

POCONO TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS AGENDA August 7, 2023 | 6:00 p.m. 112 Township Drive, Tannersville, PA Dial-In Option: 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 892 102 5946 Passcode: 18372 Zoom Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8921025946?pwd=Q1VtaFVkVEpRWTUvdIFrSHJ1cE1T dz09

Open Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Public Comment

For any individuals wishing to make public comment tonight, including those dialed in by phone, please state the spelling of your name and identify whether you are a taxpayer of Pocono Township.

Please limit individual comments to five (5) minutes and direct all comments to the President. Public comment is not for debate or answering questions, rather it is for "comment on matters of concern, official action or deliberation...prior to taking official action" [PA Sunshine Act, Section 710.1].

Announcements

- Please take note of Pocono Township's upcoming summer activities:
 - August 22 at 10:00 a.m. The Wide World of Bugs at Mountain View Park.

Hearings - None

Presentations - None

Resolutions

<u>Resolution 2023-16</u> – Motion to pass Resolution 2023-16 granting conditional approval for the Grossi Major Subdivision Plan. (Action Item)

<u>Resolution 2023-17</u> – Motion to pass Resolution 2023-17 authorizing the submission of a DCED Multimodal Grant application in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 for the purpose of completing infrastructure upgrades at the intersection of Learn Road and Fish Hill Road in Tannersville. (Action Item)

<u>Resolution 2023-18</u> – Motion to pass Resolution 2023-18 granting a time extension to August 30, 2023 for Swiftwater Solar LLC to satisfy the conditions of plan approval set forth in Resolution No. 2022-24. (Action Item)

Consent Agenda

- Motion to approve a consent agenda of the following items:
 - Old business consisting of the minutes of the July 17, 2023 meeting of the Board of Commissioners.
 - Financial transactions through August 3, 2023 as presented, including ratification of general fund expenditures, sewer operating expenditures and gross payroll; vouchers payable, sewer operating expenditures, construction fund expenditures, capital reserve expenditures and transfers. (Action Items)

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Personnel
- Motion to appoint a new Assistant Foreman for the Pocono Township Road Crew. (Action Item)
- Motion to extend conditional offers of employment to three candidates for the Pocono Township Road Crew. (Action Item)

2. Travel/Training Authorizations

Report of the President

Richard Wielebinski

Commissioner Comments

Jerrod Belvin - Vice President

- Emergency Management Update

 Laurel Lake Dam
- Update PPL utility lines and possible drainage issues on Bartion Court.

Ellen Gnandt – Commissioner

Jerry Lastowski – Commissioner

Keith Meeker – Commissioner

Reports

Zoning

Police Report

General police updates.

Ambulance Report

Public Works Report

- Current Public Works projects.
- Mountain View Park updates.
- TLC Park updates.
 - o Splash Pad Update

- Dog Park Status Update
- 2023 paving projects to commence.
- 2023 micro-surfacing projects to commence.
- Bartonsville Avenue cross pipes replacement.
- Installation of speed tables on Learn Road for speed control.

Administration – Manager's Report – No update.

Township Engineer Report

- Discussion and possible action regarding the Township's revised Act 167 stormwater ordinance, incorporating changes to the ordinance as prepared by the Township engineer and as required by PA DEP. (Possible Action Item)
- Learn Road safety enhancement project and roundabout survey work.
- Update TASA SR 611 sidewalk project.

Township Solicitor Report

- General legal update.
- Update Maintenance and operation escrow requirements for land development projects that require installation of new traffic lights.
- Zoning Hearing Board updates.
 - Discussion and possible action as to the Township solicitor's representation at the zoning hearing for Chelsea Pocono Finance (Poconos Premium Outlets) on August 31, 2023. (Possible Action Item)
 - Crawford Appeal.
- Update Johnson Appeal Commonwealth Court argument.

Public Comment

For any individuals wishing to make public comment tonight, including those dialed in by phone, please state the spelling of your name and identify whether you are a taxpayer of Pocono Township. Please limit individual comments to five (5) minutes and direct all comments to the President.

