from real estate taxes.

The appropriation for Debt Service includes appropriations for BAN interest in the amount of **\$237,680** [\$276,164.58], **\$18,389.31** [\$42,459.24] in lease payments related to Police Vehicles, statutory BAN payments of **\$290,743.10** [\$354,573.25], and **\$2,132,256.90** [\$2,068,426.75] in BAN rollover payments to further decrease the Township's outstanding debt with an anticipated settlement in 2028.

The reserve for uncollected taxes is a non-spending appropriation mandated by state law to collect sufficient cash through taxes to meet the school, county, and municipal tax levy requirements. The appropriation is needed to close the gap between the current taxes anticipated and one hundred percent (100%) being collected. This appropriation is **\$4,046,198.61** [\$4,504,185.01], of which approximately **12.61%** [14.53%] is attributable to the municipal portion of the tax rate.

Thank you to our C.F.O., Peter Kiriakatis, and all of our department heads for assisting in crafting the 2026 recommended budget for our governing body.

Respectfully submitted,  
*s/ Kevin P. Nerwinski*  
Kevin P. Nerwinski, Esq.,  
Municipal Manager/QPA

# Finance Department



## State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Annual Debt Statement



Unit Code: **1107** Local Unit: **Lawrence Township (Mercer)** County: **Mercer**

|                                       |                                           |                    |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Budget Year Ending: <b>December</b>   | <b>31</b>                                 | <b>2025</b> (year) |
| Name: <b>Peter Kiriakatis</b>         | Phone: <b>6098447015</b>                  |                    |
| Title: <b>Chief Financial Officer</b> | Email: <b>pkiriakatis@lawrencetwp.com</b> |                    |
| CFO Cert. # <b>N-0696</b>             | Address: <b>2207 Lawrence Road</b>        |                    |
|                                       | <b>Lawrence Twp, NJ 08648</b>             |                    |

Peter Kiriakatis, Being duly sworn, deposes and says:

Deponent is the Chief Financial Officer of Lawrence Township (Mercer), here and in the statement hereinafter mentioned called the local unit.

The Annual Debt Statement annexed hereto and hereby made a part thereof is a true statement of the debt condition of the local unit as of the date therein stated and is computed as provided by the Local Bond Law of New Jersey.

|                                                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By checking this box, I am swearing that the above statement is true. |                          |                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
|                                                           | Gross Debt                                                                                                | Deduction                | Net Debt               |
| <b>Total Bonds and Notes for Local School Purposes</b>    | \$ 113,105,000.00                                                                                         | \$ 113,105,000.00        | \$ -                   |
| <b>Total Bonds and Notes for Regional School Purposes</b> | \$ -                                                                                                      | \$ -                     | \$ -                   |
|                                                           | \$ -                                                                                                      | \$ -                     | \$ -                   |
|                                                           | \$ -                                                                                                      | \$ -                     | \$ -                   |
|                                                           | \$ -                                                                                                      | \$ -                     | \$ -                   |
|                                                           | \$ -                                                                                                      | \$ -                     | \$ -                   |
| <b>Municipal/County General Obligations</b>               | \$ 7,160,547.79                                                                                           | \$ 1,303,263.09          | \$ 5,857,284.70        |
| <b>2 Total</b>                                            | <u>\$ 120,265,547.79</u>                                                                                  | <u>\$ 114,408,263.09</u> | <u>\$ 5,857,284.70</u> |

- 3 Equalized valuation basis (the average of the equalized valuations of real estate, including improvements and the assessed valuation of class II railroad property of the local unit for the last 3 preceding years).

| Year |                                                                                                     |                     |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 2023 | Equalized Valuation Real Property with Improvements plus assessed valuation of Class II RR Property | \$ 5,698,762,095.00 |
| 2024 | Equalized Valuation Real Property with Improvements plus assessed valuation of Class II RR Property | \$ 6,258,412,397.00 |
| 2025 | Equalized Valuation Real Property with Improvements plus assessed valuation of Class II RR Property | \$ 6,434,379,539.00 |

- 4 Equalized Valuation Basis - Average of (1), (2) and (3)..... \$ 6,130,518,010.33
- 5 Net Debt expressed as a percentage of such equalized valuation basis is: % 0.096%



# Department of Community Development

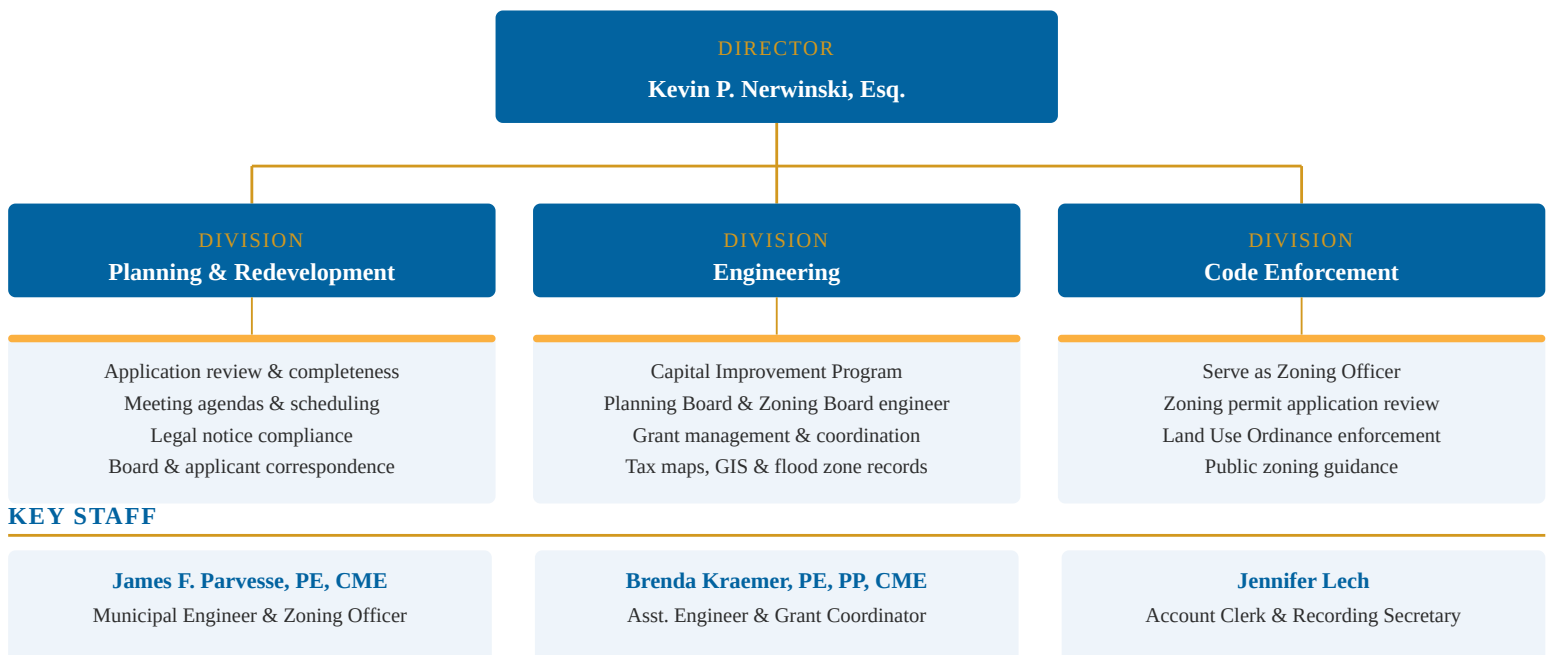


The Department of Community Development, established under Article VII of the Administrative Code, coordinates land use, development, infrastructure, and regulatory compliance Township-wide. Director Kevin P. Nerwinski, Esq. oversees three divisions: Planning & Redevelopment, Engineering, and Code Enforcement.

