

**POCONO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 2, 2017
6:00 p.m.**

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President Harold Werkheiser called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call:

President Werkheiser – Present
Vice-President DeYoung – Present
Commissioner Lastowski – Present
Commissioner Coover – Present
Commissioner Gndt – Present

Professional Staff:

Attorney Leo Devito – Present
Jon Tresslar – Engineer – Present

Announcements:

Executive Session was held on September 20, 2017 for personnel matters.

Executive Session was held on September 28, 2017 for personnel matters.

Executive Session was held on October 2, 2017 for personnel matters.

Mountain View Park – Veteran’s Day Program fliers were made available to the public.
Program dates are November 9, 10 & 11, 2017.

Public Comments on matters not on the agenda:

Jake Singer, Township Resident, asked about children fishing at the TLC Pond. The Township will inquire whether organizations would sponsor a program.

Presentations: None

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Commissioner Gndt, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung, to accept the September 18, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes.

All in favor
Motion Carried

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Motion made by Commissioner Gnandt, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung, to accept the September 20, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes.

EG-Yes; RD-Yes; HW-Abstain; JL-Yes; JC-Yes
Motion Carried

Motion made by Commissioner Lastowski, seconded by Commissioner Gnandt, to accept the September 28, 2017 Work Session Minutes.

EG-Yes; RD-Abstain; HW-Abstain; JL-Yes; JC-Yes
Motion Carried

Approval of Bills and Transfers:

Motion made by Commissioner Gnandt, seconded by Commissioner Lastowski, to ratify the check list for the prior period dated October 2, 2017.

All in favor
Motion Carried

Motion made by Commissioner Gnandt, seconded by Commissioner Lastowski, to approve the check and transfers dated October 2, 2017.

All in favor
Motion Carried

Report of the President: None

Commissioner's Comments:

Bob DeYoung – Vice President: None

Jerry Lastowski – Commissioner – Audit: Ellen Gnandt, Commissioner, stated "There's been much controversy over the audit and whether some of the Commissioners wasted your money by not approving the first audit. The first audit was incorrect. Not because of any auditor error, but because the Board of Commissioners did not timely provide the information to the auditor to provide an accurate audit. We've now provided all that information. As your public servants, we are charged with the fiduciary responsibility of guardian of your tax dollars. To approve the first audit would not have been in your best interest or provided the transparency to which you are entitled. Now with the knowledge of what the findings are and what is expected of public officials (I have a little article here if you would like to have it), you now have the necessary information to judge for yourselves whether re-auditing was the right choice." Discussion followed.

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Motion made by Commissioner Lastowski, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung, to approve the 2015 and 2016 audits.

All in favor
Motion Carried

Commissioner Lastowski, read aloud a letter from a local developer regarding the Rt. 715 & 611 realignment. Discussion followed.

Motion made by Commissioner Lastowski, seconded by Commissioner Gndt, to have Donna M. Asure write a letter to PennDOT, indicating the letter from the developer to be incorrect and the Board of Commissioners of Pocono Township has not taken a position on an alternative route for their realignment, with copies of this letter being sent to all parties concerned including the developer.

All in favor
Motion Carried

Judi Coover – Commissioner:

The draft Sign Ordinance was posted on 9/21/2017. No comments were received.

Motion made by Commissioner Coover, seconded by Commissioner Gndt, that Pocono Township Commissioners finalize the draft of the changes to the zoning ordinance and forward them to the Pocono Township Planning Commission and the Monroe County Planning Commission for their review and comment.

All in favor
Motion Carried

Ellen Gndt – Commissioner:

Probable Cause Training: CDL Program

Motion made by Commissioner Gndt, seconded by Commissioner Lastowski, to approve travel to PSATS Building in Harrisburg on October 17, 2017 for Probable Cause Training at a cost of \$45 per person, including miles and meals, for Donna Asure and Patrick Briegel, including members interested from the Board of Commissioners.

All in favor
Motion Carried

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Rich Wielebinski, Township Resident, questioned why tax payer's dollars were being spent on sending our Contractor to a training class. Commissioner Coover indicated our agreement does not include him incurring any fees for training. Discussion followed.

Joe Folsom, Township Resident, inquired what probable cause training was. Donna Asure informed him that it is a federally required training program that employers with CDL employees must have people on-site that have probable cause training to know what to look for when it comes to substance abuse.

Reports:

Finance Committee Report:

Meeting is October 10, 2017 at 10:30 am.

Sewer Committee:

Commissioner Coover indicated letters were sent out to properties with delinquent payment to BCRA and/or Township sewer tapping fees. People have responded with financial hardships in paying these bills. Discussion followed.

Administration – Manager's Report:

Bond for Interim Township Treasurer

Motion made by Commissioner Coover, seconded by Commissioner Gndt, to approve a bond in the amount of \$6MM for a cost of \$7,280.00 for Frank Cefali, Interim Treasurer.

All in favor

Motion Carried

Master Service Agreement:

The administrators of the Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRAs) for healthcare deductibles are Highmark. Discussion followed.

Motion made by Commissioner Coover, seconded by Commissioner Gndt, to approve the Master Service Agreement with Highmark for administration of the Health Reimbursement Accounts.

All in favor

Motion Carried

Public Works Report:

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2017/2018 Road Paving and Seal Coating Projects

Motion made by Commissioner Coover, seconded by Commissioner Lastowski, to award the Seal Coat bid to Pocono Spray Patch for \$236,318.92 as lowest responsible bid meeting all bidding requirements.

All in favor
Motion Carried

Motion made by Commissioner Lastowski, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung, to award the Double Bituminous Wearing and Leveling Course bid to Hanson Aggregates for \$1,024,991.72, as the lowest responsible bid meeting all bidding requirements.

All in favor
Motion Carried

Township Engineer Report:

Motion made by Commissioner Coover, seconded by Commissioner Gndt, to approve Change Order #1 for the Air Release Valve project in the amount of \$5,453.40, subject to approval to the Change Order.

All in favor
Motion Carried

Motion made by Commissioner Coover, seconded by Commissioner Gndt, to award the Force Main Control Valve repair project to The Milnes Company in the amount of \$281,865.00.

All in favor
Motion Carried

Motion made by Commissioner Coover, seconded by Commissioner Gndt, to release the escrow held for Pocono Carriage House as recommended by Boucher & James, subject to verification of all outstanding fees being paid to the Township.

All in favor
Motion Carried

Presentations: None

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Resolutions and Ordinances - Resolution 2017-48 Amendment to the Pocono Township 457 Plan:

Motion made by Commissioner Gndt, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung, to approve Resolution 2017-48 – Amendment to the Pocono Township 457 Plan, naming Gerald Lastowski and Donna M.ASURE as trustees of the plan.

All in favor
Motion Carried

Further Public Comment:

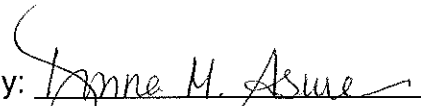
Chris Ortolan, Township Resident, inquired about the Township's IT Services. Discussion followed.

Executive Session: None

Adjournment:

Motion made by Commissioner Lastowski, seconded by Commissioner Coover, to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 pm.

Submitted by:


Donna M. Asure
Township Secretary