

## LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**April 3, 2017**

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 3, 2017 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 attended:

**Board of Commissioners:** Bruce Foltz, President, Stephen M. Klotz, Vice President; Earl E. Swavely, Jr., Raymond W. Lopez and Robert W. Mohollen.

Charles Garner, Solicitor, Edward C. Wagner, Manager; Police Chief Michael Foltz; Lew Babel, Fire Marshal; Jennifer Marsteller, Tax Collector; Scott Exley, Township Engineer and Sharon Colletti, Secretary.

Commissioner Foltz stated that the meeting will be recorded.

**Commissioner Klotz** made the motion to approve the minutes from the March 6, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Foltz announced to the public that Gerald Richards' wife recently passed away. Gerry served many years on various Boards for the Township, and the Board sends their regrets and condolences to Gerry and his family.

### COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:

**Tony Doyle, 1745 Kepler Road**, wanted to congratulate Sgt. James for his completion of the FBI Academy training. Mr. Doyle also commended the Department as a whole as there currently are three officers who have been through the academy and he feels that is a tremendous accomplishment.

### REPORTS OF OFFICIALS AND COMMISSIONS

**Police Report:** Chief Foltz, presented the Police Report for March.

#### Statistics:

<b>CALLS FOR SERVICE</b>	<b>1,068</b>
<b>ASSISTS:</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Given by Lower Pottsgrove PD</b>	
<b>Received by Lower Pottsgrove PD</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT:</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>Violations Indicated ***with new ALPR in service there has been an increase in traffic enforcement subsequent to the technology***</b>	
<b>DUI Arrests</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS:</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>Violations Indicated (high number due to numerous counts charged against subjects in a drug case)</b>	
<b>Adults Arrested</b>	<b>26</b>

<b>Juveniles Handled</b>	<b>6</b>
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All statistics and information are included in the Chief's report.

### **Departmental Activity**

- On March 6 & 7, 2017 LPPD underwent an on-site assessment for re-accreditation. We passed and received accreditation status on March 14<sup>th</sup> which will last through March 2020. Our updated accreditation through Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police – Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission was voted on and approved at the March 29th meeting of the PLEAC Board.
- New Cars are in service
  - 2017 Ford Interceptor sedan (Detectives)
  - 2017 Dodge Charger AWD marked patrol unit
- Request permission to list decommissioned 2008 Ford Taurus sedan (Front wheel drive with approx. 75,000 miles) on Municibid with \$3,000 reserve. Car is in Fair to good condition. Some intermittent slippage with transmission. Commissioner Klotz made the motion to prepare a Resolution for the next meeting to authorize the auction the 2008 Ford Taurus sedan. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)
- All new mobile and most portable radios are in-service but we have not been switched to new frequency which will hopefully improve the service further
- A traffic complaint was filed about speeding on Hause Avenue and Welsh Drive as well as stop sign violations at this intersection. Complainant has requested added enforcement and installation of speed bumps. Chief has authorized a traffic study be conducted to determine the validity of the complaint and any remediation that can be suggested based on our study. Complainant was advised that we will look into the matter, but we don't feel that speed bumps are the best solution
- Sgt. William James graduated from the FBI Academy on March 17, 2017. He is back to full duty and we extend our congratulations to him for his accomplishment

**Emergency Management:** Eric Linsenbigler, Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator presented the Emergency Management report.

- Sharon Colletti organized the Emergency Management Files
- March 13, 2017 Winter Storm Stella Winter Weather EOC Activation, Declaration of Snow Emergency 0100 hours on March 14, 2017, Termination of Emergency 200 hours March 14, 2017
- John Fogel took the Critical Incident Management trailer for annual inspection and performed maintenance on trailer
- March 31, 2017 0830 activated a local WatchDesk for LPT to monitor weather conditions and impact on township de-activated WatchDesk at 0600 April 1, 2017

**Fire Marshal:** Fire Marshal Babel noted the following statistics for the month of March:

<b>Station</b>	<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>Total Hrs. of Service</b>	<b>Total Personnel Hrs.</b>	<b>Total Personnel Training Hrs.</b>	<b>Total Fundraising Hrs.</b>
<b>Sanatoga (Station 58)</b>	23	N/A	70 Hours 2 Minutes	350 Hours 3 Minutes	N/A
<b>Ringling Hill (Station 59)</b>	26			196 Hours 5 Minutes	237 Hours

(All hours are approximate)

Both companies now have their electronic signs up and working.

**Highway – Public Works Department:** Commissioner Foltz read the Public Works Report for the month of March 2017 and announced it would be posted in the lobby.

**C.O.G.:** There was no report as there was no meeting

**Engineer:** Scott Exley, P.E. of Bursich Engineering, presented the written Engineers' report updating the Board on various projects and activities going on in the Township. He highlighted the following projects:

- **Sanatoga Green** – A meeting was held on March 9 with our office, Township staff and Sanatoga Green representatives to discuss the project status and required design revisions. Revised plans and reports were received on March 22 and are currently under review. A second traffic impact meeting is scheduled for April 6 with representatives of PennDOT, Lower Pottsgrove Township, Limerick Township and applicants of the Sanatoga Green and the potential Tornetta property developments.
- **Spring Valley Farms** – Revised final plans were received on February 28, 2017 and review comments were issued on March 22. We are currently awaiting revised plans and a financial security cost estimate from the applicant. Permits/approvals from the PaDEP for stream crossing, PaDOT for highway occupancy, LPTA for sewage connection and conveyance, and Pottstown Borough Authority for water supply are pending.
- **Gerald Richards Park Improvements – Phase 1** – Plans and a bid package are currently being prepared for a trail, parking lot and stormwater improvements at the park. The engineering design and construction will be funded through grants that have been awarded to the Township.
- **Gerald Richards Park Improvements – Phase 2** – We prepared supporting documents to the Regional Recreation Coordinator for inclusion in a Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2) grant application. The application will be for re-grading

two little league fields, construction of a fenced soccer field, and stormwater drainage and conveyance improvements.

