

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

August 21, 2012

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, August 21, 2012, at 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, led by the Deputy 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, August 21, 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 David M. Roskos, Municipal Attorney.

Proclamation and Honors

There were no proclamations or honors.

Review and Revisions of Agenda

There were no revisions to the agenda.

Public Participation

Ms. Amy Davis, 54 Pine Knoll Drive, stated at last month's meeting there was some discussion concerning layoffs of nine additional employees and/or the elimination of trash pickup and that the bombshell report was given one hour into the meeting prior to the Council going into Executive Session; and, because there was no public comment period listed after the Manager's Report the Mayor denied her request to speak on the matter. Therefore, she is requesting that the Mayor and Council strongly consider listing a second public comment period every month after the Manager's Report. She then proceeded to discuss her thoughts with regards to her request being denied and not included on the current Agenda and the Council acting in the spirit of the law for which it was intended.

Ms. Davis further discussed the fiscal deficit as it relates to the Council being innovative and more proactive in their approach to prevent the current fiscal disaster, the Matrix Report that concluded the police force was too top heavy and no action being taken to lessen the problem; members of the police force filing a lawsuit against the Township and the mounting cost of legal fees being passed down to the taxpayers, the defeated referendum and school board budget as it relates to the looming budget deficit, employee layoffs and the taxpayers of Lawrence objection to the proposed elimination of trash collection and user fees.

Mr. Krawczun advised that Ms. Davis raised various points during her comments, some that are opinions and some that are matters that need clarification, and he would like to offer her the opportunity to meet with him at her convenience, evenings or weekends, to go over point by point all the matters she raised this evening. In addition, he would be happy to share all the public information, line item by line item, that was shared with the Sub-committee who did a review of the 2012 budget. Some discussion followed relative to Mr. Krawczun's invitation to review the municipal budget and the proper process to add an additional public comment period to the Agenda.

Ms. Barbara Nester, 20 Adele Court, voiced her strong objection to the layoffs of police officers and emergency personnel as she was married to a Lawrence Township Police Officer for 20 years, who was also a volunteer firefighter, and has seen the opposite side of the job as it relates to life threatening situations in terms of being trapped in their homes during a break-in, trapped in a burning building during a fire or laid out bleeding and waiting for an ambulance. She indicated if any of the Council has ever been in one of those predicaments they would not remotely be considering the layoffs of any emergency personnel and proceeded to discuss the layoff of municipal employees versus the need for emergency personnel. In closing, she urged the Council to find another way to make the budget work as the welfare and public safety of Lawrence residents should be their first priority.

Mr. Joseph Mislán, 4 Sunset Road, stated that he has been a resident of Lawrence Township for 42 years and his comments is concerning the new proposal by Senator Sweeney, Senate Bill (S-2), calling for local units to share services to create cost-savings in the expenditures. He then proceeded to discuss Senator Sweeny previously trying to get the Bill pushed through when he was a Freeholder in Gloucester County with no success and urged the Council to support the Bill, which he feels will aid in the fiscal problem and real estate taxes. Additionally, he discussed his opposition to employee layoffs and his promotion of full employment across the nation, as well as, his full support of the S-2 Bill. Some discussion followed relative to layoff of employees, reduction in state aid, level of surplus being reduced as revenue and the Township's participation in numerous shared services.

Mr. Allen Cohen, 31 Pin Oak Drive, stated that he received his 2012/2013 Tax Bill last month and he noticed that the municipal tax rate increased by 5.86% percent and even with the exclusion of the Open Space Tax the rate is still over 6% percent... so the question he has for Mr. Krawczun is how do they go from a 2% cap to 6% cap.

Mr. Krawczun explained that the 2% cap is not a "hard" cap and in certain appropriations the first 2-percent of increase is subject to the cap and any amount in excess of the 2-percent, up to an average such as health benefits, is allowed to be excluded from the cap. For example: When you calculate pension cost, health benefits or any adjustments in debt services those cost are above the 2% cap. Some discussion followed relative to Mr. Krawczun's explanation of the 2% cap and it still posing a burden to taxpayers of Lawrence although the Township is within the law of the 2% cap.

