

DAVE WALDT

CATHY PARETTI

UPPER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS

Dear Voter,

On May 18th you will be voting in the Republican primary election for three seats on the Upper Pottsgrove Township Board of Commissioners. One of the candidates this cycle is current board president Trace Slinkerd, whose accomplishments over the past four years we would briefly like to touch upon.

When Trace took office in January of 2018 the outlook for Upper Pottsgrove was not that great. Our debt had increased to \$8.4 million. Our pensions were underfunded to the tune of \$1.6 million, and we were five points away from state intervention. Improper budgeting had caused the township to overstate previous years revenues by \$2.7 million, putting our general fund on track to be depleted within four years. And of course, there was our aging infrastructure and the massive risk and costs associated with operating a sewer system. These problems were not new but rather years and, in some cases, decades old issues that had reached a boiling point.

In his newly elected roll as board president, Trace introduced legislation to secure a new investment manager for our pension funds. He transitioned our budgeting process to a four-year plan and no longer included the general fund balance as anticipated revenue. He allowed the board to finally explore how much our sewer system was worth to buyers who could better service our residents. And now, as we head into the 2021 primary: our pensions are producing higher returns and no longer in danger of being distressed, our budgets are based on revenues to expenses not fund balances, our debt is on track to being eliminated, and we have mitigated our risk of future costs associated with our sewer system. All without raising your taxes.

Now as Trace would be the first to point out, these accomplishments were not his alone but rather the collective effort of the Board of Commissioners. But what we would like to point out to you, is that it took Trace's decisive leadership to finally tackle these issues head on. Because, while many have had opinions on how these issues should have been addressed, opinions are not synonymous with action. And Trace is, above all, a man of action.

Which is why we enthusiastically endorse Trace Slinkerd for reelection, along with first time candidates Hank Llewellyn and Don Read. With this team in place we can continue the progress the township has seen over the past four years, ensuring a brighter future for all Upper Pottsgrove residents.

Turnout in local elections is traditionally low, which is why your vote can make a difference. We thank you for participating in the electoral process.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Dave Waldt
Commissioner

Cathy Parette
Commissioner