- **Rupert Road Bridge Reconstruction** – Final plans, specifications, estimates and easement/right-of-way exhibits have been submitted to the County. The County will meet with the affected property owners to discuss agreements for required right-of-way and temporary and permanent easements. We are currently awaiting a status from the County.

**Treasurer:** Jen Marsteller stated that 87% of the tax bills had been collected as of Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Final number for March will be submitted to Michele by the tenth.

**Solicitor: Mr. Garner** highlighted the following items:

- Later on the agenda for the police is the Deferred Retirement Option Plan which has been advertised and ready for consideration this evening.
- Also on the agenda is the equipment rental bids which is ready for the Boards action based upon the submission and the apparent low bidder.
- The Construction Code Board of Appeals had their first hearing in many years; the matter is still under advisement. The Construction Code Board of Appeals is similar to the Zoning Hearing Board but interprets the International Construction Code and Building Code.
- We continue to work on the Sanatoga Green project knowing that it is still in the planning stages and Spring Valley Farms which has been granted final approval. There are conditions that need to be satisfied however, and we are ensuring the developer complies with those conditions before anything happens.

**Parks and Recreation:** Mr. Wagner announced the Easter Egg hunt is this Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. The fields will most likely be wet so plan on appropriate foot wear. The rain date, if needed, is Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority:** The next meeting is Monday, April 10th at 6:30 p.m. Items for discussion include the high flow event at Porter Road pump station on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> due to the heavy rains; to review the I&I plans for 2017 with Sewer Specialty Services; and to review the five year capital improvement plan for the wastewater treatment facility.

**Pottstown Metropolitan Planning Commission:** Commissioner Lopez stated that he attended the meeting on Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. All municipalities were in attendance except for one. There was short discussion from the Pottstown Regional Recreation Coordinator, Michael Lane in regards to the Circuit Rider. Counsellor Dan Weand from the Borough of Pottstown was looking for a municipality or two to partner with them on the Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals. There was a unanimous vote to send a letter of support to DCNR for the Grant Application that Lower Pottsgrove has in for Gerald Richards Park.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION**

Mr. Wagner stated that the Sanatoga Interchange Point of Access Study Update is in regards to the westbound interchange which is part of the process to build the ramp. They have to do a point of access study not to exceed \$75,000 which is part of our 65/35 cost sharing. There are several assumptions in the study, which need to be verified by trip studies during the a.m. and weekend peaks as well as assume future growth for both townships in and around the ramps. There also will be a 20-year study showing projections after the improvements are done in 2018. The goal is to have the study done in four months and to start construction by the end of 2018.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Wagner stated that Rich Wood came in last month to announce that his wife had accepted a new job and will be moving out of State. Rich served on the Park & Rec Board since 2007 after serving on the Planning Commission beginning in 2005. He was heavily involved in Pottsgrove Soccer throughout the years. He is a tremendous loss to the Township. Commissioner Klotz regretfully made the motion to accept the resignation of Rich Wood as a member of the Park and Recreation Board. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to award the Equipment Rental Bid to Sacks & Sons of Zieglerville, PA for \$91,900. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

**RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to enact Ordinance 334 Deferred Retirement Option Plan. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to enact Resolution 1132-17 reappointing Thomas Troutman to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Swavely made the motion to enact Resolution 1133-17 reappointing Jacob Daily to the Civil Service Commission. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to enact Resolution 1134-17 authorizing the auction of the 2000 BEFCO Pull behind finish mower. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0). Mr. Wagner stated the zero-turn mower purchased with the donation from the Soccer Association would be the replacement for this mower.

**Commissioner Klotz made the motion to approve WARRANT #858 for the month of February 2017. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)**

**Commissioner Klotz made the motion to accept the TREASURER'S REPORT for February 2017. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)**

**REVIEW OF WARRANT #859 FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2017.**

Township Manager stated it would be ready by the end of the week for review.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner Mohollen** expressed his satisfaction with both the fire companies' electronic signs and they look very professional. He reiterated what a great loss Rich Wood will be not just to the Township, but to the community as a whole. He asked about the status of the 2016 audit. Mr. Wagner stated he would find out exactly when it would be done.

**Commissioner Lopez** commended the police department on their re-accreditation and congratulated Sgt. James on his accomplishment in completing the FBI academy. He reminded everyone to support the fire company with the flower and egg sale. The sale runs from April 12<sup>th</sup> thru the 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Commissioner Swavely** congratulated Chief Foltz the police department for both their re-accreditation and Sgt. James for his completion of the FBI training class.

**Commissioner Klotz** expressed congratulations to Sgt. James and to the Police Force on their re-accreditation; he recognized Chief Foltz for the great job he continues to do with the department. He also recognized the work and dedication of Rich Wood and expressed how much he will be missed.


**Commissioner Foltz** stated that the LED street lights are in the process of being installed and he is happy that they are getting done. He stated how much Rich Wood has done for the township and he will be greatly missed.

**Ed Wagner** had no comments

**Solicitor Garner** had no comments

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sharon Colletti  
Township Secretary