

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

August 21, 2025

The following are the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Township Council that was held on Thursday, August 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

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

Mayor Farmer acknowledged the recent passing of two members of the Township and delivered a brief tribute to each, sharing highlights of their lives and contributions with the public. She disclosed that Mr. Frank Nerwinski, father of Township Manager Kevin Nerwinski, passed on August 15, 2025 at his home in Lawrence Township surrounded by his family. She recounted that he served his community of Lawrence Township as a Councilman for twelve years, which included three terms as Mayor, and was a graduate of Rider College, class of 1959. Mayor Farmer shared that Mr. Nerwinski enlisted in the United States Navy and served for four years, including during the Korean War, and was later employed by Johnson and Johnson for thirty years and retired as Director of Administrative Services. She remarked that he was an outstanding soccer player and received All-American Honors as a defender for Rider College, and in later years, helped to establish the Tom Hamnett Soccer Club in Lawrence Township. She stated that Council extends their deepest sympathies and condolences to the Nerwinski family.

Mayor Farmer stated that, also of recent passing in Lawrence Township, was Mr. Leon J. Colavita, who passed away peacefully on July 28, 2025. She recounted that he was a lifelong resident of Lawrence Township, and graduated from Trenton State College where he received both a bachelor's and master's degree. She revealed that Mr. Colavita proudly served in the United States Army and had an accomplished career working for the New Jersey Department of Education as a Program Specialist. Mayor Farmer shared that he served in many civic and charitable organizations, including the Lawrence Jaycees, Hamnett Soccer Club, and finally, as Mayor of Lawrence Township. Mayor Farmer then asked for a moment of silence on behalf of Mr. Nerwinski and Mr. Colavita.

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, August 21, 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 Bobbitt, Kownacki, Perry, Santos and Mayor Farmer.

Absent: None.

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

Special Proclamations, Recognitions and Presentations

Ms. Martha Friend stated that she is presenting the final update on behalf of the Mayor's Task Force regarding the future of the Community Center. She recapped why the Task Force was established, their mission, and their future vision for the Center. In addition, she provided a summary of their work completed to date, which involved community engagement, structured surveys on the Center's strengths and challenges, and the desired future functions for the Center. Lastly, she recounted the remaining steps that must be taken prior to the completion of their final report, and reported that the Task Force will deliver this final report at the September 16, 2025 Council meeting.

Mayor Farmer thanked Ms. Friend for her presentation, as well as all of the Task Force members for their hard work accomplished thus far.

Public Participation

Mr. Rupali Chakravarti stated that she is a resident of South Brunswick Township and lives a half mile from the proposed Williams/Transco's Petition for Expedited Reissuance of Certificate Authority for the Northeast Supply Enhancement (NESE) Project, and has opposed this project since 2016. She stated that fourteen towns across New Jersey have passed resolutions opposing this project due to the toxic air pollutants that would potentially be released, and the direct impact from the toxins on human health and the environment. She asked Council to consider adopting a Resolution opposing NESE, thereby supporting the towns across NJ who will be adopting Resolutions as well.

Ms. Diane Heyer stated that she also lives in South Brunswick, and is opposed to the NESE project. She provided photos to Council of areas that will be affected by the environmental pollutants created by the project, as well as noise pollution and risk of fire.

Review and Revisions of Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Councilman Kownacki, the Agenda was amended to add Resolution No. 299-25 (18-H.10) Resolution Expressing Support for the

Formation of a Regional Water Authority as the Provider of Drinking Water Services to Lawrence Township and Surrounding Communities.

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

Mr. Sypek noted the Resolution **passed**.

Adoption of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Mr. Kownacki, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 1, 2025 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

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

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On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Mr. Kownacki, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 15, 2025 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

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

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On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Ms. Santos, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of April 9, 2025 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

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

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On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Mr. Kownacki, the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of March 18, 2025 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

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

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On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Ms. Santos, the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of April 1, 2025 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

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

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On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Ms. Santos, the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of April 15, 2025 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

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

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On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Ms. Santos, the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of May 6, 2025 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

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

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On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Ms. Santos, the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of June 5, 2025 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

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

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On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Ms. Santos, the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of July 15, 2025 were approved without corrections on the following roll call vote:

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

Mayor Farmer thanked Municipal Clerk Tonya Carter and Deputy Municipal Clerk Nicole Hillman for bringing the Council Meeting Minutes up to date. She stated that she greatly appreciates their effort, and thanked them for all of their hard work.

Awarding or Rejecting of Bids

On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Ms. Santos, Resolution (9-A) Authorizing Award of Bid 25-10 to IPlan Tables for Acquisition of Three Plan Review Tables and One Table Top Plan Review Table was presented for adoption.

Mr. Nerwinski stated that this is for three Plan Review Tables and one Table Top Review Table for use by the Inspection department for compliance with NJ State mandates relating to e-plan filings, which will streamline the position and increase better services.

