

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

November 6, 2025

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

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

Mayor Farmer wished to congratulate her fellow Councilmembers on their reappointment to Council, and Councilwoman Santos for her election. There was a round of applause from the audience following her congratulations.

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

STATEMENT OF PROPER NOTICE: "Adequate notice of this meeting of the Lawrence Township Council being held on Thursday, November 6, 2025, 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." Said Notice was forwarded to The Trentonian, The Times and The Princeton Packet on December 19, 2024.

The roll was then called as follows:

Present: Councilmembers Kownacki, Perry, Santos and Mayor Farmer.
Absent: Councilman Bobbitt.

Also in attendance were Kevin Nerwinski, Esq., Municipal Manager, and Arthur Sypek, Esq., Municipal Attorney.

Special Proclamations, Recognitions and Presentations

Mayor Farmer announced that there will be a special proclamation from The Lawrenceville School Hutchins Scholar in Civic Life Program – Students' Presentation on "The Immigrant Trust Act."

Several Lawrenceville School students from the Hutchins Scholar in Civic Life Program came to the podium to discuss their participation in *Trust Our Neighbors* and their support for *The Immigrant Trust Act (ITA)*. They explained that, as students of

immigrants, they have grown up in immigrant communities and know first hand how valuable immigrants are to our society and culture. They relayed that their various backgrounds have afforded them the ability to see themselves in the context of their communities, and believe that every person has inherent dignity, which affords them the right to security in their neighborhoods. They reported that their group aims to foster trust between all New Jersey residents in seeking public services in order to build safe communities.

The students suggested that the United States' Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids violate people's inalienable rights, and urged Council to join the other towns who have passed Resolutions in support the Immigrant Trust Act, which would allow every member of the State of New Jersey to seek public services without fear of deportation.

Mayor Farmer thanked the students for their presentation and taking the time to attend tonight's meeting to discuss this issue, and for their advocacy on behalf of the Lawrence Township community

Public Participation

Dr. Chris Woolley, Chair of the Board of Trustees for *Every Child Valued* shared with Council that he is a 45-year resident of Lawrence Township and has been involved with many Township programs and committees over the years. He revealed that on October 27th, he visited Franklin Township to speak with their Youth Services Director, their School District Liaison and three of their partner organizations with regard to how school and Township collaborations can work. He shared with Council their ideas and how similar ideas can inform the future of the Lawrence Township Community Center, with regard to their non-profit and for-profit partnerships. He indicated that the Franklin Township Center focuses primarily on youth, whereas Lawrence Township's proposed model is multi-generational, serving youth, families, and senior citizens alike. Mr. Woolley then discussed the common core values shared by both institutions. Finally, Mr. Woolley stated that Franklin Township shows how a well-structured community-integrated facility can thrive, and expressed that Lawrence Township can take this idea even further, creating a future community hub that reflects the Town's diversity, partnerships and shared commitment to learning and well-being.

Mayor Farmer thanked Mr. Woolley for his presentation, and shared that Council has held discussions on what the process may be moving forward in terms of the usage of the building. She shared that she has also visited the Franklin Township Youth Center and was impressed by their program and community partnerships.

Ms. Asma Elhuni, *Resistencia en Accion New Jersey* organizer, shared that she and her fellow organization members are present today to support the students of The Lawrenceville School Hutchins Scholar in Civic Life Program. She then asked Council to

place an Immigration Trust Act (ITA) resolution on the agenda for the next Council meeting. She explained that she helps lead Resistencia's rapid response team that includes 90 volunteers who patrol areas of Mercer County and respond to raids several times a week. Ms. Elhim stated that they have successfully stopped several Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) actions by exercising their constitutional rights to observe, document, and inform people of their rights. She relayed that because guidelines between ICE and police are not clear, local law enforcement should not be collaborating with ICE, and for this reason, an ITA Resolution is needed.

Mr. Irfan Khawaja, *Resistencia en Accion New Jersey* volunteer, spoke in support of Lawrence Township passing an Immigration Trust Act (ITA) resolution. He explained that the ITA is a codification and extension of the Immigrant Trust Directive (ITD) that has governed law enforcement agencies in New Jersey since 2018, and it would give the ITD the force of law, and extend provisions to make them stronger. He revealed that the ITA has been stalled in the state legislature for a year, and relayed that the point of his request tonight is to have Council pass a resolution in favor of the ITA, which would persuade the legislature to take action.

