

## LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**December 21, 2017**

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township their meeting on Thursday, December 21, 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; Stephen Klotz, Earl E. Swavely, Jr., Raymond W. Lopez and Robert Mohollen.

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 real estate.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 21, 2017 MEETING**

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to approve the November 21, 2017 minutes. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

A special presentation was made by Chief Foltz to the family of Sandra Babel. The Babel family had given a \$15,000 gift to the Lower Pottsgrove Police Department, in memory of their daughter and sister. The money has helped purchase "active shooter kits" containing hard body armor, carriers, and trauma and ammunition packs to outfit every one of 13 vehicles in the department's fleet. The gift also includes two ballistic shields. All the equipment was officially put into service Thursday (Dec. 21, 2017). Many officers were present at the meeting and several expressed their thanks and appreciation to the Babel's for their generosity.

A second presentation was done by Chief Foltz commending three employees of Brookside Family Restaurant for their actions of life safety. On October 14, 2017, Benedicto Salazar, Tiffany Buckner and Carol Keesey each performed CPR and life saving measures on an individual who had collapsed in the restroom. As a result of their efforts, the individual survived.

### **COMMENTS BY VISITORS:**

None

### **INFORMATION:**

None

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Wagner gave the update from the Infrastructure Committee Update from December 18th Meeting. He stated the newly formed group met for 90-minutes to discuss the overall short and long term needs of the township.

In order for the township to provide most efficient and reliable municipal services capable of supporting long-term daily use and allowing for future growth, the Committee recommends the acquisition of properties suitable for the construction of a campus to meet the needs of the citizens of Lower Pottsgrove Township.

Solicitor Garner stated that in working with the manager, documents had been secured for acquisition of real estate.

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to enter into an agreement for the purchase of the property located at 2258 E. High St., for a price of \$142,000.00 Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to enter into an agreement for the purchase of 2238 E. High St., and 2255 Brown St for the combined price of \$235,000.00. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Conditions include providing time for the township to conduct due diligence research regarding the transactions, and to ensure it is satisfied with the properties' appraised values, and environmental assessments and would require the Township to move ahead to acquire the property on or before February 28, 2018.

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to hire Elizabeth Cole as a Police Administrative Support at a rate of \$18.51/hr. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to approve and authorize to advertise 2018 meeting dates for the Board of Commissioners, Sewer Authority, Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Board. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to approve Montgomery County Planning Commission Assistance Contract 2018-20 broken down as follows: 2018 - \$7,129.50; 2019 - \$7,203; 2020 - \$7,276.50. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion; Commissioner Klotz opposed the motion; (4-1)

Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to adopt the Township's Budget for fiscal year 2018 dated December 21, 2017 with total projected revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$6,331,930.00. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to approve contract with CivicPlus for Township website at a cost of \$6,734 for a 3 year contract. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

**RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE:**

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to adopt Resolution 1146-17 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)

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to adopt Resolution 1147-17 Amendments to the Non-Uniformed Personnel Policy Handbook. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 344-36 Establishing the Rates for Act 511 Taxes for 2018. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 133-QQ Setting the Real Estate Property Tax Rate for 2018. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; Commissioner Klotz opposed the motion (4-1)

Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 134-RR Setting the Rate of Assessment of Street Lighting for 2018; Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

**Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to approve Warrant #867 for the month of November 2017. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved (5-0)**

**Commissioner Mohollen motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report for November 2017. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved (5-0)**

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner Mohollen** welcomed Elizabeth to the township; he thanked the Babel family for their generosity to the Police Department and the Community. He stated it is gestures like these that make him proud to be a member of this community. He thanked the Infrastructure Committee for their time and efforts in steering the Board in the right direction. He wished everyone a Happy Holiday!

**Commissioner Lopez** again thanked the Babel family. He welcomed Elizabeth. Mr. Lopez stated that the Township did well in our Limerick drill last month. He thanked everyone who participated in the drill and is waiting for the written results from the evaluations. Commissioner Lopez discussed a new EMS dispatch procedure being proposed throughout the township and also the county. The goal is to reduce overall response times by dispatching the closest ambulance to the call whether it be a local or neighboring service. This is still in a planning stage.

**Commissioner Swavely** stated he would be following up on the EMS dispatch program. Mr. Swavely congratulated and welcomed Elizabeth to the township. He expressed his gratitude to the Babel family for what they have done for the community.

**Commissioner Klotz** thanked the Infrastructure Committee for their hard work. He thanked the budget committee (even though he voted against the tax increase) for their fantastic job in getting

the budget down to where it fell. He welcomed Elizabeth and feels that she will be a great asset to our Department. He commended the Brookside personnel for their efforts in the events that occurred in October. Mr. Klotz recognized the Babel *family* and compared them to what he believes Lower Pottsgrove Township represents.

**Commissioner Foltz** welcomed Elizabeth. He expressed his thanks to the Babel family for their generosity. He thanked the Commissioners for their work over the year and for the accomplishments the township made throughout 2017. He thanked the staff and Solicitor Garner for working together.

**Mr. Wagner** welcomed Elizabeth to the Township. He thanked the Board, on behalf of the Township Employees, for their support in 2017.

**Solicitor Garner** felt there was nothing more he could add to what had already been said. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and thanked the Board for allowing him to serve Lower Pottsgrove Township.

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. for reorganization followed by the regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sharon Colletti  
Township Secretary