

LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 2, 2018

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 2, 2018 at the Lower Pottsgrove Township Municipal Building, 2199 Buchert Road, Pottstown, Pennsylvania. 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, Earl E. Swavely, Jr., Raymond W. Lopez, Robert Mohollen and Michael McGroarty.

Edward C. Wagner, Manager; Michael A. Foltz, Chief of Police; Lew Babel, Fire Marshal; Matthew Hovey, Solicitor; Debi Roesener, Township Engineer, Jennifer Marsteller, Tax Collector and Sharon Colletti, Secretary.

Commissioner Foltz announced the meeting would be recorded and asked speakers to please state their name, address and nature of business for the record.

Solicitor Hovey stated that prior to the meeting at 6:30 p.m. the Board met in Executive Session to discuss a matter of threatened litigation. No action was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the regularly scheduled March 22, 2018 Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:

Tony Doyle, 1745 Kepler Road asked Chief Foltz why the two new vehicles purchased were so expensive and inquired specifically about the Ford Interceptor model. Mr. Doyle wondered what fund the officer education reimbursement money comes from.

Mr. Doyle asked Mr. Wagner about the cell towers and Mr. Wagner explained that the potential carrier dropped out. Mr. Doyle asked about the tree trimming and Mr. Wagner stated the trimming is done by the company that owns the respective pole. Mr. Doyle stated he thought that the Roadmaster's salary should be listed as a separate line item in the budget as he is the head of the department. Mr. Doyle inquired about the travel mile radius allowed for the Township officials (Ed Wagner, Mike Foltz and John Fogel).

REPORTS:

Chief Foltz presented the Police Report for the month

CALLS FOR SERVICE	874
ASSISTS:	
Given by Lower Pottsgrove PD	13
Received by Lower Pottsgrove PD	2
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT:	
Violations Indicated	124
DUI Arrests	2
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS:	
Violations Indicated	91
Adults Arrested	20
Juveniles Handled	10

- Sgt. James named to Dean's List at Wilmington College
- Sgt. Weidenhammer was recognized for his academic achievement at Northwestern University Center for Public Safety School of Staff & Command; he achieved straight "A's" for his coursework.
- Ofc. David McKechnie is pursuing his master's degree coursework in Criminal Justice. He has submitted a request for reimbursement in the amount of \$3,044.94 dollars. He has been a member in good standing since June 2016.
- This past week LPPD hosted the FBI-LEEDA seminar "Supervisory Leadership Institute" at Gatsby's. 40 officers attended the training from Montgomery, Berks and Chester Counties. We also had (2) officers from Atlantic City PD attend. The course was co-hosted by the Police Chiefs Association of Montgomery County. The cost to host the course was approximately \$1,500.00. We subsequently received (4) free spots to send our officers to the training – a \$2,600 value. Chief Foltz, Sgt. Walters, Sgt. James and Det. Sgt. Campbell attended.
- (2) new 2018 Ford Police Interceptor utilities have been delivered. They are currently being up fitted and we expect to have them in service within the month.

Emergency Management

Eric Linsenbigler delivered highlights from the Emergency Management Reports:

There were three EOC activations during the month of March which occurred due to winter weather events which caused two Declarations of Snow Emergency to be in effect.

- Winter storm Riley which occurred on March 2nd was severe enough to cause the EOC Watchdesk to be activated without a Declaration of Snow Emergency.
- Winter storm Quinn which occurred on March 6th warranted activation of the EOC Watchdesk and a Declaration of Snow Emergency.
- Winter storm Toby which occurred on March 20th warranted activation of the EOC Watchdesk and a Declaration of Snow Emergency as well.
- The total activation time for the three winter storms were 61 hours. During the 61 hours of activation, all departments assisted in providing service, reporting and support at some level.

- Additionally, on Saturday March 3, 2018, at 2000 hours the Emergency Management Team responded to the sewer pumping station on Porter Road for flooding conditions to the lower level. The Sanatoga Fire Co. responded to assist in pumping out the area below grade level. The Emergency Management Team was activated for at least 5 hours.
- All of the documentation has been completed and filed for these Events.

Fire Marshal

Mr. Babel highlighted the following statistics from his February report:

Station	Total Calls	Total Hrs. of Service	Total Personnel Hrs.	Total Personnel Training Hrs.	Total Fundraising Hrs.
Sanatoga (Station 58)	37	29 hrs 6 min	109 hrs 8 min	40 hrs 0 min	N/A
Ringling Hill (Station 59)	37	24 hrs 54 min	85 hrs 27 min	N/A	hrs

(Hours are approximate)

Highway—Public Works Department: Commissioner Foltz presented the March report and it will be posted on the bulletin board.