Division of Planning & Redevelopment manages completeness review of all development applications, prepares meeting agendas, ensures compliance with legal notice requirements, and maintains correspondence with Boards, professionals, and applicants.

Division of Code Enforcement serves as Zoning Officer, interprets zoning requirements, reviews all residential and commercial permit applications, and enforces the Land Use Ordinance.

Division of Engineering, led by Municipal Engineer James Parvesse, P.E., C.M.E., implements the annual Capital Improvement Program from planning and budgeting through construction management and inspection. The division also serves as engineer to the Planning and Zoning Boards, maintains tax maps and GIS data, manages Township-wide grant opportunities, and holds seven active certifications. Assistant Municipal Engineer Brenda Kraemer, P.E., P.P., C.M.E., coordinates all grant activity and supports capital improvement implementation. Jennifer Lech provides administrative and financial support and serves as Recording Secretary for Planning & Zoning Board meetings.



# Department of Community Development

## Grants and Projects

The Engineering Division applied for 12 grants totaling over \$4.5 million in 2025 and received 9 awards totaling more than \$2.7 million — directly offsetting costs that would otherwise fall to taxpayers.

The 3-Year Capital Improvement Program is updated annually, maintains consistent funding levels, and distributes improvements throughout the Township. Projects are selected through visual inspection and rideability assessments, Public Works recommendations, property owner and development association requests, and grant availability.

GRANTS APPLIED FOR  
**12**  
totaling over  
**\$4.5 million**

GRANTS AWARDED  
**9**  
totaling over  
**\$2.7 million**

### NOTABLE AWARDS

|                                          |           |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Gordon Group Road Improvements (NJDOT)   | \$602,000 |
| Brunswick Pike Pedestrian Safety (NJDOT) | \$500,000 |
| Eldridge Park Pedestrian Safety (NJDOT)  | \$415,000 |
| Brearley House Restoration (Preserve NJ) | \$400,000 |
| Senior Center Improvements               | \$200,000 |

### 2025 COMPLETED PROJECTS

| ROAD RESURFACING                                                                                                                             | COLONIAL LAKE PARK                                                                                 | MAIDENHEAD MEADOWS                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Municipal Complex · West Long Dr. · Gainsboro<br>Gedney · Fieldsboro · Huron · Ontario<br>Winnipeg · Glenbrook · Brearley · Fernwood · Renee | Lake Management · Shoreline Restoration<br>Pavement Removal<br>Trailhead Parking & Path Connection | Lawrence-Hopewell Trail<br>Connection Completed |

*The Department of Community Development serves as the Township's engine for responsible growth, coordinating land use, infrastructure, and regulatory compliance while securing millions in grants that directly benefit Lawrence Township residents.*



# Department of Health

Health Officer: Keith Levine



## Overview

The Lawrence Township Health Department delivers comprehensive public health services in accordance with the Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local Boards of Health, local ordinances, and Board of Health policies. Through disease prevention, health promotion, and a full range of inspection and enforcement activities, the department protects the well-being of all residents, remaining responsive and adaptable as public health priorities evolve.

The department extends its reach through a robust network of shared service agreements with regional partners, allowing Lawrence Township to deliver a broader range of services efficiently and cost-effectively.

### TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE Health Department — Shared Services Network

| HEALTH SERVICE                       | PARTNER                                         |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Child Health Services                | Hopewell Township Shared Service Agreement      |
| Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic  | Hamilton Township Shared Service Agreement      |
| Nurse Case Manager for Childhood     | City of Trenton Memorandum of Understanding     |
| Emergency Public Health              | Mercer County Shared Service Agreement          |
| Childhood Lead Poisoning Cases       | Hopewell Township Interlocal Services Agreement |
| Drug and Alcohol Prevention Services | Mercer County Shared Service Agreement          |
| Deer Carcass Removal                 | Mercer County Coop Purchasing Agreement         |
| Disposal of Animals                  | Hopewell Township Shared Service                |
| Tuberculosis Services                | Trenton Health Team — Mercer County Grant       |

In 2025, the department continued to strengthen its work through a robust network of shared service agreements with regional partners — including Hopewell Township, Hamilton Township, the City of Trenton, and Mercer County — extending its reach and delivering a broader range of services efficiently and cost-effectively to Lawrence Township residents to deliver a broader range of services efficiently and cost-effectively.

# Department of Health

Health Officer: Keith Levine



## Services & Environmental Health

The Health Department works across every dimension of public health — inspections, emergency preparedness, disease prevention, health education, animal control, water quality, and vital records — to protect Lawrence Township residents.

Through proactive inspections, public education, and community engagement, the Health Department enhanced environmental safety and empowered residents to maintain a cleaner, healthier community.

### TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

#### Health Department — Services & Environmental Health

##### COMMUNITY & ENV. HEALTH

Food, bathing, tanning & body art  
Massage therapy, camps & child care  
Nuisance, litter & vermin complaints  
Foodborne illness & vape enforcement

##### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Public health emergency response  
Planning & exercises  
County & state coordination

##### ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Air, water & noise investigations  
Sanitation & pest management  
Soil testing & septic oversight  
Radon kits · Tick & mosquito ed.

##### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Disease reporting & outbreak tracking  
Immunizations for uninsured children  
School immunization audits  
TB screening · Flu vaccinations

##### HEALTH EDUCATION

Community health fairs & screenings  
Senior center health programs  
Substance abuse prevention  
Smoking, nutrition & exercise ed.

##### ANIMAL CONTROL & WATER

Rabies clinics & animal bite response  
Stray & injured animal control  
Well & septic inspections  
Water quality & soil testing

### IMPACT

Through proactive inspections, public education, and community engagement, the Health Department enhanced environmental safety and empowered residents to maintain a cleaner, healthier community.

The Lawrence Township Health Department protects and promotes the well-being of every resident through comprehensive inspections, disease prevention, environmental oversight, and vital records — serving as the community's frontline defense for public health.

# Department of Health

Health Officer: Keith Levine



## Lead-Based Paint Inspections

Under New Jersey State Law 5:28A (effective July 22, 2022), Lawrence Township requires lead-based paint inspections for all rental properties built before 1978. The Health Department conducts inspections of pre-1978 rental units, and property owners must obtain a certificate of safety upon passing. Residents seeking resources on lead poisoning prevention, home assessments, and remediation can access information through the NJ Department of Community Affairs and the EPA. The Lead-Safe Home Remediation Grant Program is available to eligible homeowners, with materials in both English and Spanish. For questions, contact the Health Department at 609-844-7089.

