

POCONO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 16, 2014 7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on 06/16/2014, at the Pocono Township Municipal Building, Tannersville, PA, and was opened by President Richard Wielebinski at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Rich Wielebinski, present; Jerry Lastowski, present; and Greg Hill, present.
Brad Wise, and Tom Felver were absent.
Leo V. DeVito, Broughal & DeVito LLP, Twp. Solicitor; Tim Edinger, T&M Associates, Twp. Engineer; Gregg Schuster, Twp. Manager; and Pamela Finkbeiner, Secretary; were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board of Commissioners interviewed potential appointments on June 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Workshop Meeting on June 19, 2014 (7:00 p.m.).

Board of Commissioners Meeting (Kopelson Conditional Use Hearing) on July 1, 2014 (7:00 p.m.).

MINUTES:

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by G. Hill, to approve the minutes of the special meeting, June 2, 2014. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by G. Hill, to approve the regular meeting minutes, June 2, 2014. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

BILLS AND TRANSFERS

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by G. Hill, to approve the Check Listing, dated June 16, 2014 (excepting all tele-communication bills). Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

G. Hill made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to approve the Check Listing, dated June 16, 2014 (tele-communications bills). Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, abstained; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

L. DeVito, Twp. Solicitor, noted the announcement of the Planning Commission Meeting of 06/23/2014, and Resolution 2014-25 - appointment of Randy Peechatka to the HJJWA under Resolutions be added to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Coover, Twp. resident, requested the Board contact Vector Control concerning gypsy moth infestation in the coming years.

COMMENTS CONT:

Harold Ernsberger, HJP Park Director, announced Pocono Mountain School District has approved becoming a full member of the HJP Park board.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Richard Wielebinski, President:

- a) June 12th, 2014 was Frank Froio's last day of employment.
- b) A stop work order was issued for the Crossings on their Sewer line hookup.
- c) Wilkie Road Damage - PPL was contacted and is willing to repair the roadway. Dennis Purcell, resident of Wilkie Road will meet with PPL to view the damage to the roadway.
- d) Sign Ordinance revisions - R. Wielebinski noted comments have been made that the Township is targeting certain business owners with the enforcement of the present Signage ordinance. The Township is pursuing only those businesses that fail to abide by the regulations.
- e) It has come to the attention of the Board that the Township is being adversarial to certain businesses in the Township. The Township is pursuing enforcement of the ordinance to remove illegal signage. The Board of Commissioners supports anyone that wishes to open a business, as long as they follow the rules and regulations of the Township.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Jerry Lastowski, Vice President:

- a) Meeting with PennDOT concerning the revamping of Rt. 611 from Scotrun to Swiftwater. Proposed to reduce the section from 4 lanes to 3 lanes - one north, one south and a turning lane. The Township would be responsible for 25% to 50% of the cost to move the sewer line in the area. A Traffic light is proposed for Rt. 611 and Brookdale Road.

Jack Swerzie, Twp. resident, re: traffic signal at Brookdale road.
Pete Nish, Twp. resident, re: danger of pulling out from Scotrun Ave.

Judy Coover, Twp. resident, questioned if PennDOT was coordinating work with proposed Gas line installment.

- b) June 14th, 2014 meeting with sewer contractor Doli to close out their contract was held.

Greg Hill, Commissioner, announced that he may not be able to complete his term as Twp. Commissioner as he will relocate to outside the area. He will continue to serve until the move. He noted his appreciation for the other board members, their dedication to seeing the Township move forward to a more professional board. He thanked the board and audience for the privilege to serve the community.

REPORTS CONT:**EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORTS**

Police Chief Kent Werkheiser, Pocono Township Police Chief, reported on the activities of his department, 350 incidents in May, including 80 burglar alarms, and 34 criminal arrests.

Chief Mike Shay, Pocono Township Volunteer Fire Co., reported 74 calls were handled during the months of April and May.

Linda Smith, Central Pocono Ambulance Association Manager, reported 225 dispatches. Mario Scavello's office had contacted them concerning an LSA grant for a new ambulance. She will be requesting a letter of support from the Township.

Community Day will be held from 12pm to 5pm on September 20th, 2014

PRESENTATION

The Tannersville Entertainment Village (former Summit Resort property) Sketch Plan - Ralph Matergia, Matergia & Dunn; and Nate Oiler, RKR Hess Associates, represented the plan. The plan is for retail, movie theaters, restaurants, and gym for a total of approximately 185,000 square feet on the former Summit Resort site. Land Development Plans will be submitted later this summer with a tentative opening date in spring of 2015. A traffic impact study for phases I & II were submitted to the Township.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS - BOARD, COMMISSIONERS AND COMMITTEES

R. Wielebinski noted there is an opening on the Zoning Hearing Board. The Board requested G. Schuster, Twp. Manager, to draft a standard application for all appointments.