Mr. David Schraeger, President of *Resistencia en Accion New Jersey*, relayed that he is present tonight to speak in favor of the Immigration Trust Act (ITA), and stated he is happy that it has already been enacted by twenty-one New Jersey municipalities. He revealed that his organization has been struggling to stop local police from collaborating with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as he feels that they are terrorizing the immigrant communities. He gave a brief overview of the inception of Resistencia and how the group has grown within Mercer County, and explained in great detail their mission to protect the rights of immigrants.

Ms. Jessica DeFalco, *Resistencia en Accion New Jersey* volunteer and member of their rapid response team, stated that she is here tonight to request that Council pass an Immigration Trust Act (ITA) resolution. She believes that now, more than ever, leaders must act to protect immigrants living in Lawrence Township, and relayed that twenty-one other New Jersey cities have passed ITA resolutions. She expressed that government leaders have a duty to listen to the community, ease their fears, and support protections through both verbal and written support, remarking that "policy protects people; promises do not."

Mr. Phil Duran, a thirty-year Township resident, stated that he believes Lawrence Township has a communication problem that is getting worse. He feels that there is no central source or location where residents or organizations can get information. Although the Lawrence Ledger still exists, he believes it has gotten difficult to find over the years. Mr. Duran requested that Council think about what the Township could do to have a central location to gather information and for organizations to disseminate information on what they are doing.

Mr. Emery Coppola, lifelong resident of Lawrence Township and current member of *Resistencia en Accion New Jersey*, stated that his life's accomplishments can be

directly attributed to the opportunities that were provided him by Lawrence Township, from sports, to academics and social activities. He then showed Council a picture of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) followed by a picture of soldiers in Libya and asked if they could differentiate between the two images. He feels that what is happening with regard to ICE interactions within the community is horrific, and residents need to communicate that this is morally, legally and ethically unacceptable. For this reason, he supports an Immigration Trust Act (ITA) resolution.

Ms. Arlene Flores stated that she is a proud Mexican-American and *Resistencia en Accion New Jersey* organizer. She shared with Council her experiences working with families who have had relatives taken by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and how they have become fearful and devastated by the encounter. She explained how her group helps these families find lawyers, food, housing, and "a shoulder to cry on." Ms. Flores relayed that these families need the elected leaders of Lawrence Township to pass an Immigration Trust Act (ITA) resolution now.

Ms. Ana Paola Pazmino, Executive Director of *Resistencia en Accion New Jersey*, expressed that they would like to be the leading protector of their community, supporting families who are distraught when their loved ones get taken through an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) action and help to answer their questions. She stated that the community urgently needs the Immigration Trust Act (ITA) as a statewide law, and by Council putting forth an ITA resolution, it will affirm to State legislatures that this is necessary.

Mr. Raymond Fallon, Lawrence Township resident and *Resistencia en Accion New Jersey* rapid response member, stated that he hopes Council will pass an Immigration Trust Act (ITA) resolution, and through their leadership, push the State along to pass the State-wide Immigration Trust Act. He explained that he is an elementary school teacher in Ewing Township, and shared his observations of the students becoming frightened when police officers visit their school, and how it affects their ability to do their school work.

Ms. Carolyn McGrath, a *Resistencia en Accion New Jersey* rapid responder, shared what the immigrant community is experiencing through their interactions with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and compared the situation to the Holocaust. She advised that the vast majority of people in this situation have no criminal records, and are caretakers, workers, neighbors and family members that are relied upon by others. Ms. McGrath relayed that ICE is using increasingly aggressive tactics that spread terror and mistrust in immigrant communities. She asked that Council pass a resolution in support of the Immigration Trust Act (ITA), as it would protect immigrant neighbors in Lawrence and build a State-wide momentum to pass the legislation in New Jersey.

Mr. Carlos Hendricks, a Lawrence resident and member of the Mercer County Latino Action Network (LAN), stated that he is present tonight to show his support for the Immigration Trust Act (ITA), and his desire for Council to pass an ITA resolution. He

believes that Lawrence Township has always come together when times are difficult to do the right thing, and this particular issue has impacted not only Lawrence Township, but people across the country. He relayed that he and his network will continue to advocate for those who are less fortunate, and it is hope that Council will do the same.