Required under New Jersey State Law 5:28A · Effective July 22, 2022  
**All rental properties built before 1978 require lead-based paint inspection**

### INSPECTIONS

Health Dept. conducts inspections of all pre-1978 rental units to identify lead-based paint hazards

### COMPLIANCE

Property owners must obtain a certificate of safety after passing inspection per state requirements

### RESOURCES

Lead-Safe Home Remediation Grant Program available. Guides in English & Spanish · 609-844-7089

## Registrar of Vital Statistics

Registrar Linda Ciosek maintains official records of life events — marriages, civil unions, domestic partnerships, births, and deaths — dating from 1921 to the present. All certified copy requests and marriage license applications are processed by appointment only. Step-by-step guides are available in English and Spanish through the Health Department.

REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS · Linda Ciosek

RECORDS SINCE

1921

### RECORDS MAINTAINED & SERVICES PROVIDED

Marriages & Civil Unions

Births & Deaths

Domestic Partnerships

*All certified copies and marriage license applications by appointment only · Guides in English & Spanish*

*The Lawrence Township Health Department delivers comprehensive public health services to the community in accordance with the Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local Boards of Health, as well as local ordinances and Board of Health policies. Through disease prevention initiatives, health promotion and education efforts, and a full range of inspection and enforcement activities, the department works to protect and enhance the well-being of all residents.*

# Tax Assessor

The Tax Assessor's Office, led by Henry J. Nonnenberg, Jr. C.T.A., establishes the assessed value of all land and improvements within Lawrence Township — the foundation for allocating municipal, school, and county service costs. The office also maintains public records including property record cards and assessment information, and administers a range of tax relief programs, appeals processes, and resident services.

Tax relief programs administered by the office include a \$250 deduction for qualifying senior citizens and permanently disabled persons; a \$250 deduction for veterans and surviving spouses, with full exemptions for permanently and totally disabled veterans; and Farmland Assessment, Woodland Management, Fire Suppression Exemption, and other state-sanctioned benefits. Up-to-date forms and eligibility requirements are available through the Township or State resources.

Residents seeking to appeal their assessment must file with the County Tax Board by April 1 of the tax year. Properties assessed above \$1,000,000 may appeal directly to the Tax Court of New Jersey, also by April 1. For address changes, Daniel's Law redaction requests, or property tax and sewer bill inquiries, contact the office at 609-844-7041.

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

### Tax Assessor — Programs, Appeals & Services

#### PROPERTY VALUATION

Determines assessed value of all real property in the Township

#### PUBLIC RECORDS

Property record cards & assessment information

#### TAX RELIEF PROGRAMS

Deductions, exemptions & farmland assessments

#### PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PROGRAMS

##### Senior / Disability

##### **\$250 deduction**

Qualifying seniors & disabled persons

##### Veteran / Surviving Spouse

##### **\$250 deduction**

Full exemption for disabled veterans

##### Additional Programs

Farmland · Woodland Management  
Fire Suppression & state benefits

#### APPEALS & ADDITIONAL SERVICES

##### County Tax Board Appeals

File by April 1 · Properties under \$1,000,000 · Individuals may self-represent

##### Tax Court of New Jersey

File by April 1 · Properties assessed above \$1,000,000

The Tax Assessor's Office serves as the Township's official property valuation authority, maintaining accurate assessments, administering tax relief programs, and ensuring every property owner has fair and transparent access to the process.

# Tax Collector

The Tax Collector's Office, led by Susan E. McCloskey, C.T.C., is responsible for the billing, collection, and accounting of all property taxes and sewer user fees within Lawrence Township — revenues essential to supporting municipal, county, and school operations. The office provides in-person, mail, and online payment options and serves as a primary resource for taxpayer assistance and education.

Quarterly tax payments are due February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1, with a 10-day statutory grace period. Sewer billings are due April 15 and October 15. The office also prepares for the annual tax sale during the final quarter to enforce collection of delinquencies, and manages interest and penalty calculations in accordance with New Jersey statutes.

Taxpayer services in 2025 included online access to tax and sewer account information, property tax data for income tax purposes, support for State relief programs including ANCHOR, PTR, and Stay NJ, pre-payment facilitation, and Daniel's Law name redaction coordination. Sewer utility administration included billing based on metered and unmetered consumption, irrigation and well meter programs, and public outreach regarding the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). Throughout the year, staff responded to a high volume of resident inquiries on payment options, escrow issues, and deductions for veterans, seniors, and disabled homeowners.

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE Tax Collector — 2025 Tax Rate & Services

### 2025 TAX RATE — \$3.165 PER \$100 OF ASSESSED VALUATION

|                                                                |                                                                 |                                                               |                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MUNICIPAL</b><br><b>\$0.652</b><br>per \$100 assessed value | <b>OPEN SPACE</b><br><b>\$0.030</b><br>per \$100 assessed value | <b>COUNTY</b><br><b>\$0.795</b><br>incl. Library & Open Space | <b>SCHOOL</b><br><b>\$1.688</b><br>largest portion of tax rate |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|

### KEY DUE DATES

|                          |                          |                          |                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Feb 1</b><br>Q1 Taxes | <b>May 1</b><br>Q2 Taxes | <b>Aug 1</b><br>Q3 Taxes | <b>Nov 1</b><br>Q4 Taxes<br><i>10-day grace period applies<br/>Sewer due Apr 15 &amp; Oct 15</i> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### TAXPAYER SERVICES

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BILLING &amp; COLLECTIONS</b><br>Annual tax bill issuance<br>Interest & penalty calculations<br>Annual tax sale preparation<br>Sewer billing administration<br>LIHWAP public outreach<br>Metered & unmetered consumption | <b>RESIDENT SERVICES</b><br>Online tax & sewer account access<br>2025 tax data for income tax filing<br>ANCHOR · PTR · Stay NJ programs<br>Pre-payment facilitation<br>Daniel's Law redaction requests<br>In-person, mail & online payments | <b>COMMUNITY OUTREACH</b><br>Guidance on payment options<br>Escrow issue assistance<br>Veteran, senior & disability deduction guidance<br>High-volume resident inquiry response throughout 2025 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



# Police Department



The Lawrence Township Police Department is committed to reducing crime, improving quality of life, and building lasting partnerships with the residents and businesses it serves. In 2025, officers continued to demonstrate professionalism and a steadfast commitment to community service, implementing initiatives to enhance public safety, strengthen community engagement, and address the evolving challenges of modern policing. Kevin Reading serves as the Police Chief (Interim), having been appointed to the position on January 1, 2025.

The command staff focused on continuous improvement — refining policies and procedures, analyzing critical incidents, and tracking criminal trends locally and nationally. Working collaboratively with citizens, Township leadership, and local organizations, the department upheld its core commitment to transparency, accountability, and high-quality service. As the Township moves into 2026, Lawrence Township remains dedicated to supporting its police department and ensuring the community remains safe, welcoming, and well-governed.

