

LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 22, 2016

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, September 22, 2016 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 L. 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; and Sharon Colletti, Secretary also were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Commissioner Klotz made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2016 Board of Commissioners Meeting. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

PRESENTATION:

Joseph Duda, Duda Actuarial Services outlined the 2017 Police and Non-Uniform Pension Plans. He explained the numbers were comparable to 2016, but a little bit lower on the non-uniform side.

The total annual financial requirement for 2017 for the Police Pension Plan is measured to be \$301,161.00. Member contributions is estimated to be \$87,116.00 bringing the MMO for 2017 for the Township of \$214,045.00. The total annual financial requirement for 2017 for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan is measured to be \$161,523.00. Member contributions is estimated to be \$15,943.00 bringing the MMO for 2017 for the Township of \$145,580.00. Estimated total MMO for the Township is \$359,625.00 Mr. Duda announced that the State Aid unit value for 2016 is up 11.6% which is good news for the Township as it will greatly help offset Township Obligations by approximately \$215,000.00.

Mr. Wagner announced that the overall MMO is down 8% for 2016-2017 from last year.

There were no questions from the Commissioners for Mr. Duda.

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to acknowledge receipt of the 2017 MMO for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan in the amount of \$145,580.00. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Klotz made the motion to acknowledge receipt of the 2017 MMO for the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$214,045.00. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Duda for his presentation and his work in preparing the Plan.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:

Mr. Tony Doyle, 1745 Kepler Road had several comments for the Board.

Mr. Doyle asked what are the funding percentages for both Pension plans in order to reduce the Township's obligation to cover the offset in the general fund. Mr. Wagner thought that it was approximately in the eighty percentile but said he would get specific numbers if he so desired. Mr. Doyle said he would like the specific numbers.

Mr. Doyle inquired about the status of the LED sign in front of the Township Building. Mr. Wagner advised that he met with the vendor on the 8th of September and that the sign was in progress and has an 8-10 week lead time; it should hopefully be done by the end of this year.

Mr. Doyle inquired about the pole barn and who was in charge, designed, approved and built the structure. Mr. Wagner explained that Schirk Builders was the successful low bidder to our specifications and they built the building. John Fogel and the Public Works crew are doing the utility work. Mr. Wagner explained there was a committee formed for the purpose of constructing the building and there were engineered plans and stamped drawings.

Mr. Doyle followed up on the complaint issue that was brought up at the August 25th meeting and asked if the Township has implemented a Noise Ordinance. Mr. Wagner responded saying that Chief Foltz had addressed the issue with the resident causing the disturbances and there have been no recent complaints from the neighbors and we are not pursuing a Noise Ordinance at this time. Mr. Garner said that many municipalities do have noise ordinances, but many do not as well.

Mr. Doyle asked about the status of curfews for developments having associations. Commissioner Foltz replied that Chief Foltz is working on that and he did not want to answer on his behalf.

Mr. Doyle asked if the utility companies (Verizon, Comcast and PennDOT) were taking aggressive actions with vegetation to protect communication lines within the Township. Mr. Wagner advised that he had a meeting with PECO's Government Rep on September 9th and they stated they were taking an aggressive and proactive approach to trimming trees and brush around lines and even removing debris from residents' properties in lieu of making them responsible. Mr. Zlomek from the Post reported that MetEd announced in a press release two weeks ago they were doing the same.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION:

Mr. Wagner explained that Mr. Garner's office handled the guidance on Volunteer Clearances Report. The Township will be following this as outlined and getting background checks for anyone involved with children and also members of both fire companies. No action is required by the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Wagner reported that Johnson Controls is coming back out to discuss the Investment Grade Audit and to continue their study for the Street Light Upgrade of 93 lights.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Telco was the successful bidder for the Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract. The bid was in the amount of \$4,294.00 and the contract runs from October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. The rate was the same rate as last year; their maximum hourly rate for additional work would be \$82.50 which is also the same as last year.

Commissioner Klotz asked if they were the only “game in town” and wondered why we were not getting other bids. Mr. Wagner explained that it was sent out to Signal Service and also a third company but there were no other interested parties.

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to award the Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract to Telco in the amount of \$4,294.00. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE:

None.

Commissioner Klotz motioned for the approval of Warrant #852 for the month of August 2016. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Swavely motioned to accept the Treasurer’s Report for August 2016. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Mohollen has taken a look at the budget but wants to schedule a meeting to review the budget with Mr. Wagner.

Commissioner Lopez no comments.

Commissioner Swavely no comments.

Commissioner Klotz no comments.

Commissioner Foltz thanked Commissioner Lopez for his efforts in implementing the ID Cards and Tags program for Township staff.

Ed Wagner said the Zoning Hearing Application for Sanatoga Green is tentatively scheduled for October 18th and are asking for seven (7) Variances. He asked the Commissioners to review the application and advise at the next meeting whether he should support/oppose or take no position on said application.

Solicitor Garner had no comments.

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, October 3, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sharon Colletti".

Sharon Colletti
Township Secretary