

**UPPER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 26, 2024**

A special meeting of the Upper Pottsgrove Township Board of Commissioners was held on Friday, April 26, 2024 at the Upper Pottsgrove Administrative Office, 1409 Farmington Avenue, with Commissioners Trace Slinkerd, Hank Llewellyn, Cathy Paretti, Dave Waldt and Don Read present. Also present were Township Manager Michelle Reddick, Solicitor Eric Frey, Police Chief James Fisher and Township Secretary Jeannie DiSante.

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

T. Slinkerd announced an executive session was held prior to the meeting to discuss legal matters. This is a special session and the Board will have public comments on the New Business item and hold other comments until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSS & CONSIDER ENGAGING SPECIAL COUNSEL ON A LITIGATION MATTER – Solicitor Frey explained a letter, attributed to Ms. Harper and distributed by Mr. Murray, was circulated to the public that attached the Upper Pottsgrove Police Chief. It stated Chief Fisher told people not to speak at a public meeting. This is not true. The handling of potential litigation would be to hire special counsel to litigate a defamation case. Motion by H. Llewellyn, second by D. Read to hire special counsel on this litigation matter. D. Read commented that this is a case of individuals that have created and disseminated libelous and defamatory information about our Police Chief and police department all to score a trivial political point against the Commissioners. These people are a victim of misinformation and under oath people will be uncovered as to how this started. Ms. Harper and her firm should be ashamed. The letter is still on the Mercury website and is still being shared. T. Slinkerd concurred with D. Read's statements. This has been an ongoing issue culminating not only with the Chief of Police but also with other Township committees and members of the Township staff.

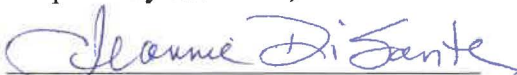
PUBLIC COMMENTS

Martin Schreiber, 138 Rose Valley Road commented that he did not see this meeting posted on social media, it is only on the Township's website. D. Read asked if Mr. Schreiber knew the Harper letter was posted on his social media page. Mr. Schreiber said he saw the letter but did not see it on his social media page. T. Slinkerd asked Mr. Schreiber if he knew that the Harper letter was posted on his social media page before today. Mr. Schreiber said no.

There being no further comments by the Commissioners or public, the vote to hire special counsel to litigate this matter was: aye: T. Slinkerd, H. Llewellyn, D. Read; nay: C. Paretti, D. Waldt. Motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeannie DiSante, Township Secretary