

LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**March 22, 2018**

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held their meeting on Thursday, March 22, 2018 at the Lower Pottsgrove Township Municipal Building, 2199 Buchert Road, Pottstown, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The following were in attendance:

Board of Commissioners: Bruce L. Foltz, Raymond W. Lopez, Robert Mohollen and Mike McGroarty. Swavely absent

Charles Garner, Solicitor, Edward C. Wagner, Manager and Sharon Colletti, Secretary were also present.

Commissioner Foltz stated the meeting will be recorded.

Commissioner Foltz welcomed Mike McGroarty back to the Board. He then appointed the following committee members:

Commissioner Swavely was appointed as Chairperson of the Police Committee, which he had accepted earlier today.

Commissioner Lopez was appointed as the Police Committee Commissioner, which he accepted.

Commissioner Mohollen was appointed to the Fire Committee, which he accepted.

Commissioner McGroarty was appointed as LPT representative to the Pottsgrove Recreation Board, which he accepted.

All of the above appointments take effect immediately.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2018 MEETING

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to approve the March 8, 2018 minutes. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion; all in favor (4-0)

PRESENTATION

Commissioner Foltz stated that when the township prepared the 2018 budget, we had allocated \$3,000.00 to be used as a donation to Emergency Responders for the purchase of bullet proof vests. Chief Michael Foltz presented Captain Eric Loshnowski of Goodwill Ambulance with a \$3,000.00 check to be used for the purchase of four bullet proof vests for their Emergency Responders. Goodwill Ambulance is our Township service provider which is why we selected them to receive the donation. We are hopeful that some of the neighboring townships will follow our lead and help them and others to secure additional vests to help ensure the safety of their drivers and providers when they respond to calls.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS: None

INFORMATION: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Foltz announced that our Infrastructure Committee had a meeting today to discuss where we are headed and put together a "wish list." There are no hard decisions as to what will be done with the acquired properties. The final two properties (2270-72 E. High Street) will be going to settlement on Monday. The Infrastructure Committee is working together to get all of the facts and statistics in order to see where we go from here.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT: None**NEW BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to authorize President Foltz/Township Manager to execute documents associated with the acquisition of 2270 & 2272 E. High Street.

Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (4-0)

Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to award the Equipment Rental Bid to Sacks & Sons of Zieglerville, PA in the amount of \$97,122.00. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion; all in favor (4-0)

RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE: None

Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to approve Warrant #870 for the month of February 2018. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved (4-0)

Commissioner McGroarty motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report for February 2018. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved (4-0)

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner McGroarty thanked and congratulated all those who worked diligently during the storm, and kudos to John Fogel for keeping everything moving and to Ray Lopez for manning the EMC. He thanked Mr. Wagner for spending the time earlier in the week to bring him up to speed on the current events and feels much more comfortable being at the table this week.

Commissioner Mohollen thanked the road crew and their contractors; they did a great job and heard of very few reported incidents for emergency response within the township which to him means the roads in the township were cleared in a wonderful fashion and extended his gratitude for their service.

Commissioner Lopez thanked everyone who participated in the storm clean-ups. He thanked those especially who assisted in the Emergency Management Center Coordination, Chief Foltz and his staff, Eric Linsinbigler and Ed Wagner who serves as his communications officer reporting back and forth with the staff and residents.

Commissioner Lopez thanked Commissioner Foltz for his appointment to the Police Committee.

Commissioner Lopez announced that he is working on an assessment of feasibility for an expansion of Lower Pottsgrove Township, whatever that may be. He has been looking into the historical facts of the Township. In 1990, the current township building was constructed, and within 12-13 years the building was already too small for the staff and operations so it's been a long time staff has been working in tight conditions. He began to describe some of the specifics and items that are in need of improvement. He has been working with the Planning Commission and the Historical Society and cited a report from 2007 which specifically mentioned the intersection of High & Pleasantview as a redevelopment area. There have been feasibility studies performed in the past that he is currently reviewing and stated that many different properties and buildings have been looked at over the years. He stated that he will work to get this report drafted by the beginning of the month for the Commissioners review and if accepted, could potentially make available for public review.

Commissioner Foltz stated that the Board has been taking some heat because some of the residents feel that they are wasting tax payer money. Commissioner Foltz would like to challenge anyone who states that the Commissioners are wasting their money to go back even to when Commissioner McGroarty was on the Board previously. The Board has worked to cut the budget to bare bones to keep the taxes to where they should be. Although the exterior of the building is presentable, he invited any residents who feel that our building is adequate and that we do not need a new facility to make an appointment for a tour to get a first-hand look at the close quarters inside.

Tom Troutman, a resident at 2469 E. High Street, and Vice President of the Historical Society, first stated he is in favor of the project and suggested Commissioner Lopez get some of the public involved in his study.

Commissioner Foltz stated that we are going to settlement for the two additional properties located at 2270 & 2272 E. High Street. He said there is a row of hedges that traditionally becomes overrun with poison-ivy. Based on the input from the Infrastructure Committee, he thought it would be a good idea to have the bushes removed and wanted to ask the Board if they had any thoughts on removing the hedges.

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to have the Infrastructure Committee to do an assessment on the newly acquired properties and gave them the authority to take care of any outstanding safety or other improvements they saw that needed to be done. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (4-0)

The Easter Egg Hunt has been cancelled from Saturday, March 24th and rescheduled to Saturday, March 31st. It will be at Gerald Richards Park at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Wagner stated there was a meeting at New Hanover Township on March 12th to discuss the bridge replacement on Swamp Pike at Wagner Road scheduled to occur in 2019. The new proposed truck detour will be redirected over Neiffer Road in Limerick Township. The original truck detour route was planned for N. Pleasantview Road to Bliem Road. A plan has been submitted to the County for their review and approval.

Solicitor Garner had no comments

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, April 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Colletti
Township Secretary