

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

April 3, 2012

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, April 3, 2012, at 6:30 P.M.

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

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

STATEMENT OF PROPER NOTICE: “Adequate notice of this meeting of the Lawrence Township Council being held on Tuesday, April 3, 2012, has been provided through the posting of the annual meeting schedule of said Council in accordance with Section 13 of the Open Public Meetings Act”.

The roll was then called as follows:

Present: Councilmembers Lewis, Maffei, Powers, Puliti and Mayor Kownacki.

Absent: None.

Also, in attendance were Richard S. Krawczun, Municipal Manager, and Michele Lamar, Esq., Acting Municipal Attorney.

Review and Revisions of Agenda

The Municipal Clerk stated that the Agenda needs to be revised to include Resolution (8-1) – Authorizing an Amendment to the 2012 Temporary Budget.

On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Lewis, the Agenda was amended to include the above revisions.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Lewis, Maffei, Power, Puliti and Mayor Kownacki.

Nays: None.

Public Participation

Patrolman Thomas Everist, Lawrence Township Police Department, greeted the Council and stated back in 1997 an Officer of the Florham Park Police Department started a ride known as the "Police Unity Tour", and at that time 18 members began the tour with him where they raised \$18,000 for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial for the fallen officers in Washington DC and to this day they are the biggest contributors to the Memorial with over \$7 million contributed. He indicated last year they road into Washington DC with over 1100 members of the police forces around the country and they will be having another big ride this year.

Police Officer Everist stated last year he and seven other members of the team were very honored by the Township Council who paid recognition to them by honoring them with a Proclamation last year so he and retired Officer Edmund Budzinski along with the other members of the team, who could not be present, would like to present the Council with a framed "Police Unity Tour Shirt" signed by all the members of the team for their recognition, after which he expressed their appreciation and thanked the Council for all of their support.

Mr. Edmund Budzinski, Retired Lawrence Township Police Officer, advised that there is also a plaque that goes along with the framed Police Unity Tour Shirt, which has a rock displayed on it like the Memorial down in Washington, DC, and it reads "*In Honor Of Your Dedication To The Police Unity Tour National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and Commitment That No Fallen Officer Will Ever Be Forgotten*", dated 2011 in honor of the Lawrence Township Council.

Mayor Kownacki stated last year when several police officers of the Lawrence Township Police Department participated in the Police Unity Tour Councilman Puliti was serving as the mayor, so on behalf of the Council he would like to thank all the Officers who participated in the tour and Councilman Puliti for helping the officers along during his term as mayor. Further, he would like to extend a special thank you to Officer Everist and retired Officer Budzinski for honoring the Council with the frame and plaque.

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*Mr. Joseph Mislán, 4 Sunset Road,* stated that he would like to speak about the municipal budget and the new state Senate Bill (S-2) that just came out of Committee calling for local units to share services. He indicated that the municipal budget has a familiar pattern with regards to increases but it has a new twist with respect to services being separated out to be paid separately and he does not know whether or not it was the "cap" that was put in place or some

other reason; but, in his opinion, it is still an additional cost to the residents whether they call it a tax or not and for many years they have heard the usual spiel about the increase being pennies per hundred or the town's need for ratables, which is really not the case but seems to be accepted by the public.

Mr. Mislan proceeded to discuss the market values that have been expanding and contracting since 2008, as it relates the taxable rate of a home's market value not following the same pattern resulting in the taxes not recognizing the reality, which boils down to the taxpayers becoming a ratable. He further discussed shared services being the missing cost reduction in the budget and the enactment of the S-2 Bill providing the Council with the necessary tools to enact procedures that would reduce cost through shared services; a concept that is not new but has not been put to full use. He then urged the Council to support the S-2 Bill for passage by the legislators and for approval by the Governor, and indicated that there will be other organizations in opposition of the Bill but it is the Council's responsibility, as their leaders, to make every effort to support the Senate Bill and see it through for approval being it is good for the Township.