Resolution No. 271-25

WHEREAS, on Friday, August 8, 2025, bids were received for Bid No. 25-10 – Acquisition of Three Plan Review Tables and One Table Top Plan Review Table; and

WHEREAS, two (2) bids were received and reviewed by the Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was IPlan Tables who submitted a bid in the amount of \$35,883.57; and

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

Acct.	Ord. No.	Name	Amount
C-04-55-502-273	2469-24	Computer & Office Equipment Iplan Tables	\$34,500.00
5-01-22-195-255	----	Construction – Miscellaneous Contractual Services	\$1,383.57

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 recommendation of the Municipal Manager is hereby authorized to execute a contract with IPlan Tables, 3831 Frederick Avenue, Saint Joseph, MO 64506 with a contract amount not to exceed \$35,883.57.

Adopted: August 21, 2025

Ayes: Councilmembers Bobbitt, Kownacki, Perry, Santos and Mayor Farmer.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Ms. Santos, Resolution (9-B) Authorizing Award of Bid to Silviu Nedelcu Painting & Remodeling for Housing Rehabilitation at 139 Glenview Drive (Carol Bastian) was presented for adoption.

Mr. Nerwinski stated that this is for the rehabilitation of a property under the Affordable Housing Rehabilitation Program for improvements to that qualifying property.

Resolution No.272-25

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, July 10, 2025 bids were received and publicly opened for the rehabilitation of 139 Glenview Drive; and

WHEREAS, two (2) bids were received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Silviu Nedelcu Painting & Remodeling that submitted a bid in the amount of \$24,750.00 to perform the tasks required in the rehabilitation; and

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

Acct.	Ord. No.	Name	Amount
5-19-56-853-299	-----	Affordable Housing	\$24,750.00

; and

WHEREAS, Silviu Nedelcu Painting & Remodeling performed satisfactorily;

WHEREAS, Carol Bastian, owner of 139 Glenview Drive has been deemed eligible to participate in the rehabilitation program;

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 the Municipal Clerk hereby authorize the acceptance of the bid and the execution of a contract with Silviu Nedelcu Painting & Remodeling, 4475 Route 27, Princeton, NJ 08540 for the purpose of rehabilitating 139 Glenview Drive.

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: August 21, 2025

Ayes: Councilmembers Bobbitt, Kownacki, Perry, Santos and Mayor Farmer.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Ms. Santos, Resolution (9-C) Authorizing Award of Bid to Silviu Nedelcu Painting & Remodeling for Housing Rehabilitation at 169 Marlboro Road (Alfreda Perry & Stacey Jackson) was presented for adoption.

Mr. Nerwinski stated that this is under our Affordable Housing Rehabilitation Program for improvements to that qualifying property.

Resolution No. 273-25

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, July 10, 2025 bids were received and publicly opened for the rehabilitation of 169 Marlboro Road; and

WHEREAS, two (2) bids were received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Silviu Nedelcu Painting & Remodeling that submitted a bid in the amount of \$24,800.00 to perform the tasks required in the rehabilitation; and

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

Acct.	Ord. No.	Name	Amount
5-19-56-853-299	-----	Affordable Housing	\$24,800.00

; and

WHEREAS, Silviu Nedelcu Painting & Remodeling performed satisfactorily;

WHEREAS, Alfreda Perry and Stacey Jackson, owners of 169 Marlboro Road has been deemed eligible to participate in the rehabilitation program;

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 the Municipal Clerk hereby authorize the acceptance of the bid and the execution of a contract with Silviu Nedelcu Painting & Remodeling, 4475 Route 27, Princeton, NJ 08540 for the purpose of rehabilitating 169 Marlboro Road.

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: August 21, 2025
 Ayes: Councilmembers Bobbitt, Kownacki, Perry, Santos and Mayor Farmer.
 Nays: None.
 Absent: None.
 Abstain: None.

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On a motion by Mr. Bobbitt, seconded by Ms. Santos, Resolution (9-D) Authorizing Award of Bid 25-09 to Sunset Creation for Colonial Lake Shoreline Landscape Restoration, was presented for adoption.

Mr. Nerwinski stated that this for the restoration of the Colonial Lake shoreline in which grant funds are being used, and will allow for the work to commence.

Resolution No. 286-25

WHEREAS, on Thursday, August 7, 2025, bids were received and publicly opened for the project known as **Bid 25-09 Colonial Lake Shoreline Landscape Restoration**; and

WHEREAS, six (6) bids were received and reviewed by the appropriate Township Officials; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was Sunset Creations, Inc who submitted a bid in the amount of \$64,675.00; 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-02-41-220-299 |          | NJ DEP Publicly Managed Lake Water | \$64,675.00 |

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 Engineer, the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a contract with Sunset Creations, Inc., 355 Route 601, Belle Mead, NJ 08502, in the amount of \$64,675.00; 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.

Adopted: August 21, 2025

Ayes: Councilmembers Bobbitt, Kownacki, Perry, Santos and Mayor Farmer.  
 Nays: None.  
 Absent: None.  
 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 AMENDING ORDINANCE 2494-25 SALARY ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE – UNCLASSIFIED AND/OR EXEMPT, SEASONAL, EMERGENCY (NON-UNION) EMPLOYEES FOR 2023-2025 – Adds Title of Deputy Municipal Manager, Schedule B, Grade 22."

