

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners  
Upper Pottsgrove Township**

**November 7, 2011**

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, November 7, 2011, at the Upper Pottsgrove Township Administrative Office, 1409 Farmington Avenue, with Commissioners Dolan, Miller, Noll, Spaide and Taylor present. Also present were Township Manager Jack P. Layne, Police Chief William A. Moffett and Township Secretary Cynthia Saylor. Commissioner Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. There were 6 people and a Mercury Reporter present in the audience.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE** - Commissioner Taylor requested a moment of silence in honor of the men and women who have served and are currently serving our country in the armed forces.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**JOHN WEST - 1611 Applegate Lane** - Referenced the \$30,000 paving project for Hanover Drive and questioned why the Township didn't hold off awarding the bid until we could obtain additional bids. Mr. West stated that there roads within the Township that are much worse than Hanover Drive. Commissioner Taylor explained that the bid was reviewed by the Township Engineer. Mr. Taylor noted that the road is in danger of literally washing away and we wanted to address the problem before any more damage was done. He further explained that the other projects cost more than what we have in the budget to spend. Mr. West expressed his concern with regards to the condition of the roads within the Regal Oaks Development and questioned the possibility of putting cold patch in some of the potholes. Commissioner Spaide stated she would address the matter with the Public Works Director.

**GREG BIAGINI - Vice President of the Pottsgrove Little League** was present to introduce himself to the members of the Board and stated that he has been with the organization for the past nine years. Mr. Biagini stated the Pottsgrove Little League is looking for an opportunity in each township to build a field and questioned whether any land is available in the township. Commissioner Taylor suggested Mr. Biagini address the matter with the Open Space Committee.

**JOHN WEST - 1611 Applegate Lane** - Stated that twelve (12) of his political signs have disappeared and advised he will pick up all the signs he can find; however, if anyone finds any of his signs after the election they should contact him and he will collect them.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FIRE COMPANY BY-LAWS ESTABLISHING THE PURPOSE OF THE FIRE COMPANY**

Commissioner Taylor explained that the proposed amendment is a simple change with regards to some verbiage pertaining to the purpose of the Fire Company. A motion by Dolan, seconded by Noll, to approve the proposed amendment to the Upper Pottsgrove Township Fire Company's By-Laws establishing the purpose of the Fire Company. All aye votes.

**OLD BUSINESS:****DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED 2012 ANNUAL TOWNSHIP BUDGET -**

There was a brief discussion with regards to the proposed 2012 Annual Township Budget. Commissioner Taylor reported that there is an approximate \$80,000 deficit in the General Fund. Mr. Taylor noted that the Sewer Fund looks “very healthy.”

When **JOHN WEST, 1611 Applegate Lane**, questioned what fund the \$75,000 revenue for the cell tower was deposited; Commissioner Taylor advised it is already included in the General Fund revenue.

**OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**GREG CHURACH - 144 Snyder Road** - Expressed his concern that the Regal Oaks generator was still running even though the residents now have power. Mr. Layne explained that the problem was a phasing issue with Met-Ed; however, the issue was resolved on Sunday evening.

**ROBERT SLOSS - 2097 Needhammer Road** - Expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Township and in particular Public Works Director, Frank Quinter, with regards to the installation of the storm water system on Needhammer Road. Mr. Sloss noted that without it his property would have been flooded out during the heavy rains.

**KEITH KEHL - 1941 Gilbertsville Road** - Referenced the new driveway that was recently constructed on Gilbertsville Road and questioned whether anyone from the Township looked into the water run-off problem. Commissioner Taylor reported that the Township Engineer and Public Works Director are aware of the problem and a “fix is in the works.”

**JOHN WEST - 1611 Applegate Lane** - Expressed his concern that some of the pumping stations throughout the Township are undersized and questioned whether the road crew has to go and pump them out. Commissioner Taylor advised that none of the pumping stations are undersized; however, we have experienced some extra ordinary weather conditions over the last several months. He further advised that the only time the highway employees are required to go out is when there is an electrical problem. When Mr. West questioned whether any improvements are scheduled in 2012; Commissioner Taylor stated none of the pumping stations require any improvements. He further stated that a new pumping station was installed within the Regal Oaks Development; there was a timing issue at the Pineford Road pump station that has been addressed and the pump station within the Cherrytree Farms Development was recently decommissioned.