Mr. Cohen expressed his support of a second public comment period being added to the Agenda after the Manager's Report, which will enable residents to give a timely feedback. In addition, he discussed Mr. Krawczun's planning for the 2013 budget year and his assumptions that any referendum put forward to exceed the "cap" will be soundly defeated and that trash collection will remain in the municipal budget. He further discussed the proposed 17-percent tax increase and it being defeated at the election on April 17 and members of Council finding more ways to reduce taxes, not increase taxes due to the economic downturn and the reduction in household incomes. In closing, he voiced his concerns about the budget, to include him taking the Municipal Manager up on his offer to review the budget, and his strong opposition to trash collection being eliminated from the municipal budget.

Mr. Joseph Furch, 68 Northbrook Avenue, stated that he has resided in Lawrence for 55-years, raised a family in Lawrence and is now planning to retire here in Lawrence. In addition, he has watched the Township grow from a small town to what it is today, which is quite impressive, and he knows that the Council has a hard job; so for that he would like to express his appreciation for the job

they have done; however, that is the job that they chose to do, so the burden is on them to serve and protect the citizens of Lawrence. And, in his opinion, that trumps recreation, education and perhaps municipal employees' compensation.

Mr. Furch advised that given the economic conditions they need to recognize that the police are on the front lines of duty due to the rise in crime and that they need the police force now more than ever. Additionally, the police force demands some consideration because they need protection too, especially when they have to respond to late night crime calls, both the citizens and the police officer are at risk. Therefore, cutting the police force is only going to make things worse so they need to find another way to make cuts rather it be recreational programs or education.

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

Adoption of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Lewis, the Minutes of the Regular Meetings of February 7, 2012 and February 21, 2012 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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On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Lewis, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 6, 2012 were approved with corrections.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Lewis, Maffei, Powers Puliti, Mayor Kownacki.  
Nays: None.

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On a motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Puliti, the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of July 17, 2012 were approved with corrections.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Lewis, Maffei, Puliti, Mayor Kownacki.
 Nays: None.
 Abstain: Councilman Powers

Introduction of Ordinances

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

Mr. Krawczun stated that the Ordinance authorizes a mid-block crosswalk on Lewisville Road to connect the property now owned by Bristol-Myers Squibb, formerly owned by RCN, over to the The Lawrenceville School and that the crosswalk will connect two sections of the Lawrence Hopewell Trail. Some discussion followed relative to the removal or relocation of speed humps on Lewisville Road and proper signage/striping being displayed prior to the crosswalk for public safety.

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

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVE	SECOND
Ms. Lewis	X						
Dr. Maffei	x						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 NO. 2079-11 AMENDING THE CONSOLIDATED LICENSE, PERMIT AND FEE CHAPTER OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE"

Mr. Krawczun stated that the Ordinance amends the Lawrence Township Administrative Code by increasing various fees that the Township currently charges and that the amended fees were previously presented as recommendations to the Council and is expected to raise approximately \$30,000 in additional revenue.

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

| COUNCIL        | AYE | NAY | PRESENT | ABSENT | ABSTAIN | MOVE | SECOND |
|----------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|---------|------|--------|
| Ms. Lewis      | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Dr. Maffei     | X   |     |         |        |         | 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 AUTHORIZING SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS PURSUANT TO NJSA 40A:4-53 (B) TO FUND THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE EXECUTION OF THE COMPLETE PROGRAM OF REVALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY."

Mr. Krawczun advised that the Local Budget Law provides for a special emergency authorization that will allow the payback over a 5-year period to the cost of certain statutory operations, and one of those is a revaluation of property in a municipality when it is, in fact, ordered by a County Board of Taxation, and indicated Lawrence Township has been ordered to conduct a revaluation of all property in Lawrence. Additionally, the Ordinance will provide funding upon adoption and the amount will have to be paid each year for 5 years beginning in budget year 2013 and that the estimated cost was included in the July budget discussions. Thereafter, he discussed the procedure for the allocation of funds and award of contract to the revaluation company.

The Ordinance was introduced and approved 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						

Resolutions

Resolution Nos. 238-12 (8-A) thru 263-12 (8-Y) were approved by 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	X						

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

Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

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

Resolution No. 264-12

WHEREAS, on Thursday, May 31, 2012 bids were received and publicly opened for the project known as Hydraulic Lift Replacement; and

WHEREAS, one (1) bid was received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Hoffman Services, Inc., who submitted a bid in the amount of \$91,500.00, which includes Alternate A-I; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with NJAC 5:50-14, a Certificate of Availability of Funds has been provided and the accounts to be charged are C-04-55-314-287 (\$40,000); C-04-55-513-286 (\$30,000) and C-04-55-343-288 (\$21,500); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that pursuant to the recommendations of the Municipal Engineer, the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a contract with Hoffman Services, Inc., 55 East Bigelow Street, Newark, New Jersey 07114 in the amount of \$91,500.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Manager is hereby authorized to draft the necessary agreement, subject to the approval of the Municipal Attorney as to form and content thereof.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Lewis, Maffei, Powers, Puliti and Mayor Kownacki.
Nays: None.