Mr. Nerwinski reported that last January, there was an expressed concern by the Governing Body regarding the amount of responsibilities of the Municipal Manager. He indicated that he has taken on many roles in the Township, such as: Director of Public Safety, Director of Community Development, Director of Affordable Housing, and serving as the Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA), and Lead Negotiator for Labor Negotiations, all in addition to the statutory obligations of Municipal Manager under Lawrence Township's Charter. Mr. Nerwinski stated that he envisions the Deputy Municipal Manager to be the Director of Public Safety, which will encompass the Police, EMS, Fire Department, and the 911 dispatchers. He relayed that the Township has plans to increase and fortify the Police force, provide oversight to EMS and the 911 dispatchers, and transition the Lawrence Township Fire Department to full-time salaried employees. Mr. Nerwinski explained the idea was that adding this position would help spread out the responsibilities and allow for a more proactive work to be done by the Municipal Manager.

Councilwoman Perry stated that she thinks the time has come for implementing this position in light of the potential consolidation, which will be a part of the responsibilities of the Deputy Municipal Manager.

Mr. Greg Puliti stated that he is against creating the position of Deputy Municipal Manager to assist the Municipal Manager as he feels the need is questionable, and he believes the function and workload has not changed from the past.

Further discussion ensued regarding the oversight of the Municipal Manager, the implementation of written yearly evaluations, the consistent flow of communication between Council and the Manager, and the emphasis on the fact that creating the position was the idea of Council, not the Municipal Manager. After contentious discussion, Mayor Farmer called for a five-minute recess.

Mr. Eric Puliti stated that while he understands that the role of Deputy Municipal Manager is intended to work in partnership with the Municipal Manager to oversee the Township's day-to-day operations, he does not believe the position will foster a welcoming or proactive relationship between the municipal government and its residents, as he feels the current environment is hostile.

## Ordinance No. 2498-25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. – 2494-25  
SALARY ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE – UNCLASSIFIED AND/OR EXEMPT,  
SEASONAL,

EMERGENCY (NON-UNION) EMPLOYEES FOR 2023-2025

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section I. Short Title

This ordinance shall be known and may be recited as “The Salary Ordinance of the Township of Lawrence – Unclassified and/or Exempt, Seasonal, Emergency (non-union) Employees for 2023-2025.”

Section II. Salaried Employees

The attached list of salaried positions and job titles, Schedule A and Schedule B, are hereby authorized and assigned the appropriate salary ranges for 2023-2025, and are determined by date of hire as an employee of Lawrence Township.

This ordinance will continue the Township’s consistent policy of providing comparable fringe benefits to exempt employees during their active service as that provided to Supervisors, CWA Local 1032, through their collective bargaining agreement. The Township will still maintain the flexibility of granting retiree benefits to exempt employees hired after January 1, 2011. Accordingly, employees covered by this ordinance that are eligible for health and/or prescription benefits shall contribute to the cost of the said health benefit premium for medical and prescription coverage as required by law, specifically Chapter 78, P.L. 2011. All employees hired on or after January 1, 2014, shall contribute based upon the year four rates specified by said law and to be made an Appendix to a successor Agreement.

Section III. Part-Time or Seasonal Employees

The following part-time or seasonal positions and job titles are hereby authorized and assigned the following pay maximums commencing January 1, 2023, January 1, 2024, and January 1, 2025:

| Position of Job Title | Basis  | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Armed Court           | Hourly | \$27.75 | \$28.37 | \$29.01 |
| Emergency Medical     | Hourly | \$24.56 | \$25.11 | \$25.68 |
| Firefighter           | Hourly | \$20.13 | \$20.58 | \$21.05 |
| Laborer (Seasonal)    | Hourly | 14.00   | \$14.32 | \$14.64 |

