

REGULAR MEETING  
LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL  
LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
COUNCIL MEETING ROOM – UPPER LEVEL

October 26, 2010

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, October 26, 2010, at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was opened with a Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, led by the Municipal Clerk.

Mayor Powers welcomed everyone to the specially-scheduled meeting and Mr. Krawczun back from his trip to Sweden and indicated he is looking forward to hearing all about his trip to Europe.

At the commencement of the meeting Mayor Powers read the following statement of proper notice:

“Adequate notice of this meeting of the Lawrence Township Council being held on Tuesday, October 26, 2010, The Trentonian, The Times and The Lawrence Ledger on September 8, 2010 by the Municipal Clerk in accordance with Section 13 of the Open Public Meetings Act”.

The roll was then called as follows:

Present: Councilmembers Kownacki, Mount, Puliti, and Mayor Powers.  
Absent: Councilman Bostock.

Also, in attendance were Richard S. Krawczun, Municipal Manager, and Kevin Nerwinski, Esq., Municipal Attorney.

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Proclamations and Honors

There were no proclamations or honors.

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Review and Revisions of Agenda

The Township Attorney advised that Resolution (8-I) - Closed Session, needs to be amended to include discussions dealing with litigation involving an affordable housing unit.

The Municipal Manager requested that Resolution (7-C); Bond Ordinance Providing for the Major Repair of Colonial Lake Dam In and By the Township of Lawrence in the County of Mercer, New Jersey, Appropriating \$506,230, Including Grant Funds Expected to be Received by the Township of Lawrence to Offset Authorizing the Issuance of \$480,918.50 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof remain on the Agenda with the additions that have been included in the ordinance.

On a motion by Mr. Puliti, seconded by Mrs. Mount, the Agenda was amended to include the above revisions.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmen Kownacki, Puliti, Councilwoman Mount and Mayor Powers.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: Councilman Bostock.

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Public Participation

Mrs. Linda Dlabik, 1358 Lawrence Road, stated she would like to make a few remarks in reference to comments made by Councilman Puliti wherein he stated that he could not remember a time in Lawrence Township of an outcry on a particular issue and the Council not playing a role in the Capital Health decision to relocate the hospital in Hopewell instead of Lawrence. She indicated with respect to an outcry there was an incident at Town Hall many years ago when two police officers and one civilian dispatcher were being laid off that Carol Harle, who was on Council at the time, went line for line to find money in the Township's budget that led to the two officers being rehired. However, the civilian dispatcher, who happened to be her husband, who not rehired. As for the hospital, although the Township Council did not formally vote on the matter, they certainly let Capital Health know in no uncertain terms that they were not welcomed in Lawrence, as she was present at those meetings.

Mrs. Dlabik advised that she is a Trenton Water Works customer and she never received any type of notification regarding the water crisis and questioned

what is going to happen in the event of a real emergency and questioned with respect to County Central and Lawrence Township, who will be responsible for notifying the residents of future emergencies?

Mayor Powers advised there was a breakdown in communication and that Mr. Krawczun did provide the Council with a detailed chronology of the incident at the last meeting and subsequent to that there was a meeting of the local Mayors with the County Executive to discuss preventive measures so that the incident never occurs again and proceeded to discuss an upcoming demonstration of the Reverse 911 system where all the Mayors and Councilmembers from surrounding municipalities will be invited to attend to review the operation of the system.

Mayor Powers further discussed a meeting they had with representatives from the Office of Emergency Management to discuss future coordination and notification plans, after which Mr. Krawczun provided an in-depth review of incident and the Reverse 911 notification process. An at length discussion took place relative to the failure of the Reverse 911 system and future solutions to the problem.

Mr. Richard Miller, 164 Carter Road, voiced his objection and position on the proposed Sign Ordinance with respect to it being a burden to the citizens and the realtors and indicated he agrees with the comments made by Mrs. Dlabik with regard to the water emergency and the failed Reverse 911 system, as he also did not receive any notification pertaining to the water crisis.

Mr. Miller stated that Councilman Bostock had a serious family emergency and could not be present at tonight's meeting so he asks to speak on behalf of Councilman Bostock with respect to the serious concerns he has with Resolution (8-J), Authorizing Cable Television Policies and Procedures for Government Access Channel and the oversight of the channel. So, in honor of Councilman Bostock's wishes he is requesting that the Council **table** Resolution (8-J) until the entire Council is able to discuss the matter.

