LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD MEETING
Regular
Monday, October 19, 2026

Present:	Christopher Bobbitt, Mayor James Kownacki, Councilman Maria Connolly, Vice Chairperson Ian Dember Alan DiSciullo Terrence Leggett, Chairperson Annette Loveless Kenneth Kiernan, Alternate #1
Excused Absence:	Kevin Nerwinski, Manager Philip Duran
Absent:	Leslye Scipio, Alternate #2
Also Present:	Brenda Kraemer, Assistant Municipal Engineer Edwin Schmierer, Planning Board Attorney Elizabeth McManus, Planning Consultant

Statement of Adequate Notice:

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Lawrence Township Planning Board has been provided by filing the annual meeting schedule with the Municipal Clerk as required by law; by filing the agenda and notice with the Municipal Clerk, posting prominently in the Municipal Building and mailing to the Trenton Times and the Trentonian newspapers.

Public Participation:

None

Minutes for Approval:

October 5, 2026 regular meeting

Meeting minutes of the regular sessions were both approved.

Resolutions:

Resolution of Memorialization 17-26, Minor Subdivision w/ Variance Application No. S-3/26, **Jay Ventures, LLC**, 154 Millerick Avenue, Block 2402, Lots 15-17. Approved per unanimous vote.

Applications:

None

Public Hearing

None

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New Business

Referral from Council as follows:

- Ordinance 2528-26
  Define and Prohibit Data Centers in all Zoning Districts

Mr. Kiernan provided on overview of his e-mail (attached) to Council regarding the proposed ordinance including, but not limited to, public participation, purpose, research, legal risk, impacts, process, etc.

Other members of the Board also asked questions and discussed various concerns. The discussions included, but were not limited to the following:

- Public participation in the process
- Locations in the Township where this use is feasible (20 +/- acres)
- Legality of a total ban
- Environmental and utility impacts
- Potential restrictions v. total ban
- Impacts to ELSA
- Noise
- Lack of study to establish ban
- Master Plan concerns
- Regulating impacts was discussed
- Performance based standards
- Addition research needed prior to moving forward

Beth McManus provided input on existing zoning ordinance requirements and how potential uses would be characterized. Master Plan guidance was also discussed and how this use could be evaluated. The Board Attorney discussed to role of the Board in evaluating the referral. Consistency with Master Plan and summary of comments and recommendations for Council to consider.

Following the discussion by the Board and the professionals, the Mr. Schmierer recommended the Board entertain a motion to table the consistency review of the ordinance and take up the review at a future date. This motion includes a recommendation to conduct further research. Ms. McManus to prepare information for the next meeting on November 16, 2026.

Public Comment

The Township opened the meeting for public questions and comment.

2 residents spoke during the hearing and asked a variety of question and expressed their concerns. Members of the Board and professionals responded to questions and concerns as appropriate. The discussions included, but were not limited to the following:

- Supporting the Township efforts to fully evaluate the use (impacts) and develop standards.

- A representative of the Watershed Institute requested discussion of the moratorium options. Also expressing support for the ban on data centers. Position statement recommendation was discussed.

The motion was approved per unanimous vote.

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Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.
Digital audio file of this meeting is available upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

James Parvesse
Board Secretary
Minutes approved: _____