

# LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP

## Board of Commissioners:

Bruce L. Foltz • Jonathan H. Spadt  
Stephen M. Klotz • Anthony A. Doyle • James C. Phillips  
Rodney P. Hawthorne, *Manager*

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[www.lowerpottsgrove.org](http://www.lowerpottsgrove.org)

## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS OF LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP

The Lower Pottsgrove Township Board of Commissioners has decided, in the interest of maintaining the health, safety and welfare of the community, to initiate an incremental fire tax increase starting in 2009. This increase is necessary to financially support the Township's two volunteer fire companies, Sanatoga Fire Company and Ringing Hill Fire Company.

**The Board of Commissioners, along with the Fire Committee, propose an incremental increase, beginning in the year 2009, of \$9.00 per year per assessed \$150,000.00 value. This additional fire tax of \$9.00 per year per assessed \$150,000.00 value will continue through and include the year 2014.**

A dedicated source of funding from the Township is the main source of income for our fire companies. Without it, our volunteer fire companies simply could not exist. They could not afford the essential equipment, supplies and training they need to continue to provide excellent service to the residents and businesses of Lower Pottsgrove Township, as well as assistance to the surrounding municipalities.

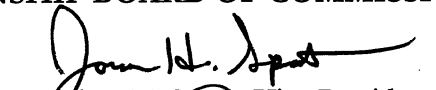
This small, incremental increase in the fire tax will help our companies fund the additional training and equipment that is necessary for the safety and effectiveness of their performance. For your information, listed below are some little known facts about Lower Pottsgrove Township's volunteer fire companies. Did you know:

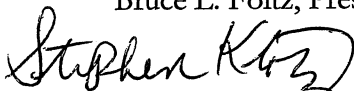
- It costs **\$2,600** to outfit one volunteer firefighter. Some of the clothing items are bunker pants, bunker coat, nomex hood, fire boots, helmet, fire gloves, rescue gloves, safety vest and safety goggles.
- The cost of a self-contained breathing apparatus (air pack) is **\$8,600**.
- There are 6 different firefighter classifications: 1<sup>st</sup> Class (Introductory to the Fire Service), 2<sup>nd</sup> Class (Fire Ground Support), 3<sup>rd</sup> Class (Exterior Firefighter), 4<sup>th</sup> Class (Hazardous Materials Operations), 5<sup>th</sup> Class (First Aid and CPR) and 6<sup>th</sup> Class (Interior Firefighter).
- It takes 196 hours of volunteer time to complete all 6 classifications. Training cost is \$385.
- Recently, both Township fire companies purchased a new fire truck. Average cost per truck was **\$385,000**.

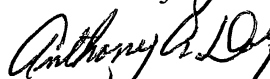
Thank you for supporting your volunteer fire companies and recognizing their value, importance and dedication to the safety of Lower Pottsgrove Township.


## THE LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
Bruce L. Foltz, President

  
Jonathan H. Spadt, Vice President

  
Stephen M. Klotz

  
Anthony A. Doyle

  
James C. Phillips