# LAWRENCE PARK TOWNSHIP

**Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**
**Lawrence Park Township**
**October 21, 2026**

**4:30 PM**
**2027 Budget Discussion**

1. **Call to Order:** 4:31 PM by Board President Charles Lewis
2. **Roll Call:**
   a. Lawrence Park Township Officials Roll Call
      i. Charles Lewis, Commissioner
      ii. Dale Williams, Commissioner
      iii. Joseph Golden, Commissioner
      iv. Spencer Cadden, Township Manager
   b. Absent Township Officials: Doug Keffer, Commissioner; Thomas Buchleitner, Commissioner
   c. Residents & Visitors: None

3. **Discussion Regarding the 2027 Proposed Budget**
   a. **Overview:** Manager Cadden presented an overview of the 2027 proposed budget, which holds the tax rate at 8.58 mills, includes 3% raises, and reflects a General Fund shortfall of approximately $71,587. Preliminary discussion was held regarding the General Fund gap.
   b. **Pension:** Manager Cadden presented the 2027 Minimum Municipal Obligations of $240,807 for the Uniform Pension Plan and $62,816 for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan.
   c. **Revenue changes:** Manager Cadden presented revenue changes, including the end of State Police rent, the Magisterial District Judge lease, and an STMP grant of approximately $66,000.
   d. **Cost increases:** Manager Cadden presented cost increases for the Fire Communications Center, road salt, and health insurance.
   e. **Sewer Fund:** Discussion was held regarding the Sewer Fund, including the Spaeder maintenance agreement of approximately $200,000 per year. The Board discussed whether splitting Public Works wages 50/50 between the General Fund and the Sewer Fund, rather than 75/25, would be more accurate and more budget-friendly, and requested that Manager Cadden model a 50/50 split before the next work session.
   f. **Options to close the General Fund gap:** Discussion was held regarding line-item reductions and millage, as well as capital improvements, grants, and other options for funding a new Public Works truck. Discussion was led by Commissioner Williams, and the general consensus was to pursue grant funding and to use reserves should grant funding not be obtained.
   g. **Township Manager position:** Discussion was held regarding 2027 funding for the Township Manager position. Followed by a **motion** to post the Township Manager position on Indeed.com as soon as possible.
      i. **Motion** by: Commissioner Williams
      ii. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Lewis
      iii. **Motion**: passed unanimously
   h. **Commissioner priorities:** Each Commissioner was asked to discuss his priorities for the 2027 budget. Commissioner Williams discussed the need for a new Public Works truck and the need to either raise the rental registration fee or improve its enforcement. Commissioner Golden discussed whether Commissioners should have individual work phones for Right-to-Know and Township business purposes, and noted that in the past staff sent a letter to each non-owner-occupied structure and discussed rental inspections. Commissioner Lewis stated his support for the 50/50 wage split and stated that his priority is to not raise taxes, and instead to use Township reserves or identify reductions. No formal action was taken.

4. **Public Comment**
    a. No members of the public were in attendance.

5. **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 4:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Spencer Cadden, Township Manager, Secretary

11/19/20

Date