Mr. Krawczun stated that he does not know the exact date that the Township started doing shared services but what he does know is when he started working in for Lawrence Township in 1994 the Township was already doing shared services with the two Princeton's for the purpose of purchasing equipment for the compost facility and since then there have been shared services with ELSA for the repair of vehicles, the Board of Education for various programs and various types of health clinics and screenings through the Health Department with neighboring municipalities. He further advised that the municipal budget is presented according to the law and that the appropriations regarding shared services are reflected in the budget.

Mr. Krawczun proceeded to discuss additional services that the Township shares with various organizations to include cooperative services with Mercer County for deer removal from the roadways and joint efforts with the Lawrence-Hopewell Trail; a project that is mostly funded by grants and/or corporate contributions, centralized fire dispatch services with Mercer County, health clinic services for sexually transmitted diseases with Hamilton Township and public health nurses case management services for childhood lead poisoning with the City of Trenton. He stated the list of items he reviewed is just a few examples of services that the Township shares with other organizations and that the services have been around for an extended period of time.

An at length comment and discussion took place relative to Mr. Mislan's skepticism concerning the length of time shared services has been in existence in Lawrence, cost savings related to shared services and joint purchases not being reflected in the budget, the misconception of shared services solving budgetary problems, shared services stopping the growth of cost and not the

elimination of cost, regionalization of services versus shared services as it relates to which one is more cost effective, the Council's inability to force other municipalities to share services with Lawrence and how the proposed tax increase will also affect members of Council as they reside in the Lawrence, as well.

*Mr. Allen Mailman, 65 West Long Drive*, inquired as to why the Township Council cannot do a better job of controlling expenses and stated he knows the "knee-jerk reaction" of the government is to increase taxes when revenue falls, but the last four years should have taught everyone including the government that the formula does not work; because, if they lose they will still have to make the hard decisions with respect to laying off employees and cutting services where appropriate and he is not saying they should just "slash and burn"... but be judicious by looking at the cost, removing what they can out of the equation then balance the budget as best they can.

Mr. Mailman stated he knows the Township has labor agreements in place and that they have to live within those contracts but at some point they have to also negotiate those agreements, and in his opinion the negotiations in the last five years have been horrendous because there are too many people that are overpaid and under worked and the reality of matter is not what he thinks... but what the Township can afford to do at this point. He then proceeded to talk about the budget as it relates to the 2-percent "cap" that was put in place by the Governor, the projected 17-percent increase for 2013 budget and the Council doing a better job of controlling expenditures and reducing taxes, after which he suggested that the Council consider eliminating jobs and reducing services.

Mayor Kownacki explained in the three years that he has served on Council 10-percent of the Township's workforce has been laid off and all employees took a one-year wage freeze in 2010. In addition, the previous members of Council, as well as, the current members on Council have all looked at the budget extensively to try and find ways to reduce cost, and as for the layoff of Township employees they are now pretty much down to bare bones, as they have union employees working out of title and performing duties that they are not required to do nor paid to do to help the Township out and questioned if Mr. Mailman would like to see the Council layoff emergency responders – such as police officers, firemen and EMT's that are vital services to the community.

Mayor Kownacki further explained that the proposed tax increase is so that the Council does not have to cut those types of critical services going forward, services that the residents of Lawrence have come to expect to include trash pickup, and that the proposed tax increase is the best solution that the Council could endorse at this particular time that would benefit the entire community.

In closing, Mayor Kownacki stated that he and his colleagues on Council all reside in Lawrence and they all have to endure the same tax increase (17-percent) as everyone else and it hurts them to see the taxes go up, as well; but just like everyone else they have to tighten up their belts and deal with the situation the best they can.

An at length discussion took place relative to the Council having the ability and authority to change the situation by cutting services/expenses and consolidating and/or sharing more services, the Council's frustration with regards to comments and criticism being made about their inability to cut expenditures and save money when they have been trying very hard to curb spending and save money over the past several years and a detailed review of the Township's budget as it relates to appropriations, revenues, debt services, discretionary obligations, statutory requirements and the things that the Council has done to reduce costs and increase revenues.

