

**POCONO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING**

MARCH 30th, 2016 7:00 P.M.

The Special meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on 03/30/2016 at the Pocono Township Municipal Building, Tannersville, PA, and was opened by Vice President Harold Werkheiser at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Tom Felver, absent; Harold Werkheiser, present; Jerry Lastowski, present; Robert DeYoung, present; and Judi Coover, present.

Pamela Finkbeiner, Township Secretary, was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

AMENDMENTS TO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BYLAWS:

J. Coover reviewed the changes to the Bylaws.

Section 4 - B - Public Workshops to remain as proposed.

Section 4,C - To remain as proposed.

Section 4,D - Limit to two Commissioners by speakerphone. Discussion followed.

Annabella Lastowski, Joseph Shupp, and Bob Demarest, Twp. residents, questioned the legality of voting by phone.

The Board concurred to seek a legal opinion for limiting speakerphone participation and quorum requirements.

Section 4,E - Remove "Qualified"

Section 5,A.6 - Amendments to Agenda - J. Coover questioned additions to the agenda after the agenda is set. Discussion followed on emergency agenda items and who will decide the hardship. The Board concurred to move Amendments to the Agenda to under the Manager's report.

Section 5,A.6 & 13 - Public Comment - Discussion on the need of Public Comments.

Section 5,A.9 - Reports - Discussion concerning lists of individual reports.

Annabella Lastowski, Twp. resident, noted persons reporting can vary per meeting.

Section 5, B - Changed to 4:30 Wednesday instead of end of business day.

Section 5,C - Discussion followed to whom will be responsible for adding items to the agenda. Changed to "The Board will not add agenda items for any meeting unless it is an undue hardship, as determined by the discretion of the Board."

Section 6,A - Changed from five (5) minutes to three (3) minutes for public comments.

BYLAWS CONT:

Section 7,B - Moved to Section 4 - "Sewer Meeting will be the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m., excepting holidays (When the meeting shall be moved to Tuesday)" Discussion followed for full board attendance at Sewer Meetings. The sewer meeting will be advertised once the bylaws are approved.

Section 7,C - Change to B - Finance Committee. Appointment of the second committee member at the 04/04/2016 meeting.

J. Coover will make the changes and provide copies of the revised bylaws to the Board for the 04/04/2016 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bob Demarest, Planning Commission, requested to attend the PennDOT meeting, scheduled on 04/14/2016. The Board concurred to have the Twp. Manager to contact PennDOT to request the Planning Commission be allowed to attend.

VACANCY BOARD:

H. Werkheiser made a motion to appoint the Vacancy Board - J. Lastowski objected and requested the appointment wait to the 04/04/2016 mtg. Discussion followed. Motion failed for lack of second.

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

Discussion followed on the appointment of a Parliamentarian for the Board of Commissioners.

Annabella Lastowski questioned the version of the bylaws the Board will use.

J. Coover made a motion, seconded by B. DeYoung, to appoint J. Lastowski as the BOC Parliamentarian. Roll call vote: J. Coover, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and B. DeYoung, yes. Motion carried.

VACANCY BOARD:

H. Werkheiser made a motion, seconded by J. Coover, to appoint Joe Shupp to the Vacancy Board. Roll call vote: J. Coover, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; J. Lastowski, no; and B. DeYoung, yes. Motion carried.

SPECIAL MEETING - SEWER REPAIRS

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by B. DeYoung, to schedule a special meeting on 04/05/2016 to have a presentation by Sami Sarrouh, PE, Sr. Technical Engineer, T&M Associates, for the proposed repair of the sewer line. Roll call vote: J. Coover, no; H. Werkheiser, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and B. DeYoung, no. Motion failed to pass.

Discussion followed as to the type of meeting. J. Coover requested a workshop instead of a special meeting. Discussion followed. The Board requested Ken Brown and BRCA's engineer be invited.

J. Coover made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to authorize the Twp. Secretary to advertise a workshop meeting, 04/5/2016 at 5:00 p.m., to have a presentation by Sami Sarrouh, PE, Sr. Technical Engineer, T&M Associates, for the proposed repair of the sewer line. Roll call vote: J. Coover, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and B. DeYoung, yes. Motion carried.

Ramona Shupp, Twp. resident, questioned the sewer line.

Joe Shupp, Twp. resident, question concerning the sewer line.

Bob Demarest, Twp. resident, questioned if other engineering firms were contacted.

Annabella Lastowski, Twp. resident, suggested contacting everyone involved along the sewer line be invited to the meeting.

Mike Tripus, Twp. resident, questions concerning the change order for a contractor who did not do the original work.

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by B. DeYoung, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Roll call vote: J. Coover, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and B. DeYoung, yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted
Pamela Finkbeiner
Township Secretary