In 2025, the Lawrence Township Police Department established a new position dedicated to enhancing the department's response to mental health and substance abuse-related calls for service. Class I Officer Elwood Dasher serves as the department's Mental Health and Substance Abuse Coordinator and Arrive Together Program Liaison, helping bridge the gap between responding police officers and mental health and substance abuse service providers. In this role, Officer Dasher assists with coordinating resources and support for individuals and families during field responses, while also supporting officer training, outreach initiatives, and collaboration with community partners including the Lawrence Township Health Department, Capital Health Systems Crisis, Prevention Coalition of Mercer County (Mercer Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction), Phoenix Mental Health & Behavioral Health Center, Oaks Integrated Care, and High Focus Treatment Center.

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

### Police Department — Mission, Vision & Values

#### MISSION

To improve the community through problem-solving strategies against crime and quality-of-life issues. We are committed to pro-active policing strategies that reduce crime and the fear of crime through strong community partnerships.

#### VISION

To work in partnership with citizens and businesses to uphold the Constitution, State of New Jersey, and Township ordinances. We solicit input from all residents and businesses and are committed to professionalism and integrity in all we provide.

## VALUES

#### HONOR

We honor our police powers, understanding they are derived from the community we serve.

#### INTEGRITY

Committed to the highest standards of honesty and ethical conduct — the cornerstones of our profession.

#### KNOWLEDGE

Continually striving for professional development through continuous learning and specialized training.

# TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

## Police Department — 2025 Staffing

### COMMAND STAFF

CHIEF OF POLICE (INTERIM)

**Kevin Reading**

CAPTAIN

**Joseph Lech IV**

### LIEUTENANTS

Admin / Internal Affairs

**Michael Whitmore**

Special Services / Emerg. Mgmt.

**RJ Laird**

Investigation Division

**Daniel Gladney**

Patrol Division

**Shaun Sexton**

### SERGEANTS

Communications

**Matt Grossi**

Administrative Division

**D. McClister**

Investigation Division

**Ryan Dunn**

Patrol

**Andrew Lee**

Patrol

**Jose Corado**

Patrol

**John Stever**

Patrol

**Robert Janoski**

Patrol

**Sean Kerins**

Patrol

**James Steime**

### OFFICERS

| OFFICER       | BADGE # | ASSIGNMENT      | OFFICER          | BADGE # | ASSIGNMENT      |
|---------------|---------|-----------------|------------------|---------|-----------------|
| T. Everist    | 193     | Traffic         | S. Sikora        | 262     | Patrol          |
| S. Girard     | 204     | Detective       | M. Mohammed      | 264     | Patrol          |
| L. Laux       | 210     | Patrol          | N. Campbell      | 265     | Patrol          |
| S. Sawasky    | 230     | Detective       | L. Moody         | 266     | Patrol          |
| B. Chojnowski | 232     | Patrol          | T. McCallum      | 267     | Patrol          |
| P. Way        | 233     | Detective       | T. Rotman        | 268     | Patrol          |
| A. Tara       | 234     | Detective       | H. Cruz III      | 269     | Patrol          |
| M. Piegza     | 235     | Patrol          | K. Mahler        | 270     | Patrol          |
| M. Eggert     | 237     | Patrol          | A. Tziarris-Over | 271     | Patrol          |
| J. Gorski     | 238     | Patrol          | E. Brobbey       | 272     | Patrol          |
| P. Bystrek    | 241     | Patrol          | K. SanFilippo    | 273     | Patrol          |
| R. Lamont     | 242     | School Resource | Z. Thomas        | 274     | Patrol          |
| S. Austin     | 243     | School Resource | K. Smith         | 275     | Patrol          |
| C. Morreale   | 247     | Patrol          | E. Yard          | 276     | Patrol          |
| D. Kraszewski | 248     | Patrol          | G. Erardi        | 277     | Patrol          |
| N. Davis      | 249     | Patrol          | D. DeJonge       | 278     | Patrol          |
| M. Hammond    | 250     | Patrol          | K. Taylor        | 279     | Patrol          |
| D. Gould      | 251     | Patrol          | A. DiTorrice     | 280     | Patrol          |
| C. Burkoski   | 253     | Patrol          | D. Hickey        | 281     | Patrol          |
| B. Wells      | 254     | Patrol          | R. Perez         | 282     | Patrol          |
| D. Paul       | 255     | Patrol          | F. Doldy         | 283     | Patrol          |
| S. Hardin     | 256     | Patrol          | M. Cseremsak     | —       | School Resource |
| J. Fleming    | 257     | Patrol          | C. Jackson       | —       | School Resource |
| K. Zander     | 258     | Patrol          | G. Henderson     | —       | School Resource |
| M. Janusz     | 259     | Patrol          | T. Brophy        | —       | School Resource |
| O. Cutaneo    | 260     | Patrol          | E. Dasher        | —       | SLEO I          |

### CIVILIAN STAFF & DISPATCHERS

| CIVILIAN STAFF |            | DISPATCHERS   |             |
|----------------|------------|---------------|-------------|
| M. Poveromo    | L. Maloney | M. Lamb       | N. DeGrande |
| S. Sudol       | B. Kelly   | B. VanBrunt   | M. Neubert  |
| M. Martinette  | C. Parker  | J. Alban      | C. Webb     |
| L. Ficci       | J. Gering  | C. Migliaccio | C. Wiacek   |
| P. Zawada      | C. Delgado | G. Ward       |             |

# Housing Department

The Fire Official and Housing Department protects the safety and welfare of Lawrence Township residents through enforcement of state and local fire and housing regulations. The office conducts required inspections, investigates complaints, and ensures compliance for residential, rental, and multiple-dwelling properties.

In 2025, demand for resale and rental inspections remained exceptionally high, with scheduling delays averaging 3–4 weeks. To improve efficiency, applicants were urged to submit requests immediately upon listing a property, inspections were scheduled within time ranges rather than exact appointment times, and annual inspections of multi-family properties remained a priority.

Through proactive inspections and code enforcement, the department maintains safe housing conditions, supports responsible property transfers, and provides residents with resources on tenant rights and housing standards.

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

### Housing Department — Responsibilities & Fee Structure

#### CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

|                                                                        |                                                                         |                                                                        |                                                                           |                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESALE &amp; RENTAL</b><br>Single & two-family dwelling inspections | <b>MULTI-FAMILY INSPECTIONS</b><br>Hotels & motels<br>Annual compliance | <b>COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION</b><br>Landlord/tenant & housing conditions | <b>CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS</b><br>Property transfer & rental certification | <b>STANDARDS ENFORCEMENT</b><br>Space, occupancy & life-safety standards |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|

#### APPLICATION & FEE STRUCTURE

|                                                                 |                                                                  |                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Rental Change of Tenant</b><br><b>\$75</b><br>per inspection | <b>Property Sale Inspection</b><br><b>\$80</b><br>per inspection | <b>Multiple Dwelling</b><br>Annual inspection<br><i>Fee schedule at Housing Office</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

#### REQUIRED FORMS

|                                                           |                                                                         |                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Property Transfer Application<br>Pre-Inspection Checklist | Rental Inspection Application<br>Rent Control / Lead Guidance Documents | Assumption of Violations by Buyer |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

The Housing Department safeguards Lawrence Township residents by ensuring every home, rental unit, and multi-family property meets the safety and habitability standards that protect the health and well-being of the entire community.