C.O.G.—No report.

Engineering—Debi Roesener of Bursich Associates provided a written Engineers' Report updating the Board on various projects and activities going on in the Township. She highlighted the following projects:

- Sanatoga Green: Preliminary Plan approval was granted on July 20, 2017. Our latest review letters were issued on April 28, 2017, and we are currently awaiting revised plans and design reports. Our office also reviewed the draft of the Sewage Facilities Planning Module which was issued on March 14, 2018.
- Spring Valley Farms Subdivision Phase 1: A punch list has been issued to the contractor which includes testing a few remaining manholes and sections of sewer main and lining some manholes prior to placing the sewer system into operation. We are currently awaiting the surveyed as-built plans prior to making a recommendation on the developer's request for escrow releases from the site construction and sanitary sewer securities.
- Gerald Richards Park Improvements Phase 1: The project includes trail, parking lot and stormwater improvements at the park. The contract documents were completed and are now being updated to include the phase 2 work per the Township's request.
- Gerald Richards Park Improvements Phase 2: The project includes the rehabilitation of two Little League fields, construction of a new practice field, and replacement of 1,200 lf of deteriorated trails to ADA standards, stormwater drainage improvements, and vegetated stormwater management facilities. Stormwater infiltration testing had been scheduled for March 13 but was

postponed due to the wet conditions in the park. It has been rescheduled for April 18 – weather permitting.

We now have direction from NPDES on how to approach Phase 2 and how to combine it with Phase 1. We anticipate having plans submitted within the next month and the review will take a month or two and hope to begin work this summer around scheduled activities at the park.

- **Coventry Christian School:** The constructed rain garden is not dewatering as was expected from the engineered design. The design engineer has submitted a retrofit design which is currently under review.

Treasurer—Mrs. Marsteller stated the report was not ready as the period closed on Saturday and would forward the report later in the week.

Solicitor—Solicitor Hovey provided a written report with a synopsis of all projects his office worked on during the month of March and stated he would be happy to discuss any topic(s) of concern.

Parks and Recreation Mr. Wagner announced that the 17th annual Easter Egg Hunt took place on Saturday, March 31st at 10:00 a.m. for children between the ages of 2 thru 8. The weather was great and we had one of our largest turnouts ever. He thanked Katie Smith for orchestrating the event and Pottsgrove High School Softball for their help.

Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Commission Mr. Wagner stated the last meeting was on March 28th. Michael Lane, Pottstown Recreation Coordinator gave a status update on grants he is working on with various municipalities. We are applying for \$60K for Phase III of Gerald Richards to extend the existing trail system to the Pebble Beach Development. There was also a discussion on the closing of the Pottstown YMCA.

Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority

Mr. Wagner reported the next meeting of the Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority will be held on Monday, April 9, 2018. We will be discussing the Community Block Grant to repair/replace sewer mains along Sunnyside Avenue between Kepler Road to Stuart Drive.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION:

Mr. Wagner outlined the 2018-03 Zoning Hearing Application for 2081 E. High Street requesting a special exception for educational, religious or philanthropic use. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 17th. The Board made no formal action of the application.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Lopez gave an updated on the Infrastructure Committee progress. He stated he drafted a study of what the Infrastructure Committee is striving towards and asked the Commissioners to review the study prior to making it a public document. He stated the committee is taking tours of some other municipal buildings to gather ideas on how we can make improvements.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to reimburse Officer McKechnie for tuition and books @ Liberty University in the amount of \$3,044.94 (this is part of the police contract). Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

Commissioner Swavely made the motion to adopt Resolution 1161-18 reappointing Bill Keohane to the Park & Recreation Board. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; motion approved (5-0).

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to adopt Resolution 818-H for Disposition of Records according to the Municipal Records Manual. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; motion approved (5-0).

Warrant #871—Warrant #871 for the month of March will be available next week.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner McGroarty had no comment

Commissioner Mohollen asked Mr. Wagner how the heavy snow (salt) season impacted the 2018 budget. Mr. Wagner stated that liquid fuels increased 6% which will help to offset any impact, but stated he would look into it and report back.

Commissioner Lopez commended the officers who are not just attending classes, but who are also excelling in those classes. He extended his thanks to all who participated in the Egg Hunt.

Commissioner Swavely thanked Commissioner Lopez for all the time and efforts he has put into the EOC during the storms throughout the month of March.

Commissioner Foltz thanked Sanatoga Fire Company for their assistance with the Porter Road sewer issue. Mr. Wagner stated that a \$500 donation was made to SFC from the Sewer Authority for their help.

There being no further business, the public meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m. The next meeting will be held on April 26, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Colletti
Township Secretary