

LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 2, 2017

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 2, 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 Swavelly; Raymond Lopez, Robert W. Mohollen.

Charles Garner, Solicitor, Edward C. Wagner, Manager; Police Chief Michael Foltz; 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 Garner announced that prior to the meeting the board met in Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

Commissioner Swavelly made the motion to approve the minutes from the September 21, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS AND COMMISSIONS

Police Report:

CALLS FOR SERVICE	1,092
ASSISTS:	
Given by Lower Pottsgrove PD	4
Received by Lower Pottsgrove PD	4
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT:	
Violations Indicated	78
DUI Arrests	6
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS:	
Violations Indicated	111
Adults Arrested	21
Juveniles Handled	6

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

- Oct 14 - 8AM to 11AM at Gatsby's – Coffee w/ the Chief which will be an informal interaction with the members of the community.
- Oct 21 - Community Day from 10AM to 2PM at Ringing Hill Fire Co

- A problem on Pruss Hill Road was brought to the Department's attention previously and a traffic study has shown a significant problem with speeding. Efforts are being coordinated with State Police to bring this issue under control specifically in the area between Pleasantview Road and Snell Road. Speed has been recorded upwards of 72 mph.
- 2018 Dodge Charger which replaced the vehicle damaged in the accident in June 2017 is now in service.
- Chief Foltz recognized Det. Dan Kienle who has been investigating a \$40,000 loan fraud from a local financial institution which he began in the spring of 2017. Det. Kienle was able to develop latent prints on the fraudulent documents that he then forensically linked to a suspect from New York City. Charges have been filed. Suspect is currently serving time in a Pennsylvania prison and awaiting arraignment on our charges.

Emergency Management: Ray Lopez, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented the Emergency Management report.

- There were no EOC Activations for the month of September, however there were a number of severe weather "watches" initiated by the National Weather Service due to an active hurricane season.
- September 1st, Chief Foltz met with representatives from Sanatoga and Ringing Hill Fire Company's to discuss their needs for specific items to be added to the Critical Incident Management Response Trailer.
- September 20th, Ray Lopez attended the monthly Emergency Management Training held at the Montgomery County E O C.
- The Emergency Management Team continues to prepare for the Limerick Generating Station Exercise. Later this week the team will be attending a tabletop exercise to give all of our Emergency Management Staff the opportunity to review the existing procedures and training on updated information in preparation of the FEMA and PEMA observed drill.

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

Station	Total Calls	Total Hrs. of Service	Total Personnel Hrs.	Total Personnel Training Hrs.	Total Fundraising Hrs.
Sanatoga (Station 58)	25	31 Hours 6 Minutes	86 Hours 2 Minutes	256 Hours 0 Minutes	N/A
Ringing Hill (Station 59)	20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(All hours are approximate)

On Saturday, October 7th, Home Depot will be holding their annual Fire Prevention event between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Sunday October 8th through Saturday, October 14th is Fire Prevention Week. Township Daycare Centers will be visited by Sanatoga Fire Department and the Elementary Schools will be visited by Ringing Hill.

Norco Fire Company will have a truck display on Thursday, October 12th at the Coventry Mall from 6:30-9:30.

Fire Marshal announced that Ringing Hill Station has ordered a new aerial truck to be delivered sometime next October 2018. The new bucket technology along with the new modern features that will be incorporated on the truck should help in providing services to our township

Highway – Public Works Department: Commissioner Foltz read the Public Works Report for the month of September 2017 and announced it would be posted in the lobby. It was noted that Sacks & Son donated all of the equipment and labor to pave the Municipal Building parking lot leaving the township responsible for only the materials. This was a huge savings to the township secured by our Public Works Director, John Fogel.

C.O.G.: There was no report as there was no meeting. There currently is a meeting scheduled for October 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lower Pottsgrove Township Building.

