

LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 5, 2017

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 5, 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 Swavely; Robert W. Mohollen.

Matthew Hovey, Solicitor, Edward C. Wagner, Manager; Police Sgt. William James; Lew Babel, Fire Marshal; Chad Camburn, Township Engineer and Sharon Colletti, Secretary were also in attendance.

Commissioner Foltz stated that the meeting will be recorded.

Solicitor Hovey announced that prior to the meeting the board met in Executive Session to discuss acquisition of real estate and threatened litigation.

Prior to the meeting, Commissioner Foltz presented Michele Christman, Finance Director and John Fogel, Road Crew Supervisor each with a 25-year commemorative plaque for their dedication and years of service to the township. In addition to recognizing these two individuals, Commissioner Foltz commended the township staff as a whole and acknowledged what a tremendous job everyone does.

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to approve the minutes from the August 7, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Barbara Akins, CPA presented the 2016 Auditors Report for the Township, Tax Collector and Fire Companies. The overall results were that the Township is fiscally responsible; however, she emphasized the need for cross-training within the Township departments.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:

Susan Davis, from Pottstown Regional Public Library presented the 2016 Highlights and Reports and noted that the patronage had increased significantly since the renovations are now complete. She highlighted a program available through the library where patrons can rent portable wireless hotspots and stated it has been a huge success.

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS AND COMMISSIONS

Police Report:

CALLS FOR SERVICE	1,222
ASSISTS:	4
Given by Lower Pottsgrove PD	
Received by Lower Pottsgrove PD	7

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT: Violations Indicated	168
DUI Arrests	0
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS: Violations Indicated	77
Adults Arrested	24
Juveniles Handled	3

All statistics and information are included in the Chief's report.

- NOTE: we reflect DUI charges filed on the Monthly criminal violations, however we have no DUI arrests made for the month of August. The reason for this is due to charges that were pending from July DUI cases in which the arrests were made during that month and the test results were received in August when charges were then filed on the defendants.
- Overtime for the month increased significantly this month due to :
 - Three officers out on medical leave creating shift shortages that required coverage
 - Two significant incidents that required detectives to be called in: Suicide and Fatal accident
 - Pa Aggressive Driver Enforcement detail – all of which is reimbursed by the state
- Chief has submitted a grant application to the PA Chiefs of Police Association in an attempt to secure a mobile fingerprint identification unit. The unit would be utilized for on-scene identification of suspects/unknown persons and decedents. The cost to the township would be maintenance costs and cellular service fees after the first year.
- Subsequent to a resident concern over speeding on Pruss Hill Road, police have been doing periodic directed enforcement of the roadway and also have been conducting a traffic study with the Speed Radar Signs. Although the study is not yet complete, the preliminary results indicate a significant non-compliance problem with speeding on the roadway. We will continue enforcement efforts as well as examine other alternatives to mitigate the problem.
- There has been an increased visibility of police at the Days Inn on Industrial Highway subsequent to increased calls for service their including thefts, disturbances, drug and prostitution violations. Chief has been in contact with the local management of the hotel, Wyndham Resorts Compliance Team, and our codes department to cooperatively address the issues at the hotel. Police are also stepping up enforcement activities in and around the hotel.
- October 14th will be the first “coffee with the chief” event which will be located at Sunnybrook and will be an informal question/answer session for any resident who would like to attend.

Commissioner Swavelly asked how the plate readers were working out. Sgt. James stated that the department has one reader and stated it has been very successful and that they have found suspended licenses, wanted felons and the like. It has been a tremendous asset to the Department.

Commissioner Mohollen asked if now that school is back in session if it would be possible to have a police presence in the school zone areas in order to remind everyone to keep their speed in check. Sgt. James stated that they have been in the school zones already and when the two others open this year they will be there as well. In addition, John Fogel stated they have been turning the school flasher lights on a few days in advance of the first day(s) of school to help in keeping motorists aware of the school zones.

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

EOC Activations

There were no EOC activations during the month of August.

Summary of activities

- August 12th Severe Thunderstorm Watch
- August 15th Traffic Control Items received from J D Eckman
- August 18th Flash Flooding Warning
- August 22nd Tornado, Code Red (Heat) and Severe Thunderstorm Warning
- August 23rd R Lopez & L Babel attended the Pipeline Group Training Seminar

Throughout the month – the Emergency Management Team continued to work on items to prepare for Limerick Exercise

Fire Marshal: Fire Marshal Babel noted the following statistics for the month of August:

Station	Total Calls	Total Hrs. of Service	Total Personnel Hrs.	Total Personnel Training Hrs.	Total Fundraising Hrs.
Sanatoga (Station 58)	26	45 Hours 3 Minutes	74 Hours 6 Minutes	160 Hours 0 Minutes	N/A
Ringling Hill (Station 59)	22	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(All hours are approximate)

Mr. Babel also talked about an evacuation drill held at Sanatoga Court on August 17th and that fire prevention week begins October 8th and Home Depot has their expo on the 7th and both companies, will be there and also will be going to all of the elementary schools for their presentations.

