



LAWRENCE PARK TOWNSHIP

Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes Lawrence Park Township July 8, 2026

6:00 PM

1. **Call to Order:** 6:00 PM by Board President Charles Lewis
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call:**
 - a. Lawrence Park Township Officials Roll Call
 - i. Charles Lewis, Commissioner
 - ii. Dale Williams, Commissioner
 - iii. Joseph Golden, Commissioner
 - iv. Lydia Caparosa, Township Solicitor
 - v. John Morell, Chief of Police
 - vi. Kayla Chadsey, Township Treasurer
 - vii. Zamaria Klett, Junior Commissioner
 - b. Absent Township Officials: Doug Keffer, Commissioner, Thomas Buchleitner, Commissioner, Spencer Cadden, Township Manager, Charles Clorley, Zoning and Code Enforcement, Township Engineer
 - c. Residents & Visitors
 - i. Visitors signed in to speak: Matt Marini, Joyce Price, Michael McMillin, Kim Marini, Tex Brieger
 - ii. Visitors present but did not sign up to speak:
 1. Sarah Trojak, Cheryl Smith, Rick Garman, Karen Barringer, and additional visitors who declined to sign in

4. Reports

- a. **Police:** A written report was furnished prior to the meeting. Chief Morell stated that he had nothing further to add to the written report.
- b. **Treasurer:** A written report was furnished prior to the meeting. President Lewis noted that the report had been reviewed and was in order, and no additional discussion took place.
- c. **Code/Zoning:** A written report was furnished prior to the meeting. The Code/Zoning Enforcement Officer was not present. The report noted that approximately seventy properties had been issued permits for building.
- d. **Solicitor:** No report was furnished.
- e. **Engineer:** A written report was furnished prior to the meeting. The report addressed the lift station, grant applications for Phase II and Phase III of the Bell Street Bridge and Water Street Trail project, and an upcoming sanitary video inspection of the Township's sewers and manholes to evaluate necessary work.



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- f. **Manager:** A written report was furnished prior to the meeting. Manager Cadden was absent, and Solicitor Caparosa reviewed the report on his behalf. The report noted that the July fireworks display was another success and that the Township had received a grant supporting the display this year. It further noted that the road construction work had been completed in the prior week, with the Board expressing satisfaction with McCormick Construction's work, and that the first Farmers Market held in June was very successful, with another scheduled this month.
- g. **Junior Commissioner:** Junior Commissioner Zamaria Klett reported that the recent community events were beneficial for the youth, providing volunteer opportunities to assist with the Main Street cleanup and the cleanup following the fireworks, and offering activities for young people. She praised the Farmers Market for engaging the youth of the community and encouraged the continuation of cleanups and youth activities throughout the summer. President Lewis recognized the Junior Commissioner's service, noting that she would be attending a four-day drug prevention conference in Orlando as a repeat participant and that she advocates on behalf of the community to state and federal representatives.

5. Motion to accept the reports as submitted.

- a. **Motion** by: Commissioner Golden
- b. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Williams
- c. **Motion:** passed unanimously

6. Motion to ratify bill payments made during June 2026.

- a. **Motion** by: Commissioner Williams
- b. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Golden
- c. **Motion:** passed unanimously

7. Motion to approve the meeting minutes for the stated meeting of June 10, 2026.

- a. **Motion** by: Commissioner Golden
- b. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Williams
- c. **Motion:** passed unanimously

8. Township resident comments:

- a. **Matt Marini and Joyce Price** spoke as a follow-up to the June meeting regarding the October 2025 sewer backup and flooding event that affected nine Main Street businesses, including Irish Cousins and Dabrowski's. They stated that reimbursement claims filed with both their own insurance carrier and the Township's insurance carrier had been denied, that they had filed a complaint with the Pennsylvania Insurance Department, and that a similar sewer backup had recurred on June 22, 2026. They requested that the Township pursue the matter with its insurance carrier and consider reimbursement for the businesses' losses. Mr. Marini also raised a concern that a Township employee had reportedly contacted the county health department regarding



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grease disposal at their businesses, which he denied, and requested that the matter be investigated.

