

**Pocono Township Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Pocono Township Board of Commissioners was held on March 16, 2026 and was opened by Chair Ellen Gndt at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Ellen Gndt, present; Natasha Leap, present; Mike Velardi, present; Matt Long, present, Charles Keppler, present.

In Attendance: Leo DeVito-Township Solicitor; Jon Tresslar- Engineer; Patrick Briegel-Public Works Director; Jerrod Belvin-Township Manager; James Wagner, Chief of Police; Erica Tomas-Administrative Assistant, Paul Morgan, SFM Consulting.

Announcements

Time stamp 6:01 An Executive Session was held today, prior to the meeting for discussion of personnel.

Public Comment

Patrice Lannuchi – Time stamp 6:02 – Laurel Lake

Cheryl Parks – Time stamp 6:03 Sewer line & Storm water

Hearings

Time stamp 6:06 Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Charles Keppler, to Open the hearing for the MCTI Rezoning. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Matt Long, to Close the hearing for the MCTI Rezoning. All in favor. Motion carried.

Time Stamp 6:53 Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Charles Keppler, to deny Ordinance 2026-03 adopting MCTI Rezoning. Roll call: Ellen Gndt, aye; Natasha Leap, nay; Mike Velardi, nay; Matt Long, aye; Charles Keppler, aye. (3-2) Motion carried.

Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Natasha Leap, to authorize the township solicitor to redraft the Ordinance with 4 parcels only. All in favor. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda Time stamp: 6:58

- Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Natasha Leap, to amend the minutes to reflect the reason Ellen Gndt abstained from a vote on the LERTA. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Charles Keppler, to approve a consent agenda of the following items:
 - Old business consisting of the minutes of the March 2, 2026 regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners.
 - Financial transactions through March 16, 2026 as presented, including ratification of expenditures in the amount of \$558,710.74 for the following accounts: General Fund, Sewer Operations, Gross Payroll, Capital Reserve, Construction Fund. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- Time Stamp 7:00 Matt Long made a motion, seconded by Ellen Gndt, to award the Pocono Township Spring/Fall Clean-up Bid to Marki Rolloff Container Inc. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Time stamp 7:02 Jon Tresslar updated the board regarding the Amended Bridge Quote.
- Time stamp 7:03 Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Natasha Leap, to waive Pavilion #1 fees for the Monroe County Coroner's Office for May 30th. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Time stamp 7:04 Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Mike Velardi, to waive Pavillion #3 fees for the Pocono Mountain West Girls Wrestling Team for May 3rd. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Time stamp 7:05 Charles Keppler made a motion, seconded by Ellen Gndt, to schedule workshop on Police Cost Recovery, in lieu of Open Space fees changes for May 13, 2026 at 5 p.m. at the township building. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Time stamp 7:26 Mike Velardi made a motion, seconded by Ellen Gndt, to approve Public Works Uniform Contract. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Time stamp 7:50 Zoning Hearing – Gateway Equities LLC.

Commissioner Comments

Ellen Gndt – President

- Time stamp 7:59 - Discussion on bidding out the police wing vs. using public works for same.
- Time stamp 8:04 – Jon Tresslar regarding blast for sewer near Ruby Lane

Matt Long – Vice-Chairman

- Time stamp 8:12 – Chickens discussion

Commissioner Comments

Natasha Leap – Commissioner

Mike Velardi – Commissioner

- Time stamp 8:18 Addressing rumors

Charles Keppler – Commissioner

- Time stamp 8:21 AED at TLC update
- Time stamp 8: 22 Writing Checks vs paying by Credit Card.
- Time stamp 8:27 Matt long made a statement regarding Amusement Tax conversation.

Reports

Zoning Report-SFM Consulting –

Police – James Wagner, Chief

Manager Report – Jerrod Belvin - Time stamp 8:28

- MVP-Parking Update -
- Johnson Control Update
- Rt611/715 Construction Update
- Police Wing Cost Breakdown Update
- Core 5-Blasting Update

Public Works – Patrick Briegel - Time stamp 8:33

- 537 Update
- Sewer Construction Update

Township Events Report -

Township Engineer Report- Jon Tresslar - Time stamp 8:38

Township Solicitor Report-Leo V. DeVito. Time stamp 8:39

- Discussion regarding changes to the social media policy.

Adjournment –Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Matt Long, to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. for the board to go into executive session and not return. All in favor. Motion carried.