

**POCONO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

JULY 6th, 2015 7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on 07/06/2015 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:

The Board of Commissioners will be meeting with the MCPC on Thursday, 07/09/2015 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss planning initiatives.

MINUTES

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by B. Wise, to approve the Commissioners regular meeting minutes of June 15, 2015. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

B. Wise noted a correction to the Special Meeting minutes - page 2 - statement by L. DeVito to read "L. DeVito noted PennVEST has agreed to allow funds to be used for the hump repair."

T. Felver questioned the use of PennVEST funds for the repairs to the sewer system.

P. Nish made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to approve the amended Commissioners special meeting minutes of June 30, 2015. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, abstained. Motion carried.

BILLS AND TRANSFERS:

T. Felver questioned the T&M invoice for the cost of inspections for sewer line hookups. Discussion followed on the need to pay T&M for inspection services if BIU (Building Inspector Underwriters) can do the inspections of the lateral lines. B. Wise spoke in favor of continuing to use T&M to do the inspections. T. Edinger noted a meeting is scheduled for 07/08/2015 to discuss the lateral lines inspections. T. Felver requested to amend the bills list until the T&M invoices could be reviewed for inspection costs. G. Schuster reviewed the current invoices and estimated a cost of \$2,500.00 for inspections by T&M. Discussion followed concerning inspection services.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by B. Wise, to approve Check Listing, dated July 6, 2015. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Monica Gerrity, Twp. resident, questioned the \$324,000.00 Engineer's proposal approved at the Special Meeting on 06/30/2015. R. Wielebinski noted due to the recent problems with the sewer line the Township requested T&M Associates to assist. R. Wielebinski, P. Nish, and J. Lastowski approved the proposal since it was deemed an emergency situation. T. Felver questioned if the Township has any insurance to cover the costs for repairs. G. Schuster will investigate.

Linda Smith, Central Pocono Ambulance, spoke concerning the recent request for funding. She noted they have contacted Dale Kirk to conduct the audit and are waiting for him to start. Discussion followed to the status of the audit. No action taken.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: R. Wielebinski introduced newly hired Pocono Township Patrolman Richard Weichand to the Board and audience.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Jerry Lastowski, Vice President, none.

Tom Felver, Commissioner, noted:

- 1) PennDOT will be closing Rt.314 from the Fairview Ave. to Rt. 611 until 08/10/2015.
- 2) He spoke to Pocono Manor and they will not tear down the abandoned homes on their property.
- 3) Trash along Rt. 314 has not been cleaned up by PennDOT.

Peter Nish, Commissioner, commented on the illegal use of Fireworks over the holiday weekend. Discussion followed.

Brad Wise, Commissioner, noted the Sewer Committee meeting will be held 07/08/2015 at 9:00 p.m.

REPORTS

Emergency Services (second meeting of month)

Pocono Township Police

Pocono Township Volunteer Fire Co.

Central Pocono Ambulance Association

ADMINISTRATION:

Township Manager Gregg Schuster reviewed his report. He acknowledged the Civil Service Committee for their efforts.

- 1) Rimrock Road will be closed for bridge repairs the end of July, until further notice.

- 2) Draft Sign Ordinance - Discussion followed on the review process for the draft. R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by T. Felver, to hold the Sign Ordinance Meeting at 5:30 p.m., 07/20/2015. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

- 3) Bucket truck purchase - Jeffry Clapper, Public Works Director, reviewed the bucket truck cost and options. He noted \$45,000 was budgeted for the purchase. P. Nish made a motion, seconded by B. Wise, to approve the purchase of a Bucket Truck, Option Two of the 06/09/2015 memorandum from J. Clapper at a cost of \$53,323.00 - R. Wielebinski commented on the use of contracted services instead of a Township owned truck. J. Clapper noted services for tree trimming are approximately \$5,000.00 per mile. Discussion followed. Harold Werkheiser, Twp. resident, noted the original bucket was not large enough and the truck should be four wheel drive for storm emergency call outs. J. Clapper requested the motion be tabled until additional information can be obtained. P. Nish withdrew his motion. J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by T. Felver, to table the Bucket Truck purchase. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

- 4) Alger Ave. Houses - G. Schuster noted the houses have been torn down. Site work remains to be completed.

Township Engineer Tim Edinger reported on the status of C. Castle Spa sketch plan. Discussion followed on the Birchwood Road vacation, conditional use hearing, and amendment to the Act 537 Plan to allow sewage to the C. Castle project. J. Lastowski questioned if the Stadden Road Bridge was damaged during the recent storm. T. Edinger will request an inspection of the bridge. T. Edinger noted the Planning Commission has recommended the draft SALDO ordinance for approval.

Township Solicitor Leo DeVito, noted the Marchenko hearing has been scheduled until 08/03/2015 at 9:30 a.m.

Township Treasurer Regina Zuvich - Absent

PRESENTATIONS:

Resolution 2015-48-Best Auto Land Development - Brian Courtright PLS, represented the plan. The Planning Commission recommended conditional approval at their 06/08/2015 meeting. T. Edinger noted the sidewalks and street trees were deferred. L. DeVito requested the letter from PennDOT concerning the right-of-way. J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by T. Felver to adopt Resolution 2015-48 - Best Auto Land Development Plan. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 2015-10 - Regulating tobacco at Township facilities - R. Wielebinski opened the hearing. L. DeVito reviewed the Ordinance. Hearing no public comment, R. Wielebinski closed the hearing. T. Felver made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to adopt Ordinance 2015-10. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2015-49 appointing members to the Bicentennial Celebration Committee - P. Nish made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, adopting Resolution 2015-49 - Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-50 - approving a revision of the sewer connection manual - J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, adopting Resolution 2015-50 - revision to the sewer connection manual to include P-trap installation. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Maxine Turbolski, Twp. resident, reported a washout along Rt. 314. G. Schuster will contact PennDOT.

Monica Gerrity, Twp. resident, spoke concerning illegal fireworks and restricting the sale of fireworks in Pocono Township.

Robert and Michelle Fisk, Twp. resident, spoke concerning illegal fireworks.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: T. Felver made a motion, seconded by P. Nish, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m., until 07/20/2015 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