

LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
October 1, 2018

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 1, 2018 at the Lower Pottsgrove Township Municipal Building, 2199 Buchert Road, Pottstown, Pennsylvania. 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, Jr., Raymond W. Lopez, Bob Mohollen and Michael McGroarty.

Edward C. Wagner, Manager; Michael A. Foltz, Chief of Police; Charles Garner, Solicitor; Chad Camburn, Township Engineer; Lew Babel, Fire Marshal and Sharon Colletti, Secretary.

Solicitor Garner stated that prior to tonight's meeting at 6:00 p.m. the board held an Executive session to discuss a matter of personnel and real estate.

President Foltz announced the meeting would be recorded and asked speakers to please state their name, address and nature of business for the record.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the regularly scheduled September 20, 2018 Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:

Brian Parks, Tri-County Active Adult Center, first thanked the Board for their support over the years and then spoke in regards to the facility located at 288 Moser Road which is a community center for adults aged 50 and better. The facility is operated five days each week and provides a range of programs and activities to keep older adults active and living longer, fuller, more independent lives. Many of the activities are free or at a very low cost per session. They offer a free daily lunch, cooked fresh on-site, along with age-appropriate exercise and balance classes, recreational and social activities, educational and health seminars, trips, professional support and much more. Mr. Parks invited the Commissioners to stop by for a tour at any time.

REPORTS:

Chief Foltz presented the Police Report for the month

CALLS FOR SERVICE	897
ASSISTS:	6
Given by Lower Pottsgrove PD	
Received by Lower Pottsgrove PD	0
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT:	
Violations Indicated	44
DUI Arrests	1
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS:	
Violations Indicated	58
Adults Arrested	8
Juveniles Handled	3

- LPPD has been partnering with both Montgomery County Public Safety dispatchers and Montgomery County Mobile Crisis Team in permitting their personnel do periodic ride-alongs with our officers. This provides the dispatchers and crisis intervention caseworkers to gain an understanding of what our officers face on the streets, and also allows our officers to build relationships with these support services as we learn from one another. The crisis intervention caseworkers also can be immediately available to our community needs while on the call if necessary.
- To enhance officer safety and mitigate liability on the department, I have initiated a trial program using Archangel MDT lockdown software on Car #4. I anticipate the two Sergeants assigned to this car will provide feedback on the program and its current set up.
 - The system is designed to do as follows:
 - Keyboard automatically locks down at speeds of 15 mph or greater. Once the car has exceeded 70 mph, the computer screen will also go blank until the speed is reduced.
 - The unit has a tamper prevention mode. If the USB is disconnected the computer will lock-out. This serves as both a tamper prevention and security feature.
- On September 27th, LPPD hosted an Autism Awareness seminar for residents. The program was held at Gatsby's and presented by Dr. Charles Barbera, Chair of Emergency Medicine at Reading Hospital, and Amy Snyder, RN. Approximately 50 people attended the seminar, including members of the local volunteer fire companies.
- Detectives have been conducting background checks on police officer candidates. I expect to perform polygraph testing on the top candidate within the coming weeks and then convene the Civil Service Commission to certify a list of eligible candidates.
- Patrol car #3, a 2018 Dodge Charger AWD with only a little over 22K miles, has been out of service since mid to late August. The car has been in/out of service due to significant oil loss/leaks. The car is currently at New Holland

Auto Sales, where we purchased the vehicle for warranty work. Numerous dealerships have been unsuccessful in determining the cause of the oil loss. New Holland recently reported a loose oil pan drain plug, cross-threaded oil pan bolts and after completing those repairs found additional oil leaking and are now considering a cracked engine block as a possible cause.

Emergency Management

- There were no EOC Activations for the month of September, however there were a number of severe weather “watches” initiated by the National Weather Service due to an active hurricane season.
- September 19th, Ray Lopez attended the monthly Emergency Management Training held at the Montgomery Township Community & Recreation Center.
- September 25th and 26th, Ray Lopez attended a PEMA Emergency Planning Training Session at The Montgomery County Emergency Operations Center.
- 2018 is an off year for the Limerick Generating Station Exercise. The exercise has historically been carried out every two years, so our next drill will be in 2019. Emergency Management Staff at Lower Pottsgrove will closely monitor PEMA and Nuclear Regulatory Commission planning meetings and proposed changes to the exercise scenario to allow for our staff to be trained appropriately to meet the requirements of any variations to the exercise.

Fire Marshal

Lew Babel highlighted the following statistics from his September report:

Station	Total Calls	Total Hrs. of Service	Total Personnel Hrs.	Total Personnel Training Hrs.	Total Fundraising Hrs.
Sanatoga (Station 58)	26	34 hrs 30 min	67 hrs 0 min	17 hrs 30 min	
Ringling Hill (Station 59)	18				

(Hours are approximate)

Mr. Babel invited everyone to attend the Fire Prevention activities being held at Home Depot on Saturday, October 6th, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Highway—Public Works Department: President Foltz presented the September report.

