



**West Pottsgrove Township
980 Grosstown Road
Stowe, PA 19464**

**Board of Commissioners Meeting
July 6, 2022
7:00pm**

The regular monthly Board Meeting for the Board of Commissioners was called to order by Board President; Steve Miller.

ROLL CALL

Board members present were Commissioners; Miller, Palladino, Valentine, Green, and Shawell, Also present was Township Manager; Scott Hutt, Township Secretary; Courtney Harris, Township Solicitor; Kenneth Picardi, Police Chief; Joseph Sokolofski, and Fire Chief; Frank Hand.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Green to approve the minutes from the BOC meeting on June 1, 2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Shawell. A motion was made by Commissioner Shawell to approve the meeting minutes from the Workshop meeting on June 15, 2022. Commissioner Green seconded the motion. All were in favor of approving the meeting minutes from June 1, 2022 and June 15, 2022.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A motion was made by Commissioner Green to approve the Financial Report, Commissioner Valentine seconded the motion. All were in favor of approving the Financial Report dated July 6, 2022.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Commissioner Valentine, seconded by Commissioner Green to approve the payment of all bills as presented, in the total amount of \$489,993.69. All were in favor of paying the bills as presented.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments from the public on agenda items.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Valentine – Recreation, Town Watch & Regional Recreation

Mr. Valentine reported that summer playground is going well for Pottsgrove Recreation, there are 162 children enrolled in the program this year. PARCC had mentioned that the Township should revise the zoning ordinance to reflect renewable energy for parking lot lights for businesses, more details to come.

Mr. Green – Emergency Management, Recycling, & Finance

Mr. Green reported that we had 29.58 tons of recyclables for the month of June 2022.

Mr. Paladino – Public Works & Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement Report as follows:

CODE CALL	1	PERMITS ISSUED	14
CODE INSPECTION	1	HEARINGS	0
USE & OCCUPANCY	12	COMPLAINTS RESOLVED	0
RENTAL INSPECTIONS	12 UNITS	RENTAL PERMITS	37
RENTAL REGISTRATIONS	37	NOTICE OF VIOLATION	0
CODE NOTICES	1	PROPERTIES POSTED	0
PERMIT INSPECTIONS	19	CITATIONS	0
SITE INSPECTIONS	11	COMPLETED PERMITS	12

Rental Registration Fees: \$18,050 - Building Permit Fees: \$6,909 - Construction Costs: \$463,849.00

Mr. Shawell – Regional Planning, Zoning, & Planning Commission

Mr. Shawell attended the Planning Commission meeting where they were discussing the regionalization of ambulance services. More information to come on this.

Mr. Miller – Police, Civil Service & Fire

Fire

Mr. Miller turned over the Fire Report to Fire Chief; Frank Hand who reported a mild month for June with a total of 6 calls.

Police

Chief Joe Sokolofski of the West Pottsgrove Police Department reported 412 calls for the month of June.

TOTAL ARRESTS – ADULT/ JUVENILES	6/0
TRAFFIC CITATIONS	34
TRAFFIC WRITTEN WARNINGS	20
UPLAND SQUARE CALLS	24
CODE ENFORCEMENTS	16
NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS	2
UPLAND SQUARE MINUTES	1050

Chief Sokolofski provided a brief summary regarding an isolated drive by shooting that occurred on West Race St. Upper Pottsgrove and Pottstown Borough assisted with the incident.

On June 23rd WPT Police Department had a community engagement event with Kona Ice, where the Kona Ice truck and the police drove around the township handing out Italian ice to residents.

Chief Sokolofski had applied for a federal grant back in April for body cameras, this grant is currently still under review and the grant letters will not go out until September of this year. In the meantime he has asked the Board for permission to apply for a PCCD grant specifically for body cameras. This grant is a 1/1 match which would pay for about 40% of the total cost which is \$40,392. Should the Board decide that there isn't enough money in the budget for this we are able to back out. The original grant is still pending and would fully cover the body cameras. Commissioner Green made the motion for Chief Sokolofski to apply for the PCCD grant for the body cameras while we wait on the federal grant. Commissioner Shawell seconded the motion, all were in favor of the motion.

