

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

September 15, 2015

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 6:30 P.M.

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

At the commencement of the meeting Mayor Lewis 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, September 15, 2015, 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 Dember, Kownacki, Maffei, Powers and Mayor Lewis.
Absent: None.

Also in attendance were Richard Krawczun, Municipal Manager, and Township Attorney David Roskos.

Special Proclamations, Recognitions and Presentations

There were no Special Proclamations, Recognitions or Presentations.

Public Participation (5-minute limitation per speaker)

Ms. Lucylle Walter, 34 Van Dyne Drive, Ewing Township, spoke regarding concerns raised in the Community. Ms. Walter is a Freeholder Appointee for the Mercer County Special Services School District, Board of Education. Ms. Walter communicated that since August 2011 there have been three armed home invasions at the Avalon Run apartment complex. Residents are fearful, and Ms. Walter stated that so far the residents of Avalon Run have not been addressed regarding this issue, and she is requesting that the residents to be spoken to.

Mayor Lewis replied that she had a discussion today about the incidents with the Chief of Police. Mayor Lewis said that the Chief of Police has been in regular contact with Avalon Run's management company, and meetings have taken place with them as a way to increase education and awareness for the residents.

Ms. Walter said that the apartment complex's management was sent a flyer from the Police Department with a picture which was then given out to their members. Ms. Walters is concerned that there are no postings of the flyers within the complex as of yet. She does not see additional Police presence and residents would like to have Police presence in the area.

Mayor Lewis imparted that the Police Department takes this matter very seriously, and there will be increased Police presence at Avalon Run.

Ms. Walters suggested a Town Hall type meeting would be welcomed by the residents. Mayor Lewis agreed, and then stated that residents with concerns can reach out to any member of Council at anytime.

Review and Revisions of Agenda

Mr. Powers moved that (18-L), "Authorizing a Closed Session of Council Immediately Following the Regular Meeting, if necessary" be removed, and to add (18-M), Authorizing Lawrence Township to enter into a Municipal Shared Defense Agreement for matters dealing with COAH, to the agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Maffei the agenda was amended to include the above revisions.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

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

Adoption of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Maffei, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 7, 2014 were approved without correction.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Kownacki, Maffei, Powers and Mayor Lewis.
Nays: None.
Abstain: Councilmember Dember.

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On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Maffei, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of **October 21, 2014** were approved without correction.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

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

Nays: None.

Abstain: Councilmember Dember.

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#### Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

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

On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Maffei, the following resolution was presented for adoption:

#### Resolution No. 314-15

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2013, Resolution 287-13 awarded a two (2) year contract to Intermedix for ambulance billing services; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Lawrence opened Bid 15-11 on August 28, 2015 for another two (2) year contract for ambulance billing services; and

WHEREAS, the bids were recommended for rejection due to the Township's desire to revise the bid specifications; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to extend the current contract until October 30, 2015 under N.J.S.A. 40A:11-15(45) while the bidding process is continued.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that Intermedix, 200 Old Country Road, Suite 300, Mineola, New York 11501 will continue to provide ambulance billing services until October 30, 2015.

Same was carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Dember, Kownacki, Maffei, Powers and Mayor Lewis.

Nays: None.

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Introduction of Ordinances

Mayor Lewis read by title an Ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMERNDING CHAPTER 13 OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE CODE ENTITLED ‘MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC’.”

Mr. Krawczun explained that this amendment will create a weight limit on Fackler Road for 4-tons trucks. The primary reason for this change is for safety on the roadway. Fackler Road is a very narrow roadway, and the larger trucks have difficulty navigating.

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

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

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Adoption of Ordinances

There was no adoption of Ordinances.

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**Manager’s Report –**

Mr. Krawczun discussed removing truck traffic from Princeton Pike north of I-95 following a meeting with Lawrence Township’s Engineering Office, Princeton’s Engineering Office and Mercer County’s Engineering Office. The County prefers that Route 583 (Princeton Pike) large truck ban encompass the entire roadway north of Province Line Road, while still allowing for local deliveries to the Mercer Mall. Details are being worked out, and Mr. Krawczun will update the Council when he has more information.

Mr. Krawczun imparted that Lawrence Township received a \$50,000 technology grant from Comcast. Lawrence Township is in the process of renewing the Franchise Agreement with Comcast. Mr. Krawczun handed out a proposal to use a portion of the funding to create technology upgrades at three locations within the Municipal building. The first being Council Chambers to be fitted with 2 - 70 inch display screens at the front of Chambers, and 2 – 60 inch screens to be mounted along the gallery area on each side of the room. The proposal also calls for 3 connections to be installed in Chambers; one at the podium, one at the Clerk’s position, and one at the Manager’s

position. The second upgrade proposed is for the Lower Level Conference Room which would be fitted with 4 – 40 inch TV screens, suspended from the ceiling, placed back to back in the center of the room along with 3 connections installed; one at the public lectern, and two at the table. The third proposed upgrade would be in the Manager's Conference room adding a large screen TV and one connection. Mr. Krawczun stated that if there are questions please let him know. Mr. Krawczun will begin developing the specifications to contract in November. Mr. Krawczun stated that putting Wi-Fi in the building is part of the Stage 2 planning of the proposed upgrades.

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**Attorney's Report –**

Mr. Roskos discussed Resolution 304-15(18-B) which will authorize joint participation with Dr. Robert Burchell of Rutgers University in preparation of Fair Share Housing Analysis. The analysis would be used in the Declaratory Judgement Action filed in the Superior Court of Mercer County regarding Lawrence Township's Affordable Housing obligation. Dr. Burchell, unfortunately suffered a stroke in late July, and is no longer able to consult.

Resolution No. 315-15(18-M) allows the Township to retain Econsult Solutions, Inc. to assume Dr. Burchell's role. Mr. Roskos believes this turn of events presents a problem in terms of litigation because there are several trial courts across the State that believes that every town should come up with their own Fair Share Plan five months from the filing of the Declaratory Assessment Act. Mr. Roskos does not believe that was what the Superior Court intended, and he feels that if the Superior Court knew that the expert hired had had a stroke, they would grant more time.

Mr. Roskos recommends that the Township move forward with Econsult Solutions, Inc. to continue to be part of the consortium. The Superior Court had expected Dr. Burchell's report by September 30<sup>th</sup>. Ecounsel's report will not be completed by that time. Mr. Roskos feels that this is the best thing to do right now, so it is recommendation that the Council adopt Resolution No. 315-15.

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**Clerk's Report –**

There was no Clerk's Report.

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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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**Public Participation (3-minute limitation per speaker) –**

There was no Public Participation.

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**Resolutions**

Resolution Nos. 303-15(18-A) through 313-15(18-K) and 315-15(18-M), were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

Cited Resolutions are spread in their entirety in the Resolution Books of the Township of Lawrence.

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**Council Initiatives/Liaison Reports –**

There was no Council Initiatives or Liaison Reports.

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**Written Communications –**

There were no written communications.

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There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

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Kathleen S. Norcia, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

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Cathleen M. Lewis, Mayor