There being no one else who wished to address Council, Mayor Powers closed Public Participation.

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#### Adoption of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Puliti, seconded by Mrs. Mount, the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of September 7, 2010, September 21, 2010 and October 5, 2010 were approved without corrections.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Kownacki, Mount, Puliti, and Mayor Powers.  
 Nays: None.  
 Absent: Councilman Bostock.

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Introduction of Ordinances

Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, “BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE 2020-09 BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ORDER TO REVISE THE DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPROVEMENT HEREIN”

Mr. Krawczun advised that the Ordinance amends a previously adopted capital ordinance (2020-09) for the purpose of authorizing an additional purpose for which the bond proceeds may be applied to and the additional equipment authorized is a top dresser which will be utilized in aerating and seeding athletic fields. A brief discussion followed relative to the cost.

The Ordinance was introduced and approved on the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. Bostock				X			
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Mrs. Mount	X						X
Mr. Puliti	X					X	
Mayor Powers	X						

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Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13 OF THE TOWNSHIP ADMINSTRATIVE CODE ENTITLED ‘MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC” – Handicapped Parking

Mr. Krawczun advised that the Ordinance simply authorizes the addition of a handicapped parking space in front of 844 Lanning Avenue.

The Ordinance was introduced and approved on the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. Bostock				X			
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Mrs. Mount	X						X
Mr. Puliti	X					X	
Mayor Powers	X						

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Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE MAJOR REPAIR OF COLONIAL LAKE DAM IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING 506,230, INCLUDING GRANT FUNDS EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE TO OFFSET AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$480,918.50 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF “

Mr. Krawczun advised previously there was an emergency appropriation in the 2010 operating budget for repairs to the dam at Colonial Lake and that the repairs are bondable under the Local Bond Law, therefore, making it eligible to be paid for by a capital ordinance and proceeded to discuss the emergency repairs being advertised and paid for through the annual debt service appropriation. A short discussion followed relative to grant proceeds to fund the repairs.

The Ordinance was introduced and approved on the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. Bostock				X			
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Mrs. Mount	X						X
Mr. Puliti	X					X	
Mayor Powers	X						

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Resolutions

Mrs. Mount motioned to remove Resolution (8-J), Authorizing Cable Television Policies and Procedures for Government Access Channel from the Agenda in honor of Councilman Bostock's wishes to further discuss this matter prior to adoption.

After some discussion relative to the matter, Resolution No. 370-10 (8J) was **tabled** on the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. Bostock				X			
Mr. Kownacki	X						X
Mrs. Mount	X					X	
Mr. Puliti	X						
Mayor Powers	X						

Cited Resolutions are spread in their entirety in Resolution Book Volume No. 2 of

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Mr. Krawczun provided a detailed review of Resolution (8-L), Authorizing a Special Item of Revenue from the State of New Jersey for Drexel Woods Trail Improvements and Restoration - \$25,000.

Resolution Nos. 361-10 (8A) thru 379-10 (8S) with the exception of Resolution (8J) were approved by the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. Bostock				X			
Mr. Kownacki	X						X
Mrs. Mount	X						
Mr. Puliti	X					X	
Mayor Powers	X						

Cited Resolutions are spread in their entirety in Resolution Book Volume No. 2 of the Township of Lawrence.

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Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

Mayor Powers asked for comments from the public. There being none, Mayor Powers asked for comments from Council. There being none, public participation was closed. On a motion by Mr. Puliti, seconded by Mr. Kownacki the following resolution was presented for adoption:

Resolution No. 380-10

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2010, bids were received for Bid No. 10-17, Pak-Mor Limited 6 Yard Rear Loader Model RBS1 or Equivalent; and

WHEREAS, one bid was received and reviewed by the Township Manager; and

WHEREAS, bid is being recommended for rejection because the bid came in over the budget amount estimated;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the bid for Bid No. 10-17, Pak-Mor Limited 6 Yard Rear Loader Model RBS1 or Equivalent, is hereby rejected.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

- Ayes: Councilmembers Kownacki, Puliti, Mount, Mayor Powers
- Nays: None.
- Absent: Councilman Bostock.

