

POCONO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 7th 2015 7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on 12/07/2015 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, absent; Peter Nish, present; and Brad Wise, arrived late.

Leo V. DeVito, Broughal & DeVito LLP, Twp. Solicitor; Gregg Schuster, Twp. Manager; Pamela Finkbeiner, Twp. Secretary; and Regina Zuvich, Twp. Treasure, were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: R. Wielebinski announced an executive session will be held after the meeting to discuss a union negotiation matter.

MINUTES:

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by P. Nish, to approve the Commissioners regular meeting minutes of 11/16/2015. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and P. Nish, yes. Motion carried.

BILLS AND TRANSFERS:

P. Finkbeiner noted Monroe County Assessment office has requested Check 53944 - Ferrara not be paid until the proper owner is identified.

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by P. Nish, to approve the Bill's listing dated 12/07/2015 excepting check 53944 - Ferrara. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and P. Nish, yes. Motion carried.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: None

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Jerry Lastowski, Commissioner, reported:

1) A meeting was held with Pocono Mountain School District to discuss their potential sewer hookup.

2) Recycling ordinance - Leaf collection. He spoke to PA Senator Mario Scavello concerning the bill to amend the law requiring leaf collection. J. Lastowski recommended the Board send a letter of support to the Local Government Chairman Senator Scott E. Hutchinson.

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to authorize the Township Manager to write a letter of support to the Pennsylvania Senate Local Government Committee chairman Senator Scott E. Hutchinson and Senator Robert Teplitz and other local official for House Bill 1533 amending the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and P. Nish, yes. Motion carried.

- 3) The sewer committee met with Jackson Township concerning the BCRA acquisition of the Pocono/Jackson Joint Water Authority.
- 4) The ISO rating for the Pocono Township Fire Company has improved. Residents may submit the new rating to their homeowner insurance companies for rate reductions. The letter is available on the Township's website.

Peter Nish, Commissioner, none.

REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATION

Township Manager Gregg Schuster reviewed his report.

2016 Budget - G. Schuster noted the assessment was less than projected which has resulted in an approximately \$50,000.00 decrease in revenue. Discussion followed. The board concurred no action is needed.

B. Wise joined the meeting.

Engineering evaluation of facilities -G. Schuster explained the D' Huy proposal is an example of a quote for evaluation of the Township facilities. The Capital Improvement Committee has recommended obtaining quotes. Scott Gilliland, CIP member, explained the evaluation will provide the Township a breakdown of improvements needed for the existing buildings. R. Wielebinski thanked the Capital Improvement Committee for their work. The Board concurred to move forward with obtaining quotes.

Ambulance RFP -R. Wielebinski noted both St. Luke's and Monroe County Regional EMS (Suburban) offered excellent services.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to select Monroe County Regional EMS (Suburban) as the Ambulance provider for Pocono Township. Discussion followed. P. Nish and B. Wise spoke in favor of St. Luke's noting their willingness to work with Central Pocono Ambulance. Tom Olsen, Twp. resident, questioned the status of the new Pocono Medical Center.

Joe Folsom, Twp. resident, questioned the selection of Suburban.

Jerry Belvin, Twp. resident, questioned the existing CPA subscriptions. P. Nish noted St. Lukes will honor the subscriptions for three years.

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

REPORTS

Township engineer Tim Edinger reviewed his report.

PS1 and PS2 Proposal - B. Wise explained he requested the Twp. engineers to review the problems at PS1 and PS2. The cost of the proposal is \$36,100.00. G. Schuster noted concerns on the existing workload and the hump repair in progress. Discussion followed. J. Clapper noted the review can wait until next year.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by P. Nish, to table the T&M Associates proposal dated 10/20/2015 in the amount of \$36,100.00 to identify design deficiencies, troubleshoot station operational and program logic issues and recommend short and long term solutions for Pump Station 1 and Pump Station 2. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, no. Motion carried.