Civil Service Commission Alternate appointments - R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to appoint Roland Cheesman and John (Jack) Burns, to Pocono Township Civil Service Commission as alternates.
Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

PJJWA Board - R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to appoint John Bramley to the Pocono/Jackson Joint Water Authority.
Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance amending the Pocono Township Subdivision and Land Development (SALDO) to require applicant to pursue approval of preliminary plans. Leo Devito, Twp. Solicitor noted the public hearing set for 7/7/14.

Ordinance regulating second hand dealers / pawn shops - Police Chief Kent Werkheiser introduced Eric Kerchner, and Joseph Coddington, Monroe County Detectives, who spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance as it will assist Police in the recovery of stolen items by making dealers post their purchases and holding the items for 30 days. Jan DePue, Pete Nish, Teresa and Dennis Purcell, Jack Swerzie, Township residents, questioned the ordinance. No action taken.

ORDINANCES CONT:

Pocono Township Park and Recreation ordinance - Discussion followed. Gregg Schuster, Twp. Manager, noted the ordinance meets the intent of the Board to create an advisory Park and Recreation Broad.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2014-24 - setting the bond amount for the Township Manager J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by G. Hill, to approve Resolution No. 2014-24 setting the bond amount at \$3,000,000.00 for Gregg Schuster, Twp. Manager. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

Resolution No. 2014-25 - Appointment of Randy Peechatka to PJJWA - R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to approve Resolution No. 2014-25, appointing Randy Peechatka to the Pocono Jackson Joint Water Authority for a five (5) year term, commencing 01/01/2014 to 12/31/2018. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

DEVELOPMENT

Discussion and approval of Resolution 2014-xx granting conditional preliminary plan approval for The Spirit of Swiftwater, Inc. Phase I Residential Modification. A Time Extension letter was received until 07/07/2014. No action taken.

ADMINISTRATION

2013 Audit Management Representation Letter Approval - R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by G. Hill, to approve the 2013 Audit Management Representation letter and authorize the President to sign the letter. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

Police Pension Plan Signatories - R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by G. Hill, to authorize Commissioner Tom Felver and Commissioner Jerry Lastowski as the necessary signatories for transactions involving the police pension plan trust and further authorize President Wielebinski to submit all necessary documentation. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

BCRA Billing Agreement - J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to table action on the BCRA Billing Agreement until 7/7/2014. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

SEWER

PennVest Loan - G. Hill made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to authorize the President and/or Treasurer to electronically sign and submit Payment Request NO. 13 - Final, via the PennVest Disbursement Website for approval under PennVEST Loan #71374. The amount of Payment Request is \$0.00, but its purpose is to closeout the loan, thereby resulting in the release of the 5% retainage/holdback (\$415,000), to reimburse the Township for Capital Contribution Costs previously paid toward the upgrade of the Joint Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plan. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

PERSONNEL

Township Manager request to attend ICMA Annual Conference - R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to authorize Township Manager Gregg Schuster to attend the 2014 ICMA annual conference. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes. Judy Coover, Twp. resident, questioned the reason the Township was paying for the Conference. G. Hill noted it was part of the Manager's contract.

Request for wage increase for park workers - increase in wages of Morgan James, James Boyle, and Jack Manuel, Jr. at \$.40 per hour each. J. Lastowski requested more information on the length of service and job skills/duties. No action taken.

Pete Nish, Twp. Resident, re park employee duties.

PUBLIC COMMENT

R. Wielebinski wished Gregg Schuster a Happy Birthday.

STAFF AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Gregg Schuster, Township Manager, provided the Board with his report for the period of June 2nd, 2014 to June 12th, 2014.

Tim Edinger, Township Engineer -

- a) Boucher & James, Inc., has released the specification for the Stadden Road Bridge Repair.
- b) RKR Hess Associates, Inc., has released the specifications for the Sewer line.
- c) Learn Road repair is ready for the Public Works department to schedule the repair.

Leo DeVito, Township Solicitor -

- a) 06/09/2014 - meeting with Doli Construction, Contract #10 - change order to close out the contract.
- b) ZHB hearing is the 25th of June for Lehman shed variance, not the 18th.
- c) Request for the ZHB Secretary, Patricia Malvin, contact Gregg Schuster and Twp. Secretary, Pamela Finkbeiner of hearing dates and notices.
- d) An Executive Session will be held after the meeting to discuss litigation matters.

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by G. Hill, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. until 07/07/2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Pocono Township Municipal Building, Tannersville, PA. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and G. Hill, yes.

Respectfully submitted
Pamela Finkbeiner