- b. **Joyce Price** presented a prelitigation notice and stated that she had filed a right-to-know request on June 16, 2026, for which a thirty-day extension had been granted, with a response due July 22, 2026. She referenced Act 167 requirements regarding municipal storm and sewer maintenance and questioned whether sewer-related expenses could be reimbursed from the general fund. Solicitor Caparosa explained that the sewer revenue fund is designated for sewer system expenses and not for the payment of claims, and stated that, given the indicated intent to pursue litigation, she would not discuss the matter further in public session. The prelitigation notice and insurance complaint would be forwarded to the Township's insurance carrier.
- c. **Kim Marini** spoke regarding the same health department matter, stating that the report was inaccurate and retaliatory and requesting the termination of the employee involved. President Lewis stated that he would investigate the matter but would not take immediate personnel action.
- d. During public comment, Solicitor Caparosa requested that decorum be maintained and that audience members not addressing the Board from the podium remain quiet.
- e. **Rick Garman** was present but elected to defer his comments to a future meeting.
- f. **Michael McMillin** spoke regarding Township spending priorities and expressed dissatisfaction with the condition of the Township's parks, streets, and recreational facilities in comparison to neighboring municipalities, and raised concerns regarding the School Resource Officer program.
- g. **Tex Brieger**, of 3808 Emmet Drive, spoke regarding recent tree clearing in the Elbow Tree Park, expressing concern about the extent of the clearing along the northeastern corner. He stated his support for allowing younger trees to regenerate the preserve and offered to assist in pursuing grant funding to plant replacement trees.

9. Old Business

- a. **Discussion** was held regarding the final approval of a four-year agreement providing School Resource Officer (SRO) services to the Iroquois School District, following the Iroquois School Board's approval of the agreement as drafted. Solicitor Caparosa noted that the agreement was a standard SRO agreement with an updated compensation structure to ensure coverage every school day. Followed by a **motion** to approve the agreement.
 - 1. **Motion** by: Commissioner Golden
 - 2. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Williams



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3. **Motion:** passed unanimously
- b. **Discussion** was held regarding the final approval of a five-year collective bargaining agreement with the Lawrence Park Township Police Department extending the current contract provisions, effective January 1, 2027. Solicitor Caparosa recommended clarifications and noted minor, nonsubstantive formatting corrections. Followed by a **motion** to approve the agreement subject to finalizing those items.
 1. **Motion** by: Commissioner Golden
 2. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Williams
 3. **Motion:** passed unanimously
- c. **Discussion** was held regarding Konzel Construction Pay Application No. 11 in the amount of \$13,500, representing final payment and one hundred percent completion of the Soudan Lift Station project. Followed by a **motion** to approve the payment.
 1. **Motion** by: Commissioner Williams
 2. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Golden
 3. **Motion:** passed unanimously

10. New Business

- a. A **discussion** was held regarding a change order to the Township road construction project adding a new parking area and repaving the basketball court in Lake Cliff, with the improvements to be paid from the parks capital improvement fund at a total cost of \$36,341.43. The work would be performed as part of the existing McCormick Construction contract, and discussion was held regarding adding pickleball lines to create a dual-purpose court. Followed immediately by a **motion** to approve the change order.
 - i. **Motion** by: Commissioner Golden
 - ii. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Williams
 - iii. **Motion:** passed unanimously
- b. A **discussion** was held regarding the purchase of building access and technology upgrades, including cameras and lighting, supported by the previously approved STMP grant. Discussion was held regarding the locations for the camera systems throughout the Township and parks for safety purposes, with the improvements funded by the grant. Followed immediately by a **motion** to proceed with the project.
 - i. **Motion** by: Commissioner Williams
 - ii. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Golden
 - iii. **Motion:** passed unanimously



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- c. A **discussion** was held regarding Resolution 2026-23 authorizing the submission of an application to the Commonwealth Multimodal Transportation Fund for Phase II of the Water Street Corridor and Bell Street Bridge project, subject to final engineering scope, cost estimates, and the identification of required matching funds. It was noted that the maximum request under the program is \$1,000,000, that the program requires a thirty percent match of up to \$300,000 which the Township may seek to have waived or funded through other grant sources, and that submission of the application does not obligate the Township to accept the grant or to expend matching funds. Followed immediately by a **motion** to authorize submission of the application.
 - i. **Motion** by: Commissioner Williams
 - ii. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Golden
 - iii. **Motion:** passed unanimously
- d. A **motion** was made to accept the resignation of Township Public Works Lead Employee and Supervisor Jon Garman.
 - i. **Motion** by: Commissioner Golden
 - ii. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Williams
 - iii. **Motion:** passed unanimously
- e. Commissioner Williams expressed his appreciation for Mr. Garman's dedication, loyalty, and years of service to the Township and wished him well.

11. Executive Session

- a. The Board announced that it would enter into an executive session to discuss real estate matters and to consult with the Township Solicitor regarding legal matters. No action was anticipated following the executive session.

12. Meeting adjournment

- a. A motion to adjourn the meeting.
 - i. **Motion** by: Commissioner Golden
 - ii. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Williams
 - iii. **Motion:** passed unanimously
- b. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Spencer Cadden, Township Manager, Secretary

Date



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