

**POCONO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

JUNE 1st, 2015 7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on 06/01/2015 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; Tom Felver, present; Peter Nish, present; and Brad Wise, present.

Leo V. DeVito, Broughal & DeVito LLP, Twp. Solicitor; Tim Edinger, T&M Associates, Twp. Engineer; Gregg Schuster, Twp. Manager; and Pamela Finkbeiner, Twp. Secretary, were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Kopelson PRD Conditional Use hearing is continued until 06/11/2015 at 6:30 p.m.

R. Wielebinski noted an addition to the Bill's list in the amount of \$450.00 for 10 Public Works employees to attend a Flagger Certification class.

MINUTES:

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by T. Felver, to approve the 05/18/2015 regular meeting minutes. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

P. Nish made a motion, seconded by T. Felver, to approve the 05/27/2015 Special meeting minutes. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, abstained; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

BILLS AND TRANSFERS:

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by T. Felver, to approve the Check listing dated 06/01/2015 with addition of PSATS for \$450.00. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jennifer Wise, Twp. resident, spoke concerning a sewer odor problem on Scotrun Ave. involving a rental property and manhole. G. Schuster, Twp. Manager, noted he met with Jennifer Wise and Jeff Clapper, Public Works Director, will meet with J. Wise on Tuesday, 06/02/2015 to investigate the odors.

B. Wise noted the Evoqua study should be completed soon. B. Wise noted Mark Ambrose, Twp. Engineer, is making efforts to contact Sanofi Pasteur concerning their discharges.

PUBLIC COMMENTS CONT:

J. Wise commented on a school bus with banner advertisement parked along Rt. 611.

George Predmore, and Dennis Purcell Twp. residents, spoke concerning traffic problems along Camelback road and Wilkie Road since the new Waterpark Hotel has been opened.

J. Lastowski noted Senator Scavello is trying to get Camelback Road on the state's capital improvement plan.

B. Wise has spoken to Melissa Mauphin, PennDOT, concerning the problems on Camelback Road.

Robert Fisk, Twp. resident, noted the entrances to Camelback Resort and the closing of Resort drive have increased the traffic problems.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Jerry Lastowski, Vice President, will meet with representatives of Senator Casey's office on 06/02/2015 concerning assistance for low income residents.

Tom Felver, Commissioner, noted the roadways in Pocono Manor have been repaired. PPL is continuing to cleanup along Rt. 314 and the road remains closed.

Peter Nish, Commissioner, noted he attended the Memorial Day service at the TLC site with Tom Felver and Rich Wielebinski. He would like to see the War Memorial remain at that location and requested the Board send a letter to PennDOT in support of the Memorial. No action taken.

Brad Wise, Commissioner, noted he recommends the hiring of a full-time Zoning Officer. He expressed disappointment in the Monroe County Common Pleas court ruling on the Furino ZHB decision. L. DeVito, Twp. Solicitor, noted the Furino property ran a commercial truck repair business in a residential zone. The property was cited and the ZHB voted 1-1, in favor of the Township. The Furino's appealed to the Monroe County Court of Common Pleas and the ZHB ruling was overturned. He informed the Township they can appeal the Court's decision. Discussion followed.

REPORTS:Administration

Township Manager Gregg Schuster gave his report, he noted the bridge on Rimrock Road slated for repair by PennDOT will be closed and traffic detoured to Rt. 33.

A fire truck was damaged at a recent structure fire. The claim is being submitted to the insurance company.

1. Zoning Officer update - 14 applications were received. G. Schuster noted none of the applications had zoning experience though two had Municipal experience. Discussion followed to full-time Zoning officer by either hiring or through an outside service.

B. Wise made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to authorize the Twp. Manager to advertise for a Full-time Zoning Officer. Discussion followed.

MANAGERS' REPORT - ZONING OFFICER CONT:

R. Wielebinski, B. Wise, and P. Nish spoke in favor of a full-time position.

Judi Coover, Twp. resident, questioned if benefits would be paid.

Jane Cilurso, Twp. resident, spoke in favor of a full-time officer.