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

Resolution No. 265-12

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2012, bids were received for Bid No.12-08, 2013 Sedan Police Interceptor; and

WHEREAS, one bid was received and the Municipal Manager has reviewed said bid; and

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by Winner Ford of Cherry Hill, New Jersey is being recommended for rejection because the bid substantially exceeded the contracting unit's appropriation for the specifications set forth in the bid;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the bid submitted by Winner Ford for Bid 12-08, 2013 Sedan Police Interceptor, is hereby rejected.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Lewis, Maffei, Powers, Puliti and Mayor Kownacki.  
Nays: None.

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Adoption of Ordinances

Mayor Kownacki read by title an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14 OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE ENTITLED "NUISANCES"

Mayor Kownacki asked for comments from the public.

Mr. Marvin Van Hise, 118 Federal City Road, voiced his opposition to the following items listed under Sec. 14.2 Definitions of the Ordinance: the growth, existence or presence of ragweed on any plot of land, lot, highway, right-of-way or any public or private place; the growth, presence or existence of poison Ivy within twenty (20) feet of any property line, and artificial discharge by pumping of water, directly or indirectly, and whether in conjunction with other fluid substances or not, onto the surface of public rights-of-way in the municipality, as



he feels those items are encroaching on the rights of people's privacy and should be removed prior to approval.

Mr. Krawczun explained that the items Mr. Van Hise are referring to have been in the Ordinance for a good number of years and are not new additions to the ordinance and that the revisions being made to the Ordinance tonight are recommendations from the State Board of Health so that the Ordinance is consistent with the State Statute. Some discussion followed relative to some of language in the Ordinance being too broad, the adoption of sump pumps/storm drains regulations as it relates to the "nuisances" ordinance and a possible need for the Ordinance to be further reviewed prior to adoption.

Mr. Samuel Pangaldi, 30 Northbrook Avenue, requested a copy of the Ordinance pertaining to sump pumps/storm drains.

Mayor Kownacki asked for comments from Council. There being no additional comments, public participation was closed.

Ordinance No, 2130-12

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14 OF THE  
LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE  
ENTITLED 'NUISANCES'

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that Chapter 14 of the Lawrence Township Administrative Code entitled "Nuisances" be and is hereby amended as follows:

**NUISANCES**

- 14.1. **Scope**
- 14.2. **Definitions**
- 14.3. **Nuisances defined and prohibited**
- 14.4. **Inspection of premises**
- 14.5. **Abatement of nuisances**
- 14.6. **Recovery of municipality's cost of abatement**
- 14.7. **Enforcement**
- 14.8. **Penalties**
- 14.9. **Repealer**
- 14.10. **Constitutionality**

Sec. 14.1 Scope

An ordinance defining and prohibiting certain matters, things, conditions or acts and each of them as a nuisance, authorizing the inspection of premises by an enforcing official, providing for removal or abatement of certain nuisances and

recovery of expenses incurred by the division of health in removing or abating such nuisances, and prescribing penalties for violations.

Sec. 14.2 Definitions

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this ordinance:

- (a) Enforcing officials shall mean and include the health officer or other official authorized by the board of health to enforce this ordinance.
- (b) Person shall mean and include an individual, firm, corporation, association, society, partnership, and their agents or employees.

Sec. 14.3 Nuisances defined and prohibited

- (a) The following matters, things, conditions or acts and each of them are hereby declared to be a nuisance and injurious to the health of the inhabitants of this municipality:

- (1) Pollution, or existence of a condition which causes or threatens pollution of any waters in this municipality in such a manner as to cause or threaten injury to any of the inhabitants of this municipality, either in their health, comfort or property.

- (2) The escape into the open air from any stack, vent, chimney or any entrance to the open air, or from any fire into the open air, of such quantities of smoke, fly ash, dust, fumes, vapors, mists or gases as to cause injury, detriment or annoyance to the inhabitants of this municipality or endanger their health or safety.

- (3) The growth, existence or presence of ragweed on any plot of land, lot, highway, right-of-way or any other public or private place.

- (4) The growth, presence or existence of poison ivy within twenty (20) feet of any property line.

