

LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 3, 2022

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held their reorganization and regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, January 3, 2022, at The Sunnybrook Ballroom, 50 Sunnybrook Road, Pottstown Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The following were in attendance:

Board of Commissioners: Bruce L. Foltz, Earl E. Swavely, Raymond W. Lopez, Robert Mohollen, and Michael McGroarty were all present.

Edward C. Wagner; Manager, Richard Bell; Chief of Police and Charles Garner; Solicitor (via zoom) were also present.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY WITH DISTRICT JUSTICE EDWARD KROPP

District Justice, Edward Kropp began the ceremony by swearing in Earl E. Swavely as a member of the Board of Commissioners. Next, District Justice Edward Kropp swore in Raymond W. Lopez as a member of the Board of Commissioners. Lastly, Jennifer Marsteller was sworn in as the Townships' Tax Collector

Commissioner Foltz stated the meeting will be recorded, he asked any speakers to give their name and address for public comments. The township is following social distancing guidelines recommended by the Center for Disease and Control to limit exposure.

REORGANIZATION – EDWARD WAGER, TOWNSHIP MANAGER – 6:34 PM

Motion to nominate Board of Commissioners President

Mr. Wagner stated that the reorganization of the Board began at 6:34 p.m. Mr. Wagner asked the Board if there was a nomination for Board President. Commissioner Swavely made a nomination for Bruce L. Foltz as Commissioner President. Mr. Wagner asked the Board if they had any other nominations. Mr. Wagner, after hearing no additional nomination, the nomination was closed. The final vote was 5-0 in favor.

Motion to nominate Board of Commissioners Vice-President

Commissioner Foltz asked the Board if there was a nomination for Board Vice-President. Commissioner Foltz made a nomination for Earl E. Swavely as Commissioner Vice-President. Commissioner Foltz asked the Board if they had any other nominations. Commissioner Foltz, after hearing no additional nominations, was closed. The final vote was 5-0 in favor.

Resolution 1262-22 to reorganize the Lower Pottsgrove Board Officers, Board Committees, Conference Groups & Professional Advisors

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve Resolution 1262-22 to reorganize the Lower Pottsgrove Board Officers, Board Committees, Conference Groups & Professional Advisors. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Reorganization concluded at 6:39pm

Regular Meeting Began 6:40pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2022, Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS:

REPORTS:

Police

Chief Bell explained due to the year ending on a weekend and not having in all of the information but will email a full report later in the week.

Chief Bell stated that some highlights of his report were the following.

- Chief Bell stated the Department handled 978 calls of service for the Month of December.
- The Department is in the middle of scheduling mandatory training for the 2022 year.
- A new police vehicle was ordered to replace a vehicle in their fleet.
- The department is on track to hire a new officer January 20, 2022.

Emergency Management

Commissioner Lopez explained his report was a recap from 2021. Commissioner Lopez stated that there were 2 EOC activations. Commissioner Lopez explained they were one in January and February due to freezing conditions. Commissioner Lopez stated there were numerous EOC watch desks for 2021. Commissioner Lopez gave a summary of those watch desks. Commissioner Lopez stated there was a Critical Incident in April which involved a trench rescue. Commissioner Lopez explained he coordinated requests and plans for access doors to be installed on the sound barriers on the north side of the 422 Bypass. Commissioner Lopez explained that in 2021 there was a lot to prepare for the Limerick Generating Station exercise which was held November 16, 2021. Commissioner Lopez stated at the Limerick Exercise there were observers from PEMA and FEMA asking the Emergency Management team questions as the exercise progressed. Commissioner Lopez explained that through 2021 he attended multiple classes regarding Emergency Management.

Fire Marshal

Mr. Babel was absent. Mr. Wagner read the following statistics from the December 2021 Fire Marshal report. Mr. Wagner stated that Station 58 has no report at this time.

Station	Total Calls	Total Hrs. of Service
Ringling Hill (Station 59)	20	24 hrs. 30 mins

(Hours are approximate)

Highway Public Works Department

Commissioner Foltz presented the November report which included the following: continuing leaf clean ups, pothole patching, working on equipment, install park bench in Gerald Richards Park, clean storm drains, and remove garbage from parks.

Engineering

McCarthy Engineering was absent from the meeting. Mr. Wagner read their report which included the following highlights: the Planning Commission approved the lot line adjustment for the Treichler Plan and review plans for the Redner's Gas Station and inspected the installation of the public improvements at the Sanatoga Green Development. Coventry Christian is ready to begin their seconded phase of their project which will begin sometime this Spring.

Treasures Report

Ms. Marsteller explained her report is incomplete due to the year ending on a weekend. Ms. Marsteller explained she is still receiving tax payments in the mail and expects to have her report completed shortly. Ms. Marsteller also explained that in 2020 she had collected 97.88% of taxes and in 2021 she has so far collected 98.31%.