# Municipal Court



The Lawrence Township Municipal Court serves as the primary venue for traffic violations, disorderly persons offenses, and Township ordinance violations. The Municipal Court is led by Hon. Louis Sancinito, J.M.C. and Court Administrator Nicole Finacchio.

The Municipal Judge, appointed by Township Council to a three-year term, presides over all proceedings with the support of his professional court staff. The Municipal Prosecutor, Kimberly Stuart, Esq., and the Public Defender, Raymond C. Staub, Esq., are appointed by Township Council to represent the State and eligible defendants, respectively; neither is an employee of the Municipal Court. Proceedings are open to the public, and matters are decided by the judge without a jury, based on testimony from complainants, defendants, and witnesses.

Court sessions are held weekly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., with additional special sessions scheduled as needed for DWI and complex matters.

The Court Office is responsible for filing all complaints issued by law enforcement and private citizens, scheduling hearings, collecting fines and fees, maintaining official court records, and reporting dispositions to the NJ State Police, Motor Vehicle Commission, and other agencies.

The Community Dispute Resolution Committee mediates appropriate cases, resolving conflicts efficiently and reducing the need for formal hearings. Defendants may also resolve eligible matters without a court appearance through [www.njmcdirect.com](http://www.njmcdirect.com). Through in-person and virtual services, community mediation, and streamlined payment options, the court remains committed to fair, accessible, and efficient administration of justice.

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

### Municipal Court — Services & Contact Information

#### HOW THE COURT SERVES RESIDENTS

##### IN-PERSON COURT

Sessions held Tuesdays  
& Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.  
and 1:00 p.m.

Special DWI sessions as needed

##### COMMUNITY MEDIATION

Community Dispute Resolution  
Committee mediates appropriate  
cases to reduce formal hearings

Long record of successful resolution

##### ONLINE RESOLUTION

Resolve eligible matters without  
a court appearance online at  
[www.njmcdirect.com](http://www.njmcdirect.com)

Select Municipal Case Resolution

#### CONTACT & HOURS

##### LOCATION & CONTACT

2211 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrence Township, NJ 08648

Phone: 609-844-7159 · Fax: 609-844-7156

[nfinacchio@lawrencetwp.com](mailto:nfinacchio@lawrencetwp.com)

[Lawrence1107.mc@njcourts.gov](http://Lawrence1107.mc@njcourts.gov)

##### HOURS OF OPERATION

Violations Bureau

**Monday – Friday · 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Court sessions: Tuesdays & Wednesdays

**Emergencies: Dial 911**

# Recreation Department



The Lawrence Township Recreation Department enriches quality of life for residents of all ages through inclusive programs, vibrant community events, and well-maintained parks and facilities. Guided by Superintendent Nancy Bergen and Recreation Leaders Jeffrey Radice and Emily Suydam, the department works year-round to bring neighbors, families, and friends together.

Year-round programs serve children, teens, adults, and seniors and include youth basketball, wrestling, and swim team; swim lessons, open swim, and lap swim at Lawrence High School; adult walking club and fitness classes; summer camps and seasonal specialty programs; and community garden opportunities. Partnerships with local youth sports groups and community organizations continue to strengthen participation.

The department also oversees Township parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities, manages the Lawrence Township Anne Demarais Nature Center, and promotes environmental education. Residents are kept informed through the department's website, calendar, and social media channels.

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE Recreation Department — 2025 Programs & Events

### 2025 SIGNATURE EVENTS

|                                                                 |                                                            |                                                             |                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Community Day &amp;<br/>Food Truck Festival</b>              | <b>Memorial Day Parade &amp;<br/>Veterans Day Ceremony</b> | <b>Independence Day<br/>Fireworks</b>                       | <b>9/11 Remembrance<br/>Ceremony</b>                  |
| <b>Valentine's Day Candle Walk</b><br>Trunk or Treat & Egg Hunt | <b>Holiday Tree Lighting</b><br>House Decorating Contests  | <b>Veterans Day Celebration</b><br>Annual community tribute | <b>Thousands of Participants</b><br>across all events |

### YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMS

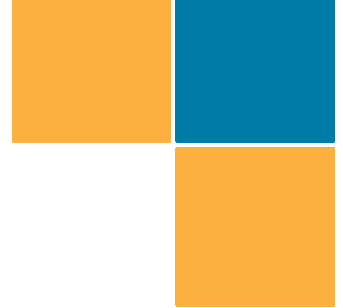
|                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>YOUTH PROGRAMS</b><br>Basketball · Wrestling · Swim Team<br>Summer camps & seasonal programs<br>Community garden opportunities | <b>AQUATICS</b><br>Swim lessons · Open swim<br>Lap swim at Lawrence High School<br>All ages and skill levels welcome | <b>ADULT &amp; SENIOR</b><br>Walking club & fitness classes<br>Anne Demarais Nature Center<br>Environmental education programs |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### PARKS, FACILITIES & OUTREACH

Oversight of Township parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities  
Partnerships with local youth sports groups and community organizations  
Active communication via website, calendar, and social media



# Construction Department



The Construction Code Enforcement Division, led by Construction Official James DeForte, administers and enforces the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code to ensure that all new construction, alterations, and renovations within Lawrence Township are performed safely and in compliance with state and local regulations.

The Division reviews permit applications and construction plans across all disciplines — building, plumbing, electrical, fire, mechanical, and elevator — and conducts field inspections of residential, commercial, and industrial structures at every phase of construction. When damaged or unsafe structures are identified, the Division investigates to determine habitability and required corrective actions. The office also enforces contractor licensing requirements, verifies NJ State registrations, and provides daily guidance to residents, contractors, and design professionals on permit procedures, code requirements, and local ordinances.

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

### Construction Code Enforcement — Core Functions

#### CORE FUNCTIONS

##### PLAN REVIEW

Building, plumbing, electrical, fire, mechanical & elevator plans for code compliance

##### PERMITS & CERTIFICATES

Construction permits, certificates of occupancy, and certificates of approval

##### FIELD INSPECTIONS

Residential, commercial & industrial structures at all phases of construction

##### UNSAFE STRUCTURES

Investigation of damaged or unsafe structures to determine habitability & corrective actions

##### CONTRACTOR LICENSING

Enforcement of contractor licensing requirements & NJ State registration verification

##### PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Guidance on permit procedures, code requirements & local ordinances

#### 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

##### PERMIT VOLUME

Substantial volume of permit submissions & inspection requests

##### CODE COMPLIANCE

Maintained compliance with evolving state code standards

##### BUDGET PRESENTED

2025 Division Budget presented to Township Council

# Construction Department



Throughout 2025, the Division managed a substantial volume of permit submissions and inspection requests while maintaining compliance with evolving state code standards. Staff emphasized timely plan review, coordinated field inspections, and responsive customer service to support both homeowners and the broader development community. The 2025 Division Budget was presented to Township Council, outlining the resources necessary to meet continued operational demands. The Construction Official and staff maintain numerous State of New Jersey and International Code Council certifications and actively participate on local, state, and international code committees — ensuring that Lawrence Township's building standards reflect current best practices for life safety and property protection.