*Mr. Victor Murray, 4 Melvina Drive*, stated he wishes he could say it is a pleasure for him to be present this evening but he knows the challenges that the Council faces being he has spoken at the meeting before from a business perspective, as well as, a resident and before he goes into what he would like to discuss he would like to know if there will be an opportunity for him to speak later on the Agenda about the budget, both question and answer, or is public participation the only opportunity he will have to speak on the budget. The Council advised Mr. Murray that all comments and questions related to the budget should be addressed during public participation.

Mr. Murray advised that he previously addressed the Council about the economic fury and the devastation that has affected Lawrence neighborhoods, the State of New Jersey and the commercial office sector over the past several years, as vacancies have risen in the community just like the unemployment levels, and he also discussed reasons for the devastation. He further advised that he did some quick research in a program called Costar with regards to what is happening in the office, retail and industrial sectors, within the 08648 zip code that he would like to share with the Council and indicated in the second quarter of 2009 vacancies were around 15-percent and in the last five years and up until today they are at 33-percent which includes a review of about 70 buildings - a diversity of industrial, retail and office - and the fact that the percentage does not include the Quaker Bridge Mall is quite amazing being he has not thoroughly gone through the report..

Mr. Murray indicated what concerns him the most about the numbers is that New Jersey is one of the highest taxed States in the Union, which they already know is the primary reason why companies have shed employment, downsized and relocated, and those factors along with others have led to the rapid decline in their home values, which is one of the many reasons why tax revenues have fallen so much and in response to those problems homeowners

and businesses have cut their spending habits, taken second mortgages and filed tax appeals to reduce their tax burden in order to survive. So, the question is how does the municipal government choose to respond, how do they tighten up their belts, what actions have they taken to attract and retain businesses and what is the solution in the plight of the unemployed and underemployed residents and struggling businesses?

Mr. Murray further stated that the taxpayers pay for municipal services and the salaries to provide those services and that the taxpayers have paid handsomely for the cost of those services and the reserve to deal with the economic times they are facing and that the government's solution has repeatedly been to raise taxes as a solution and they are doing so once again, when they should be asking how do other municipalities, counties and states provide services at a lower cost and why they cannot do the same. Also, he is confused by the MCIA Tipping Fees that was discussed in the January budget presentation that showed Mercer County having the highest "tipping fees" for trash, approximately 40-percent higher than the average sixteen other counties in New Jersey.

Councilman Puliti responded many years ago and he does not recall under what Administration they decided to build an incinerator in Mercer County and before they had everything resolved they moved forward with the project, as they had all the plans drawn up and paid all the Planners and Architects for the project and that is what the taxpayers are paying for now. And, he does not know when the debt-services run out on that project but advised it would be a good question to direct to the County Freeholders. A short discussion took place relative to the Energy Tax Receipts and the reason why the State collects the revenue instead of the municipalities, to include some of the actions the Council has taken to try and get those fees reimbursed from the State.

Mr. Murray proceeded to discuss if it made sense or not to raise taxes that are already driving businesses away and questioned what could be done to reverse the course so that the Township can attract more businesses and indicated in his opinion the way they are proceeding is not the way. He then indicated that he has been a resident of Lawrence for 22 years and as a Commercial Real Estate Advisor he has assisted firms in planning their strategy in terms of where they should be and what they should be doing with regards to renewing, expanding and contracting their businesses, and in the past two years he has had two firms that could have left Lawrence; but, instead decided to merge and an energy company that decided to relocate their headquarters to Lawrence, which they were very fortunate in convincing to do.

Mr. Murray stated unfortunately that is not always the case because he has seen two other headquarters leave the region and another business that he knows for a fact will be leaving soon. So, that is why he feels the Council should take an honest review of the steps they are taking and why exceeding the 2-

percent cap or passing on the burden to residents while preserving municipal salaries and other expenses and obligations, some of which he would like to question within the budget, might not be the right course of action.

In closing, Mr. Murray voiced his objection to the proposed tax increase and removal of trash services out of the municipal budget being the increase does not reduce any cost and only side steps the issue. He then proceeded to discuss and question several items in the municipal budget that he felt were improper or not cost efficient, to include the red light camera fees, financial administration/other expenses, the community action program and the proposed sewer services and suggested that the Council be more vocal toward organizations who implement things that would create more of a tax burden to the residents of Lawrence. Thereafter, an at length discussion, question and answer session took place relative to Mr. Murray comments.