|                                                  |        |                                    |                                             |                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Life Guard                                       | Hourly | Federal Minimum Wage up to \$17.24 | Federal Minimum Wage up to \$18.50          | Federal Minimum Wage up to \$20.00          |
| Recreation Aid                                   | Hourly | Federal Minimum Wage up to \$38.83 | Federal Minimum Wage up to \$39.71          | Federal Minimum Wage up to \$40.60          |
| Recycling Coord.                                 |        | Per Annum                          | \$9,137                                     | \$9,343                                     |
| Position of Job Title                            |        | Basis                              | 2023                                        | 2024                                        |
| School Traffic Guard                             |        | Hourly                             | \$19.29                                     | \$19.72                                     |
| Secretary/Board & Committee                      |        | Per Annum*                         | \$1,800.00                                  | \$1,800.00                                  |
| Tax Search Officer                               |        | Per Annum                          | \$12,810                                    | \$13,098                                    |
| Zoning Officer                                   |        | Per Annum                          | \$5,959                                     | \$6,093                                     |
| Assistant Director of Public                     |        | Per Annum                          | \$6,000                                     | \$6,000                                     |
| Affordable Housing Liaison                       |        | Per Annum                          | \$6,267                                     | \$6,408                                     |
| Affordable Housing Resale                        |        | Per Showing                        | \$100                                       | \$100                                       |
| Fire Department Liaison                          |        | Hourly                             | \$25.00                                     | \$25.00                                     |
| Deputy Registrar Vital                           |        | Per Annum                          | \$2,500                                     | \$2,500                                     |
| Municipal Court Attendee                         |        | Hourly                             | \$24.90                                     | \$25.46                                     |
| SLEO Class III                                   |        | Hourly                             | \$36.00                                     | \$36.81                                     |
| Park Attendant                                   |        | Hourly                             | \$16.58                                     | \$16.95                                     |
| Security Guard                                   |        | Hourly                             | \$25.00                                     | \$25.56                                     |
| Records Management                               |        | Per Annum                          | \$2,000                                     | \$2,000                                     |
| Grant Coordinator                                |        | Per Annum                          |                                             | \$3,000                                     |
| Emergency Response Specialist                    |        | Hourly                             | Federal Minimum Wage up to \$50.00 per hour | Federal Minimum Wage up to \$50.00 per hour |
| Volunteer Incentive Plan (VIP) Uniform Allowance |        | Per Call                           | Minimum \$2.00 up to a Maximum of \$50.00   | Minimum \$2.00 up to a Maximum of \$100.00  |
| Volunteer Deputy Fire Chief                      |        | Per Annum                          | \$2,500.00                                  | \$2,500.00                                  |
| ADA Compliance Officer                           |        | Per Annum                          | -                                           | \$5,000                                     |

| All Others | Hourly | Federal Minimum Wage up to Step 1 In Applicable Job Title | Federal Minimum Wage up to Step 1 In Applicable Job Title | Federal Minimum Wage up to Step 1 In Applicable Job Title |
|------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
|------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|

\* Denotes title paid monthly. All other titles are bi-weekly.

#### Section IV. Eligibility

The ranges in Section II of this ordinance shall pertain to individuals employed by the Township of Lawrence on or after the effective date of this ordinance.

#### Section V. Longevity

- A. Each employee hired before January 1, 2013, and covered by this agreement shall in addition to his/her regular wages and benefits, be paid longevity based upon years of service as of December 31, 2013, with the Township in accordance with the following amounts. Said amounts to be paid to an employee shall not be adjusted beyond the longevity amount being received by an eligible employee as of December 31, 2013. Longevity shall be pensionable and included as part of the employee's regular pay. Any employee hired on or after January 1, 2014, shall not be eligible to receive longevity pay at any time in the future.

##### Length of Service

|                                                     |         |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Beginning in year 8 through year 11                 | \$800   |
| Beginning the 12 <sup>th</sup> year through year 15 | \$1,100 |
| Beginning the 16 <sup>th</sup> year through year 19 | \$1,400 |
| Beginning the 20 <sup>th</sup> year through year 23 | \$1,700 |
| Beginning the 24 <sup>th</sup> year through year 27 | \$2,000 |
| Beginning the 28 <sup>th</sup> year and beyond      | \$2,300 |

#### Section VI. Other Personnel and Working Conditions

All other functions, responsibilities and rights not specifically enumerated in prior sections of this ordinance shall be judged to be within the province of management, subject only to the laws, rules and regulations of the New Jersey Department of Personnel, the provisions contained in applicable agreements (if any) or policy manuals, and by the issuance of Administrative Directives by the Municipal Manager.

Section VII. Repealer

All other ordinances or parts of ordinances adopted prior to the date of this ordinance that are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as they relate to or concern the job classifications, salaries, and benefits listed in this ordinance.

Section VIII. Severability

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

Section IX. Effective Date

- A. This ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption.
- B. All salary or compensation provided for and by this ordinance shall be effective the first day of January.

Additions are underlined\_\_\_\_\_

Deletions are [ ]

Adopted: August 21, 2025

The Ordinance No. 2498-25 was approved on the following roll call vote:

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

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Mayor Farmer read by title, an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT FOR TAX EXEMPTIONS, AND EXECUTION OF A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH CANVAS NJ URBAN RENEWAL, LLC, FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF A PROJECT COMMONLY KNOWN AS 3131 PRINCETON PIKE."

Mr. Nerwinski stated that this is a mandatory part of the legal process for a PILOT program with a particular redevelopment site, so it introduces the necessary legal document required. Mr. Nerwinski stated that not only will it be a benefit for the Township

financially, but it will also be a beautiful development that will provide a need for the community with regard to alternative housing.

Mr. Sypek stated that the administration and their advisors have spent a tremendous amount of time reviewing the particulars with regard to the PILOT, and feel that this gives certain financial advantages, which is in the best interest of the Township.

Mayor Farmer emphasized that it is a redevelopment opportunity for Lawrence Township that will also provide for affordable housing opportunities. She also commented that there will be job creation with regard to construction and the additional plans expected for that property.

Councilwoman Perry asked if this PILOT would affect any other tax revenue, such as education, to which Mr. Nerwinski responded that it would not, as a PILOT by its nature is "payment in lieu of taxes", which means it is not actually taxes, but a payment to the Township. He disclosed that ninety-five percent of the payment will go to Lawrence Township, and five percent of the payment will go to the County. Mr. Nerwinski stated that he spoke with school district officials and asked if a project of this size would have a negative impact in terms of absorbing the 25-30 students that would be across all grades, to which they replied that it would absolutely not adversely impact the school.