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Mayor Powers asked for comments from the public. There being none, Mayor Powers asked for comments from Council. There being none, public participation was closed. On a motion by Mr. Puliti, seconded by Mr. Kownacki the following resolution was presented for adoption:

Resolution No. 381-10

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2010, bids were received for Bid No. 10-18, 2011 SD F-250 Pick-Up Truck or Equivalent with Snowplow Options; and

WHEREAS, three bids were received and reviewed by the Township Manager and Director of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the bids are being recommended for rejection due to the Township desiring to revise the bid specifications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the bids submitted for Bid No. 10-18, 2011 SD F-250 Pick-Up Truck or Equivalent with Snowplow Options are hereby rejected.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Kownacki, Puliti, Mount, Mayor Powers

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilman Bostock.

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Adoption of Ordinances

Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A MID-BLOCK CROSSWALK ON BLACKWELL ROAD, TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY"

Mayor Powers asked for comments from the public. There being none, Mayor Powers asked for comments from Council. There being none, public participation was closed.

Ordinance No. 2065-10

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A MID-BLOCK CROSSWALK ON BLACKWELL ROAD, TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the following location located within Lawrence Township is established as mid-block crosswalk location where pedestrians may legally cross the roadway, said location being between two intersecting roadways more fully described and as set forth below.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 39:4-8, which does confer Lawrence Township the right to establish certain regulations in the interest of safety and the expedition of traffic on roadways under Township jurisdiction.

The location herein is designed as a Mid-block Crosswalk:

Blackwell Road                      Approximately 750 feet west of the intersection of Blackwell Road and Cold Soil Road (adjacent to the Hunt House entrance driveway)

Regulatory and Warning signs shall be erected and maintained to affect the above designated Mid-block Crosswalk in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Township of Lawrence will mail a certified copy of this Ordinance to the New Jersey Department of Transportation Commissioner and Mercer County Engineer once adopted.

All ordinances, rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

This Ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after second reading. Appropriate signage shall be installed as required.

The Ordinance 2065-10 was adopted on the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. Bostock				X			
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Mrs. Mount	X						X
Mr. Puliti	X					X	
Mayor Powers	X						

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Mayor Powers read by title an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY FROM PROPERTY KNOWN AS 179 CARTER ROAD (PART OF BLOCK 7701, LOT 11) IN THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY"

Mayor Powers asked for comments from the public. There being none, Mayor Powers asked for comments from Council. There being none, public participation was closed.

Ordinance No. 2066-10

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION  
OF RIGHT-OF-WAY FROM PROPERTY KNOWN AS 179 CARTER ROAD  
(PART OF BLOCK 7701, LOT 11)  
IN THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, a municipal corporation in the County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, wishes to acquire certain right-of-way from property known as 179 Carter Road, part of Block 7701, Lot 11 in the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, this acquisition will be for right-of-way acquisition (corner of Cold Soil Road and Carter Road) for the purpose of road intersection improvements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, hereby authorizes the acquisition of right-of-way from property known as 179 Carter Road, part of Block 7701, Lot 11 for the amount of \$10,547.00.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances and resolutions or parts thereof inconsistent with this section are hereby repealed. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this ordinance shall be adjudged by the Courts to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision so adjudged, and the remainder of this ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

This ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days following adoption thereof, in accordance with law.

The Ordinance 2066-10 was adopted on the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. Bostock				X			
Mr. Kownacki	X						X
Mrs. Mount	X						
Mr. Puliti	X					X	
Mayor Powers	X						

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**Manager’s Report –**

Mr. Krawczun submitted invoice listings for the month of September 2010 in the amount of \$1,040,969.72.

Mr. Krawczun reported that New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection sent out letters on October 14<sup>th</sup> to seventeen property owners in the Eldridge Park neighborhood offering well testing for those residents not hooked up to public water as there were monitoring wells that were tested and came back below normal safety standards and advised that the deadline to respond is October 30<sup>th</sup>, and as of today none of the property owners have responded to the representatives listed in the letter. A short discussion followed relative to the procedure for property owners to be connected to public water and the additional notification and testing process.

Mr. Krawczun reported that the New Jersey Department of Agriculture has conducted another gypsy moth egg mass survey and they reported that there is no detection of any major infestation, so the Township will not be entitled to participate in the survey next spring.

Mr. Krawczun stated he received an email today from Councilwoman Mount inquiring about the Energy Block Grant regarding clean energy funding and advised that they did submit an application requesting grant funding to replace the HVAC equipment at the Lawrence Community Center; a project that the Administration budgeted for previously; but, bids came back well in excess of the budget. So, in light of that, they felt applying for the grant was a good alternative and proceeded to discuss the project cost and the block grant funding of \$20,000 that will help offset the cost.