*Ms. Vita Weinstein, 22 Johnson Road*, asked if the referendum would be put to vote at the April 17<sup>th</sup> School Board Election; and, if so, what type of contingency plan does the Council have in place if the referendum is defeated. She then proceeded to discuss state aid cut by the Governor over the last several years and the Council researching other alternatives to offset the loss of revenue and indicated if nothing else comes from the search – such as a really large consolidation or large savings then the alternative would be to increase taxes by 17-percent so they will have the money to go forward. She then inquired if the research that was done by the Administration is available for the public to view with regards to where the Council is looking to consolidate, how much money they would save and whether or not they are looking consolidate services with other towns such as Ewing, Hamilton, etc.

Ms. Weinstein further questioned whether or not Lawrence has a person that does grants being there is a lot of Federal money available that could help lessen the burden for the taxpayers of Lawrence and indicated almost everyday she reads in the newspapers about municipalities receiving funding and she feels Lawrence needs to be very aggressive in seeking as much money as possible so that the taxpayers of Lawrence do not have to pay for everything and shoulder the burden. She then suggested in addition to speaking with Senator Sweeney that the Council speak to Assemblyman Upendra Chivukula, Head of the Energy Committee, a really nice person that she feels will listen and possibly lend some insight with regards to what funding is available.

In closing, Ms. Weinstein stated it is somewhat of an embarrassment that Lawrence is one of two towns asking to exceed the 2-percent cap put in place by the Governor and she wonders what other towns are doing to stay within the cap. She then questioned whether or not contracts for trash services, cleaning services, supplies, etc. are constantly revisited and put out to bid to the lowest possible bidder and whether or not the Council had an opinion on the Governor's urging residents to vote down the referendum to exceed the cap.

Mr. Krawczun stated if the referendum was to fail then they would need to amend the budget to increase the amount of surplus as revenue, to bring the Township within the 2% cap or there would have to be other adjustments made to services; so, the outcome of the election on April 17 will determine how they will proceed on April 18 and going forward. An at length discussion followed relative to the 2012 budget, elimination of services, layoff of employees, tax appeals, property assessments/tax rates, regeneration of surplus, grants, studies relative to the consolidation of various municipal services and the Administration trying to balance the budget while staying within the 2% cap.

*Mr. James Cleak, 7 East Darrah Lane,* stated much to his dismay he missed the meeting at the Slackwood Fire House regarding the budget and the proposed referendum because he knows how hard the Administration has been trying to communicate the importance of the matter. Further, he really does not know what to say or have an answer to the proposed 17-percent increase because he knows that the Council and all the employees who live in Lawrence and pay property taxes will be affected by the increase; but what he does know as to the point that was raised earlier regarding the State of New Jersey being so dependent upon property taxes is the real problem, as lot of people are property rich, cash poor and live on fixed incomes.

Mr. Cleak advised that he has been trying to talk to people in his neighborhood and former co-workers about attending the meetings regarding the proposed referendum and much to his frustration the people have already made up their minds to vote "no" on the referendum without getting any kind of information on the matter; because they think if they vote "no" on the referendum and vote members of Council out of office that will eliminate the problem, which is very upsetting because although there is really no good answer the alternative could be worse as it will no longer be about the 17-percent increase; but, how to distribute the money without the increase of revenues while trying to remain under the 2-percent cap, which would be virtually impossible to do without cutting services or laying off employees.

In closing, Mr. Cleak briefly discussed the proposed sewer rate and tax increase hitting the residents of Lawrence all in the same year, as well as, Lawrence having the lowest tax rate and his lack of understanding as to why the tax rates fluctuates and are not the same for every municipality. He further discussed the expiration of the Tipping Fees penalty, the State deficit as it relates to the reduction of municipal state aid, loopholes in the mandated 2-percent cap, reducing employees' work week to 4-days, Energy Tax Receipts that goes to the State instead of the municipalities and why the money should be dispersed back to the municipalities. Afterwards, an at length discussion followed relative to tax appeals, tax assessments, tax rates/reduction in ratables, tax exemptions for non-profits, the 10-percent reduction in the Township's workforce and how the economic downturn in 2008 contributed to Lawrence Township's current financial situation versus other municipalities.



