

## LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 24, 2021

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at The Sunnybrook Ballroom, 50 Sunnybrook Road, Pottstown Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. The following were in attendance:

Board of Commissioners: Bruce L. Foltz, Raymond W. Lopez, and Michael McGroarty were all present.

Edward C. Wagner, Manager; Charles Garner, Solicitor; Kathryn Vlahos, Secretary were also present.

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.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2021 Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

### PRESENTATION:

**Barbara Akins of Akins Accounting of Bechtelsville, PA on the 2020 Township's Financial Audit**—Ms. Akins thanked the board for having her tonight at the meeting to present the 2020 Townships Financial Audit. Ms. Akins stated that the audit was very clean and they were able to get verification on the numbers. There are is \$245,000 that is restricted funds which is the liquid fuels money which is from the state and there are very specific guidelines for what that can be spent on. The unrestricted funds as of December 2020 were \$2.4 million compared to the prior year of \$1.5 million. The primary government funds the township has cash of \$5 million, the liability is the post-employment benefit obligation for the police. When they retire the township is providing health insurance up until a certain age and the actuary is saying that the liability for this is \$1.4 million. The pension liability is 1 million dollars, the township has the cash of 5 million and this is something that the township needs to prepare for in the future. There are pension trust funds that there are contributions to which are not included in the general government money but can only be used for the pension. The exciting news Ms. Akins explained is that in 2020 the police had a net investment income of \$800,000 and the non-uniform has a net investment income of \$400,000 which is \$1.2 million. In 2020 the township paid out almost \$500,000 in benefits to both the police and non-uniform but what the township contributed from the employees, the police, non-uniform, and the township contribution was \$519,000. Ms. Akins gave the board some good news that Lower Pottsgrove Township had one debt of \$42,000 for an F550 truck. Ms. Akins asked the board if they had any questions regarding the audit. Commissioner Foltz thanked Ms. Akins for coming out to the meeting to give the board an update. Commissioner Foltz also thanks Ms. Christman the Finance Director for all of her hard work keeping the records all year long.

**COMMENTS BY VISITORS:** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Royal Farms** — Solicitor Garner reminded the board that on May 20, 2021, there was a Conditional Use Hearing for Royal Farms. Under the township zoning ordinance, gasoline filling station is a conditional use to a convenience store. There was testimony from witnesses concerning the satisfaction of the conditions contained within the township zoning ordinance as a decision Solicitor Garner prepared for the board to consider. The order that the township has will grant the conditional use, however they are permitted to propose reasonable conditions on conditional use application. In this case, the conditions would be first that the applicant would need to obtain land development approval to create the three-lot subdivision as they presented to them in Exhibit A7. In addition, the obvious concern of the development of this parcel would be traffic and there are suggested conditions for traffic improvements that would be part of the land development process. These were all recommendations from the township traffic consultant. The board does not have to act tonight but they only have 45 days to take formal action. Solicitor Garner recommends that the board takes some action at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner McGroarty made a motion to approve Royal Farms 300 Armand Hammer Blvd. Order pertaining to conditional use application. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

**Hire Patricia Mazeski**—Commissioner Lopez made a motion to hire Patricia Mazeski as a Temporary Part-time Employee at \$13 an hour. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

**Holding Agreement for 1473 N Charlotte St**—Commissioner McGroarty made a motion to authorize President Foltz to execute an on-site holding tank agreement for 1473 N Charlotte Street. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

**Access Easement Agreement for 1218 Snell Rd**—Mr. Wagner explained that Mr. Lucci is looking to use the access of Snell Road Park to bring trucks approximately 900 feet to the back of his property for 30 days. Solicitor Garner prepared an agreement that Mr. Lucci needs to restore the access back to existing conditions and it is limited to a 33,000-pound single axle truck.

Commissioner McGroarty made a motion to approve the temporary access easement agreement for Laura Lucci 1218 Snell Road. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

**Resignation of Kathy Jo Winterbottom**—Commissioner Lopez made a motion to accept the resignation of Kathy Jo Winterbottom from the Civil Service Commission with regrets. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

## **RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE:**

**Resolution 1244-21**—Commissioner McGroarty made a motion to approve Resolution 1244-21 appointing Thomas Orlando to the Parks and Recreation Board. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

**Resolution 818-K**—Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve Resolution 818-K disposition of records according to the Municipal Records Manual. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

**Warrant #909** Commissioner McGroarty made a motion to approve Warrant #909 for the month of May 2021. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

**Acceptance of Treasurer's Report-** Commissioner McGroarty made the motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of May 2021. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

## **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner McGroarty** – Commissioner McGroarty thanked Ms. Akins for coming out to the meeting and presenting the audit to the board. Commissioner McGroarty thanked Ms. Christman for the work that she does throughout the year and especially at the beginning of the year when all the preparation has to take place for the audit. Commissioner McGroarty thanked Kathy Jo Winterbottom for her service on the Civil Service Commission.

**Commissioner Lopez**— Commissioner Lopez echoed all of Commissioners McGroarty's comments and especially about Ms. Christman and how well she does her job all year long.

Commissioner Lopez mentioned that the summer concert series begins this Sunday, June 27th and the Bill Koss Combo will be playing at Sanatoga Park at 6:00 p.m.

**Commissioner Foltz**—Commissioner Foltz brought up the topic of allowing the local police departments in Pennsylvania to use radar. Commissioner Foltz would like to send another letter to our State Senator and Representative in support of the local police department's use of radar.

**ITEM ADDED TO THE AGENDA**— Commissioner Lopez made a motion to authorize the Township Manager to author a letter to the State Representatives and Senators to support radar use by local police departments. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion.

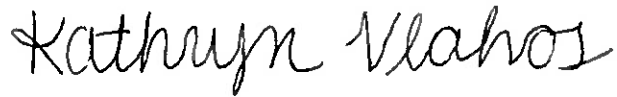
Commissioner Foltz opened for public comment on the motion to authorize the Township Manager to author a letter to our State Representative and Senator to support radar use by local police departments. Being no public comments Commissioner Foltz closed for public comments and the motion was approved 3-0 in favor.

**Mr. Wagner**— Mr. Wagner had no comments.

**Solicitor Garner** – Solicitor Garner stated that the board will be adjourning the meeting into executive session this evening to discuss threatened litigation and there will be no action taken following the executive session.

There being no further business, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 6, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Sunnybrook Ballroom.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathryn Vlahos".

Kathryn Vlahos  
Township Secretary