Ms. Farahnaz Shenen indicated that she is happy to be here tonight, and stated that there are many immigrants in Lawrence Township, and everyone is an immigrant of some kind. She expressed that we should not lose our humanity and see people as less deserving because they do not have American citizenship, and she would like to see everyone have the privilege to live in safe, healthy communities. Finally, Ms. Shenen requested Council pass an Immigration Trust Act (ITA) resolution and stated that she would like to see where it goes from there.

Ms. Maral Sahebjame, an educator and Princeton University researcher as well as a *Resistencia en Accion New Jersey* board member, wished to share an experience with Council that she had last week. While she was working as a hotline operator, she received a call from a woman sobbing on the phone, explaining that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents were outside her home and she was trying to stay quiet so that they would not know that someone was inside the house, all the while pleading with Ms. Sahebjame to come over. Ms. Sahebjame expressed that this call shook her to her core, and relayed that this type of situation is happening all over Mercer County. She stated that she would like Council to help keep communities safe and use their legislative powers to push for an Immigration Trust Act (ITA) resolution so that it can eventually become a State-wide initiative.

Mr. Richard Torres stated that he is a proud immigrant from Ecuador and a *Resistencia en Accion New Jersey* organizer, and helps immigrant families across Mercer County. He relayed that Council has shown leadership in the past by passing legislation supportive of immigrants, and he trusts that they will do so once more by passing an Immigration Trust Act (ITA) resolution.

A woman who did not give her name stated that she does not believe she would be able to add anything more eloquent than what her colleagues have stated tonight, but she would like to request Council consider voting for the Immigration Trust Act (ITA) resolution.

Ms. Rebecca Healy, a Lawrence Township resident, asked that Council pass an Immigration Trust Act (ITA) resolution, stating that this would be a small step to help her community. She believes that no human being should be afraid when they have done nothing wrong, as this makes for a terrible community, and she feels that passing this resolution will make Lawrence Township a safer, better place in which to live.

Mayor Farmer stated that she understands that this topic may make people uncomfortable, and indicated that it should. She explained that Council is here to listen to the public and hear the truth being shared, as well as consider what their actions will be as a Township. Mayor Farmer relayed that there were several residents present

tonight who are actively doing this important work, so we should not think that people in our Township are not being affected by this situation. Finally, she thanked those who spoke to this issue for their bravery, for bringing their stories to Council's attention, and for the work that they are doing.

Review and Revisions of Agenda

On a motion by Councilwoman Perry, seconded by Councilwoman Santos, the Agenda was amended to add Resolution No. 357-25 (18-H.11) Authorizing the Public Auction by Director of Public Works by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Kownacki, Perry, Santos and Mayor Farmer.
Nays: None.
Absent: Councilman Bobbitt.
Abstain: None.

Adoption of Minutes

There was no adoption of minutes.

Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

On a motion by Ms. Perry, seconded by Ms. Santos, Resolution (9-A) Authorizing Award of Bid 25-16: RJM Landscape & Design for Snow Plowing Services for the Period of November 1, 2025 through April 1, 2026 was presented for adoption.

Mr. Nerwinski reported that, in addition to the Lawrence Township Public Works staff, it is necessary to have this additional plowing service available to us should the need arise.

Resolution No. 340-25

WHEREAS, on Friday, October 10, 2025, bids were received for Bid No. 25-16 - 2025 Snow Plowing Services; and

WHEREAS, two (2) bids were received and reviewed by the Municipal Manager and Director of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was RJM Landscape & Design, who submitted a bid in the amount of \$279.99 per hour per truck; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-14, a Certificate of Availability of Funds has been provided and the account to be charged is:

Acct.	Ord. No.	Name	Amount
5-16-56-849-299	-----	Reserve for Snow Removal	\$17,500.00

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 Manager and Director of Public Works are hereby authorized to execute a contract with RJM Landscape & Design, 821 Parsonage Hill Dr., Branchburg, NJ 08876 for the period of November 1, 2025 through April 11, 2026 with a contract amount not to exceed \$17,500.00.

Adopted: November 6, 2025

Ayes: Councilmembers Kownacki, Perry, Santos and Mayor Farmer.
Nays: None.
Absent: Councilman Bobbitt.
Abstain: None.

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On a motion by Ms. Perry, seconded by Ms. Santos, Resolution (9.B) Authorizing Award of Bid 25-15: 2023 NJDOT Trust Fund Improvements to Tiffany Woods to Meco, Inc. was presented for adoption.

