

**LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**May 2, 2022**

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 2, 2022, at the Lower Pottsgrove Township Building, located at 2199 Buchert Road, Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

The following were in attendance:

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

Edward C. Wagner: Manager, and Jamie Ottaviano: Solicitor were also present

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to approve the minutes of April 21, 2022, Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

**COMMENTS BY VISITORS:**

**Julio Algarin – 63 Pinehurst Drive, Pottstown, PA 19464**

Mr. Algarin expressed his thanks to Chief Bell and Township Manager Wagner for taking their time to meet with the residents prior to tonight’s meeting who expressed concerns about potential criminal activity in and around their neighborhood. Mr. Algarin explained the meeting was successful, solutions were discussed, and he feels satisfied with the action that was taken.

**Kim Fratangeli – 45 Pebble Beach Lane, Pottstown, PA 19464**

Ms. Fratangeli expressed her concerns for the safety of the residents of her neighborhood due to the multiple incidents over the last year. Ms. Fratangeli offered some suggestions to discourage the individuals who generate the incidents. Chief Bell assured Ms. Fratangeli that multiple safety options are being reviewed at this time and will follow with an action plan in the near future.

**REPORTS:**

**Police**

Chief Bell presented the Police Report for April 2022.

<b><u>CALLS FOR SERVICE:</u></b>	<b>945</b>
<b>Directed Patrols / Extra Patrol Actions</b>	<b>450</b>
<b><u>ASSISTS:</u></b>	
<b>Given by Lower Pottsgrove PD</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Received by Lower Pottsgrove PD</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT:</u></b>	
<b>Violations Indicated</b>	<b>150</b>

<b>Traffic Citations</b>	<b>126</b>
<b>DUI Arrests</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Accident Investigations</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS:</b>	
<b>Violations Indicated</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Adults Arrested</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Juveniles Handled</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Youth Aid Panel/Reprimand Release</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Juvenile Court</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Adult Court/Citation (Juvenile)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>MH/Involuntary Commitment</b>	<b>0</b>

Chief Bell stated highlights of his report were the following.

- Chief Bell stated that the department responded to a fatal motorcycle accident on 422 at Armand Hammer Blvd.
- Chief Bell stated that the department has completed the yearly firearms training which is required by MPOETC.
- Chief Bell stated that the department has completed the “Hands-On” training which is a new requirement.
- Chief Bell stated that the department’s new squad car was placed in service to replace the old squad car.

### Emergency Management

- Commissioner Lopez explained that there was no EOC activation in April, however, there was one Critical Incident on April 22<sup>nd</sup> involving a serious accident on Route 422.
- Commissioner Lopez stated that he continued to update all emergency plans, including the emergency operations plan, emergency contact list, and radiological response plan.
- Commissioner Lopez stated that next month’s emergency management monthly training session will be held at the Montgomery County public safety training academy on the topic of “severe weather and debris clean.”

### Fire Marshal

Mr. Babel read the following statistics from the April 2022 Fire Marshal report.

<b>Station</b>	<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>Total Hrs. of Service</b>
<b>Sanatoga (Station 58)</b>	34	17 hours 17 minutes
<b>Ringling Hill (Station 59)</b>	29	18 hours 11 minutes

(Hours are approximate)

### Highway Public Works Department

Mr. Wagner presented the March report which included the following: cleaned out the drainage swale located at rear of the Township Building, worked with paving contractor to change the manhole castings for High St., base repair on Sanatoga Rd., cleaned storm drains, worked on our trailers, pothole patched, cleared the cross pipe on N. Schaffer Rd., cut grass at township parks, and started working on manholes for paving projects.

**Engineering**

Jim McCarthy from McCarthy Engineering presented his report which included the following: Montgomery County approved the wage rate certifications for the contractors for the project at Gerald Richards Park, Mr. McCarthy stated the rest of his report was in the Commissioners packet. Commissioner Mohollen asked Mr. McCarthy the status of the Gerald Richards Park to which Mr. McCarthy replied to it would be substantially complete by May 31<sup>st</sup> pending weather.