C.O.G. — The next meeting will be held on October 16, 2018 at North Coventry Township.

Engineering—Chad Camburn of Bursich Associates provided a written Engineers’ Report updating the Board on various projects and activities going on in the Township. He highlighted the following projects:

- **Sanatoga Green:** A meeting was held on September 14th with the Township staff and consultants and the developer's team to discuss the project status the latest review comments. Revised plans and reports were received on September 17 and currently under review. We are currently reviewing the final Sewage Planning Module for Township signature and submission to the PADEP. On September 20, 2018, the PUC approved the expansion of PA American Water Company's franchise area to service this project.
- **Spring Valley Farms Subdivision - Phase 1:** 16 Lot Plans have been approved to date and another 5 are currently under review.
- **Spring Valley Farms Subdivision - Phase 2:** Revised plans and a construction cost estimate for site and sewer improvements were found to be satisfactory on September 25th. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2018.
- **Gerald Richards Park Improvements – Phases 1 & 2:** We met with the MCCD on September 18 and are working on final revisions for E&S approval and the NPDES permit. Construction is anticipated to take place in early 2019.
- **Rupert Road Bridge:** Relocation of the Comcast lines is complete and the bridge deck and one of the footers has been removed. Work on the new footers is expected to begin within the next two weeks. The Notice to Proceed was issued on July 24th and the completion deadline for the project is November 21, 2018.
- **Sanatoga Marketplace (site next to Turkey Hill):** A meeting was held on September 19th with the developer, Township Manager and Bursich staff to discuss the status of sewage planning and requirements for sewage approvals through the PaDEP. The design engineer is preparing the planning module packages for review.
- **663 Storage Center:** The project includes the construction of storage units at 663 N. Charlotte Street. Plans and reports were received on September 17 and are currently under review.

Treasurer—Mr. Wagner stated the September Treasurers Report would be forthcoming

Solicitor—Solicitor Garner provided a written report with a synopsis of all projects his office worked on during the month of September and asked if there were any questions.

Parks and Recreation Mr. Wagner reported the 4th Annual Community Day will be held on Saturday, October 20th. At the last meeting, the Board charged him with updating the Open Space Plan.

Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Commission Mr. Wagner stated he was provided with a proposed Resolution prepared by the Regional Recreation Coordinator which would allow the Township to continue to participate in the Regional Recreation Program through its coordinator, Michael Layne. The Resolution outlines the Townships contribution for each year depending upon the number of municipalities that participate.

Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority the next meeting will be on Monday, October 8th and will be reviewing the draft of the 2019 capital and operations budget. Mr. Camburn added that the Township had received \$400,000 in Grant monies to perform sewer repairs in the Township.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION:

Mr. Wagner presented the details for the zoning hearing to be held on Tuesday, October 23rd which requests a variance on the size limit for accessory buildings located at 2067 Tyler Court.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Wagner reported that PA American Water has granted the extension of the franchise area to include service to the Sanatoga Green Development.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to authorize President Foltz to execute a consent agreement for the PA Department of Agriculture to spray and remove trees that attract the Spotted Lanternflies at two open space parcels located on Porter Road. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to accept the snow plow bids for the 2018-2019 Season which were received September 27, 2018. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0).

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

Commissioner Swavely made the motion to adopt Resolution 1172-18 authorizing the transfer of State Aid to the Police and Non-Uniform Pension Accounts. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Commissioner Lopez made the motion to adopt Master Traffic Ordinance 339 amending and updating Article II Traffic Regulations of Chapter 228, Vehicles & Traffic of the Township Codified Code. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion; all in favor (5-0)

Mr. Wagner stated that Warrant #877 for the month of September would be available later in the week for review.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner McGroarty had no comment.

Commissioner Mohollen thanked Chief Foltz for orchestrating the Autism Awareness event. It was well-attended by the public and Emergency Responders and was a very informative event. He passed along thanks to the Chief and also Sergeant Walters from a neighbor who Sgt. Walters assisted with a medical emergency.

Commissioner Lopez thanked Chief Foltz for putting the Autism Awareness Seminar together and also felt it was very well attended and informative. He invited everyone to attend the Fire Prevention events being held on the 6th from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at Home Depot.

Commissioner Swavely had no comment.

President Foltz asked everyone to support both the Lower Pottsgrove Township Community Day on the 20th and also the Fire Prevention activities at Home Depot this Saturday.

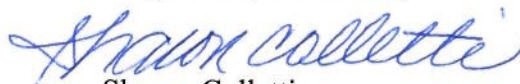
Mr. Wagner stated that in the Board's packets there was information pertaining to the assessment appeals being filed by Heritage Village and also information outlining improvements to the paving markings at the intersection of Buchert Road and Kauffman Road to be made by PennDOT.

Solicitor Garner announced that immediately following the meeting the Board will adjourn to Executive Session to discuss a matter of real estate and would not be returning afterwards; no action will be taken.

There being no further business, the public meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 18, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Colletti
Township Secretary