

POCONO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 19th, 2014
7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on 05/19/2014, 2014, at the Pocono Township Municipal Building, Tannersville, PA, and was opened by Vice President Jerry Lastowski at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Jerry Lastowski, present; Tom Felver, present; Greg Hill, present; and Brad Wise, present.
Rich Wielebinski, absent.

Township Solicitor Leo V. DeVito, Broughal & DeVito LLP; Tim Edinger, T&M Associates; and Pamela Finkbeiner, Secretary; were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Planning Commission Meeting on May 27, 2014 (7:00 p.m.) has been CANCELLED

MINUTES: T. Felver made a motion, seconded by B. Wise, to approve the minutes of the 05/05/2014 regular Commissioners meeting. Roll call vote: J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; G. Hill, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

BILLS

T. Felver made a motion, seconded by G. Hill, to approve the check listing, dated 05/19/2014 (excepting all tele-communication bills). Roll call vote: J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; G. Hill, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

T. Felver made a motion, seconded by G. Hill to approve check listing, dated 05/19/2014 (tele-communications bills). Roll call vote: J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; G. Hill, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Jerry Lastowski, Vice President reported:

Pre-construction meeting was held with Kalahari Resort, concerning the sewer line construction and temporary closure of Rt. 314. T. Felver expressed concern the closure of Rt. 314 may impact emergency services for Pocono Manor and area neighbors.

HJP Park Board - J. Lastowski visited the HJP regional park on Golden Slipper Road, Bartonsville, and has questions concerning the progress in the Park. He will request Harold Ernsberger to present an overview of the project to the Board at the 06/02/2014 meeting. Discussion followed.

Pocono Township Volunteer Fire Company Meeting - The board concurred to hold a public meeting on at 6:00 p.m., 06/02/2014, at the Pocono Township Fire Company Building.

Gregg Schuster, Pocono Township's new manager will start on 06/02/2014. The Board thanked interim Administrator, Frank Froio, for his work.

R. Wielebinski and J. Lastowski attended a meeting on 05/13/2014, held by the Pocono Township Business Owners concerning the new sign ordinance.

Several board members took a tour of the new NCC Campus on 05/15/2014.

Brad Wise, Commissioner, reported:

A meeting was held 05/09/2014 to discuss Pump Stations and Valves stations operation and maintenance - and the possibility of BCRA providing billing and collection services for the Township.

A meeting was held on 05/09/2014 with MCCD to discuss Pocono Township's NPDES Permit renewal for the sewer project.

A meeting was held with the owner of the Benninger Insurance Property concerning damage to the property during sewer construction.

Jim Putil, questioned the repair to the damage section of line. Leo DeVito explained the Township has been working to resolve the issue through the court system. In the meantime the Township must move forward with the repair before the case is resolved.

The Township has contracted with RKR Hess to review the proposed Route 611 improvement project from Scotrun to Swiftwater. The proposed Plan calls for the moving sections of the sewer line and manholes in the area. Jennifer Wise-Werkheiser, requested the letters concerning the Rt. 611 project be posted on the website.

Underground Storage Tanks - B. Wise noted the Township is reviewing the procedures for monitoring the tanks. F. Froio noted the State Inspection found one of the sensors has failed on a tank. He obtained a price quote from Francis Smith for \$5,300.00 for new sensors and control system. Discussion followed on additional quotes and determination of when replacement tanks will be necessary. F. Froio will obtain the quotes.

Emil Paletta, questioned signage on a tractor trailer along Sullivan Trail. J. Lastowski noted the Township is working hard to address the signage problems in the Township.

EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORTS

Pocono Township Police Chief Kent Werkheiser - reviewed his report with the Board. 300 incidents were handled. The Department has been involved in an Aggressive Driving Program which receives a 90% reimbursement.

Pocono Township Volunteer Fire Co. - No report

Central Pocono Ambulance Association, Inc., Manager Linda Smith requested the Township post the Ambulance's yearly subscription drive on the website and billboard. The Board requested F. Froio to post the Ambulance's drive after the advertisement for summer Park Employees is finished.