Councilwoman Perry asked how taxes would normally be collected, with regard to how much money would go to the Township versus to the County. Mr. Nerwinski responded that, normally, 60% goes toward the school district, 22% goes to the County, and the rest goes to the Township. Councilwoman Perry clarified that with this PILOT project, ninety-five percent of the taxes would go to Lawrence Township, to which Mr. Nerwinski responded that this was correct.

Mr. Eric Puliti stated that he is in opposition of this Ordinance as it would be an economic and social injustice. He believes it will affect the children of Lawrence Township, along with the homeless, and those dealing with substance abuse disorders. Mr. Puliti provided Council with exhibits that illustrate the project's financing plan, certified copies and formal letters from public and private sources of capital, an explanation of need for tax exemption amongst other factors in relation to the PILOT program, which Mr. Puliti characterized as incomplete. The absent information, he stated is the exact information that is supposed to be reviewed in order to evaluate and justify approving this PILOT, which he believes was not given to the Township.

Mr. Bobbitt asked both Mr. Nerwinski and Mr. Sypek, in their professional opinions, if the Township has cut corners, or missed anything with regard to the points that were made by Mr. Puliti, to which Mr. Nerwinski stated that the Township has fully complied with the law, and there have been more than twelve public meetings of varying issues with regard to this development and PILOT program.

Mr. Bobbitt followed up with asking if the Township has received any pushback or concerns from Mercer County or the Lawrence Township Public School District, to which Mr. Nerwinski responded that no, they have not.

Councilman Kownacki asked Mr. Nerwinski how many PILOT programs have there been in Lawrence Township over the years, to which Mr. Nerwinski replied that there have been seven.

At this time Mr. Sypek stated that the OWL video-taping system stopped working, to which Deputy Clerk Nicole Hillman responded that the Township IT specialist has been working on the issue remotely in order to fix the problem.

Ms. Sylvia Kolbus stated that she is against the PILOT program as it provides no funding for Lawrence Township schools. Although she believes it will be a beautiful development, she stated that it is for profit with no benefits for the school system, and will, in fact, cause them to be overburdened. She also asked if this will be a consistent amount over the thirty years, or will it be increased over the next thirty years, to which both Mr. Nerwinski and Mayor Farmer responded that it will increase incrementally over the thirty-year period.

Mayor Farmer wished to emphasize that Council did their due diligence with regard to the school district, and have taken everything into consideration. She stated that they did not take this issue lightly.

Further discussion took place regarding the fact that Council is unable to make the developer pay market rate per the PILOT program terms, the fact that the schools receive 58% of taxes collected making them sufficiently funded, the monies collected by this PILOT program will help fund essential services.

Mr. Greg Puliti expressed that he believes this Ordinance gives money to the developers while taking money away from the schools. He then reported that the New Jersey State Comptroller's office reviewed this PILOT program and found issues that were technically legal, but, according to Mr. Puliti, are bad for Lawrence Township tax payers. He believes Council can and should vote no on this Ordinance.

Mr. Bobbitt asked Mr. Puliti if the New Jersey State Comptroller's report was specifically about the 3131 Princeton Pike redevelopment project, or just a general report regarding PILOT programs, to which Mr. Puliti stated that he is "marrying the two." Councilwoman Perry wished to make clear to the public that the report to which Mr. Puliti is referring was not made directly referring to the 3131 Princeton Pike redevelopment project.

Mr. Ken Kiernan stated that Lawrence Township has until 2035 to meet certain agreements with regard to Phase 5 of Affordable Housing requirements. He surmised that the only way the Township is going to meet the requirements would be through redevelopment, as there are no other available properties on which to build. He then

asked Mr. Nerwinski, if the Township did not allow for the development of 3131 Princeton Pike, could the proprietors decide to demolish the buildings and apply for tax appeals?

Mr. Nerwinski responded that if this project is not approved, they would be well within their rights to bulldoze the buildings and apply for a tax appeal for a vacant land adjustment, which would dramatically reduce their tax obligations. He stated that they could then wait for a better time to develop, and the Township would receive less than half of what they would have received at market rate.

Mr. Dino Spadaccini thanked Council for their time, and stated that he is speaking on behalf of Canvas NJ Urban Renewal, LLC the developer of the 3131 Princeton Pike property. He wished to dispel the notion that the developer would simply come into town and profit heavily from the PILOT program. He explained that because of the urban renewal provisions, the company's profits are capped, and if earnings exceed that limit, the developer must then pay the Township full market-rate taxes. He reiterated the town will receive \$43,560,193.00 with the PILOT over thirty years, as opposed to \$15,154,000.00 under the normal tax payment, which is three times more money to the town under the PILOT program. He revealed that two years ago, his clients were ready to knock down the property but did not do so upon the advice of Mr. Spadaccini because of the PILOT restriction that states if a company begins construction, they are not eligible for a PILOT. He reported that they will not demolish the building until the appeal period for the PILOT is over. Mr. Spadaccini relayed that his clients had no interest in including a retail space, but through the intervention of Mr. Nerwinski, the planners and attorneys, they relented and are now very proud of this additional retail space. Finally, Mr. Spadaccini stated that he is more than happy to answer any questions that Council may have.