Correction to the 09/08/2015 motion for payment request 18 - Pact Two. G. Schuster noted the original motion incorrectly identified Pact Construction when PACT Two LLC was the contractor.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by B. Wise, to amend the 09/08/2015 motion to read: to approve Payment Request No. 18 - PACT Two LLC - Contract No. 11 - Final payment request in the amount of \$110,070.95. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Township Solicitor Leo DeVito

General Sewer Waiver - L. DeVito explained the waiver is to allow adjustments to be made during lateral connection construction and the Township to be held harmless for those adjustments. Discussion followed. J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to approve the General Sewer Waiver as recommended by the Pocono Township Sewer Committee and to allow Jeff Clapper, Public Works Director to execute the waiver with board notification. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS:

BCRA - Ken Brown, General Manager BCRA, represented the plan for the proposed waterline to the PJJWA area and future Pocono Medical site. Discussion followed on the realignment of Rt. 715 and future development of the ballfield. J. Clapper, Public Works Director noted the addition of water service to Pump station 2 and a water tap for the ball field will be included. The board concurred with the proposed location.

Munoz Lot Line Adjustment - Deanna Schmoyer and Jonathan Shupp represented the plan. The Lot line adjustment will correctly locate an existing sewer system and driveway onto the property. The property is located on Abeel Road. No new lots or construction will take place. Monroe County Planning Commission comments have not been received. T&M review letter of 12/07/2015 has been addressed. The Board concurred to approve the resolution at their 12/17/2015 special meeting, if all conditions of the Township engineer's letter are satisfied.

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 2015-11 - Vacation of a portion of T-168 - L. DeVito explained the ordinance is to vacate an old portion of roadway. R. Wielebinski opened the hearing to public comment. Hearing no comments, R. Wielebinski closed the hearing.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-11- Vacation of a portion of T-168, which is located between the northerly and southerly line of a proposed/unopened street named Birch Street and extends to the former western line of T-168, which passes along property owned by Silverleaf Resorts. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2015-78 - Reappointing Ron Swink to the Pocono Township Planning Commission. R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by P. Nish, to adopt Resolution 2015-78- reappointing Ron Swink to the Pocono Township Planning Commission for a four year term commencing on January 1, 2016 and terminating on December 31, 2019. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-79 - Reappointing Steve Chaladoff as a member of the Pocono Township Zoning Hearing Board. P. Nish made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to adopt Resolution 2015-79- reappointing Steve Chaladoff to the Pocono Township Zoning Hearing Board for a three year term commencing on January 1, 2016 and terminating on December 31, 2018. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-80 - Reappointing Lew Ginsberg as an alternate member of the Pocono Township Zoning Hearing Board. R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to adopt Resolution 2015-79- reappointing Lew Ginsberg as an alternate member to the Pocono Township Zoning Hearing Board for a three year term commencing on January 1, 2016 and terminating on December 31, 2018. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-81 - Reappointing Ronald Cheesman to the Pocono Township Civil Service Commission. R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by P. Nish, to adopt Resolution 2015-81- reappointing Ronald Cheesman as a member to the Pocono Township Civil Service Commission for a six (6) year term commencing on January 1, 2016 and terminating on December 31, 2021. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-82 - Removing BNY Mellon as Trustee of the Pocono Township Police Pension Fund. R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to adopt Resolution 2015-82 - removing BNY Mellon as Trustee of the Pocono Township Police Pension Fund. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-83 - Approving an investment policy statement. P. Nish made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to adopt Resolution 2015-83 - approving an investment policy statement. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-84 - Approving an agreement with Emergency Systems Service Company for generator maintenance and service. R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by B. Wise, to adopt Resolution 2015-84 -approving an agreement with Emergency Systems Services Company for Generator Maintenance and service for Pump Stations 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 in the amount of \$4,190.00. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS CONT:

Resolution 2015-85 - Approving an Auditor for the 2015 Audit. R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by P. Nish, to adopt Resolution 2015-85 - approving the engagement letter for Julian Kirk, C.P.A. LLC in an amount not to exceed \$9,500.00 for the 2015 financial records. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried. G. Schuster noted the price increase is due to the additional work on the pension plans and sewer funds.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jake Singer, Twp. resident, stated his disappointment with the ambulance choice and the hiring of a manager who does not live in the township.

ADJOURMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by P. Nish, to adjourn the meeting into executive session to discuss union negotiations at 8:35 p.m., until 12/21/2015 at the Pocono Township Municipal Building, Tannersville, Pa. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; P. Nish, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted
Pamela Finkbeiner
Township Secretary