

LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**September 22, 2017**

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, August 22, 2017 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, President; Earl E. Swavely, Jr., Raymond W. Lopez and Robert Mohollen. Commissioner Klotz was not in attendance.

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

Commissioner Foltz stated the meeting will be recorded.

Solicitor Garner announced that prior to the meeting the Board met in Executive Session beginning at 6:30 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter and the acquisition of real estate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 MEETING

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to approve the September 5, 2017 minutes. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion; all in favor (4-0)

Joseph Duda, Duda Actuarial Services made a presentation in regards to the Police and Non-Uniform Pension Plans and how the contribution amounts are calculated.

The total annual financial requirement for 2018 for the Police Pension Plan is measured to be \$328,218.00. Member contributions are estimated to be \$87,684.00 bringing the MMO for 2018 for the Township of \$240,534.00 which is \$26,489 more than last year. The total annual financial requirement for 2018 for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan is measured to be \$178,815.00. Member contributions are estimated to be \$16,414.00 bringing the MMO for 2018 for the Township of \$162,401.00 which is a \$16,821 increase over last year. Estimated total MMO for the Township is \$402,935.00. The overall rate of investment returns will be reduced 0.25% in 2018 to 7.5%.

Mr. Duda stated that the MMOs and unfunded accounts have been trickling up. He announced though that the State Aid unit value is up 5% which is good news as it will help offset Township Obligations.

Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to acknowledge the receipt of the final report of the 2018 MMO (Minimum Municipal Obligation) Non-Uniform Pension Plan in the amount of \$162,401.00. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (4-0)

Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to acknowledge the receipt of the final report of the 2018 MMO (Minimum Municipal Obligation) Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$240,534.00. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (4-0)

COMMENTS BY VISITORS:

Tony Doyle 1745 Kepler Road had a few items he wanted to discuss. He asked if the Peddling Ordinance had been finalized; Mr. Wagner stated it was. He thought that the staff had a lot of work to do in order to process a license only valid for six months. Mr. Wagner stated that there are many residents in the township that don't want peddling/solicitation so it serves as a deterrent to those who wish to apply.

Mr. Doyle asked about the installation of cell towers. Mr. Wagner stated that the contract expired on August 21th and has reached out to the provider.

Mr. Doyle discussed an article in which he read where another municipality purchased carbon monoxide detectors for use in police cars. President Foltz stated that during the installation of the electrical equipment, the fire walls were not properly sealed which allowed for carbon monoxide to filter into the vehicles. Commissioner Swavely confirmed that this has happened but was not sure that no manufacturing issues came into play.

Mr. Doyle asked for clarification regarding the real estate matter being discussed in executive session. Solicitor Garner stated that anything discussed pertaining to real estate would be in regards to acquiring real estate.

Mr. Doyle wanted to know how long the Earned Income Tax has been in effect. Mr. Wagner stated that it has been around "forever." He explained that the per capita tax is \$15.00 and \$5.00 goes to the Township and \$10.00 goes to the school district. Mr. Doyle stated he is in favor of earned income tax and we should do away with the real estate tax.

John & Christy Adams, 2020 Pleasantview Road asked that with the new Spring Valley Farms development now starting, would water and sewer now be available to them at their property. Mr. Wagner replied that it would not.

INFORMATION:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to award the Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract to Signal Service of West Chester. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. President Foltz opposed (3-1)

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to authorize request for snow plowing quotes. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (4-0)

RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE:

Commissioner Swavely made the motion to adopt Resolution 1142-17 Amend and Adopt Policies to be included in the Lower Pottsgrove Township Police Department Policies & Directives Manual. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (4-0)

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to adopt Resolution 1143-17 confirming Special Fire Police Officer Mark Edward Doorly. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (4-0)

Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to approve Warrant #864 for the month of August 2017. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved (4-0)

Commissioner Mohollen motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report for August 2017. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved (4-0)

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Mohollen had no comment

Commissioner Lopez had no comment

Commissioner Swavely had no comment

Commissioner Foltz had no comment

Mr. Wagner reported that the Township safety audit had been completed earlier in the day by DVIT, our Risk Management Company, and they were very pleased with what they saw. It was their first visit to the new building and they were impressed by the quality of the facility for the dollars spent.

Solicitor Garner stated that earlier this year, the state public utility commission found some of the wireless carriers to not be considered public utilities, and therefore do not have the ability to go within the right-of-way or to establish communication facilities. There is a pending bill in the house which would basically strip a municipality from regulating some of these smaller communication towers that are popping up. A number of municipalities are opposed to this bill as it would eliminate the power to regulate these types of facilities within your right-of-way reversing what the PUC said. Mr. Garner stated that he could provide some information to the Board for review in regards to this matter and if so inclined could draft a letter to our local representatives voicing your opinion.

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, October 2, 2017** at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sharon Colletti
Township Secretary