Councilwoman Perry asked why a developer would pay the Township forty-three million dollars instead of fifteen million dollars. Mr. Spadaccini responded that if they paid the County portion of the school portion it would be significantly more money.

Ordinance No. 2499-25

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT FOR TAX EXEMPTIONS, AND EXECUTION OF A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH CANVAS NJ URBAN RENEWAL, LLC, FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF A PROJECT COMMONLY KNOWN AS 3131 PRINCETON PIKE.

W I T N E S S E T H:

WHEREAS, on May 2, 2023, the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence duly adopted Resolution #155-23, designating property identified as Block 3801, Lots, 2, 3, 6, 18 and 19 on the Township of Lawrence tax map, commonly known as 3131 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, New Jersey, as a non-condemnation area in need of

redevelopment (the “Redevelopment Area”) in accordance with the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 *et seq.* (the “Redevelopment_Law”); and

WHEREAS, CANVAS NJ URBAN RENEWAL LLC (the “Entity”) submitted to the Township of Lawrence an application for tax exemptions and payments in lieu of taxes (the “Application”) for the improvements to be constructed within a portion of the Redevelopment Area known and designated as Block 3801 Lot 2.01 f/k/a lots 2 and 3 in accordance with Section 8 of the Long-Term Tax Exemption Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 *et seq.* (the “LTTE Law”), a copy of which is on file with the Township Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Entity also submitted to the Township of Lawrence a form of financial agreement (the “Financial Agreement”), a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit A** establishing the rights, responsibilities and obligations of the Entity, with respect to the tax exemptions and payments in lieu of taxes, in accordance with the LTTE Law; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the Application and the proposed Financial Agreement and, upon recommendation by legal counsel, now desires to approve the Application and authorize the execution of the Financial Agreement, substantially in the same form as that on file with the Township Clerk, setting forth the rights and obligations of the Township and the Entity for payment of the Annual Service Charge in lieu of taxes for municipal services provided to the Redevelopment Project; and

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

1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if fully set forth at length.
2. The Application is hereby approved, and in reliance upon the information provided herein by the Entity, the proposed Financial Agreement in the form attached to the Application as Exhibit 19 is also approved.

Township of Lawrence
County of Mercer

3. Upon completion of the Redevelopment Project, as evidenced by a Certificate of Completion (as defined in the Financial Agreement), the Redevelopment Project improvements shall be exempt from taxation for the period set forth in the Financial Agreement, during which time the Entity shall make payments to the Township in lieu of taxes in the amounts specified in the Financial Agreement in consideration of the provision of municipal services to the Redevelopment Project.
4. The Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Financial Agreement and any associated documents, instruments, and agreements referenced therein, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit 19 to the Application, subject

to minor modification or revision, as deemed necessary and appropriate after consultation with counsel.

5. The Township Clerk is hereby authorized and directed, upon execution of the Financial Agreement and related documents, instruments, and agreements, to attest to the signature of the Mayor upon such document(s) and is hereby further authorized and directed to thereupon affix the corporate seal of the Township.
6. If any part(s) of this Ordinance shall be deemed invalid, such part(s) shall be severable and the invalidity thereof shall not affect the remaining parts of the Ordinance.
7. This Ordinance shall take effect in accordance with applicable law.

Adopted: August 21, 2025

The Ordinance No. 2499-25 was approved on the following roll call vote:

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

Manager's Report –

Municipal Manager Kevin Nerwinski submitted invoice listings for the month of August 2025 in the amount of \$2,053,545.82.

Mr. Nerwinski provided an update as to the traffic signal progress at Federal City Road and Federal Point Boulevard. He recounted that Council moved to continue with the traffic light at Federal Point Boulevard and Federal City Road to provide a response to the safety concerns of the residents of the Traditions development. He relayed that the designs were submitted to the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), and the preliminary designs were reviewed with comments. He explained that the comments were also provided to the Township of Hopewell, as they have an apartment complex across the street that would also use the traffic light. Mr. Nerwinski shared that Hopewell administrators were initially unsupportive; however, they were able to work out their differences and submitted a letter of support to the NJDOT. He reported that the NJDOT are now in the final phases of completing their review along with their final recommendations, and once they are received, the Township will move forward with the final design and construction.

Attorney's Report –

There was no attorney's report.

Clerk's Report –

Municipal Clerk, Tonya Carter, reported that her office has begun processing cat licenses. She relayed that she is also beginning the onboarding process pertaining to the new OPRA program. In addition, Ms. Carter revealed that she has been working with the Lawrence Township Media Department to add public notices, such as Resolutions and Legal Notices, onto the Lawrence Township website.

