

LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 9, 2022

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 9, 2022, at the Lower Pottsgrove Township Building at 2199 Buchert Road, Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

The following were in attendance:

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

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

Commissioner Foltz presided over the meeting and stated the meeting will be recorded, he asked any speakers to give their names and address for public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2022, Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS:

Larry Ogden – 427 Steeplechase Lane, Pottstown, PA

Mr. Ogden, President of the HOA at Spring Valley Farms, stated he would like to make comments regarding the current construction happening in the Spring Valley Farms Development. Mr. Ogden stated a new HOA board was recently organized in November 2021. Mr. Ogden explained he was present tonight to seek help and support from the Board of Commissioners to be sure Ryan Homes and Alan Myers Construction follow all development proto calls, policies, and procedures that were approved by the Township upon their departure. Mr. Ogden stated the Spring Valley Farms Community, by the end of August, will have fully built out (178 homes). Mr. Ogden went on to explain that there are four (4) separate committees within the community, such as architecture, activities, bylaws, and maintenance committees to identify specific issues. Mr. Ogden stated the maintenance committee is responsible for many of the items that need to be reexamined before the development is dedicated to the HOA. Some of the issues included the following: basins, roads, wetland issues, communal areas, lighting issues, signage, drainage issues, and sidewalks/walkways. Mr. Ogden stated that the HOA has received as-builts from the Township Manager for Phase I. Mr. Ogden explained that the community has created a punch list with items that need to be addressed before the builder and contractor depart. Mr. Ogden explained a substantial portion of these issues is the sidewalks/driveway aprons throughout the community. Mr. Ogden explained he would like to schedule a walkthrough with individuals from Ryan Homes, the Township, and the HOA.

Commissioner Foltz thanked Mr. Ogden for voicing his concerns and assured Mr. Ogden that a walkthrough meeting will be scheduled in the near future. Mr. Wagner added that the issues that were mentioned this evening were sent to the builder as well as the contractor in order to resolve these problems. Mr. Perilli from McCarthy Engineering assured Mr. Ogden that the engineers will review the punch list and create one of their own along with the HOA's items in mind. Mr. Ottaviano, the Solicitor, assured Mr. Ogden that the Township will be certain that these issues

are resolved before any escrow money are released. Mr. Ogden gave his appreciation to the Board for their help and support.

REPORTS:

Police

Chief Bell presented the Police Report for May 2022.

<u>CALLS FOR SERVICE:</u>	1176
Directed Patrols / Extra Patrol Actions	739
<u>ASSISTS:</u>	
Given by Lower Pottsgrove PD	8
Received by Lower Pottsgrove PD	2
<u>TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT:</u>	
Violations Indicated	161
Traffic Citations	157
DUI Arrests	6
Accident Investigations	29
<u>CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS:</u>	
Violations Indicated	48
Adults Arrested	11
Juveniles Handled	0
Youth Aid Panel/Reprimand Release	0
Juvenile Court	0
Adult Court/Citation (Juvenile)	0
MH/Involuntary Commitment	3

Chief Bell stated highlights of his report were the following.

- Chief Bell stated that the department conducted a DUI checkpoint on May 20, 2022, on Armand Hammer Blvd which resulted in four (4) DUI arrests and two (2) drug arrests.
- Chief Bell stated on May 20, 2022, there was an armed robbery at the US Gas on High St. Chief Bell explained the suspect was arrested the next day.
- Chief Bell mention that there was an increase in calls for service for the month of May. Chief Bell explained this was due to the warmer weather and more people being active/outside.
- Chief Bell mentioned that the Department has a video surveillance form for residents to fill out that would allow the residents to share their video footage with the Police in the event of an incident.

Emergency Management

- Commissioner Lopez explained that there were two (2) WatchDesk events in May. One for possible severe weather and one Emergency Management mutual aid assist to a neighboring municipality. There were no full EOC activations during the month of May.
- Commissioner Lopez stated that he attended the monthly Emergency Management Training Meeting. The topics included EOC Communications and WebEOC software training.

- Commissioner Lopez stated that on May 20, 2022, preparations were made for possible severe weather approaching our area.
- Commissioner Lopez stated that on May 26, 2022, he provided Emergency Management mutual aid support to Pottstown Borough with the critical incident surrounding the building explosion.
- Commissioner Lopez stated there will be no Emergency Management Monthly meeting in June, therefore, major efforts will be made to complete the Emergency Plan updated for the Township.

Fire Marshal

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

Station	Total Calls	Total Hrs. of Service
Sanatoga (Station 58)	26	16 hours 10 minutes
Ringling Hill (Station 59)	29	13 hours 10 minutes

(Hours are approximate)

Highway Public Works Department

Commissioner Foltz presented the May report which included the following: prepared roads for paving, finished replacing manhole castings for paving, cleaned storm drains, pothole patched, cut township parks serviced mowers, cut intersections for sight distance, dropped dead trees located in the Township’s open space area on Heather Lane, worked with fifteen (15) students from Pottsgrove High School (students trimmed tree branches in our park system), finished widening Eastern Road for paving, roadside cut and prepped the Sunnybrook Road embankments for the fishing rodeo.

