

**POCONO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 5:30 P.M.**

The Special meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on 06/15/2016 at the Pocono Township Municipal Building, Tannersville, PA, and was opened by Harold Werkheiser at 5:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Judi Coover, present; Bob DeYoung, present; Harold Werkheiser, present; and Jerry Lastowski, present.

Pamela Finkbeiner, Interim Manager/Secretary, present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

An executive session was held at 5:00 p.m., 06/15/2016 to discuss Police contract negotiations.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Jake Singer, and Linda Kresge, Township residents, questioned when the Werkheiser lawsuit would be settled.

The Board could not respond since it is in litigation.

**COMMISSIONERS VACANCY**

H. Werkheiser noted he was not ready to vote.

J. Coover suggested it go to the vacancy board.

Robert Demarest, Twp. resident, questioned who the candidates were.

Rich Wielebinski, Twp. resident, noted the Board agreed to rank the candidates.

J. Coover noted she changed her mind. Discussion followed.

J. Lastowski made a motion to appointed Jerrod Belvin as Commissioner. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

B. DeYoung made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to appoint Bernie Devine as Commissioner - J. Lastowski noted there were 5 great candidates and it was a hard choice. J. Coover noted she looked for the candidate who could fill the needs of the Township and though B. Devine was an excellent candidate, Ellen Gndt has CPA skills, strength in management and consulting. Anthony Maula, Twp. resident, question concerning length of appointment. J. Coover note the position will run until the next election (1 ½ years). Maxine Turbolski, Twp. resident, questioned why he was not considered for the manager's position, instead.

Roll call vote: R. DeYoung, yes; H. Werkheiser, no; J. Lastowski, yes; and J. Coover, no. Motion failed.

Rich Wielebinski questioned if the Joe Shupp, Vacancy Board chairman, could vote.

J. Coover made a motion to appoint Ellen Gndt as Commissioner. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

The Board failed to appoint a Commissioner to the vacant position.

Ellen Gndt questions concerning the timing of the Vacancy Board.

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by H. Werkheiser, to hold a special meeting of the Vacancy Board and Board of Commissioners, Saturday 06/18/2016 at 9:00 a.m.

P. Finkbeiner called Leo DeVito, solicitor for confirmation of the correct procedure for the motion and meeting. Roll call vote: R. DeYoung, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and J. Coover, yes. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

Resolution 2016-31 - Amended Resolution for granting conditional approval of Spirit of Swiftwater LDP - Anthony Maula, owner represented the plan and noted the additional requirement of bridge construction was added to the resolution. J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by J. Coover, to adopt Resolution 2016-31 - Granting Conditional Approval of the Spirit of Swiftwater, Phase I, Apartments, LDP. Roll call vote: R. DeYoung, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and J. Coover, yes. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

J. Lastowski explained he met with Charlie Trapasso, Chairwoman of the Bicentennial Committee and Mike Tripus, Zoning Officer, to resolve the issue of signage for the Township's Bicentennial Celebration.

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by J. Coover, to present to the ZHB, to grant a variance from the requirements of the Sign Ordinance for signage for the Pocono Township's Bicentennial Celebration. Roll call vote: R. DeYoung, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and J. Coover, yes. Motion carried.

R. DeYoung spoke concerning banners.

J. Coover questioned the Township's abilities to waive the ordinance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

R. DeYoung made a motion, seconded by J. Coover, to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Roll call vote: R. DeYoung, yes; H. Werkheiser, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; and J. Coover, yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted  
Pamela Finkbeiner  
Interim Manager/Twp. Secretary