Mr. Nerwinski stated that this is with regard to mill and overlay work at Tiffany Woods, funded by the 2023 NJDOT Trust Fund Improvements grant.

Resolution No. 341-25

WHEREAS, on Thursday, October 9, 2025 bids were received and publicly opened for the project known as Bid 25-15: 2023 NJDOT Trust Fund Improvements to Tiffany Woods; and

WHEREAS, five (5) bids were received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Meco Inc., who submitted a bid in the amount of \$581,756.90; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:50-14, a Certificate of Availability of Funds has been provided and the accounts to be charged are:

| Acct.           | Ord. No. | Name                     | Amount       |
|-----------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------|
| G-02-41-234-299 | ---      | 2024 NJDOT Tiffany Woods | \$581,756.90 |

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 Meco, Inc., PO Box 536, Clarksburg, NJ 08510 in the amount of \$581,756.90; 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.

Adopted: November 6, 2025

Ayes: Councilmembers Kownacki, Perry, Santos and Mayor Farmer.  
 Nays: None.  
 Absent: Councilman Bobbitt.  
 Abstain: None.

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#### Introduction of Ordinances

There was no introduction of ordinances.

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#### Adoption of Ordinances

Mayor Farmer read by title, an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE, RELEASE AND EXTINGUISH ANY AND ALL DEDICATION OF PUBLIC RIGHTS IN OR TO CERTAIN PORTIONS OF HAVESON AVENUE ADJACENT TO BLOCK 302, LOT 2 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY."

Mr. Nerwinski stated that there are paper streets throughout Lawrence Township, and they are defined as streets or roads that appear on an official map, subdivision plot, or deed, but were never actually built or opened to public use and are deemed no longer necessary. Under New Jersey law, a local government may vacate unused paper streets by ordinance, reverting ownership (often to abutting property owners) under N.J.S.A. 40:67-10. This returns the land to the tax rolls, placing the obligation on the property owner to maintain it.

Mr. Nerwinski explained that, not only has this been done in the past, but this particular area was once property owned by the original owner of Harney's Corner and

was taken for the use of a street, but the street was never constructed. This would return the parcel to the new property owner.

Ms. Kathleen Norcia urged Council to adopt this Ordinance. She explained that Mr. Kevin Rose is a wonderful neighbor who has improved the property that was once a dilapidated auto body shop and is now an actual showplace. She stated that he has kept his property spotless, and it would be doing both him and the Township a service to pass this Ordinance.

Mr. Eric Puliti stated that he has reached out to the administration and Council regarding his environmental concerns with this Ordinance pertaining to the possible existence of wetlands on the property. He discussed an alternative for Council would be to seek the input of the various environmental committees to determine if the property does contain wetlands, as this would be valuable information for a potential future property owner. Additionally, he relayed that he has information and data that he would like to discuss with members of Council individually, such as a potential walkability plan as it relates to Project Freedom and Colonial Lakes, so it is his wish that Council table this Ordinance in order to do their "due diligence" and make an informed decision.

Ms. Kathleen Norcia stated that she would like to respond to the "walkability" comment, explaining that the walkability is through and across her property. She expressed that the Township should be concerned because pedestrians have to walk through, across and over a culvert. Ms. Norcia relayed that the traffic has increased phenomenally within the past year, with people walking across her property to go from Brunswick Avenue over to Princeton Avenue, and she is quite concerned about possible injuries and ensuing lawsuits. Additionally, she noted that if someone gets injured on the Township's culvert, then the Township will also be facing a lawsuit.

Mr. David Mizenko stated at last night's Trails and Open Space Committee, this Ordinance came up for discussion, and a consensus was reached within the Committee that they are opposed to the adoption of this Ordinance, as they are concerned with maintaining open space. If this parcel were to be retained as public property, he advised that the Township find a way to discourage people from trespassing onto private property and encourage people to stay on public property. Additionally, Mr. Mizenko relayed that the initial offer was extended to both neighboring property owners, so the property owner of Harney's Corner was interested, but the property owner to the north did not respond; therefore, he suggested that the Township compromise and split the property between the Township and Harney's Corner Auto Body. Finally, Mr. Mizenko thanked Council for their time and encouraged them to table Ordinance No. 2501-25.

Ms. Kathleen Norcia stated that Mr. Rose is not purchasing the entire area in question, and the section he would like to purchase does not abut the Slackwood School park area.