Engineering

Nick Perilli from McCarthy Engineering presented the engineer report which included the following: a time extension, until mid-September 2022, was given from Montgomery County to finish the Gerald Richards Park Project, the demolition of the path at Gerald Richards has begun, the contractor for the Pruss Hill Road Bridge was on site on May 6, 2022, performing test boring, and the application process for the N. Adams Street bridge has begun and is due by the end of July 2022.

Solicitor

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

Park and Recreation

Mr. Wagner reported that the first Summer Concert Series (Where’s Pete) will be held on June 26, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Planning Commission

Mr. Wagner reported that the next meeting will be held on June 20, 2022, and Royal Farms will be attending. Mr. Wagner explained this will be the first go-around with the third lot which is

proposed to be a drive-thru Starbucks. Mr. Wagner also mentioned the Tornetta property will also appear on the agenda.

Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority

Mr. Wagner stated that the June 13th meeting was cancelled, and the next meeting will take place on July 11th.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION:

PECO's Reliability & Resiliency Plan for N. Charlotte St., Kaufman Rd., Orlando Rd., and Maugers Mill Rd.

Mr. Wagner explained that PECO is investing \$2.5 million in local infrastructure, and the existing low voltage electrical circuits will be upgraded to high voltage circuits to better serve the customers. Mr. Wagner explained that PECO will also be conducting tree work to reduce the chances of outages. Mr. Wagner stated tree work will begin in mid-June and construction will conclude this winter

OLD BUSINESS: None

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:

Resolution 1283-22 Edward & Laura Lucci, Amended Minor Land Development proposal to construct a 36'x78' barn alongside a 70'x104' enclosed arena at 1218 Snell Road within the R-2 Residential District. The overall tract area is approximately 15.04 acres.

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve Resolution 1283-22 Edward & Laura Lucci, Amended Minor Land Development proposal to construct a 36'x78' barn alongside a 70'x104' enclosed arena at 1218 Snell Road within the R-2 Residential District. The overall tract area is approximately 15.04 acres. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion to execute a grant agreement with PMRPC for \$12,500 for the installation of a picnic pavilion and ADA parking area at Sanatoga Park

Commissioner Mohollen made a motion to execute a grant agreement with PMRPC for \$12,500 for the installation of a picnic pavilion and ADA parking area at Sanatoga Park. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

Motion to approve payment request #4 in the amount of \$161,167.50 for the Gerald Richards Park project to James R. Kenney.

Commissioner Mohollen made a motion to approve payment request #4 in the amount of \$161,167.50 for the Gerald Richards Park project to James R. Kenney of Collegeville, PA. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

Consideration to adopt the Township Accident and Illness Prevention Program Manual

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to adopt the Township Accident and Illness Prevention Program Manual as advised the by the Delaware Valley Worker's Compensation Trust. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

Discussion on the installation of a pole along Pebble Beach Lane

Commissioner Foltz explained that the proposed pole installation is due to the activity that has been happening in and around Pebble Beach Lane and will include two streetlights as well as a potential security camera. Commissioner Foltz stated a wooden pole would cost \$10,500.00, a steel pole would cost \$12,500.00, and a camera would cost approximately \$4,000.00.

Commissioner Foltz stated that to run/operate the camera, the Township would need to run cable and incur a monthly internet bill from Comcast. Mr. Wagner explained that an estimate for the steel pole and cameras would be around \$16,500.00. Commissioner Mohollen stated that he would like to speak with the residents and make sure they are fully understanding of what could potentially be outside of their homes. Mr. Wagner stated he would go to the neighbors and get their input and he would get a photo of what the steel pole will look like to provide to the residents. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to hire A.N. Lynch Co, Inc. of Spring City with the exception of, using a steel pole not wooden (not to exceed \$14,000). This is contingent upon Mr. Wagner and Chief Bell having an educational conversation with the residents about the pole and gaining their approval. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

Resolution 1284-22 amending the Non-Uniform Employee Handbook Sections 205 & 206 Pre-Employment Physical and Drug Test

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve Resolution 1284-22 amending the Non-Uniform Employee Handbook Sections 205 Pre-Employment Physical and Section 206 Drug Test.

Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

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

Commissioner Mohollen made a motion to approve Resolution #453-T(B), Amendment for establishing certain fees, deposits, and escrows payable to the Township. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

REVIEW OF WARRANT #921 FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2022:

Warrant #921 is under review

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Mohollen—Commissioner Mohollen thanked the Ringing Hill Fire Company for providing our Public Works Department with water in order to pave roads in the Township.

Commissioner Lopez— Commissioner Lopez echoed Commissioner Mohollen regarding the teamwork between the Fire Company and the Public Works Department. Commissioner Lopez also thanked the Police Department for the organized crime component performed.

Commissioner Lopez also thanked Mr. Wagner for being available at any time day or night and supporting him. Commissioner Lopez also thanked John Fogel for his help along the way.

Commissioner Swavely – Commissioner Swavely had no comments.

Commissioner Foltz—Commissioner Foltz stated that Sanatoga Fire Company will be hooking up to the Public Water System.

Mr. Wagner— Mr. Wagner had no comments.

Solicitor Ottaviano – Solicitor Ottaviano announced that the Board will hold an executive session directly after the meeting to discuss a matter of real estate. No formal action will be taken.

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 5, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Madison Orler".

Madison Orler
Township Secretary