Adjournment

TOWNSHIP OF POCONO, MONROE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-16

A RESOLUTION GRANTING CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF THE GROSSI MAJOR SUBDIVISION PLAN

WHEREAS, the applicants, John Grossi, Nicholas Palermo and Pocono Max Properties, Inc., submitted a major subdivision plan application titled "Grossi Preliminary/Final Major Subdivision Plan" (the "Plan"); and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has reviewed the Plan and offered comments in his letters dated April 21, 2022, April 5, 2023 and July 10, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Pocono Township Planning Commission recommended conditional approval of the Plan at a meeting held on July 10, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Pocono Township Board of Commissioners desire to grant the conditional approval of the Plan, subject to the following.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Pocono Township, County of Monroe, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

That the following requests for modification from Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance is hereby granted:

- 1. SALDO Section 390-25.G(13) Major Subdivision Plans shall contain a landscaping plan meeting the requirements of Section 390-55. *Applicant shall be permitted to utilize the existing undisturbed vegetation to meet the requirements for landscape plantings.*
- 2. SALDO Section 390-55.D Street trees along Camelback. *Applicant shall be permitted to utilize the existing tree cover along the property boundary bordering Camelback Road to meet this requirement.*
- 3. SALDO Section 390-55.F 15 foot wide medium intensity buffers along the proposed residential dwelling lots. *Applicant shall be permitted to utilize the existing undisturbed vegetation to meet the requirements for landscape plantings.*

That the following requests for modification of the Stormwater Management Ordinance are hereby granted:

SMO Section 365-10.I.(6)(b) – Wetland buffer delineation. A fifty-foot buffer, measured perpendicular to and horizontally form the edge of the delineated wetland, shall be maintained for all wetlands, with the exception of the Cranberry Bog, where the buffer shall be 75 feet measured perpendicular to and horizontally from the edge of the Cranberry Bog. In addition, where the 300 feet of land adjacent to the edge of a delineated wetland has an

average upland slope greater than 5%, the minimum buffer width shall be increased by four feet for each percent of slope at or above 5%, subject to a maximum cumulative buffer if 100 feet. *Applicant shall be permitted to disturb 15% of the total buffer area for driveway grading and stormwater conveyances*.

2. SMO Section 365-13.D.– The Ordinance requires the use of certain rainfall depths and intensities for the various storm return periods, according to the region in which the project is located. *Applicant is proposing to utilize the NOAA Atlas 14 rainfall data as part of the stormwater management analysis.*

That the "Grossi Preliminary/Final Major Subdivision Plan" as shown on the plan prepared by Hanover Engineering, dated March 1, 2022, as revised, be hereby approved with the following conditions and provided the plan is revised as follows, subject to the review and approval of the Township Engineer and/or Township Solicitor:

- 1. The Applicant shall comply with all of the conditions and requirements identified in the Township Engineer's letters dated April 21, 2022, April 5, 2023 and July 10, 2023.
- 2. The Applicant shall enter into an Improvements Agreement with the Township and provide appropriate security, if applicable.
- 3. The Applicant shall enter into a Maintenance Agreement with the Township and provide appropriate security, if applicable.
- 4. The Applicant shall enter into a Stormwater Management and Maintenance Agreement with the Township, if applicable.
- 5. The Applicant shall pay all necessary fees associated with the Plan, including but not limited to an open space fee in the amount of \$7,000.00, any outstanding plan account charges and all professional services fees, prior to the recording of the Plan.
- 6. The Applicant shall obtain all required permits and approvals from other governmental agencies prior to presenting the Plan for signatures.
- 7. The Applicant shall provide the requisite number of plans which are signed and notarized by the owner and sealed by the engineer.
- 8. The Applicant shall meet all conditions of the final plan approval, and Plan shall be recorded within twelve (12) months of Conditional final plan approval, and agrees that if such conditions are not met, the Conditional final plan approval will be considered void.
- 9. The Applicant shall accept these conditions in writing within five (5) days of receipt of the Board of Commissioners Resolution, otherwise the application is denied.

RESOLVED at a duly constituted meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Pocono, the 7th day of August, 2023.

ATTEST:

Township of Pocono Board of Commissioners

By:_____ Print Name: Taylor Munoz Title: Township Manager By:_____ Print Name: Richard Wielebinski Title: President

Township of Pocono, Monroe County, Pennsylvania Resolution 2023-17

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION TO THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING AUTHORITY

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Pocono, located in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, approves the submission of a Multimodal Transportation Fund grant in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to complete infrastructure upgrades at the intersection of of Learn Road and Fish Hill Road in Pocono Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant does hereby designate the President of the Board of Commissioners to execute all documents and agreements between the Township of Pocono and the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

SO RESOLVED, this 7th day of August, 2023.