In 2025, the Township modernized its Construction Department operations by implementing the FastTrackGov Citizen Services Portal by Mitchell Humphrey & Co., a new online platform designed to improve public access to permitting, inspections, and construction-related services.

The platform also improves customer service by allowing users to search permit records, communicate electronically with municipal staff, and receive automated notifications and updates throughout the review and inspection process. For municipal employees, FastTrackGov streamlines workflows, centralizes records, and enhances coordination between departments such as construction, zoning, engineering, planning, and code enforcement



# Affordable Housing



Under the direction and oversight of Kevin P. Nerwinski, Esq., the Affordable Housing Office administers all state and local affordable housing requirements, with day-to-day administration, monitoring, and compliance services managed by Piazza & Associates, who assist qualified low- and moderate-income households in locating available affordable homes for sale and rent within the community.

The Township's Affordable Housing Program has become a recognized leader among New Jersey municipalities in providing affordable housing opportunities to qualifying households while consistently meeting the obligations under state affordable housing laws.

In 2025, the Township (along with all other NJ municipalities) was issued its Fourth Round affordable housing obligations through a process established by the New Jersey Fair Housing Act and administered primarily by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs ("DCA").

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

### Affordable Housing — 2025 Programs & Accomplishments

#### AFFORDABLE HOUSING OFFICE FUNCTIONS

##### RESIDENT SUPPORT

Guidance for residents of affordable units

##### BOARD COORDINATION

Affordable Housing Board liaison

##### COMPLIANCE MONITORING

Monitoring, reporting & CPI adjustments

##### PUBLIC EDUCATION

Housing opportunity outreach

#### 2025 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Continued compliance with the Township Housing Element and Fair Share Plan

Resolution Committing to DCA Fourth Round Affordable Housing adopted — January 22, 2025

Complaint for Declaratory Judgment filed to protect compliance status — January 23, 2025

Fourth Round Housing Plan adopted — June 24, 2025

Successful coordination with developers and community partners to expand affordable housing inventory

#### PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

##### HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Low & moderate-income homeowner repair assistance · 732-966-0674

##### HOME IMPROVEMENT APPLICATIONS

PO Box 495, Pine Beach, NJ 08741 · Attn: Maureen Fullaway · 732-966-0674

# Affordable Housing



Under New Jersey's Fourth Round affordable housing framework (covering the period from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2035), municipalities such as Lawrence Township are generally required to satisfy two categories of affordable housing obligations established under the Mount Laurel Doctrine and the Fair Housing Act:

1. Present Need (Rehabilitation Obligation) — the obligation to rehabilitate existing deficient or substandard affordable housing units occupied by low- and moderate-income households; and
2. Prospective Need — the obligation to create realistic opportunities for the development of new affordable housing units over the ten-year round period.

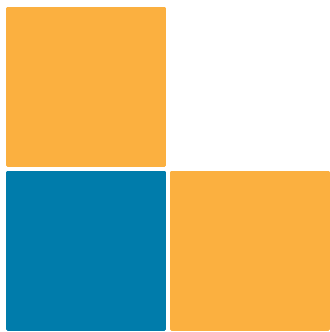
For Lawrence Township, our obligations are as follows:

- \* 68 units of Present Need (rehabilitation obligation); and
- \* 320 units of Prospective Need (new affordable housing obligation).

To comply with these obligations, the Township was required to adopt and implement a Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan ("HEFSP") demonstrating realistic opportunities for affordable housing production through mechanisms such as inclusionary zoning, redevelopment projects, rehabilitation programs, accessory apartments, preservation of existing affordable housing, and/or 100% affordable housing developments.

The Township must also continue complying with Uniform Housing Affordability Controls (UHAC), affirmative marketing requirements, very-low-income set-asides, and long-term affordability controls.

Residents seeking information regarding affordable housing opportunities, rehabilitation programs, rent control, or income eligibility guidelines are encouraged to contact the Affordable Housing Office. The Affordable Housing Board meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Development Conference Room of the Municipal Building



# Fire Department

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The Fire Department includes both career and volunteer firefighters. John “Jack” Oakley, Jr., heads the department as the Fire Chief, in addition to his duties as the Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator.

Lawrence Township employs 13 career firefighters who operate from the Lawrenceville and Slackwood Fire Stations, staffing three frontline units: Rescue 20, Tower 20, and Engine 20. These firefighters respond to all incidents within the Township requiring fire department services and provide critical support to the EMS Division by responding to a wide range of medical emergencies.

In addition to emergency response, career firefighters are responsible for ensuring operational readiness through daily and routine duties. These include inspecting and operating fire apparatus, exercising pumps and aerial ladders, refueling and maintaining powered equipment such as saws, fans, and rescue tools, and maintaining breathing apparatus components and oxygen cylinders.

Firefighters also mount and manage hose and equipment on apparatus and perform minor repairs to vehicles and tools.

These ongoing efforts ensure that personnel and equipment are prepared to respond effectively and safely to emergencies at all times

Lawrence Township is proudly served by a unified fire service system comprised of three historic volunteer fire companies operating as a single, consolidated department. In a significant operational transition, the Slackwood Fire Company (est. 1907), Lawrence Road Fire Company (est. 1914), and Lawrenceville Fire Company (est. 1915) have consolidated into one facility at Station 202, located at 1252 Lawrence Road. This consolidation has streamlined response capabilities, improved coordination, and enhanced operational efficiency while preserving the proud histories and traditions of each company. Station 202 now serves as the central hub for volunteer fire response, ensuring consistent staffing, improved apparatus deployment, and a unified command structure.

The Township is also home to the Mercer County Fire School and the Dempster Fire Training Center at 350 Lawrence Station Road, strengthening regional fire training and preparedness for both local and countywide responders. The Township remains committed to supporting its volunteers as they continue to protect lives, property, and quality of life for all residents



# Fire Career Branch Station 20



## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

## Fire Career Branch — Fire Apparatus & Vehicles

### FRONTLINE & RESERVE FIRE APPARATUS

| UNIT (YEAR)                | STATION               |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Rescue 20 (2020 E-One)     | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville |
| Tower 20 (2015 Seagrave)   | Stn 1 — Slackwood     |
| Engine 201 (2003 ALF)      | Stn 1 — Slackwood     |
| Engine 202 (1998 KME)      | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville |
| Rescue 202 (2020 E-One)    | Stn 2 — Lawrence Road |
| Telesquirt 202 (2003 KME)  | Stn 2 — Lawrence Road |
| Rescue 203 (2009 Sutphin)  | Stn 2 — Lawrence Road |
| Telesquirt 203 (2004 ALF)  | Stn 1 — Slackwood     |
| Tower 203 (1994 LTI/Simon) | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville |
| Reserve 20 (1998 3D/Simon) | Stn 1 — Slackwood     |