Unfinished Business –

Mayor Farmer reported that they will now discuss *Agenda Meetings – Discussion Regarding the Implementation of a Caucus Meeting Including the Purpose, Scheduling, Logistics and OPMA Compliance*. She began by stating that the notion of Council wanting to have an opportunity to have discussions about various upcoming topics in addition to the monthly Council meetings was presented at a previous meeting, but not all Council members were present. She presented this concept to Council to see if there was an interest, and also shared that this form of meeting does not require the level of detail of a typical Council meeting, but is more of a "workshop" type of meeting to discuss issues that require more time, such as housing issues or the Fire Study. She revealed that there are other Towns with the same form of government who also have this type of meeting, and they call them "Agenda Meetings." Mayor Farmer relayed that they are not necessarily looking to have an Agenda Meeting, but more of allowing Council the ability to have conversations and discussions pertaining to items that are before Council, so that as a body, they can be more informed about the ideas and have robust discussions. She stated that she was now opening the floor to any Council members who wished to share additional thoughts on this topic.

Councilman Christopher Bobbitt asked Mayor Farmer if she was referring to "big issues," not necessarily the awarding of bids, and other housekeeping items, to which she responded in the affirmative. She stated that these meetings would be specific to discussions that they would need to have as a body, and would provide another opportunity for discussion. She relayed that she is aware of the point Councilman Kownacki raised at the last meeting, with regard to being paid for an additional meeting, and understands that Councilmembers are busy with the various committees to which they belong, in addition to the regular Council meetings that are held twice a month, and admitted that it would require additional time on their part.

Mr. Bobbitt addressed Ms. Carter and Mr. Sypek to ask what would prevent Council from calling a special meeting to discuss an issue, to which they both replied, "nothing." Mr. Bobbitt stated that the issue he has with this idea is that it would be an ongoing agenda meeting and he does not understand the reason for this. He observed that if a big issue needed discussion, an agenda meeting would be appropriate; however, he does not understand the need for it to be ongoing, as a simple phone call over the weekend for clarification and reviewing the list seems very appropriate.

Mayor Farmer affirmed that she understands his point, and clarified that it would be more of a caucus meeting rather than an agenda meeting.

Mr. Sypek clarified that it would not be a caucus meeting, but would better be characterized as a workshop meeting. He explained that workshops offer specific, narrowly-defined issues, be it public safety, planning, etc. He relayed that his concern is that this will require an amendment to the Administrative Code and an Ordinance, and a great deal of work. Mr. Sypek stated that, in all candor, he would like to know the temperature of the Council if they would like to move forward so that he will know where to concentrate his efforts, rather than waste time and Township money redrawing the Administrative Code and Ordinances. He suggested Council take a non-binding straw vote, which is perfectly legal, and would be very helpful to know if the majority wishes to move forward, or just allow to have a special project meeting once a month on a particular issue that Council feels would require concentrated time for discussion.

Councilwoman Perry stated that she thinks it would be very beneficial to have a workshop meeting for special topics and bigger items, this way, Council is not just having one conversation at the regular Council meeting.

Mr. Nerwinski stated that the Lawrence Township Charter has Special Meetings identified, so Council always has the ability to have special meetings.

Mr. Bobbitt asked both Ms. Carter and Mr. Sypek, in special meetings, is it typical that no formal action is taken? Ms. Carter replied that according to the Code, formal action may be taken with regard to a specific item. For example, if the meeting is pertaining to one specific topic, then formal action must be taken on that topic and no other.

Mr. Bobbitt stated that he would like to keep the business of Township Council at the regular meetings, not at special meetings.

New Business –

There was no new business.

Public Participation (3-minute limitation per speaker) –

There was no public participation.

Resolutions

Resolution Nos. 274-25 (18-C.1) through 298-25 (18-H.9) were approved by the following roll call vote:

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVE	SECOND
Mr. Bobbitt	X					X	
Mr. Kownacki	X						
Ms. Perry	X						
Mr. 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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Councilwoman Perry asked Councilman Bobbitt how Resolution No. 299-25 *Resolution Expressing Support for The Formation of a Regional Water Authority as The Provider of Drinking Water Services to Lawrence Township and Surrounding Communities* came about, to which he replied that colleagues in other suburban communities had mentioned this to him and he felt that it was appropriate for Lawrence Township.

Ms. Perry then asked if this would directly impact the current agreement with Trenton Water Works in a way that would supersede their authority, to which he replied yes, because it is looking to create a regional water utility, so that Hamilton, Lawrence, Ewing and Trenton would all have a seat at the table, instead of just Trenton.

Ms. Perry asked if they are in the process of litigation for Lawrence to do this already, to which Mr. Sypek responded that there is currently litigation, but he must discuss this in closed session.

Finally, Ms. Perry asked, in the interest of listening to the information Mr. Sypek will disclose in closed session, if this could be tabled until the next meeting.

Discussion was had in which it was decided that a motion to table supersedes a Resolution that has already been introduced and motioned, the idea that this Resolution is only expressing support, not a directive of any authority, and the fact that Council had already recently provided a press release stating their support for regionalization.

After the discussion, Resolution No. 299-25 (18-H.10) was moved to **table** 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   |         |        |         |      |        |
| Mayor Farmer | X   |     |         |        |         |      | X      |

Mr. Sypek noted the motion to table the Resolution **failed**.