ATTEST:

Township of Pocono Board of Commissioners

By:_____ Print Name: Taylor Munoz Title: Township Manager By:____

Print Name: Richard Wielebinski Title: President

TOWNSHIP OF POCONO, MONROE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-18

A RESOLUTION GRANTING CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF THE SWIFTWATER SOLAR PRELIMINARY/FINAL LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, the Applicant, Swiftwater Solar LLC, submitted a plan application titled "Swiftwater Solar Project Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan" (the "Plan"). The Applicant proposes to construct solar panel fields, a substation, and various stormwater facilities. The property is located in the RD Recreation Zoning District and is known as portions of Monroe County Tax ID Nos. 12/16/1 and 12/111903; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2022, the Pocono Township Board of Commissioners enacted Resolution No. 2022-24 which granted conditional preliminary/final plan approval of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2022-24 required that the applicant meet all conditions of the plan approval and record the Plan within twelve (12) months of the Conditional Plan approval, and if such conditions were not met, the Conditional Plan approval would be considered void; and

WHEREAS, the applicant was unable to satisfy the conditions of plan approval and record the Plan within twelve (12) months of the Conditional Plan approval, and is requesting that the Board of Commissioners grant an extension of time to comply with the requirements of Resolution No. 2022-24; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2023-12, the Board of Commissioners granted Swiftwater Solar LLC an extension of 60 days to satisfy the conditions of preliminary/final plan approval and record the Plan as set fort in Resolution No. 2022-24; and

WHEREAS, the applicant was unable to satisfy the conditions of preliminary/final plan approval and record the Plan within the twelve 60-day extension granted by the Board of Commissioners and hereby seeks an additional extension of time to satisfy the conditions of approval.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Pocono Township, County of Monroe, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the applicant, Swiftwater Solar LLC, shall have until August 30, 2023 to satisfy the conditions of plan approval and record the Plan as set forth in Resolution No. 2022-24.

RESOLVED at a duly constituted meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Pocono the 7th day of August, 2023.

ATTEST:

Township of Pocono Board of Commissioners

By:_____ Print Name: Taylor Munoz Title: Township Manager By:_____ Print Name: Richard Wielebinski Title: President

Pocono Township Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes July 17, 2023 | 6:01 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Pocono Township Board of Commissioners was held on July 17, 2023 and was opened by President Rich Wielebinski at 6:01 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

<u>Roll Call</u>: Jerrod Belvin, present; Ellen Gnandt, present; Jerry Lastowski, present; Keith Meeker, absent; and Rich Wielebinski, present.

In Attendance: Taylor Munoz, Township Manager; Leo DeVito, Township Solicitor; Amy Montgomery, Engineer; Shawn Goucher, Chief of Police; Patrick Briegel, Public Works Director; Lindsay Scerbo, Zoning; and Jennifer Gambino, Administrative Assistant.

Public Comment

Jeff Hammond, Apex Clean Energy (Nonresident) – Stated the Swiftwater Solar project needs a little more time to satisfy the conditions imposed by the Township. Asked for three-week additional extension beyond the current August timeline.

Announcements

- Please take note of Pocono Township's upcoming summer activities:
 - July 27 at 6:00 p.m. The Leah Fuls Band performing on the Fireman's Field off Alger Avenue.
 - August 22 at 10:00 a.m. The Wide World of Bugs at Mountain View Park.

Hearings - None

Presentations

- <u>Retirement Recognition</u> Recognized Chief Kent J. Werkheiser for 25 years of committed service as Pocono Township Chief of Police.
- Appointment of Chief of Police Acting Chief Shawn Goucher

<u>R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to appoint Acting Chief Shawn Goucher, as</u> Chief of Police. All in favor. Motion carried.

Magisterial District Justice Daniel Kresge administered the oath of office to Chief Shawn Goucher.

- <u>Retirement Recognition</u> Ed Getz recognized for 35 years of service on Township Road Crew.
- <u>Retirement Recognition</u> Dean Hartshorn recognized for 22 years of service on Township Road Crew.

Resolutions

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to pass Resolution 2023-15 Approving the Lease Purchase of a 2023 Caterpillar 420XE Backhoe Loader in the Amount of \$151,400.00 and Authorizing the Execution of a Lease Purchase Agreement with Bank Capital Services LLC, D/B/A F.N.B. Equipment Finance. J. Lastowski asked if it was a budgeted item. All in favor. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

- Motion to approve a consent agenda of the following items:
 - Old business consisting of the minutes of the July 3, 2023 meeting of the Board of Commissioners.
 - Financial transactions through July 13, 2023 as presented, including ratification of general fund expenditures, sewer operating expenditures and gross payroll; vouchers payable, sewer operating expenditures, construction fund expenditures, capital reserve expenditures and transfers.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to approve the consent agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS - None

Report of the President

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by E. Gnandt, to amend the agenda to move police report up and consider an extension of the Swiftwater Solar Project. All in favor. Motion carried.