### MARINE & TRAILER ASSETS

| UNIT (YEAR)                       | STATION               |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Trailer 23 (2008 Venture)         | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville |
| Trailer 23-1 (1996 D&D)           | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville |
| Marine 23 (Inflatable)            | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville |
| Marine 23-1 (1967, Aluminum Hull) | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville |
| Marine 23-2 (Inflatable)          | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville |
| Marine 23-3 (Avon Inflatable)     | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville |

### COMMAND, STAFF & SUPPORT VEHICLES

| UNIT (YEAR)                             | LOCATION                 |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Chief 20 (2020 Ford F-150)              | Town Hall                |
| Car 201 (2015 Ford Explorer)            | Deputy 201 assignment    |
| Car 201-1 (2010 Ford Expedition)        | Stn 1 — Slackwood        |
| Utility 21 (2006 Dodge Ram 2500)        | Battalion 201 assignment |
| Car 202 (2004 Ford Excursion)           | Stn 2 — Lawrence Road    |
| Special Services 22 (2016 F-450)        | Stn 2 — Lawrence Road    |
| Fire Prev. Trailer 22 (2005 Scotty)     | Stn 2 — Lawrence Road    |
| Car 203 (2017 Ford Explorer)            | Deputy 203 assignment    |
| Car 203-1 (2021 Ford F-150)             | Battalion 203 assignment |
| Car 203-2 (2010 Ford Explorer)          | Deputy 202 assignment    |
| Utility 23 (2005 Ford F-350)            | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville    |
| Brush 23 (1968 Dodge Power Wagon)       | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville    |
| Tac 23 (2003, Ex-Military)              | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville    |
| Special Services 23 (2003 Freightliner) | Stn 3 — Lawrenceville    |

### STATION LOCATIONS

#### STATION 1 — Slackwood

Tower 20 · Engine 201  
Telesquirt 203 · Reserve 20  
Car 201-1 · Utility 21

#### STATION 2 — Lawrence Road

Rescue 202 · Telesquirt 202 · Rescue 203  
Special Services 22 · Fire Prev. Trailer 22  
Car 202

#### STATION 3 — Lawrenceville

Rescue 20 · Engine 202 · Tower 203  
All Marine & Trailer Assets  
Utility 23 · Brush 23 · Tac 23 · Spl. Svcs 23

### FLEET SUMMARY

#### FRONTLINE UNITS

3

#### RESERVE APPARATUS

7

#### COMMAND VEHICLES

14

#### MARINE & TRAILERS

6

# Emergency Medical Service



The Lawrence Township Emergency Medical Service is a dedicated, professional organization committed to delivering high-quality emergency medical care to residents, visitors, and surrounding communities. Operating a minimum of one fully staffed ambulance on 12-hour shifts, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, Lawrence EMS provides dependable and timely emergency response with a strong emphasis on compassion, professionalism, and respect for human dignity.

Led by Chief Christina "Chrissie" Vincent, Paramedic, the agency is staffed by ten full-time employees and approximately 20 per-diem EMS providers. The department's workforce reflects the diversity of the community it serves, with highly trained professionals bringing experience across emergency medical care, nursing, fire service, search and rescue, emergency management, and community safety initiatives including child car seat installation.

Lawrence EMS maintains a long-standing presence in the community, remaining actively involved in health and safety prevention, public education, and outreach. Guided by evidence-based patient care practices and a commitment to continuous improvement, the department strives for excellence in pre-hospital care while fostering strong community relationships.

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE Emergency Medical Service — 2025

### AT A GLANCE

#### AMBULANCES

24/7

#### FULL-TIME STAFF

10

#### PER-DIEM PROVIDERS

~20

#### SHIFT LENGTH

12hr

### STAFF EXPERTISE & COMMUNITY SERVICES

#### EMERGENCY MEDICAL

Pre-hospital emergency care  
Evidence-based patient care practices  
Nursing & fire service experience

#### SPECIALTY OPERATIONS

Search & rescue operations  
Emergency management  
Continuous improvement training

#### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Health & safety prevention  
Public education programs  
Child car seat installation

### EMS LEADERSHIP

Christina "Chrissie" Vincent, Paramedic  
CHIEF OF EMS

### 2025 EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS

Basilio DeJesus

Felix Diaz

Kirk Everett

Ryan Hafner

James Lopez

Jason Machusak

Justin Riley

Benjamin Tredrea

Jesse Weinberg

David Zavacky

# Emergency Management & Preparedness



The Lawrence Township Office of Emergency Management (OEM), led by Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator Jack Oakley, serves as the Township's central coordinating agency for emergency preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery — playing a critical role in protecting life, property, and community continuity.

The OEM works closely with local fire companies, the Fire Career Branch (Station 20), Emergency Medical Services, Mercer County agencies, and state and federal partners to ensure a unified response to a wide range of emergencies.

In 2025, OEM focused on maintaining and updating emergency plans, supporting interagency coordination, and promoting public education and awareness. Lawrence Township remains committed to strengthening preparedness and ensuring the community is ready to respond effectively to emergencies of any scale.

TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

Emergency Management & Preparedness — 2025

Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator

Jack Oakley

CORE MISSION

|                                                                              |                                                                         |                                                                |                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PREPAREDNESS</b><br>Planning, updating emergency plans & public education | <b>RESPONSE</b><br>Unified response to all natural & man-made incidents | <b>MITIGATION</b><br>Interagency coordination & risk reduction | <b>RECOVERY</b><br>Community continuity & partner resources |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|

INCIDENTS COVERED

|                |            |            |       |                     |               |
|----------------|------------|------------|-------|---------------------|---------------|
| Severe Weather | Snowstorms | Hurricanes | Fires | Hazardous Materials | Public Health |
|----------------|------------|------------|-------|---------------------|---------------|

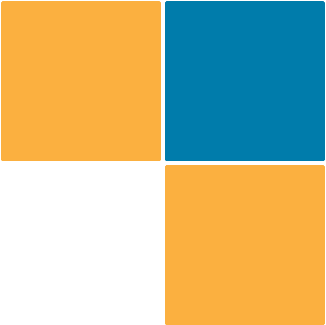
EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS

|                                            |              |                                      |                                                |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>LT Emergency</b><br>Notification System | <b>Nixle</b> | <b>Mercer County</b><br>Alert System | <b>NJ Register Ready</b><br>State alert system |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|

PARTNER AGENCIES

|                   |                                   |                                |      |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|
| Mercer County OEM | NJ Office of Emergency Management | NJ Office of Homeland Security | FEMA |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|

# Fire Marshal



Established in 1987, the Office of the Fire Marshal, led by Fire Official Edward Tencza and supported by Fire Prevention Specialists Kelly Barkalow, Ron DeMarco, and John Zairopoulos, plays a vital role in safeguarding life and property through fire prevention, code enforcement, public education, and fire investigation.

The office enforces the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code and International Fire Code across residential, commercial, and institutional properties throughout the Township. The team conducts annual inspections of life hazard and non-life hazard occupancies, oversees fire safety permits, alarm system registrations, Knox Box compliance, fire lane enforcement, and annual fire registrations for commercial buildings.