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Resolution No. 299-25 (18-H.10) was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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

Ms. Perry wished to note that if Council were to have had a discussion ahead of time, then she would have voted a different way. She stated that she cannot be informed about an issue shortly before a meeting and be expected to vote on the matter.

Council Initiatives/Liaison Reports –

Mayor Farmer wished to publicly thank Greg Whitehead and the Public Works Department for allowing her to visit onsite and learn more about the work that their department is doing. She stated she is very appreciative of all that they do and thanked them for their hospitality.

She also wished to thank Police Chief Reading for allowing her to do a ride along with Officer Campbell. She stated that it was an honor, and she has a great appreciation for all the work that the Lawrence Township Police do for the community, and for keeping all Township residents safe. She relayed that it was also "eye-opening" to see the level of empathy they have for the public, how they truly care about the community and how they work together as a team and support one another.

Councilwoman Santos stated that she attended the Growth and Redevelopment Committee on August 12, 2025, and reported that they have selected two student representatives, a junior and a senior, to serve on the committee. She relayed that there

was discussion about potentially hiring interns for Councilmembers, which she conveyed was of great interest to her. Ms. Santos indicated that the committee is considering hosting a networking event for local businesses in October, as well as a potential teen job fair in January. She reported that their next meeting is on September 9, 2025.

Mayor Farmer reported that on September 27, 2025, the Lewisville Marker Committee will host a panel discussion at the Lawrenceville School from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. She indicated that more information will follow.

Councilwoman Perry stated that, as the liaison of the Public Safety Committee, as well as the Committee Chair for the Public Safety Study Subcommittee, she is honored to present their findings and recommendations. She relayed that the Subcommittee was created to examine the potential consolidation of the Fire and EMS Departments, and to determine the best possible structure for the Lawrence Township Fire and EMS services moving forward. Ms. Perry recapped the assemblage of the committee members and their qualifications, the rigorous process and parameters created in choosing a consulting firm to evaluate the Fire and EMS departments along with the possibility of consolidation, and the detailed rubric used to narrow the field from seven down to three choices. The first firm to be chosen for consideration, she revealed, was CGR Consulting, based out of Rochester, New York, with a bid of \$57,000.00. She stated that they had a very data-driven approach to develop their recommendations. Ms. Perry revealed the second firm to be chosen was H2M Architects and Engineers, based out of Wall Township, with a bid of \$43,750.00. She shared that they have municipal management experience, which aligns well with the needs of the study. The third and final firm to be chosen was the Center for Public Safety Management (CPSM), a national firm based out of Washington, D.C., she relayed, with a strong portfolio of projects across the country, including recent work in Trenton, NJ, and towns similar to Lawrence Township. She specified that their bid was \$63,010.00.

Ms. Perry revealed that after careful review, the Subcommittee has recommended CPSM due to their comprehensive experience with towns the size of Lawrence Township and their expertise in Fire and EMS management. She explained that the next steps will be for Council to vote on which consulting firm they will engage with a contract, which is expected to be awarded soon. Once the firm is contracted, she disclosed, Council can anticipate the study findings to be presented within four to six months, which will include recommendations for improvements, the optimum structure of the Fire and EMS departments, and whether consolidation is a viable option.

Ms. Perry thanked Council for the opportunity to speak, stating that she has been deeply inspired by the hard work and dedication of Lawrence Township's public servants, and she looks forward to working with the Town and its management, however needed, to make sure that Council is serving its residents to the upmost degree.

Mayor Farmer thanked Ms. Perry for her presentation, and opened the floor to any comments or questions from the Council.

Mr. Sypek wished to make clear that a vote will not be taken tonight, as no formal action is scheduled at this time. He stated that it will presumably be up for vote at the next Council meeting in September, after first confirming that the proposal is still viable, as it is eight months old.

Mr. Bobbitt asked if, through this process, there were any conversations with the Township Manager or Fire Chief regarding the study, or was it simply the work of the Subcommittee. Ms. Perry responded that there was little conversation with the Manager or Fire Chief and mostly the work of the Subcommittee, as this is how they were asked to proceed.

Mr. Bobbitt asked if the Subcommittee reported any of their findings to the Public Safety Committee, or have they gone straight to the Council and the public with their findings. Ms. Perry responded that portions were presented to the Public Safety Committee, with regard to the consultants that were being considered; however, the full board reported to Council, not to the Public Safety Committee.

Mr. Bobbitt stated that he is missing a few items from his package; he has the three proposals, but no RFP or rubric, to which Ms. Perry responded that it was e-mailed to Mr. Bobbitt prior to the meeting, but she can provide it to him again.

Further discussion was had regarding why CPSM was chosen, the differences between their firm and the other candidates, their wealth of experience, the fact that they are a nonprofit, their experience with east coast towns that similar to the size of Lawrence Township, and that they are a subdivision of one of the largest and longest fire safety companies in the United States.

Written Communications –

There were no written communications.

There being no further business to come before this Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tonya D. Carter, Municipal Clerk

Attest:

Patricia Farmer, Mayor