Police Report

General police updates – Chief Goucher provided a report for the month of June 2023. Requested the BOC move to begin testing for Sergeant position.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to start the testing process for the Sergeant position. All in favor. Motion carried.

E. Gnandt made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to utilize ARPA funds for the purchase of a 2 Cam L5M License Plate Reader System in an amount not to exceed \$12,000.00 for a Police Department patrol car. S. Goucher provided data for the LPRs. 1.1 million detections for the year and 4.8 million for the time period the Township has had LPRs. Provided further data for how the LPR systems have been used over time and the hits they have had. All in favor. Motion carried.

R. Wielebinski asked whether officers could do walk arounds to increase community presence at the Township parks to interact with patrons.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to grant Apex Clean Energy an extension to August 30 subject to a Resolution being passed at the first Board meeting in August. Roll Call Vote: J. Belvin, yes; E. Gnandt, no; J. Lastowski, yes; and R. Wielebinski, yes. Motion carried.

Richard Wielebinski

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to advertise a 30-day review and comment period for the proposed Great Wolf Lodge Employee Housing Sewage Planning Application. Discussion – Nate Oiler stated previously Great Wolf was granted an exemption by DEP. Now they are being made to do a sewage planning module with DEP. 62 EDUs are being added and Great Wolf has paid the reservation fees. R. Wielebinski asked about the total capacity being used by the project. E. Gnandt asked about the Act 537 area. P. Briegel stated this is the type of waste the system needs. All in favor. Motion carried.

Review of bids and award of Pocono Township's 2023 road micro-surfacing projects.

One bid was received for Laurel Lake Road, Beehler and Old Mill Road. \$152,500.00 bid received from Asphalt Paving Systems. J. Lastowski asked if the Township has used this company in the past. Asked if they are a reputable company. E. Gnandt asked whether the Township has to re-bid when only one bid is received. R. Wielebinski asked about project timing.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to award the bid to Asphalt Paving Systems. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Discussion and possible action regarding the application of SBA Towers X, LLC to the Zoning Hearing Board for a special exception for a communication tower.
 - Certification that no suitable co-location opportunities are available within a one-mile radius of the proposed communication tower, per Section 470-52(B) of the Township Zoning Ordinance.

Attorney Beard stated that the Township ordinance indicates the Board of Commissioners must certify that there are no tower co-location opportunities within one mile of the proposed tower. Board would send a letter to the ZHB indicating there are no suitable co-location opportunities within a onemile radius. Applicant stated there are no locations close enough to this location to mount proposed equipment. J. Lastowski asked whether this is being proposed because there is a lack of signal. J. Belvin stated in 2020, the Township participated in the "dead cell project" and it was determined this area was a dead zone, particularly for the police department.

Questions regarding balloon to do viewshed analysis and impact to adjoining property owners; tower height of 150 feet; and capacity issues with increased demand for cell service.

L. DeVito stated that conditions can be imposed if/after a special exception granted. Stated this is a special exception, where the burden is on the applicant to show the communications tower will not emit noise or other things in excess of a typical communication tower. If they prove this, the burden is then on the objector to disprove. All that is being requested by the Board is a certification or acknowledgement there are no other communication towers in a one-mile radius of what is being proposed, as required by the zoning ordinance.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to provide a certified letter. Roll call: J. Belvin, yes; E. Gnandt, no; J. Lastowski, yes; R. Wielebinski, yes. Motion carried.

 Discussion and possible action regarding the design and property acquisition process for the proposed roundabout at the intersection of Learn Road and Fish Hill Road.

R. Wielebinski stated LVL has put together a design for the proposed roundabout and land will need to be purchased to do the project the right way. Looking for a motion to begin discussion with property owners. Township would need an appraisal.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to sit down with property owners to discuss the roundabout with the potential four property owners. All in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner Comments

Jerrod Belvin – Vice President

Discussion and possible action regarding Pocono Township entering a contract with Rapid Response Inc. for the purpose of HAZMAT cleanup and decontaminations for emergency incidents, subject to Township solicitor review – J. Belvin stated the Township has had four HAZMAT spills in 2023 that has cost the Township for response. Monroe County LEPC (local emergency planning commission) contracts with a company called Datum Products. The Township has had trouble with response of Datum. Stated that the Township should contract with its own company. The closest responding company is Rapid Response, who Northampton County also uses for all their HAZMAT decon needs.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to enter into a HAZMAT contract with Rapid <u>Response</u>. R. Wielebinski asked if the County is aware of the performance issues with Datum. Discussion regarding cost. Datum will not give a price sheet for their services. Rapid Response provided a price sheet. All in favor. Motion carried.