The office also ensures compliance with smoke detector, carbon monoxide detector, and fire extinguisher requirements during residential property resales, in coordination with the Township Housing Inspector.

## TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE Office of the Fire Marshal — 2025

Fire Official: Edward Tencza · Est. 1987 · Enforcing NJ Uniform Fire Code & International Fire Code  
Fire Prevention Specialists: Kelly Barkalow · Ron DeMarco · John Zairopoulos

### CORE FUNCTIONS

#### INSPECTIONS

Annual inspections of life hazard  
and non-life hazard occupancies  
across all property types  
Residential, commercial & institutional

#### PERMITS & COMPLIANCE

Fire safety permits  
Alarm system registrations  
Knox Box compliance  
Fire lane enforcement

#### RESIDENTIAL REALES

Smoke detector compliance  
Carbon monoxide detector compliance  
Fire extinguisher requirements  
Coordinated with Housing Inspector

### ANNUAL COMMERCIAL REGISTRATIONS

#### Fire Registrations Required for All Commercial Buildings

The office administers annual fire registrations ensuring all commercial properties maintain up-to-date compliance with state and local fire safety regulations.

The Department of Public Works, led by Director Greg Whitehead and supported by 35 full-time employees, maintains essential infrastructure and services across a 22-square-mile community of approximately 33,000 residents.

Core responsibilities include roadway maintenance, signage, and pavement markings; sanitation, recycling, and yard waste collection; snow and ice removal across more than 200 lane miles; fleet management; municipal building and facility maintenance; storm response; and ADA compliance oversight.

Throughout 2025, the department responded to routine service requests and significant weather events, maintained dependable sanitation and recycling schedules, and supported capital projects including roadway and drainage repairs. Collaboration with Mercer County continued for mosquito control, electronics recycling, and the "Beyond the Bucket" initiative.

Sustainability initiatives included the Township Tree Maintenance Program addressing ash borer impacts, tree protection and landscaper registration enforcement, food-waste reduction, PSEG appliance recycling coordination, and expanded Ecological Facility recycling opportunities. Looking ahead, priorities include infrastructure preservation, fleet modernization, and expanded recycling and environmental programs.

## Public Works — 2025 Statistics

### TREE PROGRAM

|                      |                      |                     |                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| TREES REMOVED<br>212 | TREES TRIMMED<br>374 | TREES PLANTED<br>15 | TREE MAINTENANCE<br>Ash borer impact program<br>Tree protection ordinance enforced<br>Landscaper registration enforced |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### COLLECTION PROGRAMS

|                                   |                                  |                                                               |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| LEAVES COLLECTED<br>2,023<br>TONS | BRUSH COLLECTED<br>1,734<br>TONS | WHITE GOODS / METAL<br>540 pickups · 65,460 lbs<br>33.70 TONS |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|

### MULCH DELIVERY PROGRAM

|               |                   |                    |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| ORDERS<br>157 | DELIVERIES<br>274 | CUBIC YARDS<br>813 |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|

### ECOLOGICAL CENTER

|                                                                |  |                                                                      |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| INCOMING MATERIAL<br>Brush: 5,244 CYDs      Leaves: 8,559 CYDs |  | OUTGOING MATERIAL<br>Compost: 3,712 CYDs      Wood Chips: 1,597 CYDs |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--|

# Office on Aging & Senior Center

The Lawrence Township Office on Aging/Senior Center falls under the direction of the Department of Recreation and its Superintendent, Nancy Bergen. It is the Township's primary hub for adults aged 60+ to remain active, engaged, and connected.

Led by Executive Director Lillian LaSalle, the center offers a lively, welcoming environment with daily classes, clubs, special events, wellness programs, and volunteer and intergenerational opportunities. The center also serves as a Mercer County Nutrition Site, providing hot lunches for registered seniors. Ongoing programs include Acrylics, Busy Bees, Chair Yoga, Exercise Class, Healthy Bones, Line Dancing, Mah Jongg, Memoir Writing, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, People and Stories, Senior Computer Tech Support, Sewing Club, Spanish Class, Sculpture, T'ai Chi, Watercolor, Yoga, and Zumba. Seasonal and holiday events are scheduled throughout the year. The Senior Center promotes healthy aging through wellness screenings, presentations, and partner-led programs.

Transportation support is available for registered residents through T.R.A.D.E. (609-530-1971) and Access Link (800-955-2321).

TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

Office on Aging & Senior Center — 2025

30 Darrah Lane East, Lawrence Township, NJ 08648

Monday – Friday · 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. · Open to residents age 60+

WHAT WE OFFER

|                                                                     |                                                                           |                                                                     |                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>DAILY PROGRAMS</b><br>Classes, clubs & special events year-round | <b>NUTRITION SITE</b><br>Mercer County hot lunches for registered seniors | <b>WELLNESS</b><br>Screenings, presentations & partner-led programs | <b>TRANSPORTATION</b><br>T.R.A.D.E: 609-530-1971<br>Access Link: 800-955-2321 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

ONGOING PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

|               |                |                   |                  |                  |              |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Acrylics      | Busy Bees      | Chair Yoga        | Exercise Class   | Healthy Bones    | Line Dancing |
| Mah Jongg     | Memoir Writing | Neighbors Helping | People & Stories | Computer Support | Sewing Club  |
| Spanish Class | Sculpture      | T'ai Chi          | Watercolor       | Yoga             | Zumba        |

STAFF

|                                                               |                                                     |                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lillian LaSalle</b><br>Executive Director, Office on Aging | <b>Nancy Bergen</b><br>Superintendent of Recreation | <b>Natasha Pacera · Kevin O'Shea</b><br>Recreation Leader · Clerk & Van Driver |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

*\* (Lillian LaSalle) Retired April 2026*



# 2025 Mayor's Closing Remarks



Serving as Mayor of Lawrence Township throughout 2025 has been one of the greatest honors of my life. This year, I had the privilege of working alongside our Township Council, dedicated municipal staff, community organizations, businesses, and residents to advance initiatives that strengthen our community and improve quality of life for all. Together, we celebrated our diversity, supported economic development, invested in our neighborhoods, and expanded opportunities for residents of all ages. From community events and cultural celebrations to public safety, open space preservation, and infrastructure improvements, we remained focused on building a Lawrence Township that is welcoming, vibrant, and prepared for the future.

As I reflect on this year, I am especially proud of the spirit of collaboration and civic engagement that defines Lawrence Township. As the first African American Latina Mayor in our township's history, I recognize the significance of this moment and the responsibility it carries. Throughout 2025, I worked to ensure that every resident felt seen, heard, and valued while fostering partnerships that help move our community forward. As our nation approaches the 250th anniversary of American independence, Lawrence Township continues to demonstrate that our strength lies in our unity, our shared commitment to service, and our belief that progress is achieved when we work together. I am grateful for the trust placed in me and remain committed to serving our community with integrity, compassion, and purpose.

Patricia Farmer  
2025 Outgoing Mayor  
Township of Lawrence