- (5) The existence or presence of any water or other liquid in which mosquito larvae breed or exist.

- (6) The existence or presence of any accumulation of garbage, refuse, manure or other animal or vegetable matter which may attract flies and to which they may have access, or in which fly larvae or pupae breed or exist.

- (7) Depositing, accumulating or maintaining any matter or thing which serves as food for insects or rodents and to which they may have access, or which serves or constitutes a breeding place or harborage for insects or rodents, in or on any land, premises, buildings or other place.

- (8) The artificial discharge by pumping of water, directly or indirectly, and whether in conjunction with other fluid substances or not, onto the surface of public rights-of-way in this municipality except only (a) with respect to water runoff from the watering of grass, and shrubbery and the washing of vehicles and windows and other similar and necessary uses of water for ordinary

domestic and commercial cleansing purposes, (b) with respect to the pumping of flooded cellars and crawl-spaces and as may otherwise be deemed necessary to alleviate emergency conditions by fire, police, civil defense and other public safety agencies, and (c) with respect to such other pumping as, in the opinion of the municipal engineer, is necessary to relieve a serious and permanent water condition and where there are no technologically feasible alternatives, such as curb connections to an existing storm water system having necessary capacity or construction of operable on-site dry wells having adequate capacity; provided, however, in every such instance, that the municipal engineer also determines that such pumping will not result in excessive ponding within or upon public ways in the course of flow to the nearest drainage ditch or natural stream.

**[(9) Any matter, thing, condition or act which is or may become detrimental or a menace to the health of the inhabitants of this municipality.]**

**[(10) Any matter, thing, condition or act which is or may become an annoyance, or interfere with the comfort or general well-being of the inhabitants of the municipality.]**

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to commit, maintain or allow any nuisance, as declared and described in this section.

#### Sec. 14.4 Inspection of premises

(a) All places and premises in this municipality shall be subject to inspection by the division of health or the enforcing official if the division or that official has reason to believe that any section of this chapter is being violated.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to hinder, obstruct, delay, resist or prevent the division of health or the enforcing official from having full access to any place or premises upon which a violation of this chapter is believed to exist.

#### Sec. 14.5 Abatement of nuisances

(a) Whenever a nuisance, as declared by section 14.3 is found on any plot of land, lot, right-of-way or any other private premises or place, notice in writing shall be given to the owner thereof to remove or abate the same within such time as shall be specified therein but not less than five (5) days from the date of service thereof. **[A duplicate of the notice shall be left with one or more of the tenants or occupants of the premises or place.]**

If the owner resides out of the state or cannot be so notified speedily, such notice shall be left at the place or premises with the tenant or occupant thereof, or posted on the premises and such action shall be considered proper notification to the owner, tenant or occupant thereof.

(b) Whenever a nuisance, as declared by section 14.3 is found on any public property or on any highway or other public premises or place, notice in writing shall be given to the person in charge thereof to remove or abate the same within such time as shall be specified therein. If such person fails to comply with such notice within the time specified therein, the division of health may remove or abate such nuisance in the manner

as hereinafter provided in the case of a like condition existing on a private premises or place.

(c) If the owner, tenant or occupant, upon being notified as provided by this section, shall not comply with such notice within the time specified therein and fails to remove or abate such nuisance, the division of health shall proceed to abate the nuisance or may cause it to be removed or abated in a summary manner by such means as the division shall deem proper.

**Sec. 14.6 Recovery of municipality's cost of abatement**

The division of health may institute an action at law to recover costs incurred by it in the removal or abatement of any nuisance, as declared by section 14.3, from any person who shall have caused or allowed such nuisance to exist, or from any owner, tenant or occupant of premises who, after notice and notification, shall fail to remove and abate the same within the time specified in such notice.

**Sec. 14.7 Enforcement**

The provisions of this chapter shall be enforced by the division of health or its enforcing official.

**Sec. 14.8 Penalties**

Any person who violates, or neglects to comply with any provision of this chapter established herein or notice issued pursuant thereto, shall, upon conviction thereof, be liable for a penalty of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00)~~[\$2,000.00]~~ for each violation.

**Sec. 14.9 Repealer**

All ordinances, codes or parts of same inconsistent with any of the provisions of this ordinance established hereunder are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**Sec. 14.10 Constitutionality**

In the event that any section, sentence or clause of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not in any manner prejudice the enforcement of the remaining provisions.