*Ms. Carol Harle, 117 Review Avenue*, stated although she respects the Council's position with regards to the referendum she is not in favor of the referendum and advised that she done some homework and came up with some facts to substantiate her position on what she is about to publicly speak. She indicated that she spoke to a lot of people in the community, both pros and cons on the matter, and she recently read an article where someone felt confident that the referendum will get passed and from what she is hearing in the community no one knows the outcome because they really cannot calculate how many people are for or against the referendum because there are a majority of people who are not speaking on the matter or they have mixed reviews. So, basically, no one should feel confident either way with respect to the outcome of the vote.

Ms. Harle advised that some of her remarks will be based on what she heard from the public and some of the remarks will be hers. She then proceeded to discuss and comment on the following items:

- A quote that Mayor Kownacki made in the newspaper as to why he felt the referendum should pass and her opposition to the 17-percent tax hike and rebuttal to his remarks.
- An article in the newspaper with regards to officials being angry over comments made by the Governor, urging citizens to call municipalities' bluff by voting the referendum down, and her opposition to the Governor's comments as the issue is much more grave then voters calling a municipality's bluff. She also gave an opinion as to why she feels the citizens of Lawrence will vote "yes" or "no" on the referendum.
- The Affordable Housing Fund as it relates to COAH rules and regulations and the usage of the money for eligible projects and her wanting the Administration to take a risk by inserting the \$990,000 into the municipal budget and call it "affordable housing for all Lawrence Township taxpayers" and let the DLGS decide if it is permitted or not.
- The negative impact that the tax assessments and appeals will have on the citizens of Lawrence as it relates to the renovations at the Quaker Bridge Mall and Lawrence residents being asked to approve a 17-percent tax increase that will essentially subsidize tax appeals for the malls, as well as, the Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) delayed assessment.
- The proposed 17-percent tax increase being only one piece of an accumulative tax hike being the sewer, county, and library taxes are not incorporated into the tax hike, therefore, if they calculate everything together it would extend well over 40-percent.
- Discussed several line items in the municipal budget, totaling \$500,000 to \$600,000, which in her opinion could be eliminated out of the budget and not have any significant negative impact to the services that were previously suggested by the Council to cut.

An at length discussion took place relative to Ms. Harle's comments about Mayor Kownacki's quote to the newspaper, the steps the Administration has taken with respect to reducing tax appeals, Lawrence Township having and maintaining the lowest tax rate in the County and the Administration being proactive over the last several years to prevent a more catastrophic budgetary problem.

Mr. Krawczun advised that the municipal tax rate for Lawrence from 1994-2011 increased on an average by 11-cents for that entire period of time and from 1984-1991 the average tax increase over that eight year period was 11-cents per year and prior to his employment in 1994 the average increase in taxes was about 13-percent per year, and some of that time period Ms. Harle served on Council and faced the same budgetary problem (11-cent increase) year after year... so she should understand exactly what the Township is now faced with. He indicated that the Council is now doing is a market correction all at one time as there has been a long history of managing the tax rate at a much lower rate and due to some of the events that have transpired with regards to the economy they are forced to make adjustments. Some discussion followed relative to Mr. Krawczun's remarks.

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

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#### Adoption of Minutes

On a motion by Ms. Powers, seconded by Ms. Lewis, the Regular Minutes of November 1, 2011 and December 6, 2011 were approved without corrections.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Lewis, Maffei, Powers, Puliti, Mayor Kownacki.

Nays: None.

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#### Introduction of Ordinances

There was no introduction of ordinances.

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Resolutions

Resolution Nos. 128-12 (7-A) thru 136-12 (7-I) was approved by the following roll call vote:

| COUNCIL        | AYE | NAY | PRESENT | ABSENT | ABSTAIN | MOVE | SECOND |
|----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|---------|------|--------|
| Ms. Lewis      | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Dr. Maffei     | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Mr. Powers     | X   |     |         |        |         |      | X      |
| Mr. Puliti     | X   |     |         |        |         | X    |        |
| Mayor Kownacki | 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

There were no bid awards.

