

LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 6, 2020

The Board of Commissioners of Lower Pottsgrove Township held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, July 6, 2020 at the Sunnybrook Ballroom, 50 Sunnybrook Road, Pottstown Pennsylvania. The 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: Early E. Swavely, Raymond W. Lopez, Robert Mohollen and Michael McGroarty.

Commissioner Bruce L. Foltz was present though live video feed.

Edward C. Wagner; Manager, William James; Acting Chief of Police, and Kathryn Vlahos; Secretary were also present.

Charles Garner, Solicitor and Nick Feola; Township Engineer were also present though live video feed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner McGroarty made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2020 Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Mohollen seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS: None.

REPORTS:

Police

Acting Chief James presented the Police Report for the month of June 2020.

CALLS FOR SERVICE	857
ASSISTS:	
Given by Lower Pottsgrove PD	7
Received by Lower Pottsgrove PD	5
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT:	
Violations Indicated	11
DUI Arrests	9
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS:	
Violations Indicated	46
Adults Arrested	18
Juveniles Handled	1

- Acting Chief James stated the calls for service are on an uptick again in the month of June.
- The department is looking into assisting with DUI enforcement and traffic enforcement this July through August. Will be working with H&K on the Route 422 for the bridge project.
- The department is moving smoothly from the transition of Chief Foltz.

Emergency Management

Commissioner Lopez stated that the Office of Emergency Management continues to maintain a high state of readiness during this extended period of the Emergency Declaration of Disaster caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the Emergency Management Team continues to work closely with Township Staff to maintain a safe community for the welfare of our citizens. In addition, we continue to attend training sessions and monitor weather forecasts and other possible unsafe exposures.

Commissioner Lopez wanted to remind everyone, on July 1st, Gov. Wolf ordered mask-wearing mandatory when leaving home and was put in place to protect all Pennsylvanians from the spread of COVID-19. This simple practice, combined with social distancing, handwashing, and staying home if sick, is paramount to stopping this virus from infecting more people. We again would like to thank our residents for complying with the protective orders we have encountered during this pandemic.

Fire Marshal

Mr. Wagner highlighted the following statistics from Lew Babel's the June 2020 Fire Marshal report:

Station	Total Calls	Total Hrs. of Service	Total Personnel Hrs.	Total Personnel Training Hrs.	Total Fundraising Hrs.
Sanatoga (Station 58)	23	31 hrs. 30 min	70 hrs. 45min		
Ringling Hill (Station 59)	20	19 hrs. 33 min	38 hrs. 32 mins	29 hrs.	

(Hours are approximate)

Highway Public Works Department

Commissioner Lopez presented the June report.

C.O.G

Commissioner Foltz stated that there was nothing to report.

Engineer

Nick Feola of Bursich Associates reviewed the written Engineers' Report that was provided by Chad Camburn of Bursich Associates updating the Board on various projects and activities going on in the Township.

Solicitor

Solicitor Garner provided a written report with a synopsis of all projects his office worked on during the month of June and there was nothing to comment on at this time.

Park and Recreation

Mr. Wagner informed the board that the Park and Recreation Board met on June 22, 2020 and are currently working on Community Day that is schedule for October 17, 2020 at Ringing Hill Fire Company. As of right now the Board is going to have Community Day but will continue to monitor due to Covid-19.

Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Commission

Mr. Wagner stated that the meeting was held on June 24, 2020 and they discussed the intergovernmental cooperative implementation agreement which is advertised under the agenda under new business.

Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority

Mr. Wagner stated the Authority held a special meeting on Monday June 29, 2020 to discuss the revised layout for Phase I of Sanatoga Green. The revised plan resulted in a reduction of 16 townhomes, totaling in 131 townhomes in Phase I. This will eliminate the grinder pumps and allow for all units to flow by gravity.

