

LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 5, 2021

PUBLIC HEARING
Ordinance 353

Amending Chapter 203, Stormwater Management Section 203-10 and Chapter 250 Zoning
The Lower Pottsgrove Township Board of Commissioners held a public hearing at The Sunnybrook Ballroom, 50 Sunnybrook Road, Pottstown, PA to receive public comment on the proposed Ordinance 353 amending Chapter 203, Stormwater Management Section 203-10 and Chapter 250 Zoning.

Solicitor Matthew Hovey opened the hearing at 6:45 p.m. and stated the following for the record:

1. Notice of tonight's hearing was published twice in the Pottstown Mercury, seven days apart on March 10, 2021 and March 17, 2021.
2. A full copy of the ordinance was provided to Montgomery County Law Library, Montgomery County Planning Commission and the Lower Pottsgrove Planning Commission. Both planning commissions were supportive of the ordinance amendment.

Being that there were no comments Solicitor Hovey closed the public hearing at 6:47 p.m.

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 5, 2021 at The Sunnybrook Ballroom, 50 Sunnybrook 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, Earl E. Swavely, Raymond W. Lopez, Robert Mohollen and Michael McGroarty.

Edward C. Wagner; Manager, William James; Acting Chief of Police, Matthew Hovey; Solicitor and Kathryn Vlahos; Secretary.

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.

Solicitor Hovey stated that in accordance with the Sunshine Act the Board met in Executive Session to discuss a matter of litigation no action or decision was made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2021 Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS: None.

REPORTS:**Police**

Acting Chief James presented the Police Report for the month of March 2021.

CALLS FOR SERVICE	1,025
ASSISTS:	
Given by Lower Pottsgrove PD	3
Received by Lower Pottsgrove PD	3
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT:	
Violations Indicated	35
DUI Arrests	6
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS:	
Violations Indicated	35
Adults Arrested	14
Juveniles Handled	1

Acting Chief James stated that some highlights off of his report were the following.

- The department did contractual work with H&K, Officers were out on the 422 bypasses as they were working on the bridge. This work brought in about \$4,600.
- The department finished the application process for hiring of a new police officer and there are 29 applicants. On April 14, 2021 there will be testing that will be completed for the hiring process and May 1, 2021 will be the physical fitness testing.
- The Detectives are currently working on a \$150,000 fraud case.
- The Detectives worked with the National Guard to dispose of the drug evidence the department had.

Emergency Management

- Commissioner Lopez there were no activations of the Emergency Operations Center for the month of March.
- March's focus was updating all of our Emergency Plans including the Emergency Operations Plan, our Emergency Contact List and the Radiological Response Plan.
- Meeting with local Day Care and Nursing Home administrators to assist them with updating their Emergency Operations Plans.
- The Bi-Annual Limerick Generating Station Exercise is currently scheduled for November 16, 2021. The drill will include a hospital action-based exercise. All municipalities within the EPZ will be federally evaluated.

Fire Marshal

Mr. Wagner read the following statistics from the March 2021 Fire Marshal report:

Station	Total Calls	Total Hrs. of Service	Total Personnel Hrs.	Total Personnel Training Hrs.	Total Fundraising Hrs.
Sanatoga (Station 58)	24	13 hrs. 0 min	40 hrs. 26 min	64 hrs. 0 min	

Ringling Hill (Station 59)	22	21 hrs. 03 min	47 hrs. 43 min	37 hrs. 0 min	
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(Hours are approximate)

Highway Public Works Department

Commissioner Foltz presented the March report.

C.O.G

Commissioner Foltz stated that there was nothing to report.

Engineering

Mr. Wagner read the report that was provided by Burisch Associates which updated the board on the various projects and activities that are going on in the Township.

- Sanatoga Greene Phase 1, 75% of the sanitary sewer system has been installed within the site.
- Sanatoga Greene Phase 2 & 3 a letter was issued to get the plan recorded, there are a few items that they need to clean up before it can be recorded.
- 663 Storage, there has not been any change since the last update. They are waiting on the engineer to submit final plans on the project.
- Gerald Richards Park Phase 2 & 3, the township just received the administrative completeness from Montgomery County Conservation District on March 31, 2021, and it is under technical review. The township did receive some information from DCNR we are currently just waiting for the Recreational Coordinator to get back to the township and see if we need to implement it in the bid packet. There was an extension through September 30, 2021 to complete Phases 2 & 3.

Solicitor

Solicitor Hovey provided a written report with a synopsis of all projects his office worked on during the month of March.

Park and Recreation

Mr. Wagner stated that as it was mentioned in the Engineer Report Phase 2 & 3 are under administrative review at Montgomery County Conservation District.

