

**BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

ORDINANCE NO. 437

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING COLLECTION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT UNPAID FIRE TAXES AND ASSESSMENT OF PENALTY FOR NON-PAYMENT

WHEREAS, the Borough of St. Lawrence, by Ordinance No. 435, adopted on December 10, 2015, enacted a Fire Tax of 0.64 mills, which amount may be amended from time to time as deemed necessary by Borough Council;

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Fire Tax is payment for fire and emergency response services by local providers of these services, which are essential to the health, safety, and welfare of the community;

WHEREAS, enforcement of prompt and timely payment of all taxes, including the Fire Tax, by all assessed properties is critical to the provision of services; and,

WHEREAS, Borough Council has determined that a procedure for assessment and collection of delinquent Fire Tax, and a penalty for late payment, is necessary for fairness to all Borough taxpayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Borough Council of the Borough of St. Lawrence, Berks County, Pennsylvania, hereby ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Payment of Fire Tax

A. **Tax Bills.** On or before March 1st of each year, the Borough Tax Collector shall send out or cause to be sent a Fire Tax Assessment printed on the Borough's annual Real Estate Tax bill to each assessment parcel.

B. **Payment Deadline.** Payments shall be made payable to the Borough of St. Lawrence tax Collector. Payments shall be due on or before December 31st of each year.

C. **Returned Checks.** In the event that a check is returned from the bank unpaid, a charge in the amount as established from time to time by resolution shall be levied. Checks issued in violation of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code will be referred to the appropriate authorities for possible criminal prosecution.

D. Exoneration of Tax Collector. At the meeting of Borough Council held in January, the Borough Manager shall present to Borough Council the list of properties which are delinquent in payment of the Fire Tax. Council shall exonerate the Borough Tax Collector from further Fire Tax Collection responsibilities with respect to these properties, and shall authorize collection by the Borough staff or third party as shall be designated from time to time by resolution.

SECTION 2. Penalties, Interest, and Collection Costs. If for any reason the Fire Tax is not paid when due, a penalty of Ten Dollars and 00/100 (\$10.00) per year shall be added and collected until the Fire Tax is brought current, plus interest shall accrue on the principal amount at a rate of one half percent (1/2 %) per month. The Borough may authorize the imposition upon the person or entity liable for the delinquent Fire Tax the reasonable costs incurred to provide notices of delinquency, to institute any action for recovery, or to file a municipal lien against the delinquent owner for the amount of the unpaid taxes plus penalties.

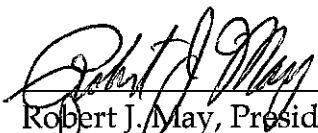
SECTION 3. No Effect on Collection of Other Taxes and Charges. This Ordinance in no way alters the interest and penalties which may be assessed for delinquent real estate taxes and other charges, or the procedures for collection of delinquent real estate taxes and other charges.

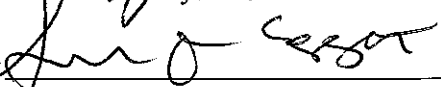
SECTION 4. Severability. The provisions of this Enactment are severable and if any of its provisions are ruled invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions of this Enactment. It is declared to be the intention of the Governing Body that this Enactment would have been adopted if such invalid or unconstitutional provision had not been included.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be effective on the earliest date permitted by applicable law.

Adopted and Enacted this 8th day of December, 2016.

BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

By: 
Robert J. May, President of Council

Attest: 
Susan Eggert, Borough Secretary

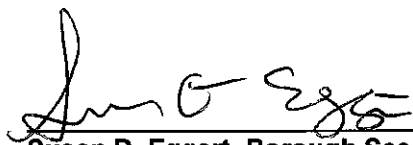
Approved as an Ordinance this 8th day of December, 2016:

By: 
Michael Fritz, Mayor

MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATION

I, Susan D. Eggert, Borough Secretary of the Borough of St. Lawrence, Berks County, Pennsylvania, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 437 was advertised in the Reading Eagle, a daily newspaper of general circulation in the Borough of St. Lawrence, on and was duly enacted and approved as set forth at a Regular Meeting of the Borough Council held on November 21, 2016.

(Seal)


Susan D. Eggert, Borough Secretary

Proof of Publication of Notice in Reading Eagle

Under Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
County of Berks

} SS:

Lynn Schittler, Assistant Secretary, READING EAGLE COMPANY, of the County and Commonwealth aforesaid, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the READING EAGLE established January 28, 1868 is a newspaper of general circulation published at 345 Penn Street, City of Reading, County and State aforesaid, and that the printed notice or publication attached hereto is exactly the same as printed and published in the regular edition and issues of the said READING EAGLE on the following dates, viz.:

Reading Eagle Monday, November 21, 2016, A.D.

Affiant further deposes that this person is duly authorized by READING EAGLE COMPANY, a corporation, publisher of said READING EAGLE, a newspaper of general circulation, to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place, character of publication are true.

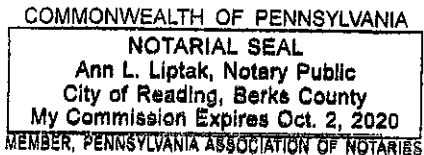
Lynn Schittler

Lynn Schittler

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this day of November 21, 2016

Ann L. Liptak

Notary



ST. LAWRENCE

2017 PROPOSED BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 2017 Proposed Budget is available for public inspection until December 8th, during normal business hours: Monday through Thursday from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm and Friday from 8:30 am - Noon at the St. Lawrence Borough Municipal Building, 3540 St. Lawrence Ave, Reading PA 19606. Borough Council intends to adopt the budget at its regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday December 8, 2016.

INTENTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCES

The Borough Council of St. Lawrence, Berks County, Pennsylvania, hereby serves notice of its intention to adopt the following Ordinance at its regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday December 8, 2016 starting at 7:30 pm, local prevailing time, in the Borough Municipal Building, 3540 St. Lawrence Avenue, Berks County, Pennsylvania. The Title and a brief summary of each Ordinance is as follows:

COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT FIRE TAXES

ORDINANCE NO. 437 (PROPOSED)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING COLLECTION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT UNPAID FIRE TAXES AND ASSESSMENT OF PENALTY FOR NON-PAYMENT

TAX LEVYING ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE 438 (PROPOSED)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, LEVYING THE REAL ESTATE PROPERTY TAX AND FIXING THE RATE THEREOF FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017.

Any person with a disability requiring a special accommodation to attend the meeting should notify the Borough Secretary at 610-779-1430 as early as possible, but not later than 2 business days prior to the meeting. Every effort will be made to provide reasonable accommodation.

Susan D Eggert,
Borough Secretary