MANAGERS REPORT

Public Works - Property maintenance at the Pottstown Regional Public Library has continued the last few weeks, as the library has requested we assist until they can find a long-term solution. The stump grinding and landscaping in the affected areas was completed at Murgia Park. Mr. Hutt thanked the public works team for their work in securing a safety perimeter at a residential location where a lid to an underground transformer came loose until PECO was able to get on site and remedy the situation. A stop sign at Monroe & Grosstown was replaced after it was damaged by a motor vehicle accident. Dukes Root Control was on site to assist the DPW team with preventative maintenance. The next time they will be in the Township is 2024. Last week we ordered 140 tons of road salt, this meets our minimum requirement for '21-'22. We are already signed up for the '22-'23 season.

NetSense/LED Light System - Mr. Hutt received a complaint regarding a malfunctioning street light. Upon further review I saw that our system showed 54 out of 198 nodes were malfunctioning. Verizon looked further into this and said it was a bug on their system. Everything seems to be functioning at this time.

Bursich Associates Quinter Street Sanitary Sewer Project - The county finally approved payment for this project which payment was authorized by the Board in March. On Monday of last week, the check was issued to the contractor and a copy to the county. Right now we are awaiting our reimbursement from the County, as this was a grant funded project.

DEP/MS4 Inspections - On July 8th we have a meeting scheduled with Bursich, public works, DEP and the Twp Manager to have our annual MS4 inspections.

Sinkhole/Township Property - Our insurer has assigned an engineering company that works on insurance claims to be a part of this process. They are suggesting excavation be done, at no expense to the township, to determine the exact cause of the collapse. Once that is completed we will be able to determine coverage limits.

E. Vine Street & Sylvan Drive Overlay Projects - Our advertisement to bid will run this week and next, with our pre-bid meeting to be held on July 20th. The timeline to award the contract is August 3rd. We are more than hopeful these two will be completed this fall. Both projects will utilize liquid fuels funding.

SOLICITORS REPORT

Nothing to report

NEW BUISNESS

CBA West Pottsgrove Township Police Department 2023-2027

We have come to an agreement with the Police Department regarding a new five-year contract, beginning January 1, 2023. This was resolved amicably and benefits both sides. Mr. Hutt thanked their bargaining team and the entire board of commissioners for working so hard on it.

Resolution No. 2022-05 - This resolution is for the PARRC organization to create a non-profit organization. This does not change our relationship with the entity. Rather it opens up more opportunities, as they will be able to apply for grants themselves as a 501(c)3 organization. PARRC has asked all organizations pass this resolution in support. Commissioner Valentine made a motion to pass Resolution 2022-05, seconded by Commissioner Palladino. All were in favor of the motion.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Linda Kollar – 1076 Manatawny St. – Ms. Kollar mentioned that she was at Murgia Park and there were tree limbs falling by the picnic tables and the tree appeared dead.

Dwight Batzel - 819 Little Vine. St. – Mr. Batzel expressed concerns with speeding on Berks Street and lack of police presence in the area. Chief Sokolofski had stated that they ran multiple traffic details in this location, multiple written warnings were issued and top speed statistics were around 38-39 mph, the area will continue to be monitored.

Bill Dreifke - 216 E. Race St. – The LED street lights shines from Quinter St. right into the back yard. The lights were dimmed electronically a while ago when it was first mentioned but it will be looked into again.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Miller called an executive session, he announced the executive session was for informational purposes and personnel matters and no actions or deliberation would take place.

ADJOURNMENT

President Miller asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Commissioner Green, seconded by Commissioner Valentine. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board of Commissioners Meeting of West Pottsgrove Township has concluded at 7:23 P.M. On July 6, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,



Courtney Harris
Township Secretary