**Solicitor**

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

**Park and Recreation**

Mr. Wagner reported that the Fish Rodeo will be held Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Wagner added that this was the most successful registration the Township has had, thanks to Officer Tantorno and Amy Henderson. Mr. Wagner stated that the weather for the event is not looking good, and cancellation could be possible. Mr. Wagner explained there is a rain date of May 21, 2022. Mr. Wagner stated that the Summer Concert Series is scheduled and advertised. Mr. Wagner explained the concert series will begin on June 26, 2022.

**Planning Commission**

Mr. Wagner reported that the plans for the two-lot subdivision of 1751 Karen Dr. are being recorded and the lot is up for sale. Mr. Wagner also stated that 710 White Pine Ln. is being finished and plans should be recorded shortly. Mr. Wagner explained that Royal Farms must resubmit its plans due to missing content on Lot 2. Mr. Wagner stated that Royal Farms should appear at the June Planning Commission Meeting.

**Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority**

Mr. Wagner explained that the Authority will be meeting on May 9, 2022. Mr. Wagner stated the Sewer Lateral Ordinance was passed and matters are moving forward. Mr. Wagner explained there is a flyer that will be posted on the Township website and Facebook account prior to the Ordinance taking effect on July 1, 2022.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Motion to consider the amended Windhaven Trailer Park Plan located at 2917 E. High St.** Commissioner Lopez made a motion to accept the amended Windhaven Trailer Park Plan. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

**SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Discussion on the Pruss Hill Road Bridge Replacement Project Bids**

Mr. McCarthy explained five (5) bids were received for the Pruss Hill Rd. Bridge. Mr. McCarthy explained the lowest bid from Bi-State Construction was \$421,361.00 the second-lowest bid was Construction Master Services \$519,074.80. Mr. McCarthy explained the other three (3) bids were around \$650,000.00. Mr. McCarthy recommended the Commissioners wait to give approval until further research on the company is complete.

**Motion to hire Tom Wargo Underwriters Inspections to conduct Property Maintenance/Backup Inspection Services at a rate of \$65/hour, not to exceed 10 hours per week thru October 31, 2022.**

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to hire Tom Wargo Underwriters Inspections to conduct Property Maintenance/Backup Inspection Services at a rate of \$65/hour, not to exceed 10 hours per week thru October 31, 2022. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

**RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:** None.

**REVIEW OF WARRANT #920 FOR THE MONTH OF April 2022:**

Warrant #920 is under review

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner McGroarty** – Commissioner McGroarty stated he was happy to finally be back at the Township Buildings for the meetings. Commissioner McGroarty thanked Sunnybrook Ballroom for allowing the township to utilize its facility during the Pandemic. Commissioner McGroarty also thanked Chief Bell and Mr. Wagner for meeting with the neighbors of Pebble Beach Lane and providing solutions for them.

**Commissioner Mohollen**—Commissioner Mohollen suggested a thank you letter be sent to Sunnybrook for allowing the township to utilize its facility. Commissioner Mohollen stated he would like to bring a topic up for discussion at a later Commissioner Meeting regarding an emergency response ordinance that would help fire departments to be able to bill insurance companies for clean-up after accidents. Commissioner Mohollen stated that this is something insurance companies do reimburse, however, an Ordinance is required.

**Commissioner Lopez**— Commissioner Lopez thanked the neighbors from Pebble Beach Lane for coming to the meeting to express their concerns and for taking the time to meet with the Chief and Township Manager to find a solution. Commissioner Lopez voiced his excitement to be back at the Township Building.

**Commissioner Swavely** – Commissioner Swavely echoed the other Commissioners and thanked the residents for stepping up and voicing their safety concerns. Commissioner Swavely also thanked Sunnybrook for welcoming the Township to the facility.

**Commissioner Foltz**—Commissioner Foltz was absent.

**Mr. Wagner**— Mr. Wagner stated State Rep. Joe Ciresi and Lower Pottsgrove Township are holding a Shredding Event on May 22, 2022, at the Pottsgrove High School. The event will be from 12 pm – 3 pm. Mr. Wagner also welcomed Mr. McCarthy, Ms. Orler, Chief Bell, and Mr. Ottaviano to the Township Building for their first meeting there.

**Solicitor Ottaviano** – Solicitor Ottaviano had no comments.

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 19, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Madison Orlor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Madison Orlor  
Township Secretary