Additions are underlined  
Deletions are bracketed [ ]

The Ordinance 2130-12 was approved 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, "BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE 1787-04 BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ORDER TO REVISE THE DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPROVEMENT HEREIN"

Ordinance No. 2131-12

BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE 1787-04
BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ORDER TO REVISE THE
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPROVEMENT HEREIN

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) as follows:

Section 1:

- a. Section 3 (a) of Bond Ordinance 1787-04, finally adopted April 21, 2004, amended by Ordinance 1850-05, finally adopted May 17, 2005, amended by Ordinance 2074-10, finally adopted December 21, 2010 be and are hereby amended to add the following purposes:

Acquisition of Various Computer and Office Equipment consisting of: "...Video Surveillance Equipment and Software"

Section 2:

The capital budget of the Township of Lawrence is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of inconsistency herewith. The resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director of Local Government Services is on file with the Clerk and is available there for inspection.

Section 3:

This amending bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

The Ordinance 2131-12 was approved 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, "BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE 1978-08 BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ORDER TO REVISE THE DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPROVEMENT HEREIN"

Ordinance No. 2132-12

BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE 1978-08
 BY THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER,
 STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN ORDER TO REVISE THE
 DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPROVEMENT HEREIN

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) as follows:

Section 1:

- a. Section 3 (a) of Bond Ordinance 1978-08, finally adopted April 1, 2008, amended by Ordinance 2037-09, finally adopted December 1, 2009 be and are hereby amended to add the following purposes:

Acquisition of Various Computer and Office Equipment consisting of: "...Video Surveillance Equipment and Software"

Section 2:

The capital budget of the Township of Lawrence is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of inconsistency herewith. The resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director of Local Government Services is on file with the Clerk and is available there for inspection.

Section 3:

This amending bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

The Ordinance 2132-12 was approved 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						

Manager’s Report –

Mr. Krawczun submitted invoice listings for the month of July 2012 in the amount of \$898,680.91.

Mr. Krawczun advised that the Administration was notified by the New Jersey Department of Transportation that the Certification for the yellow-light time at the intersection of Route 1 at Bakers Basin and Franklin Corner Roads, where the Red-Light camera is installed, has been accepted by the NJDOT and that they have received authorization from the Office of the Courts to proceed with the issuance of summonses. He further advised that they have 90-days from the date of the violation to issue a summons; but they have postponed the issuance of summonses because they have question in to the contractor concerning a matter in the contract and that Mr. Roskos, Township Attorney, has contacted their legal department and once they receive back a response to the question they will make a determination as to how to proceed.

Mr. Krawczun stated that the Administration had an opportunity to meet with the Affordable Housing Consultant about the Lawrence Township Rehabilitation Program and that they may recall a Grant that was created in the 2012 budget for the rehabilitation of income eligible units; income eligible units that are owner occupied or occupied by tenants for two units or less up to \$20,000 to improve the property and alleviate any code violations that may exist. He advised that the program is something that has been done in the past with one difference - they brought in an outside consultant completely paid for by developer’s contributions into the Township’s Affordable Housing Trust Fund, and they are using the list of individuals who had previously applied for the funding, as well as, some new applications that are being screened by the consultants.

Mr. Krawczun stated with regards to the letter that was sent out to Tax-Exempt Non-Profit Entities they received back a positive response from SERV Behavioral Health System, Inc.; an organization who operates a group home out of a single-family dwelling on Darrah Lane. He advised that a check was submitted for the full amount that was requested - \$2,101.97, and that the Executive Director was very responsive and clear about the service and support the Township provides and felt it was appropriate to make the voluntary contribution. Subsequently, Councilman Powers suggested that follow-up calls be made to ensure the larger organizations received the letter and that the Mayor composes a thank you letter on behalf of the Council to be sent to the organizations who contributed.

Mr. Krawczun advised that he would be reviewing some of the issues in the 2012 budget and how they apply to the 2013 budget. He then proceeded with an in-depth power point presentation regarding the following items: 2012 Municipal Budget Revenues - Local Non-Revenues, Sewer Charges, State/Federal Revenues, Tax- Prior/Currents years and Surplus; 2012 Municipal Budget Appropriations – Management & Finance, Public Safety, Public Works, Other Operations, ELSA, Debt Service & Capital Improvements and Reserve for Uncollected Taxes; 2012 Municipal Budget Expenditures – Appropriation Fixed, Non-Discretionary Level of Services, Discretionary Level of Services, Discretionary Non-Municipal Services, Discretionary Municipal Services, Social Security and Employee Group Insurance; EMT 3-Year Analysis – Revenue/Expenses; Analysis of EMS/Ambulance – 2012/2013 Projected Revenue and Expenses; Recreation Department – 2012 Fee Analysis and Analysis of Recreation, Senior and Special Event Program Revenue and Expenses for 2013 with/without Recreation Programs.