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

C.O.G.: There was no report as there was no meeting. There currently is a meeting scheduled for September 12th.

Engineer: Chad Camburn, P.E. of Bursich Engineering, highlighted the following items from his report:

A third regional traffic impact meeting was held on August 24 with representatives of PennDOT, Lower Pottsgrove Township, Limerick Township, and applicants/owners of the Sanatoga Green, Sanatoga Marketplace, Tornetta LFT, and Boyd Gaming (Limerick Township) properties. Another meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

- **Spring Valley Farms Amended Plan:**

Final documents are being completed for the agreements and plan recording. A pre-construction meeting was held on August 15, and grading operations are ongoing. Representatives of our office and township staff are performing site observations. Engineer staff along with Township staff are onsite at least daily to ensure they are following the requirements.

- **PECO/Chesmont Storage Subdivision:**

The application proposes to subdivide the 10.7 acre PECO property located on the northern side of Industrial Highway between Armand Hammer Blvd. and Moser Road into two lots. A new 1.8 acre lot near the intersection of Industrial Highway and Moser Road will be conveyed to Chesmont Storage. No development is proposed on either lot. We issued a review letter on August 16, and the Planning Commission voted to recommend Preliminary/Final Approval and two waivers at its August 21 meeting.

- **MS4 PAG-13:**

The 2018 PAG-13 MS4 Notice of Intent (NOI) application includes requirements such as updating the Township storm sewer and BMP mapping, outfall testing, and investigating sources of PCBs. The NOI has been approved by Township staff and will be submitted to the PaDEP in September.

To wrap up, Mr. Camburn congratulated John and Michele on their years of service.

Treasurer: Mr. Wagner presented the Treasurer's report and stated that \$16,524.30 had been collected for the month of August.

Solicitor: Mr. Hovey stated the Commissioners had a copy of Mr. Garner's report and had nothing additional but highlighted that the noise ordinance had been highlighted and advertised and is on the agenda for later this evening.

Parks and Recreation: Mr. Wagner presented the report. Natural Lands Trust is conducting a stewardship assessment for Municipalities and open space. Ringing Rocks Park was chosen for one of the sites to be assessed.

Pottstown Metropolitan Planning Commission: Mr. Wagner stated that the July and August meetings were cancelled and the next meeting is scheduled September 27th.

Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority: Mr. Wagner stated the August 14th meeting was cancelled due to a lack of quorum. The next meeting will be on Monday, September 11th. Main

topic of discussion will be the final proposed changes to the current 2003 Pottstown Borough Authority Agreement. The current agreement reflects separate agreements with each of the three Pottsgroves. The proposed agreement will combine all of the Pottsgroves into one agreement with the borough.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:

#2017-02 Chesmont Storage Associates: Minor Land Development Plan, to subdivide the 10.679 acre tract located on Industrial Highway into two lots. Lot 1 will consist of 2.533 gross acres and will be conveyed to Chesmont Storage Associates. Lot 2 will consist of 8.146 gross acres and will be retained by PECO as the Moser Generating Station. Said property is located in the IN Interchange District

This Resolution is for the subdivision of the property only; any additional improvements to the property will have to go under grading permit or through the land development process

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to adopt Resolution 1141-17 granting Preliminary/Final Approval to Chesmont Storage. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to authorize President Foltz to execute documents for the Rupert Road Bridge Project Agreement of Sale, Temporary Construction Easement and Deed. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to adopt Ordinance 338 Regulating Excessive Noise and Sources of Excessive Noise within the Township of Lower Pottsgrove. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to accept Warrant #863 for the month of July 2017. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to accept the Treasurers Report for the month of July 2017. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

REVIEW OF WARRANT #864 FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2017.

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

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Mohollen had no comment

Commissioner Lopez commended and congratulated Michele and John for their years of service at the Township. He announced that the Sanatoga Fire Company is holding their chicken barbeque on Saturday from noon until they run out; he encouraged everyone to come out and support the fire company.

Commissioner Swavely thanked Michele and John for their long hard work and for everything they do on a daily basis. Mr. Swavely also commended the Fire Marshall for the excellent drill they had at Sanatoga.

Commissioner Klotz first thanked Michele for her service and for what she does on a day-to-day basis. He thanked her for her dedication. He then thanked John and commended him for what he brings to the township every day, not only for what he does, but for what he saves the township every year. Commissioner Klotz took the opportunity to personally commend and congratulate Sgt. James on his completion of the FBI Academy.

Commissioner Foltz wanted to personally thank Michele not only for her years of service but for always making the time to answer any questions and always getting the answers. He thanked John for his service, for always going the extra mile and for his quick response when it comes to the needs of the residents.

Ed Wagner stated that he had received a call from a resident on Kepler Road who wanted to commend Sgt. James. The resident had accidentally left his door open; at 1:30 a.m. Sgt. James knocked on the resident's door and woke him potentially saving him from becoming a victim. Mr. Wagner then congratulated Michele and John stating he has enjoyed working with them both and wished them all the best.

Solicitor Hovey congratulated both Michele and John.

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Colletti
Township Secretary