Emergency Management Update

Recap of a recent diesel spill at Pocono Logistics of approximately 100 gallons. Datum came out with DEP. They are working with the insurance company for the business. Zoning has visited the site and there are several zoning/land development issues on the site.

Provided update regarding Fountain Court fire. The Small Business Administration will be at the Township beginning tomorrow to work with the affected businesses.

Discussion regarding concern of local residents about the commercial zoning of PEC.

Ellen Gnandt – Commissioner

Asked about the status of opening the splash pad.

Jerry Lastowski – Commissioner

Asked for update regarding the trailers on the Butz property.

Keith Meeker - Commissioner - Absent

Reports

Zoning - Presented zoning report on all current violations.

Ambulance Report - None

Public Works Report

- Current Public Works projects Whole crew went a couple weeks ago to Chestnuthill Township for an LTAP safety training. Several crew members went to a dirt/gravel and low volume road program training. Thanked Stroudsburg Borough for sending DPW guys and camera truck to assist with scoping a pipe in the Township. Met with Fountain Court representatives today to get side buildings connected back into water and sewer. Continuing with roadside cutting and drainage projects.
- Mountain View Park updates.
- TLC Park updates
 - Splash Pad Installation Concrete was poured and all fixtures in place. Completing grading and walkway work. Updated DCNR plan was submitted and approved.
 - Dog Park Project(s) Grass has grown nicely and close to opening.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to approve an agreement with RoadBotics in the amount of \$7,800.00, subject to legal review, for the purpose of assessing the pavement condition and prioritizing road improvement projects for Pocono Township roads. All in favor. Motion carried.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to advertise for public bid via PennBid the cleaning and epoxy spray coating of eight (8) sanitary sewer manholes. This bid will be offset by funds set aside from Sanofi to contribute to the manhole refurbishment. All in favor. Motion carried.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to approve a COSTARS quote provided by Multi-Dimensional Integration (MDI) in an amount not to exceed \$35,000 for the upgrade of sewer pump station modems with redundant internet and cellular services, subject to contract review by the Township solicitor. R. Wielebinski asked for clarification. <u>All in favor. Motion carried.</u>

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by E. Gnandt, to approve a COSTARS quote in the amount of \$145,393, provided by Multi-Dimensional Integration and reviewed by the Township Engineer, for the installation of updated sewer pump station control system hardware and software, subject to Township solicitor review. P. Briegel explained that the systems currently in the pump and valve stations are antiquated by today's standards. The equipment manufacturers will not support some of the software any longer. J. Lastowski asked how long the equipment will last. <u>All in favor. Motion carried.</u>

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to install two speed tables, one on the north and one on the south section of Learn Road, for speed control. J. Lastowski asked how far apart. Discussion regarding placement and justification for the installation. <u>All in favor. Motion carried.</u>

Discussion regarding Archer Lane drainage issues.

Administration - Manager's Report - No update.

Township Engineer Report

- Motion to advertise for adoption the Township's revised Act 167 stormwater ordinance, incorporating changes to the ordinance as prepared by the Township engineer and as required by PA DEP -Discussion regarding stormwater detention basin inspections and other provisions. Will refine language for action at a future meeting.
- Learn Road safety enhancement project and roundabout survey work.
- Update TASA SR 611 sidewalk project. Currently designing handicapped ramps.

Township Solicitor Report

- General legal update.
- Update Maintenance and operation escrow requirements for land development projects that require installation of new traffic lights. Near completion and will circulate for review.
- Zoning Hearing Board updates
 - Discussion and possible action as to the Township solicitor's representation at the zoning hearing for SBA Towers X, LLC on July 20, 2023 – Discussion regarding viewshed impact and other ancillary impacts. No motion.
 - Crawford Appeal Mr. & Mrs. Crawford were operating a STR in an R1 zone. ZHB ruled against and it was upheld by Judge Zulick. They have now appealed to the Commonwealth Court.

Received decision in Heinzee case. ZHB upheld enforcement notice and Court ruled in favor of ZHB/Township on the first issue pertaining to expansion of the nonconforming use without special exception approval. Court denied that the use had changed to an outdoor activity entertainment venue. The question is whether the Board wants to appeal the entertainment use denial.

Update – Johnson Appeal Commonwealth Court argument.

Public Comment - None

Adjournment

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by E. Gnandt, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.