Mr. Nerwinski clarified that Mr. Rose is not purchasing this property. He explained that it is a road and not open space, and as a paper street, the process involves vacating

and transferring the parcel to the adjoining property owner. The property owner on the other side is deceased, he stated, and they have abandoned their property, which has accumulated thousands of dollars' worth of liens. With regard to wetlands, Mr. Nerwinski relayed that no wetland study has been commissioned, although the Lawrence Township Engineer believes that the property may be impacted by wetlands in some way. Should the land later be subjected to some type of development, then the application would require this type of information from the NJDEP, as it relates to a Planning Board application.

Ms. Perry asked Mr. Nerwinski to clarify that there is nothing currently on this land as it pertains to being "vacated," to which Mr. Nerwinski replied that it is empty, save for overgrowth of vegetation and utility lines.

Mayor Farmer asked if the property contains a creek, to which Mr. Kownacki stated that it does not. He explained that when his Society Hill property's water level is high, their retention pond will begin to flood, which travels through Ms. Norcia's property into Harney's Corner; however, it is controlled. He clarified that although his area experiences flooding, the area by Harney's Corner does not.

Mr. Sypek stated that this situation is not unique to Lawrence Township, and this is done many times through many municipalities across the State of New Jersey. The state statutes are being followed in this situation, and the statutes are very specific as to the procedures and operations to follow when vacating a paper street. He relayed that he had the opportunity to review the documents and all things pertinent to the maps and surveys, and the procedural aspects of this have been completely matched by the Township; there are no other statutory or administrative code procedures that must be followed for Lawrence Township to vacate this paper street.

Mr. Nerwinski shared that this is a small area that was never accepted for public use and therefore has never served and will never serve a public transportation function. He explained that the Township has no present or future need for a right of way and the paper street serves no other purpose. Mr. Nerwinski relayed that the long-term non-usage establishes a lack of public necessity, eliminates municipal liability concerns due to its use as a cut-through area leading to the disturbance of nearby residents and public safety issues. He noted that maintenance and administrative concerns will be eliminated and the area would be maintained and improved consistent with the adjoining property, as demonstrated by the drastic improvements done by the new property owner on Harney's Corner Autobody Shop, which also increases property tax revenue and returns a portion of land to the tax rolls. Finally, Mr. Nerwinski indicated that a resident living close by the area supports the street being vacated to eliminate her concerns about her own public safety, with people cutting through, and there will be no negative impact on emergency response since it has never been used as a street or a means of transportation for emergency purposes. As far as the objection from the Open Space Committee, Mr. Nerwinski responded that this is not open space, this does not adjoin open space owned by the Township, and this is not a situation that the Township would submit to an open space committee.

Further discussion took place with regard to how this matter originally came to Mr. Nerwinski's attention via the adjoining property owner, why the property would be a transfer as a matter of policy and not a sale, and the size of the property, which is 50 feet by 100 feet. Mayor Farmer then discussed concerns from the Trails, Open Space and Stewardship Advisory Committee regarding the possibility that the area may contain wetlands, the impact this transfer of ownership would have with regard to the land's proximity to schools, and the possible acquisition of the land for nearby trails.

Mr. Ken Kiernan stated that the concerns brought about by the Trails, Open Space and Stewardship Advisory Committee are a "red herring," as the land does not abut a school, there is no access to the playground area, the land has been empty for the last 35 years, and the interested party does not want to build on the land, but simply extend his property, which was originally his before the Township made it a paper street.

Ms. Sylwia Kobus stated that she understands that there is a State law that allows for Townships to hand over paper streets, but her concern is for the frequent flooding that occurs in this area, and the affect that paving the land will have on this issue if the new owner chooses to do so.

Mr. Kownacki responded that, as he stated earlier, the area in which he lives has issues of flooding, but this area does not, to which Ms. Perry added that the property could not be paved without the Township's approval.

Mr. Nerwinski stated that most of South Lawrence and into Trenton is an overburdened community under the New Jersey Environmental Justice Law. As such, he explained that any development application would be subject to additional environmental review, community notification, and requirements to ensure that new impacts are not added to a community that is already disproportionately burdened.

