

**POCONO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
July 16, 2012**

**MINUTES**

Chairman Frank Hess opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: F. Hess, Chairman; H. Werkheiser, Vice Chairman; H. Bengel, Supervisor; Frank Froio, Township Administrator; Jeffrey Durney, Township Solicitor

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/CALENDAR:**

Planning Commission Meeting scheduled for July 23, 2012 is cancelled

PennDOT Route 611 Open House Plan Display on July 25, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

Sewer Meeting on August 1, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting on August 6, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting on August 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

F. Hess recognized State Representative Mario Scavello and his wife who were in attendance at the meeting.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

Heather Heeter from PennDOT made a special presentation regarding the Route 611 bridge repair over the Pocono Creek. H. Heeter, along with representatives from STV, the project's design consultant, provided an overview of the plan to replace the bridge superstructure. The plan entails keeping the southbound lane of Route 611 open during construction, while closing the northbound lane. The northbound Route 611 traffic will be diverted to Bartonsville Avenue, with a temporary traffic signal installed at Route 611 and Bartonsville Avenue. The estimated duration of the lane closure is three months. The project has a tentative start date of Spring 2013 and should be completed in less than one year. The anticipated cost of the project is \$2.5 million. An extended question and answer session followed with business owners expressing concern about the impact of the lane closure on their businesses. The PennDOT representatives advised that while different plans had been discussed, the conditions on the bridge and surrounding area suggested that the proposed plan was best suited for the project. Business owners were advised that appropriate detour signs will be posted and the signs will list the affected businesses with directions on how to reach them. The representatives further addressed concerns about emergency vehicles that may be required to travel Route 611 through the

construction zone. The representatives advised that they were willing to discuss further concerns with residents and provided contact information.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:**

Dangerous Structures Ordinance (#2012-03) – J. Durney advised that the proposed adoption of the ordinance had been duly advertised. J. Durney provided an overview of the pertinent terms of the Ordinance, including the procedure to investigate alleged dangerous structures, the standards by which determinations are made, enforcement provisions and penalties. H. Werkheiser indicated that he wanted to review the ordinance further. H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by F. Hess, to adopt Ordinance #2012-03. Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, abstained; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE #2012-03 ADOPTED.**

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:**

Planning Commission Vacancies – F. Froio advised that the Planning Commission had provided its recommendations regarding the applicants for the 2 open positions on the Planning Commission. H. Werkheiser expressed his concern that the Planning Commission had not had an opportunity to review and comment upon letter of interest from Taylor Munoz, which was submitted after the initial letters of interest were provided to the Planning Commission for review. H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by F. Hess, to appoint Robert DeYoung and Taylor Munoz to the Planning Commission. Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, no; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.

The Reserve at Bryson’s Farm – Time Extension Request – Pursuant to a letter dated July 6, 2012, the Applicant’s engineer, Frank J. Smith, requested a time extension to October 8, 2012. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the request. H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to grant the time extension request as set forth in Applicant’s July 6, 2012 letter. Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.

The Spirit of Swiftwater – Time Extension Request – Pursuant to a letter dated July 9, 2012, the Applicant requested a time extension to October 16, 2012. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the request. H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to grant the time extension request as set forth in Applicant’s July 9, 2012 letter. Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.

2012 Budget Supplemental Appropriations (**RESOLUTION NOS. 620 and 621**) – F. Froio provided an overview of the Township’s revenues and expenses through June 2012. The 2012 budget began with a deficit of \$101,128.87. After the supplemental appropriations, there is a projected surplus of \$93,233.00. F. Froio provided a detailed line-item analysis of the proposed supplemental appropriations.

H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to adopt **Resolution No. 620** (Supplemental Appropriations – Liquid Fuels Fund). Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.

H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to adopt **Resolution No. 621** (Supplemental Appropriations – General Fund). Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.

F. Hess thanked Representative Scavello for his assistance in obtaining the grant for the Frantz Hill Road bridge project.

In Place Paving – Bid Award – F. Froio advised that the bids for the project had been opened. F. Froio and J. Durney reviewed the bids and advised that Locust Ridge Contractors, the low bidder, had submitted a complete bid package and confirmed that they were the lowest responsible bidder. Based upon this information, F. Froio recommended that the In Place Paving Project be awarded to Locust Ridge Contractors in the contract amount of \$323,672.50. H. Werkheiser detailed the roadways to be repaved as part of the project. H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to award the contract to Locust Ridge Contractors and to authorize F. Hess to execute all contract documents on behalf of the Township. Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:**

H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to approve payment of the semi-monthly bills on the Bill Payment List dated July 13, 2012. Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.

H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to approve payment of the bills from Cramer, Swetz & McManus, Amerigas and PPL related to the sewer project. Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.

H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to approve the Pocono Township Volunteer Fire Company Fund Transfer Request (\$190,000.00). Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2012 Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting. Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

A question was asked regarding work taking place near the Benninger property. F. Hess advised that test borings were ongoing in connection with the remediation of the Linde work.

Jane Cilurso asked about the ongoing issue with Linde. F. Hess advised that the Township had retained a firm as special counsel and they were aggressively pursuing the claims against Linde. F. Hess further advised that a claim had been made on the bond.

Jim Schlier asked about the loan the Township took out to buy the Ambulance Building. F. Hess advised that the proceeds of the loan had been rolled into the sewer project.

J. Cilurso asked why the Township was hiring another police officer. F. Hess advised that the Township was simply hiring a replacement for Officer Rob Furino who had recently given notice of his resignation.

Representative Scavello advised that \$55 million would be spent on roadways, bridges and roads in the Township. F. Hess thanked M. Scavello for all of his help.

J. Cilurso asked questions regarding the Kopelson application for a zoning ordinance amendment. J. Durney advised that a public hearing was advertised for August 6, 2012 and that drafts of the ordinance were available on the Township's website and at the Township Building, Pocono Record and Law Library.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

H. Bengel made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m., until August 6, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., at the Pocono Township Municipal Building. Roll call vote: H. Bengel, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; F. Hess, yes. Motion carried.