The Annual Fish Rodeo will take place at Sunnybrook Ballroom on May 15th.

Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Commission

Mr. Wagner reported that they met on March 24th via Zoom and they talked about the High Street Traffic Study. The study is broken up into five phases, from Stowe all the way down to Limerick/Lower Pottsgrove line. There was a steering committee on March 9th to go it in more detail. The townships portion consists of Sunnybrook Road all the way to Rupert Road. Mr. Wagner asked the County to look at the intersection of High Street and Sunnybrook due to a lot more calls for accidents at that intersection as well at the intersection of High Street and Sanatoga Road.

Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority

Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority Meeting will take place on Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. and the topic of discussion will be Phase 2 of Woodland Drive sewer main replacement project. The sewer replacement project preconstruction meeting will take place on Wednesday April 7th at 9:00 AM. There will also be a recommendation on the selection of an Authority Engineer.

CORRESPONSENCE AND INFORMATION:

2021-03 Zoning Hearing Application— 2021-03 Zoning Hearing Application requesting a special exception from Section 250-21.C for accessory building exceeding 600SF and a variance from Section 250-59. B exceeding the maximum building coverage at 946 W. Valley Road.

Mr. Wagner stated that they would like to put a 1200 SF pole barn and the maximum size allowed is 600SF. The next section that they would need relief from is building coverage which later on the agenda is an ordinance amendment which will allow this resident 30%.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on the Municipal Building Project Bid Deadline Extension— Commissioner Foltz stated that the township received a call stating that the contractors were not able to get the bid in on time because of the holiday and receiving building material. The committee had a discussion with the solicitor and the committee decided to extend the bid due date until April 13th at 1:00 PM. Commissioner Lopez commented that the committee also discussed that the contractors would also like to have a 30-day letter to award so that they are able to hold their price with their suppliers.

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to ratify the bids due date from April 6, 2021 at 1:00 PM to April 13, 2021 at 1:00 PM and to reduce the period of letter of intent from 60 days to 30 days. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Officer Black Reimbursement— Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve Officer Kevin Black request for reimbursement for tuition and books from St. Joseph University for \$2,746.00. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Discussion on the Municipal Engineer Interviews and Recommendation —

Commissioner McGroarty stated that about a month ago the township decided to request RFP from engineers, and they received 13 proposals back. A committee consisted of 2 Board of Commissioners members and as well as members from the Authority to review the proposals.

They decided to interview six of the firms as a result of that the committee discussed the strengths and weakness of the firms.

Commissioner McGroarty made a motion to appoint McCarthy Engineering Associates Incorporated, Wyomissing PA with James McCarthy as primary services provider as Township Municipal Engineer effective April 15, 2021. Lopez seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE:

Resolution 1239-21-- Flying Horse Farm, Minor Land Development Plan, to construct an 80' x 175' pole barn for the use of indoor riding arena at 246 Rupert Road consisting of 9.25 acres. Commissioner Mohollen made a motion to approve Resolution 1239-21 Flying Horse Farm, Minor Land Development Plan to construct an 80'x175' pole barn for the use of indoor riding arena at 246 Rupert Road consisting of 9.25 acres. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Resolution 1241-21-Commissioner Lopez made a motion to authorize the auction via Municibid of the 2014 Dodge Charger. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Resolution 1242-21- Commissioner Lopez made a motion to authorize the auction via Municibid of the 2017 Dodge Charger. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Ordinance 353—Commissioner Mohollen made a motion to approve Ordinance 353 amendments within the Residential Zoning Districts pertaining to impervious coverage. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Warrant #907- Warrant No. 907 for March 2021 will be distributed via email for the Commissioners' review.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner McGroarty – Commissioner McGroarty congratulated McCarthy Engineering and looks forward to working with them in the future. Commissioner McGroarty also thanked the townships friends from Bursich for their years of dedicated service to the township.

Commissioner Swavely – Commissioner Swavely had no comments.

Commissioner Lopez— Commissioner Lopez had no comments.

Commissioner Mohollen – Commissioner Mohollen thanked Commission McGroarty, Commissioner Foltz and Mr. Wagner for their work on finding the township a new engineer.

Commissioner Mohollen also thanked Commissioner Lopez for the update on the building, it has been a long process and hopefully there is a light at the end of the tunnel soon.

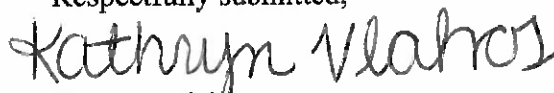
Commissioner Foltz— Commissioner Foltz had no comments.

Mr. Wagner—had no comments.

Solicitor Hovey – had no comments.

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m. The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at The Sunnybrook Ballroom.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathryn Vlahos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathryn Vlahos
Township Secretary