M. Gerrity questioned the cost of enforcement of junk properties, vehicles and if Carl Fregoni, Zoning Officer, was contacted concerning hours needed to fulfill the job.

T. Felver questioned if applicants were interviewed and recommended two part-time zoning officers instead.

Discussion followed.

Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, no; T. Felver, no; P. Nish, no; and B. Wise, yes. Motion failed.

T. Felver made a motion, seconded by P. Nish, to authorize the Twp. manager to advertise for a full-time or part-time Zoning Officer.

Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, no. Motion carried.

2. Paving Bids for various roadways - Jeff Clapper, Public Works Director, reviewed the results. Hansen Aggregates was low bid at \$377,137.74 for base bid, Alternate no. 1- Barton Ct. & Woodchuck at \$129,244; and Alternate no. 2 - Crescent Lake Road at \$113,450.44. Discussion followed to the use of the fund balance to pay for the additional work.

P. Nish made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to award the Paving Bid of various Township roadways to Hansen Aggregates for the Base Bid of \$377,137.74 (Barton Drive, Post Hill Court, Gravetts Way, Laurel Development); Alternate No. 1 (Barton Court & Woodchuck) \$129,244; and Alternate No. 2 (Crescent Lake Road) at \$113,450.44, for a total cost of \$619,832.18 - T. Felver questioned use of the money from the fund balance. G. Schuster noted the fund balance is 3.5 mil and only \$100,000.00 will be needed. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Township Engineer Tim Edinger reviewed his report. He noted C. Castle Spa will present their sketch plan at the 06/08/2015 Planning Commission at 6:30 p.m. and gave updates the status of the Stadden Road project; Crossings sewer connection progress; and sewerline repair.

Township Solicitor Leo DeVito

1. Dangerous Structures - L. DeVito reviewed the Township's options to enforce a Dangerous Structures ordinance. Discussion followed on adopting a Property Maintenance Code. Jennifer Wise, Robert Demarest, Judi Coover, Monica Gerrity, Twp. residents spoke concerning costs and policies to enforce a Property Maintenance codes. G. Schuster will supply the Property Maintenance code to the Board for their review.

Township Treasurer Regina Zuvich (Absent)

PRESENTATIONS

Bosc Lot Combination Plan - 2015-45 - T. Edinger, Twp. engineer, recommended approval of the Resolution. R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to adopt Resolution 2015-45 - Bosc Lot Combination Plan. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE

Regulation of Fireworks L. DeVito noted the Township does not presently have an ordinance to regulating large scale Fireworks displays. The Board concurred to: 1) Section 6 - Notification of Fire Department no less than Fourteen (14) days; 2) Section 9 - Permit Continuance due to weather as Seven (7) days; and 3) Section 11 - Enforcement fine to be One Thousand (\$1000.00) R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by T. Felver, to authorize the Twp. Solicitor, to advertise the proposed Fireworks Display Ordinance as amended. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION

Resolution 2015-46 - Supplemental Appropriations - G. Schuster noted the appropriations include additional overtime for Township secretaries and funding for the demolition of the Alger Ave. homes. R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by T. Felver, to approve Resolution 2015-46 - Supplemental Appropriations. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-47 - Removal of Bicentennial Celebration member - G. Schuster noted efforts were made to contact Ms. Toye but she failed to respond. R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski to approve Resolution 2015-47 removal of Bicentennial Celebration member Aylssia Toye. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution to amend the Township Fee Schedule - G. Schuster noted the changes to the fee schedule. Discussion followed in the increases in fees. R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to table Resolution to amend the Township Fee Schedule. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marie Guidry, Twp. resident, questioned the sound system. G. Schuster noted he is meeting with a company from Allentown to discuss upgrades to the meeting room. J. Coover questioned the additional improvements. R. Wielebinski noted they would obtain quotes for the upgrade after meeting with the company. No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by P. Nish, to adjourn the meeting into executive session to discuss litigation matters and real estate property at 9:10 p.m. until 06/15/2015 at 7:00 p.m., at the Pocono Township Municipal Building, Tannersville, PA. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted
Pamela Finkbeiner
Township Secretary