Mr. Eric Puliti stated that he emailed his concerns regarding this issue to the Township prior to the last meeting, but did not receive a response. He stated that after sending several emails, he received a call from the Mayor to discuss the issue. He asked Council how residents must go about expressing their concerns and asking questions so that there is ample time for Council to directly engage with them on matters of concern. He feels that issues of walkability in South Lawrence and lack of green spaces are issues that have been forgotten, and he is looking for the opportunity, when these issues arise, to engage with Council regarding these concerns.

Ms. Kathleen Norcia stated that, regarding the issue of garbage that was previously mentioned, Mr. Rose keeps his property spotless. She emphasized that there have been numerous broken liquor bottles, beer bottles, crushed beer and soda cans, plastic bottles and used condoms that have been thrown onto her estate from the people walking through her property. She believes that Mr. Rose will make that piece of property into something that will not only enhance his property, but will enhance the entire Harney's Corner area. Finally, Ms. Norcia urged Council to pass Ordinance No. 2501-25.

Ms. Perry addressed Mr. Puliti and stated that Council appreciates his observations and input on this issue, and remarked that he is following the proper procedure. However, she explained that the parcel in question is not open space area.

Ordinance No. 2501-25

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE, RELEASE AND EXTINGUISH ANY AND  
ALL DEDICATION OF PUBLIC RIGHTS IN OR TO CERTAIN PORTIONS  
OF HAVESON AVENUE ADJACENT TO Block 302, Lot 2 IN THE  
TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, there exists certain tax map page number 3, whereon is shown a paper street named Haveson Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Township has received a request to vacate a portion of this right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer notified all utility companies and Township departments of the intention of said vacation and received no comments; and

WHEREAS, the Township notified the abutting property owner of Block 1001, Lot 33 and received no interest; and

WHEREAS, the Township, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:67-1(b), expressly reserves and excepts from vacation all rights and privileges which may be possessed by a public utility or any cable television company in the right-of-way to be vacated; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence has determined that the public interest will be best served by vacating this portion of said roadway releasing and extinguishing the public rights in and to such vacation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that:

- I. Any and all public rights be and the same are hereby vacated, released and extinguished to a portion of Haveson Avenue right-of-way adjacent to Block 302, Lot 2 (Harney's Corner Auto Body) particularly described in Section A "Description of a Portion of Haveson Avenue to be added to Lot 1 in Block 302" and attached hereto.
  
- II. The tract of land to be conveyed to Lot 2 in Block 302 is described in Schedule A. Description prepared by Trenton Engineering Co., Inc, PLS 43355, September 10, 2025 and attached hereto.

**Repealer**

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

**Severability**

If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance shall be declared invalid for any reason, the remaining portions of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect.

**Notification**

Immediately upon adoption of this ordinance, the Municipal Clerk shall file a copy of this ordinance with the Mercer County Clerk as required by law.

**Effective Date**

This ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after final adoption thereof.

Adopted: November 6, 2025

The Ordinance No. 2501-25 was approved on the following roll call vote:

| COUNCIL      | AYE | NAY | PRESENT | ABSENT | ABSTAIN | MOVE | SECOND |
|--------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|---------|------|--------|
| Mr. Bobbitt  |     |     |         | X      |         |      |        |
| Mr. Kownacki | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Ms. Perry    | X   |     |         |        |         | X    |        |
| Mr. Santos   | X   |     |         |        |         |      | X      |
| Mayor Farmer |     | X   |         |        |         |      |        |

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**Manager's Report –**

Municipal Manager Kevin Nerwinski submitted invoice listings for the month of October 2025 in the amount of \$1,848,821.30.

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**Attorney's Report –**

Municipal Attorney Arthur Sypek reported that Council had a closed session at which time the Mayor and Council interviewed an individual for the CFO position, and as it was a closed session, he explained that he cannot reveal the name of the individual. Mr. Sypek stated he would like to have a sense from the members present whether or not Council should authorize him to prepare an offer letter contingent upon appointment by Council.

Mr. Nerwinski remarked that if Council is supportive of the individual, and that individual accepts the terms that Council is offering, then there should be a special session sometime next week as this issue cannot wait until December. He reiterated that there is currently no succession plan in place, and current CFO, Peter Kiriakatis, has already graciously agreed to extend his time to assist in the transition process.

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### **Clerk's Report –**

Ms. Carter congratulated Councilman Kownacki and Councilman Bobbitt on their reelection, as well as Councilwoman Amanda Santos for fulfilling the two-year term, stating that she is looking forward to continuing to work with them.

