

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

January 3, 2012

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012, at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was opened with a Prayer and 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, January 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 and Mayor Kownacki.  
Absent: Councilman Puliti (The Municipal Clerk advised that the Mr. Puliti is ill.)

Also, in attendance were Richard S. Krawczun, Municipal Manager, and David M. Roskos, 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

There were no revisions to the agenda.

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Public Participation

There was no public participation.

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Adoption of Minutes

There were no Minutes for adoption.

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Introduction of Ordinances

There was no introduction of ordinances.

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Resolutions

Resolution Nos. 25-12 (7A) thru 38-12 (8N)) with the exception of Resolution 31-12 (8G) were approved by the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. 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.

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Resolution No. 31-12 (8G) was approved by the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVED	SECOND
Mr. Lewis	X					X	
Dr. Maffei	X						X
Mr. Powers	X				X		
Mr. Puliti				X			
Mayor Kownacki	X						

Cited Resolution is spread in its 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

There was no adoption of ordinances.

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**Manager's Report –**

Mr. Krawczun submitted invoice listings for the month of December 2011 in the amount of \$2,455,881.57.

Mr. Krawczun stated previously there was some discussion about the submission of a Transportation Community Development Improvement Grant Application to the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC). He advised that the grant document has been submitted in the amount of \$45,000 and the actual cost of the feasibility study is \$56,500, and the purpose of the grant is to receive funding to study the feasibility of creating a connection for the former Johnson Trolley Line either over or under I-95.

Mr. Krawczun stated under the Faulkner Act as a Council-Manager form of government he is required by law to provide the Council with a recommended budget by the second meeting in January; but, the Local Finance Board extended the statutory introduction dates from January 7 to February 3 and adoption date from March 20 to April 20. He advised at the present time it is still his intention to provide the Council with the 2012 Municipal Budget Recommendation at the next Council Meeting as he feels there will be a need for a lot of discussion - not only about the 2012 Municipal Budget - but the budget going forward into 2013. And, because they really need to cover the two years simultaneously during this year's budget review he felt it would be a good idea to provide them with the budget document as scheduled unless the Council desires to push it back.

Mr. Krawczun stated the last item he would like to discuss is the letter he received from the Police Department that will be distributed to the residents on Wayside Lane seeking their opinion and feedback on whether or not the southbound traffic on Route 206 should be prohibited from making a left-hand turn from Route 206 onto Wayside Lane. He advised that the matter was brought up before the Public Safety Committee during 2011 and before they proceed in introducing an Ordinance they thought they might get some feedback from some of the residents who live on that street.

Mr. Krawczun advised that the police would not be performing a survey of nearby streets being they will not have much of an impact regarding the proposal, and as for the survey they thought it would be helpful for the Administration to get a better understanding of the concerns of the residents of Wayside Lane and whether or not they would support such an ordinance.

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**Attorney's Report –**

Mr. Roskos reported that he would be in Tax Court tomorrow on two matters and he will provide the Municipal Manager with an update for the Council. Further, he will be taking the Municipal Tax Assessor, Geoffrey Acolia, with him so they can get a better understanding where they are in each one of those cases.

Mayor Kownacki welcomed Mr. Roskos as the newly appointed Township Attorney and indicated he worked with him for many years while serving on the Planning Board so he knows what to expect and he is looking forward to working with him on Council.

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**Clerk's Report –**

Ms. Norcia advised the Council that they need to schedule Planning and Zoning Board interviews and that she placed a revised listing for the Growth & Redevelopment Committee at each one of their stations. She then asked the Council's wishes with regards to scheduling interviews on January 17 and making the appointments. After a short discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to conduct the interviews on the January 17 at 6:00 p.m. - 15 minutes each and change the Council's meeting time to 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Kownacki stated he would also like to ask the Council's opinion on permanently changing the Council's start time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., which would put them in line with other municipalities that start at 6:30 p.m. A short discussion took place relative to public participation and how the time change would affect residents who commute long distance for work but would like to attend the meetings. After the discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to leave public participation as it is listed on the Agenda; but if it creates a scheduling conflict with residents wanting to attend the meetings they can move it toward the end of the Agenda. Thereafter, the Municipal Clerk was instructed to contact Mr. Puliti regarding the proposal and if he is in agreement prepare a Resolution for the next meeting, making the time change effective the first meeting in February.

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**Written Communications –**

There were no written communications.

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**Old Business –**

There was no old business.

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**New Business –**

Mr. Powers stated that he knows the Township received some emails with respect to updating the bios of the Boards and Committees on the Township website, and one of the things he noticed in terms of the Boards and Committees is that some of them are obsolete and need updating, and suggested that whoever maintains the Township website do some housekeeping by listing all of the current Advisory Committees and deleting the ones that have merged or no longer exist being it is a little confusing for people viewing the site.

Mayor Kownacki also stated that some of the Boards and Committees are light in membership numbers so when the Council starts their review he would like for them to see where they can combine some of those Boards and Committees or do away with ones that have finished what they were appointed to do such as the Route 1 Redevelopment Committee.

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

7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

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Kathleen S. Norcia, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

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James S. Kownacki, Mayor