**KEITH KEHL - 1941 Gilbertsville Road** - Stated that at a recent Sewer Committee meeting the Public Works Director said that the Regal Oaks pumping station had to be pumped out due to the excessive rain water. Commissioner Taylor noted that the pipes that were replaced are not the whole story and advised the inflow and infiltration improvements are included in the 2012 sewer budget.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**COMMISSIONER NOLL** - Reported he recently attended the State Executive Committee meeting and provided a brief summary regarding some of the topics that were discussed. Commissioner Noll advised the members of the Board about an upcoming change in bidding requirements. Mr. Noll stated that currently anything up to \$10,000 does not have to go out for bid and their looking to raise the ceiling to \$18,500. Mr. Noll reported there was discussion with regards to prevailing wage and the proposed texting bill. It was noted that the open space improvements is now listed as one of the top five (5) Legislative priorities for 2012.

**COMMISSIONER MILLER** - Expressed his thanks and appreciation to all those who participated in this year's annual clean up and noted that twenty six (26) bags of trash were picked up throughout the township. Mr. Miller stated that, unfortunately, the very next day trash appeared along some of the areas that had just been cleaned up. Commissioner Miller advised that he is in need of some help at Sunset Park picking up limbs which fell during the recent snow. Mr. Miller expressed his thanks to Mr. Cole who advised him of a young person who drives a white pick up truck, spun his wheels and then got stuck in the mud and needed someone to get him out. Commissioner Miller reminded Mr. Layne that the trees at Coddington View still have not been planted and expressed his concern that the weather will be getting cold. Mr. Miller referenced the upcoming election and expressed his frustration regarding an incident that took place a few months ago. Commissioner Miller explained that a can of oil was left on the firehouse steps, filled up with rainwater, spilled over and removed the paint and plaster from the wall and no one has bothered to fix it. Mr. Miller advised that the residents are coming to vote tomorrow and the building looks terrible.

**COMMISSIONER DOLAN** - Reported that he recently attended the Regional Planning Commission meeting and advised that the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission has an allotment of \$60,000 and discussed doing an impact study of the train lines in Pottstown and also a study regarding how much a municipality should budget for road maintenance.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS - Amended Bill List from October 17, 2011** - A motion by Dolan, seconded by Miller, to approve the amended Bill List dated October 17, 2011. Mrs. Saylor explained that the Total Disbursements listed on the Bill List dated October 17, 2011, was incorrect. The amended Total Disbursements is \$92,076.33. All aye votes.

**BILL LIST - November 7, 2011** - A motion by Dolan, seconded by Noll, to approve the Bill List dated November 7, 2011, for General Fund in the amount of \$143,123.68; Fire Fund in the amount of \$656.36; Sewer Fund in the amount of \$40,530.76; Capital Fund in the amount of \$150.00 and State Fund in the amount of \$158.27. Total Disbursements - \$184,619.07. All aye votes.

**ROBERT SLOSS - 2097 Needhammer Road** - Requested clarification pertaining to the number of sewer users and delinquency notices that are sent to Portnoff Law Associates as depicted on the Bill List.

**JOHN WEST - 1611 Applegate Lane** - Noted that there are approximately 1300 sewer users and 1800 homes within the township and questioned when the rest of the homes would be hooked up to the public sewer system. Commissioner Taylor explained that most of these homes are in corners of the township that have adequate septic systems. He further explained that the bulk of the expense we have with the sewer fees are paying for the infrastructure that was built.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 17, 2011** - A motion by Spaide, seconded by Noll, to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2011, meeting as presented. All aye votes.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** - At 7:36 P.M. Commissioner Taylor reported the Board would hold an Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to real estate; however, no decisions would be made. The meeting reconvened at 8:23 P.M.

**ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business, a motion by Spaide, seconded by Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 P.M. All aye votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia H. Saylor,  
Township Secretary