Ms. Carter shared that although Mercer County encountered a few problems during the Election, they handled the incidents professionally, and no voter was disenfranchised. She relayed that Lawrence Township experienced a smooth Election, and everyone did an outstanding job, including the Board of Elections, the Superintendent of Elections, and the Mercer County Clerk.

Ms. Carter informed Council that she will be sending out Pay to Play letters some time next week, and will give the Boards and Committees information to Council next week prior to the December 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting.

Ms. Carter shared that Deputy Municipal Clerk, Nicole Hillman, lost her father today, and asked Council to keep her in their prayers.

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### **Unfinished Business –**

There was no unfinished business.

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### **Old Business/New Business –**

There was no old/new business.

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

Mr. Ken Kiernan wished to congratulate Ms. Santos for her election win. He then wished to respond to Ms. Perry's previous comment about his confusion regarding Lawrence Township's form of government, clarifying that he was not confused about the

form of government when he mentioned the \$725,000 grant. Mr. Kiernan shared an earlier statement from Ms. Perry regarding Council's only responsibility being the Budget, and further communicated that the Manager is responsible for the daily operations of the spending improvements, including the aforementioned grant, subject to Council's approval. He believes that the Mayor has failed to move this along, while Mr. Nerwinski and Emergency Management Coordinator, Jack Oakley, made recommendations that were ignored. Mr. Kiernan feels that Council had two years to make a decision, which is not "rushing," especially knowing the terms of the grant were soon ending in December of 2024. Therefore, he suggested that the confusion may have been on the part of Council regarding this issue, instead of his own.

Ms. Perry thanked Mr. Kiernan for his remarks, and wished to acknowledge the fact that she and Mayor Farmer were here for only one of the two years where Council had not addressed this issue under the grant regulation.

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### Resolutions

Resolution No. 342-25 (18-A.1) was approved by the following roll call vote:

| COUNCIL      | AYE | NAY | PRESENT | ABSENT | ABSTAIN | MOVE | SECOND |
|--------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|---------|------|--------|
| Mr. Bobbitt  |     |     |         | X      |         |      |        |
| Mr. Kownacki | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Ms. Perry    | X   |     |         |        |         | X    |        |
| Ms. Santos   | X   |     |         |        |         |      | X      |
| Mayor Farmer | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |

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

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Resolution No. 343-25 (18-D.1) was approved by the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVE	SECOND
Mr. Bobbitt				X			
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Ms. Perry	X					X	
Ms. Santos	X						X
Mayor Farmer	X						

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

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Resolution Nos. 344-25 (18-F.1) through 355 (18-F.3) were approved by the following roll call vote:

| COUNCIL      | AYE | NAY | PRESENT | ABSENT | ABSTAIN | MOVE | SECOND |
|--------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|---------|------|--------|
| Mr. Bobbitt  |     |     |         | X      |         |      |        |
| Mr. Kownacki | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |
| Ms. Perry    | X   |     |         |        |         | X    |        |
| Ms. Santos   | X   |     |         |        |         |      | X      |
| Mayor Farmer | X   |     |         |        |         |      |        |

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

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Resolution Nos. 346-25 (18-H.1) through No. 357-25 (18-H.11) were approved by the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVE	SECOND
Mr. Bobbitt				X			
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Ms. Perry	X					X	
Ms. Santos	X						X
Mayor Farmer	X						

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

Council Initiatives/Liaison Reports –

Councilman Kownacki reminded Council that the Lawrence Township Veterans' Day event will be held on November 11th, at 11:00 a.m. in front of Town Hall. He relayed that there will be refreshments courtesy of the Lawrence Township Recreation Department and the Patriotic Committee.

Councilwoman Santos reported that there will be a food drive throughout the month of November to provide food for local families in need, with donations given to "Arm In Arm" to distribute, with drop off receptacles located outside the Senior Center. The items most needed are canned foods, shelf-stable milk, olive and canola oils, dried cereals, and herbs and spices.

Councilwoman Perry stated that there are several retailers that are providing a full Thanksgiving dinner for eight with a purchase price of \$40.00, the supermarket "Aldi" being one of them.

Mayor Farmer announced that Lawrence Township resident, Jennie A. Kocubinski has recently turned 103 years old. She relayed that there will be a Resolution provided for her birthday from Lawrence Township.

Written Communications –

There were no written communications.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tonya D. Carter, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

Patricia Farmer, Mayor