Mr. Krawczun advised that he just returned home from Stockholm, Sweden on Saturday which was an exciting and eventful trip assembled by the U.S. Embassy at no cost to Lawrence Township. He then proceeded to discuss those who attended and the conference as it relates to sustainability. Some discussion followed regarding similarities of sustainable practices between the United States and Sweden.

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**Attorney's Report –**

There was no Attorney's report.

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**Clerk's Report –**

There was no Clerk's report.

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**Council Initiatives/ Liaison Reports –**

Councilmember Kownacki's report:

- Mr. Kownacki reported that the Planning Board met last night and they somewhat reached an agreement with Quaker Bridge Mall with respect to an 8-year build out plan instead of the proposed 20-year plan. In addition, they reviewed plans for the pedestrian bike bridge which the Board did not agree upon and requested that they resubmit new plans for the project, but advised overall the discussions went well.

Councilmember Mount's report:

- Mrs. Mount stated for the last ten years she has been attending the Central Jersey Transportation Forums and during the last discussion East Brunswick discussed plans to put together a Transit Village and private funding for the project. Additionally, they discussed plans to upgrade the transit system and bus stops along the Route 1 Corridor.
- Mrs. Mount advised in the back of the Nature Center, with the help of Public Works, they installed a rain garden and proceeded to discuss the purpose of the rain garden and how it will operate. She further advised that they will soon be doing some planting and will be educating people on the importance of the rain barrel/garden project.
- Mrs. Mount stated she has another bit of good news regarding the reapplication that the Green Team submitted to Sustainable Jersey for the Lawrence Township recertification and advised that the Township now has 200 sustainable points as opposed to the 100 points they had last year and that they would be receiving another plaque recognizing their sustainable efforts at the League of Municipalities in November.

- Mrs. Mount reported that the Administration is still working on the Energy Audit and that all the reimbursements have been filed and they are just waiting to be reimbursed, after which Mr. Krawczun discussed funding as it relates to the audit recommendations and the Administration had plans to do some of the inexpensive recommendations to save money.

Councilmember Puliti's report:

- Mr. Puliti stated Mr. Groeger did a wonderful job with Community Day as it was once again a great success and proceeded to discuss the containers that were set out at the event seeking donations for the 2011 fireworks. Thereafter, Mr. Krawczun advised that the Township received a contribution for the fireworks in the amount of \$2500 from The Lawrenceville School.
- Mr. Puliti reported that the Public Safety Committee meeting was very uneventful as they are awaiting feedback from the Subcommittee with regards to purchasing fire apparatus and a needs assessment for such equipment, after which Mayor Powers discussed a meeting that will be taking place at the beginning of November at the John Dempster Fire School.

Councilmember Bostock's report:

- There was no Liaison report. (Absent)

Mayor Powers' report:

- Mayor Powers reported that Mr. Groeger was inducted into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame and that he asked the Municipal Clerk to prepare a Proclamation on behalf of the Council for the November meeting in honor of his induction.
- Mayor Powers reported that the Mayors' Route 1 Coalition is continuing to meet and they are working on organizing a meeting with various towns along the Route 1 Corridor in an effort to think regionally in terms of the congestion problem on Route 1 and proceeded to discuss a follow-up meeting they plan to have with the Commissioner of NJDOT.
- Mayor Powers stated the Shade Tree Advisory Committee did a good job with the bonsai tree give-a-way for Community Day.
- Mayor Powers stated the Growth and Redevelopment Committee had its Annual Business Awards Programs on October 13<sup>th</sup> at Rider

University in the Mercer Room and advised how meaningful it is to the recipients who are honored and recognized for all their hard work, after which he thanked all the sponsors given the economic climate.

- Mayor Powers stated that the Council did some lobbying through the New Jersey League of Municipalities, where they went right to the State House to urge passage of the tool-kit reforms by the Legislature and advised he had the opportunity to meet with Senator Sarlo, who is the chair of the Senate Budget Committee and Mayor of Wood-Ridge Borough, and he advised that they should not expect any municipal aid for the 2011 budget year. In addition, there was discussion concerning the need for arbitration reform. Some discussion followed relative to the budget and addressing the 2% budget cap that has been imposed on municipalities by the State.

**Written Communications –**

There were no written communications.

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**Old Business –**

There was no old business.

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**New Business –**

There was no new business.

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There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned.

8:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

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Kathleen S. Norcia, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

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Michael S. Powers, Mayor