Correspondence and Information**2020-04 555 Sunnybrook Road Zoning Hearing Application requesting special exception. —**

They are proposing to put living quarters for their father which they will need a special exception for. The location of the in-law quarter is an existing building that is in the front yard. The existing building is an accessory structure that is over 600 sf which they will also need special exception from. The Board expressed no objection to the application.

OLD BUSINESS:**Infrastructure Committee Update—**

Commissioner Lopez informed the board that the Infrastructure Committee has resumed their in-person meetings which were suspended temporarily due to COVID-19. At our most recent meeting, we agreed to exempt this project from both land development and zoning. Preparations are being made to prepare paperwork for the Montgomery County Conservation District and for our Highway Occupancy Permit. We're working toward an approval of the Building exterior, plumbing, electrical, heating systems and a backup generator. A period of time was devoted to discussing flooring finishes in the community link. Our Architect, Alloy 5, anticipates having the project ready to go out to bid by October. Alloy 5 intends to have a budget update for us soon.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Animal Control Service Agreement 2020-2023 - Commissioner McGroarty made a motion to enter into Service Agreement with the Animal Control Officer 2020-2023. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion and was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Advertise Ordinance 350— Commissioner Mohollen made a motion advertise Ordinance 350 Intergovernmental Cooperative Implementation Agreement for PARCC. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion and was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Increasing Acting Chief Wil James Salary — Commissioner Foltz made a motion to approve an incremental increase of Acting Chief Wil James current salary by \$1,000 per month retroactive from June 13th. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion and was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Phase I of Sanatoga Green— Commissioner Mohollen made a motion to approve the revised layout for Phase I of the Sanatoga Green Development depicting 131 townhome units. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion and was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

DEP Letter Sanatoga Green Sewage — Commissioner McGroarty made to authorize the Township Secretary to send a letter to DEP regarding Sanatoga Green Sewage Planning Module. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion and was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE:

Resolution 818-J— Commissioner Mohollen made a motion to approve Resolution 818-J Disposition of records according the Municipal Records Manual. Commissioner Swavely seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Warrant #897- Commissioner Mohollen made a motion to approve Warrant #897 for the month of May 2020. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Acceptance of Treasure's Report- Commissioner Mohollen made the motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of May 2020. Commissioner McGroarty seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Vote was 5-0 in favor.

Warrant #898- Warrant No. 898 for the month of June 2020 will be distributed via email for the Commissioners' review.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Mohollen – Commissioner Mohollen asked for clarification from Acting Chief James that the incident that occurred last night was an isolated incident and shall not put fear in the community that this was something other than a contained incident. Acting Chief James stated that this was a contained incident to the residence.

Commissioner Mohollen thanked Mr. Wagner and Mrs. Christman for their hard work making sure that the township is doing well financially so far this year.

Commissioner Foltz—Commissioner Foltz stated that he was is not happy with the intersection at Hause Ave and High Street. Vehicles are using the center lane as a passing lane. Commissioner Foltz would like the passing lane to be looked at to see if it is a safety concern. Acting Chief James stated that he has his traffic officer looking into this intersection as well as the passing lane currently.

Commissioner McGroarty – Commissioner McGroarty thanked Sunnybrook Ballroom for allowing the board to have their meeting at their business. Sunnybrook Ballroom is large enough for the board to allow for social distancing.

Commissioner McGroarty also thanked Commissioner Lopez for keeping the board informed what is going on in the township and the county.

Commissioner McGroarty also wanted to congratulate and thank Acting Chief James for taking on the added responsibilities.

Commissioner Swavely – Commissioner Swavely echoed Commissioner McGroarty's comments on Acting Chief James and wishes him success.

Commissioner Swavely thanked everyone that was involved in making the arrangements for the Board of Commissioners meeting to be held at Sunnybrook Ballroom.

Mr. Wagner— Mr. Wagner had no comments.

Solicitor Garner – Solicitor Garner had no comments.

There being no further business, the public and live video feed was adjourned at 7:36 p.m. The next meeting will be on Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathryn Vlahos
Township Secretary