

**Township of Lawrence
County of Mercer**

Ordinance No. 2407-21

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE
CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE TO
CREATE THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, THE Lawrence Township Council strives to celebrate equity, diversity and inclusiveness within our community and believes that every member of humanity has a contribution to make to promote and strengthen these core values; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that equity, diversity and inclusion is an active process that requires continuous commitment to promote healthy people, a healthy community, and the overall success of present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Council seeks to create and maintain opportunities for engagement, education, and discourse to foster open-mindedness, compassion, and inclusiveness within the community and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the committee shall address issues related, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, culture, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, national origin, veteran status, social-economic class, religion, and professional status;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey hereby establishes an advisory committee to be known as The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee under the following terms and conditions:

Section 1. Membership

A. Approved by the majority vote of the Council, the committee shall comprise eleven (11) volunteer members who are residents of the Township with diverse cultures, backgrounds and life experience. Each member shall serve three (3) years terms except that the initial appointments shall serve as follows: five (5) members shall serve for a one (1) year term; three (3) members shall serve for a two (2) year term; and three (3) members shall serve for a three (3) year term. From amongst its members, the Council shall appoint a Liaison to the committee to serve a two (2) year term.

Additionally, the committee shall seek to engage active participation from at least one student and one member of the Police Department.

B. Vacancies shall be filled for the balance of any unexpired term.

C. A member may be removed for cause by a majority vote of the Council.

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Section 2. Powers and Duties

- A. The committee shall be advisory to Council and have no governing power or fiduciary responsibility.**
- B. The committee shall recommend, evaluate and promote programs in furtherance of the committee's mission.**
- C. Each committee member shall attend at least seventy-five (75) percent of the committee meetings and contribute their time, expertise, and thinking to the current and future work of the committee.**
- D. The committee shall perform such other related work in furtherance of the Council's policy and mandate.**
- E. A quorum shall consist of a minimum of six (6) voting members present at a properly called meeting in order to conduct business in the name of the committee. Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed for all matters of parliamentary procedure.**

Section 3. Repealer

All ordinances, or parts of the same inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are now repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 4. Severability

If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid for any reason, the remaining portions of said Ordinance shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect.

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Section 5. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall become effective twenty (20) days after adoption thereof.

Adopted: October 5, 2021

RECORD OF VOTE

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