APPOINTMENTS - BOARD, COMMISSIONERS AND COMMITTEES

Civil Service Commission Alternates (3) - Consideration of Appointments

HJP Park Commission - Consideration of Appointment

PJJWA Board (5) - Consideration of Appointments

B. Wise stated three applications have been received. The Board concurred to interview the applicants from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. on 06/02/2014.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance 2014-XX - Subdivision and Land Development (SALDO) to require applicant to pursue approval of preliminary plans - L. DeVito, Twp. Solicitor, noted the Ordinance has been sent to MCCD and the Planning Commission for review.

Ordinance 2014-XX - regulating second hand dealers / pawn shops - L. DeVito, Twp. Solicitor, explained the ordinance was revised to move the fees to the Twp. fee schedule. Discussion followed. Judy Coover and Jack Swerzie, Twp. residents, had concerns the Ordinance would impact smaller used-item dealers. Pocono Township Police Chief Werkheiser noted the Ordinance could assist with investigations of stolen items. G. Hill, B. Wise, and T. Felver concurred to proceed with the Ordinance.

Ordinance 2014-XX - Pocono Township Park and Recreation Ordinance - L. DeVito, Twp. Solicitor, submitted a draft Ordinance to the Board. G. Hill noted he had several comments he would like addressed. He will correspond with the other Board members and L. DeVito about his concerns. J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by G. Hill, to table the Pocono Township Park and Recreation Ordinance. Roll call vote: J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; G. Hill, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

DEVELOPMENT

Resolution 2014-xx The Spirit of Swiftwater, Inc. Phase I Residential Modification - A Time Extension Letter to 06/03/2014 was received. G. Hill made a motion, seconded by B. Wise, to table Resolution 2014-xx - Spirit of Swiftwater, Inc. Phase I Residential Modification. Roll call vote: J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; G. Hill, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2014-xx granting conditional preliminary plan approval for The Spirit of Swiftwater, Inc. Phase II Hotel. A Time Extension letter to 06/03/2014 was received. J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by G. Hill, to table the Resolution 2014-xx - Spirit of Swiftwater, Inc. Phase II Hotel. Roll call vote: J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; G. Hill, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Maxine Tuboski, Twp. resident, questioned the status of the Trapasso Digital sign. L. DeVito, Twp. Solicitor, noted the Township is waiting on PennDOT to confirm their permit status.

Jennifer Wise-Werkheiser, Twp. resident, commented on PennDOT changing policies on the permit requirements.

Judy Martinell, Twp. resident, questioned if the Boy Scout sign would be replaced on the Trapasso property.

Peter Nish, Twp. resident, commented on the electric line crossing the creek to the Trapasso sign and the possibility of someone being hurt.

STAFF AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Timothy Edinger, Twp. Engineer:

- 1) Preconstruction meeting was held with Kalahari/Pocono Manor - sewer line construction down Rt. 314
- 2) Retaining wall at Mt. View Park was inspected and suggested measures were given to fix the cracks. The retaining wall was part of the donation of the Crossing Abilities playground.
- 3) Brookdale Resort Sketch Plan presentation. The Board concurred to request the Sketch Plan be placed on the 06/16/2014 meeting agenda.

Leo DeVito, Twp. Solicitor, reminded the Board a meeting will be held on Wednesday, 05/21/2014 with PHM Financial Group.

Kopelson Conditional Use hearing will be scheduled for a special meeting mid to late June.

Leo DeVito acknowledged Frank Froio for his efforts.

Frank Froio, Interim Township Administrator - Lowes donated the flooring for Mt. View Park bathroom. F. Froio presented the invoice from Lowes to the Board. The Board requested a letter from Lowes to confirm the donation.

Diane Zwiefel, Twp. resident, re: broken fencing and stakes at Mt. View Park. F. Froio noted the Park crew would repair the fencing.

Maxine Tuboski, Twp. resident, is there a record of the Crossing's Abilities donations to Mt. View Park.

ADJOURNMENT: T. Felver a motion, seconded by G. Hill, to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session at 8:40 p.m., until 06/02/2014 at 7:00 p.m., at the Pocono Township Municipal Building, Tannersville, Pa. Roll call vote: J. Lastowski, yes; T. Felver, yes; G. Hill, yes; and B. Wise, yes. Motion carried.