

TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

Office of the Municipal Manager

2207 Lawrence Road

Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648

MEMORANDUM

TO: Township Council

FROM: Richard S. Krawczun, Municipal Manager

DATE: March 11, 2016

UPCOMING MEETING

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Special Presentation

Philip Caton of Clarke Caton Hintz and David Roskos, Municipal Attorney will present a status update about the ongoing Affordable Housing litigation.

Awarding, Amending and/or Rejecting of Bids

There are two bid awards and no rejection of bids.

Resolution 9-A authorizes an award of bid to T.R. Weniger, Incorporated for performing a maintenance dredge of Colonial Lake. The amount of the bid award is \$181,500. Funding is available from a 2014 capital ordinance for this purpose (\$30,000) and the Lawrence Township Open Space Trust Fund (\$151,500).

Resolution 9-B authorizes an award of bid to BurrowIntoHistory, LLC for preparation of a final report of the Brearley House Archaeological Dig. The amount of the bid award is \$9,750. Funding is available from a New Jersey Historical Grant.

Introduction of Ordinances

There are five ordinances for introduction.

Ordinance 10-A 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 2016 is 0%. 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 10-B authorizes various capital improvements with an aggregate cost of \$1,636,015 and permits the issuance of \$1,486,015 in bonds or notes. The ordinance includes \$150,000 in funds that provide for a cash payment toward the authorized improvements, this is in excess of the statutory requirement of a minimum down payment of five-percent (5%) of the amount of bonds or notes authorized. Providing a higher funded amount toward the improvements in excess of the minimum required reduces the amount of debt to be issued.

Ordinance 10-C authorizes various road improvements with an aggregate cost of \$1,425,000 and permits the issuance of \$1,325,000 in bonds or notes. The ordinance includes \$100,000 in funds that provide for a cash down payment. In addition, any funds authorized to be received as a grant award from the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund will be applied to the cost of repairs for Fackler Road and result in a reduction in the amount of funds to be borrowed.

Ordinance 10-D amends a previously adopted bond ordinance, 2020-09, to authorize an additional purpose for which bond proceeds may be applied. The additional purpose is fence replacement and fence repairs at the Lawrence Township municipal building.

Ordinance 10-E amends a previously adopted bond ordinance to authorize an additional purpose for which bond proceeds may be applied. The additional purpose is improvements to Province Line Road.

Adoption of Ordinances

There are three ordinances for adoption.

Ordinance 11-A amends the Lawrence Township Administrative Code regulating recreation program fees.

Ordinance 11-B amends a previously adopted bond ordinance to authorize an additional purpose for which bond proceeds may be applied. The additional purpose are improvements to Litho Road.

Ordinance 11-C authorizes the sale of Township owned land no longer needed for public use. Block 2304, Lot 8 also known as Manitee Avenue will be sold at auction to contiguous property owners. The successful purchaser will be required to consolidate the purchased lot with an existing lot and essentially may only utilize the additional lot as yard area.

Resolutions

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

Resolution 18-A authorizes an amendment to the 2016 temporary budget.

Resolution 18-B authorizes the transfer of 2015 current fund appropriation reserves.

Resolution 18-C authorizes the placement of liens on properties for unpaid municipal charges due to costs incurred by Lawrence Township for the abatement of violations pertaining to weeds and obnoxious growth. If the municipal charges remain unpaid the Tax Collector will include the unpaid amounts in the next scheduled tax sale.

Resolution 18-G authorizes a professional service agreement with Clarke Caton Hintz for the preparation of a revised flood control ordinance and associated amendments to the Lawrence Township Municipal Land Use Law. The amount of the contract is \$3,000. Funding is available from the appropriation for Planning Board Other Expenses.

Resolution 18-L authorizes the submission of an application and acceptance of a grant, if awarded, to the New Jersey State Police Office of Emergency Management for an Emergency Management Performance Grant in the amount of \$5,000.

Resolution 18-O authorizes a Memorandum of Understanding between the Lawrence Township School District and Township of Lawrence for use of the Township owned baseball and softball fields for the period of March 1, 2016 through June 15, 2016.

Resolution 18-P authorizes the purchase and replacement of flooring materials at the Lawrence Senior Center from The Gillespie Group through the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission Cooperative Pricing Program. The amount of the contract is \$75,000. Funding is available from a previously adopted capital improvement ordinance.

Resolutions 18-R and 18-S authorize ratification of a Memorandum of Understanding for a new collective bargaining agreement between the Lawrence Township Fraternal Order of Police and Lawrence Township for the period of January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2018. The new agreement will apply to both the Superior Officers and Rank and File police officers.

Introduction of the 2016 Municipal Budget

Resolution 19-A authorizes the extension of dates for both the introduction and adoption of the 2016 municipal budget from the prescribed statutory dates.

Resolution 19-B establishes the 2016 Open Space Tax at .03 per \$100 of assessed property value.

Resolution 19-C authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to conduct a self-examination of the 2016 municipal budget.

Resolution 19-D authorizes Introduction of the 2016 municipal budget.

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