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Adoption of Ordinances

Mayor Kownacki read by title an ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER"

Ordinance No. 2119-12

ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2012 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council hereby determines that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$278,462.66 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey by a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring that, in the CY 2012 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Lawrence shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$278,462.66 and that the CY 2012 municipal budget for the Township of Lawrence be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance;

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within five days of introduction; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within five days after such adoption.

The Ordinance 2119-12 was adopted on the following roll call vote:

| COUNCIL        | AYE | NAY | PRESENT | ABSENT | ABSTAIN | MOVE | SECOND |
|----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|---------|------|--------|
| Ms. Lewis      | X   |     |         |        |         |      | X      |
| Dr. Maffei     | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Mr. Powers     | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Mr. Puliti     | X   |     |         |        |         | X    |        |
| Mayor Kownacki | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |

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Mayor Kownacki read by title an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NOS. 2002-09, 1976-08, AND 1876-06 ESTABLISHING RATES FOR SEWR SERVICE"

Ordinance No. 2120-12

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NOS. 2002-09, 1976-08 AND  
1876-06 ESTABLISHING RATES FOR SEWER SERVICE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that Section 20-1A of the Lawrence Township Administrative Code entitled 'Sewers and Sewage Disposal' is hereby amended as follows:

Section 20-1A Sewer Connection – Schedule of Rates for Sewer Services

B. Fees Attributable to Operation and Maintenance Charges

1. All users shall be subject to an additional fee attributable to Operation and Maintenance charges of [~~\$3.94~~] \$4.54 per cubic feet of water...

D. Rate Charges for Unmetered Premises

1. Charges for residential sewer service for premises without metered sewer or water connections shall be based on an estimated annual water consumption of fourteen thousand two hundred (14,200) cubic feet. Applying the Operation and Maintenance charges of [~~\$3.94~~] \$4.54...
  - a. Each unmetered residential use [~~559.48~~] \$644.68
2. Charges for sewer service for hotels and motels without metered sewer or water connections shall be based on an estimated annual water consumption of six thousand four hundred and fifty (6,450) cubic feet. Applying the Operation and Maintenance charges of [~~\$3.94~~] \$4.54 per hundred...
  - a. Each unmetered room [~~\$254.13~~] \$292.83
3. Charges for sewer service for all other uses without metered sewer or water connections shall be based on an estimated annual water consumption of fourteen thousand two hundred (14,200) cubic feet for up to ten fixtures. Each additional fixture shall be estimated at one thousand four hundred and twenty (1,420) cubic feet. Applying the Operation and Maintenance charges of [~~\$3.94~~] \$4.54 per hundred...
  - a. Each use up to ten fixtures [~~\$559.98~~] \$644.68
  - b. Each additional fixture [~~\$55.95~~] \$64.47

Deletions are in brackets [ ]  
 Additions are underlined \_\_\_\_\_

The Ordinance 2120-12 was adopted on the following roll call vote:

| COUNCIL        | AYE | NAY | PRESENT | ABSENT | ABSTAIN | MOVE | SECOND |
|----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|---------|------|--------|
| Ms. Lewis      | X   |     |         |        |         | X    |        |
| Dr. Maffei     | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Mr. Powers     | X   |     |         |        |         |      | X      |
| Mr. Puliti     | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Mayor Kownacki |     |     |         |        |         |      |        |

\*\*Mayor recused himself prior to discussion and voting – employed by ELSA

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**Manager’s Report –**

Mr. Krawczun submitted invoice listings for the month of March 2012 in the amount of \$1,028,398.76.

There was no Manager’s report.

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**Attorney’s Report –**

There was no Attorney’s report.

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**Clerk’s Report –**

The Municipal Clerk advised that Dr. Marcia Steinberg has resigned from the Open Space Committee.

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**Written Communications –**

There was no written communication.

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**Old Business –**

There was no old business.

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**New Business –**

Mayor Kownacki advised that there will be a Special Meeting on Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. to finish the appointment to the Boards and Committees and to discuss the merger of various boards and committees.

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

8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen S. Norcia, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
James S. Kownacki, Mayor