Mr. Krawczun stated that concludes his presentation and what he wanted to convey to everyone about categorizing expenses and the two options he suggested and that the information was put before the Council so that they can make informative choices going forward. He advised that the information is more a set of ideas not specific recommendations, but more or less how to sort out the information and categorize the specific functions and services that the Township provides and group them together, so that it is easier to use in sorting out what can and cannot be deducted. Thus, he is leaving the information with them for their review and consideration and proceeded to reiterate how important the calendar clock is in making some of the decisions going forward because the earlier they take action the less impact it will have on the 2013 budget. An at length discussion took place relative to Mr. Krawczun's presentation and budgetary reduction of \$950,000 in order to maintain the same level services in 2013.

Attorney's Report –

Mr. Roskos stated he is happy to report that one of their court cases is going to be settled for an amount less than what the Arbitrator's award, which is great news. He also reported that they made service on the bonding company for Carriage Park; a project in which the Developer went bankrupt and did not finish the improvements so in turn they made a demand on the bonding company that provided the performance bond; because for whatever reason the company went silent after having dialogue with them and since the conversation has become a one-way they have filed a lawsuit to get their attention; and, hopefully, now that have been served through Department of Banking and Insurance they should be getting a response to the matter.

Clerk's Report –

There was no Clerk's report.

Council Initiatives/Liaison Reports –

Councilmember Lewis' report:

- Advised that the Growth & Redevelopment Committee had their Awards ceremony and that Mayor Kownacki, Councilman Powers and Councilman Maffei were all present and they had a number of new businesses and lots of folks who applied, which is good news because they had more new businesses apply than they had awards which means business is growing in Lawrence.

Councilmember Maffei's report:

- There was no Liaison Report.

Councilmember Powers' report:

- Discussed the Sikhs Temple hate crime that took place in Wisconsin as it relates to Diversity Day and Lawrence Township Human Relations Committee being very proactive in embracing various cultures in the community. He advised that Mayor Kownacki, Councilwoman Lewis and he attended a candle light vigil at the Sikhs Temple in support of the folks in Wisconsin to show that hatred and bigotry has no place in Lawrence Township.

Councilmember Puliti's report:

- There was no Liaison Report.

Mayor Kownacki's report:

- Mayor Kownacki stated he has nothing to report being his Committees are on summer break.

Written Communications –

- A. Certificate of Determination and Award - Bond Anticipation Note in the Amount of \$5,952,000 – No Discussion
- B. Letter from SERV Transmitting Voluntary Contribution in Lieu of Taxes - \$2,101.97 – Discussed during the Manager's Report

Old Business –

There was no old business.

New Business –

Mr. Powers stated while he was on vacation members of Council received a letter from Mr. Armstrong regarding the 5-Year Road Moratorium put in place on his street and after having Mr. Krawczun do some research it seems the moratorium is a policy that was set a very long time ago and may need to be updated.

Mr. Krawczun indicated during their research they found a 5-Year Moratorium List from 1974 thru 1979 listing all the streets under the moratorium; but they did not specifically find an Ordinance enacting the provision. So, somewhere down the line, 40 years ago, there was a policy developed setting the 5-Year Moratorium Plan in motion. He advised in Mr. Armstrong's case he is one-year away from the moratorium deadline, as of September 1, 2013, and his property is located on a corner lot where he would like to make a 5-foot cut to do a conversion of his heating system; but, because it is not an emergency opening the Township's hands are tied. A short discussion followed relative to Mr. Armstrong setting up a meeting with the Township Engineer to discuss possible administrative relief options and the Council memorializing a Street Opening Policy regarding road moratoriums.

Mr. Powers asked the Council's wishes with regards to adding a second public comment period after the Manager's Report and whether or not they plan to take action on the matter this evening.

Councilman Puliti stated that the Municipal Manager and members of Council are available the next morning to answer any and all questions discussed during the Manager's Report. In addition, the Council needs time digest the information presented by the Municipal Manager so that they can conduct their business in a concise manner and make sound policy decisions. There was no further discussion or action taken on the matter.

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

8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kathleen S. Norcia, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

James S. Kownacki, Mayor