Solicitor

Solicitor Garner provided a written report with a synopsis of all projects his office worked on during December.

Park and Recreation

Mr. Wagner reported that J. Kenney began re-grading the ball field at Gerald Richards Park. Mr. Wagner stated that McCarthy Engineering was out at the park to take a look at progress and was satisfied with what has been done.

Planning Commission

Mr. Wagner reported that the meeting will be held January 18, 2022 and will be held via Zoom. Mr. Wagner stated that a conditional use application for Spring Valley Farms Phase 3 was submitted today and will appear on the Commission agenda along with a text amendment for the Gateway Interchange District.

Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority

Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority Meeting will take place on Monday, January 10, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. where the topic of discussion will be the draft private lateral ordinance.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion on H&K letter dated 11/24/21 w/ regards to excess topsoil at Sanatoga Green

Commissioner Mohollen made a motion to approve the removal of no more than 8,000 yards of topsoil out of Lower Pottsgrove Township. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion to advertise Equipment Rental Bid for consideration at the February 24th meeting

Commissioner McGroarty made a motion to advertise Equipment Rental Bid for consideration at the February 24th meeting. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Motion to extend a conditional offer of employment to Amy Henderson for the Administrative Support position

Commissioner McGroarty made a motion to extend a conditional offer of employment to Amy Henderson for the Administrative Support position. Commissioner Foltz seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Officer Scott Burnick request for reimbursement for tuition and books St. Joseph University for \$5,697.21

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve Officer Scott Burnick request for reimbursement for tuition and books St. Joseph University for \$5,697.21. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE:

Resolution 1263-22 reappointing Michael Levering to the Lower Pottsgrove Planning Commission

Commissioner Mohollen made a motion to approve Resolution 1263-22. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Resolution 1264-22 reappointing Mark Loshnowsky to the Lower Pottsgrove Sewer Authority

Commissioner Swavely made a motion to approve Resolution 1264-22. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Resolution 1265-22 reappointing Joseph Vecchio as a Full Member to the Zoning Hearing Board

Commissioner McGroarty made a motion to approve Resolution 1265-22. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Resolution 1266-22 reappointing Gregory Delp to the Building Code Appeals Board

Commissioner Swavely made a motion to approve Resolution 1266-22. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Resolution 1267-22 appointing Keith Winnemore to the Building Code Appeals board

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve Resolution 1267-22. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Resolution 1268-22 appointing Matthew Steinmetz as an Alternate Member to the Civil Service Commission

Commissioner Swavely made a motion to approve Resolution 1268-22. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Resolution 1269-22 appointing Anita Meehan to the Parks and Recreation Board

Commissioner McGroarty made a motion to approve Resolution 1269-22. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Resolution 1270-22 amending the Township's Right to Know Policy and appointing Open Records Officers

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve Resolution 1270-22. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Resolution #-453-T, Amendment for establishing certain fees, deposits, and escrows payable to the Township

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve Resolution #453-T-. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Ordinance 356 for consideration and discussion

Mr. Garner explained this Ordinance is based off the Public Hearing from the December 16th meeting. Mr. Garner explained that the Board of Commissioners did not take any action at the last meeting regarding the text amendment to Ordinance 356. Mr. Garner turned the discussion over to the Board. Commissioner Lopez explained that the Board reviewed the Ordinance and the client's attorney asked the Board if they would be willing to remove portions of the ordinance and approve it so the property owner can start finding potential tenants. The Board of Commissioners agreed to approve the ordinance with the deletion of Sections 7, 8 & 9. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to adopt Ordinance 356. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

REVIEW OF WARRANT #916 FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2021:

Warrant #916 was not ready due to the end of the year being on a weekend.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner McGroarty – Commissioner McGroarty congratulated Commissioner Swavely, Commissioner Lopez and Ms. Marsteller on winning their election and being a part of Lower Pottsgrove. Commissioner McGroarty thanked everyone who serves on the various boards and commissions in the township.

Commissioner Swavely—Commissioner Swavely thanked all residents who went out and voted. Commissioner Swavely also echoed Commissioner McGroarty and Commissioner Mohollen.

Commissioner Lopez— Commissioner Lopez echoed Commissioner McGroarty in thanking those who served on any Board in Lower Pottsgrove.

Commissioner Mohollen—Commissioner Mohollen echoed Commissioner McGroarty by congratulating Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Swavely and Ms. Marsteller. Commissioner Mohollen also thanked everyone who serves on a Board.


Commissioner Foltz—Commissioner Foltz thanked Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Swavely for continuing to serve of the Board. Commissioner Foltz also thanked the Township staff for all they did this past year.

Mr. Wagner— Mr. Wagner had no comments.

Solicitor Garner – Solicitor Garner had no comments.

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m. The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 20, 2022

Respectfully submitted,



Madison Orler
Township Secretary