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

- **Sanatoga Green:** We are currently awaiting revised plans and design reports. Our latest review letters were issued on April 28, 2017. They received Preliminary Plan approval on July 20, 2017. They are awaiting Administrative Review from the Conservation District.
- **PECO/Chesmont Storage Subdivision:** final plans and legal descriptions have been approved for recording.
- **MS4 PAG-13:** The application was submitted to the PaDEP on September 12, 2017
- **Spring Valley Farms:** Final documents are being completed for the agreements and plan recording. Bulk grading operations are ongoing. Construction of the off-site water main has begun and construction of the sanitary sewer system is anticipated to begin shortly. Representatives of our office and township staff are performing site observations.

Treasurer: Mr. Wagner reported that Ms. Marsteller had a family obligation this evening and would submit her report later this week.

Solicitor: Mr. Garner stated the Commissioners had a copy of his report and had nothing to add.

Parks and Recreation: Mr. Wagner presented the report. Natural Lands Trust came to Ringing Rocks Park on September 7th to do a Stewardship Assessment. It was about a 2-hour tour. They were very impressed with the large growth trees inside the park and limited invasive species. They will be coming back to do Snell/Norton Park on October 18th.

The third annual Community Day will be at Ringing Rocks/Ringing Hill Fire Company on October 21st from 10:00-2:00. This is a rain or shine event; hopefully the weather will be nice this year.

Pottstown Metropolitan Planning Commission: The first meeting since summer break took place on September 27, 2017. It was decided to hold off on voting on the planning services for the Montgomery County Planning Commission to ensure the Municipalities budget the normal \$3,000 to participate in the Regional Planning. This will be discussed at the October meeting.

Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority: Mr. Wagner stated the next meeting will be next Monday October 9, 2017 where they will review the 2018 budget along with discussing the improvements to the Villa Drive pump station. The improvement involves the installation of a diesel generator to maintain power during an outage.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Wagner stated that a draft of the updated Investment Policy for Police & Non-Uniform Pension Plans would be ready for action at the November meeting.

A discussion on Pennsylvania House Bill 1620 Wireless Facilities which would limit the Township's right to regulate wireless facilities within Rights-of way. Commissioner Klotz made the motion for Mr. Wagner to write a letter to PA State Representatives opposing House Bill 1620 "Wireless Infrastructure Deployment." Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0).

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

President Foltz stated that as previously mentioned a personnel matter was discussed in Executive Session and it was decided that action be taken. Commissioner Klotz made the motion to terminate the employment of Police Clerk Debra Pellegrino effective immediately. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to adopt Resolution 1144-17 Amend and Adopt Policies to be included in the Lower Pottsgrove Township Police Department Policies & Directives Manual. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Mr. Wagner stated that Warrant #865 for the month of September 2017 would be made available by weeks end.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Mohollen expressed condolences and prayers to the victims of the Las Vegas tragedy. He passed along the thanks of a neighbor who had left the truck of his car open overnight. While our police were on patrol, they discovered the open vehicle and were able to contact the owner to ensure everything was safe. The resident was very appreciate of what the police are doing in the township. Commissioner Mohollen announced that the budget preparation was coming along very well and thanked the township staff for their hard work.

Commissioner Lopez echoed Commissioner Mohollen's sentiments in regards to the Las Vegas incident. He then discussed the new St. Al's school project and how well it came about. He expressed his thanks to Joe Groff, Ed Wagner, Fire Marshal Babel and many others for their assistance and going above and beyond in facilitating the smooth opening of the building and welcomes St. Aloysius to the township.

Commissioner Swavely wanted to extend his congratulations to the police department, especially Det. Dan Kienle for his efforts in bringing a fraudulent lending scheme to a resolution. He also commended the chief for his outstanding work in maintaining the policies manual.

Commissioner Klotz had no comment.

Commissioner Foltz said that he had the opportunity to spend the day with Joe Groff, our Code Official, visiting many of the projects going on, including the Spring Valley Farms Development project and stated it was an "eye-opening" experience. He invited the other Commissioners to take the opportunity, if they have the chance, to spend some time with him. He then announced that due to the election-day, the November 6th meeting will be rescheduled to Thursday, November 9th.

Commissioner Lopez made the motion for Mr. Wagner to advertise the new meeting date. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Ed Wagner had no comment.

Solicitor Garner had no comment.

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sharon Colletti
Township Secretary