

# TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

## Office of the Municipal Manager

2207 Lawrence Road

Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648

## **MEMORANDUM**

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TO: Township Council

FROM: Richard S. Krawczun, Municipal Manager

DATE: March 28, 2014

### **UPCOMING MEETING**

#### **UPCOMING MEETING 4/1/2014**

##### Awarding and/or Rejecting of Bids

There are no rejections or awarding of bids.

##### Introduction of Ordinances

There are five ordinances for introduction.

Ordinance 9-A amends the Lawrence Township Administrative Code for the deletion and addition of handicapped parking spaces. Handicapped parking space authorizations will be deleted for the following locations; 860-862 Spruce Street, 35 Myrtle Avenue and 758 Puritan Avenue. Handicapped parking will authorized for 950 Lanning Avenue.

Ordinance 9-B authorizes a capital expenditure for the replacement of the salt dome at the Lawrence Township Public Works facility at 240 Bakers Basin Road. The ordinance establishes the cost of the project at \$546,000 and authorizes the issuance of debt in the amount of \$518,700.

Ordinance 9-C authorizes a capital expenditure for the repair of sections of various roads in Lawrence Township that have been damaged from winter weather conditions. The repairs include Province Line Road, Fackler Road, Princeton Pike, Federal City Road, Denow Road, Cold Soil Road, Van Kirk Road, the intersection of Drift and Eldridge Avenues, Eldridge Avenue, Johnson Road, entrance of Tiffany Woods, Mabel Avenue and Toftrees Court. The amount of the repairs is authorized at \$100,000 and includes the issuance of \$95,000 of bonds or notes. The improvement is for repairs only and not resurfacing at these locations.

Ordinance 9-D authorizes the establishment of an "appropriation CAP Bank". The

municipal budget law permits a governing body to adopt a CAP bank ordinance up to 3.5% in order to retain authorization to increase appropriations in the current budget year or either of the two subsequent budget years. The CAP rate for 2014 is .5%. The statute limits appropriation increases to 2.5 % or the Cost of Living Adjustment whichever is less. The additional authorization does not impact the current tax rate or require actual cash reserves it is simply retained authority for future use.

Ordinance 9-E establishes a prohibition against aggressive panhandling in Lawrence Township. The ordinance does not prohibit groups or individual organizations from fund raising activities provided they complete an application with the Municipal Clerk.

### Adoption of Ordinances

There are three ordinances for adoption.

Ordinance 10-A establishes the special assessments for sidewalk/concrete improvements to specific property locations. The aggregate amount of the assessments are \$14,677.50. The property owners participated in the sidewalk improvement program for locations contiguous to Darrah Lane and Glenn Avenue during the road repaving project. Owners could participate for concrete improvements as part of the public bid of the Township for similar work in this project location and the owners pay for their individual work.

Ordinance 10-B authorizes a reduction in the speed limit on Province Line Road from the Delaware and Raritan Canal to U.S. Route 206. Previously Lawrence Township supported the same reduction of the speed limit on the County portion of Province Line Road from Quakerbridge Road to the Delaware Raritan Canal. Speed surveys did not support a reduction of the speed limit but the recommendation is predicated on the following; there is limited sight distance for motorists exiting Port Mercer Road, there is horizontal curvature of Province Line Road and pedestrians crossing the roadway at Province Line Road and the recreation area of the Yorkshire development and this is an unsafe condition.

Ordinance 10-C authorizes an increase to the amount of the required escrow deposit for land use applications, the fees are not being increased. Often the case, residential land use applicants pay the original escrow and then must fund the balance at the conclusion of an approval. Though aware of the estimated total cost of an approval, they are not fully prepared for the final sum.

### Resolutions

The agenda includes routine administrative authorizations as well as resolutions providing for refunds, bond releases and acceptances.

Resolution 17-C authorizes the cancellation of funded (debt issued) and unfunded debt (debt authorized but not issued) for previously authorized capital improvements. The funded amounts will be presented for reauthorization to apply towards 2014 improvement projects, which will negate the need to borrow new funds. The previous projects have been completed.

Resolution 17-D authorizes a purchase from a state contract vendor, Winner Ford of Cherry

Hill, New Jersey for one 2014 Ford Four Wheel Drive Utility Vehicle. The amount of the purchase is \$25,170.00. Funding is available from previously adopted capital ordinances.

Resolution 17- E authorizes an amendment to the 2014 temporary budget.

Resolution 17-F establishes the 2014 tax rate for the Lawrence Township Open Space tax at .03 per \$100 of assessed value, the identical amount as previously established.

Resolution 17-G amends the 2013 professional services contract of David Roskos, Esquire of Eckert Seamans for legal representation for both general insurance matters and Simone v Lawrence Township. The amount of the increase is \$11,000. Funding is available from the Lawrence Township Self-Insurance Fund.

Resolution 17-H authorizes Richard Krawczun, Chief Financial Officer to conduct a self-examination of the 2014 municipal budget in accordance with New Jersey Local Budget Law.

Resolution 17-J authorizes ratification of the collective bargaining agreement between Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association, Local 96 and Lawrence Township for the years 2014-2016.

There will be formal action on introduction of the 2014 municipal budget.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions about the agenda.