

**Pocono Township Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
June 1, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Pocono Township Board of Commissioners was held on June 1, 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; James Wagner, Chief of Police; Erica Tomas-Administrative Assistant, Paul Morgan, SFM Consulting.

**Announcements** – Time Stamp: 6:01

- An Executive Session was held prior to this meeting for personnel matters.
- Presidents Opening remarks regarding meeting protocol and decorum.
- Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Natasha Leap, to approve the agenda. Roll Call: Ellen Gndt, aye; Natasha Leap, aye; Mike Velardi, aye; Matt Long, aye; Charles Keppler, nay. Motion carried.

**Public Comment**

Time stamp: 6:05 – Cheryl Parks – Quality of life  
Time stamp: 6:08 – John Burns – MCTI rezoning  
Time stamp: 6:13 – Karen Doliden – Sewer line location  
Time stamp: 6:16 – Lonnie Burns – MCTI impact  
Time stamp: 6:19 – Lue Ginsburg – Stop signs & speeding  
Time stamp: 6:20 – Jim Pellegrini – Electronic speed sign location  
Time stamp: 6:21 – Patrice Lannucci – Facebook Settings and Decorum  
Time stamp: 6:24 – Josh Knapp – Core5 not good neighbors  
Time stamp: 6:27 – Joyce Parks (non-resident) Core5 comments

**Resolutions**

- Time stamp: 6:29 - Ellen Gndt made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-21 outlining the Pocono Township Social Media Policy. No second, motion died.
- Time stamp: 6:34 – Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Matt Long, to postpone Resolution 2026-22 Fee Schedule for Public Assemblies and Special Events. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

- Time stamp: 6:31 - Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Natasha Leap, to approve the minutes of the May 4th meeting. All in favor. Motion carried. Discussion took place at this time regarding changes to the May 18<sup>th</sup>'s minutes by Charles Keppler and Patrice Lannucci.
- Time stamp: 6:33 - Solicitors' findings on deed restrictions regarding MCTI.
- Time stamp: 6:34 – Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Matt Long, to Postpone the MCTI rezoning map and authorization of solicitor to advertise public hearing until the next BOC meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda**

- Time stamp: 6:35 - Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Mike Velardi, to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2026 regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners with the changes mentioned during the motion for the minutes of the 4th. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Time stamp: 6:36 - Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Natasha Leap, to approve the Financial transactions through June 1, 2026 as presented, including ratification of expenditures in the amount of \$361,012.02 for the following accounts: General Fund, Sewer Operations, Gross Payroll, Capital Reserve, Construction Fund. Discussion: Charles Keppler questioned why Taylor

Munoz's name still is appearing on an invoice in addition to a charge for a conversion bolt. All in favor. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Time stamp: 6:38 - Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Mike Velardi, to update the hourly rate increase to \$91.59 for police services at MCTI. All in favor. Motion carried. Discussion: lengthy discussion was had by the board on the hourly rate. J. Pellegrini questioned the process. Frank Reilly voiced his opinion. Patrice Lannucci questioned the contract.
- Time stamp: 6:49 - Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Natasha Leap to renew the MCTI contract at the same terms. Discussion: Frank Reilly – review contract first. Roll call: Ellen Gndt, aye; Natasha Leap, aye; Mike Velardi, aye; Matt Long, aye; Charles Keppler, nay. Motion carried.
- Time stamp: 6:50 - Mike Velardi made a motion, seconded by Ellen Gndt, to waive pavilion #3 rental fees for Pocono Mountain East Boys' Volleyball. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Time stamp: 6:51 – Natasha Leap made a motion, seconded by Matt Long, to waive pavilion #2 rental fees for Monroe County Special Olympics (Nonprofit). All in favor. Motion carried.
- Time stamp: 6:51:21 – Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Natasha Leap, to discuss proposed ordinance(s) concerning the use of public property for assemblies and organized gatherings, and to authorize solicitor review prior to advertisement. ***Motion has been withdrawn after discussion.***
- Time stamp: 6:55 - Charles Keppler made a motion, with no second, to refer draft of Public Gathering and Protest Ordinance to the township Solicitor for review and possible advertisement for Public Hearing for adoption Charles Keppler made a motion, seconded by Ellen Gndt for discussion, to postpone to a special meeting with a date to be determined to work through the differences between the two drafts. Lengthy discussion took place among the board. The board became confused as to what motion was on the table. Roll call: Ellen Gndt, nay; Natasha Leap, nay; Mike Velardi, nay; Matt Long, nay; Charles Keppler, aye. Motion failed.
- Time stamp: 7:01 - Charles Keppler made a motion, seconded by Matt Long for discussion, to refer draft of Public Gathering and Protest Ordinance to the township Solicitor for review and possible advertisement for Public Hearing for adoption. Lengthy discussion took place. Roll call: Ellen Gndt, nay; Natasha Leap, nay; Mike Velardi, nay; Matt Long, aye; Charles Keppler, aye. Motion failed.
- Time stamp: 7:38 - Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Natasha Leap, to authorize township solicitor to review both ordinances, draft and advertise the hearing for the proposed changes to the Park Ordinance. Discussion: Time stamp: 7:39 Frank Reilly – read a statement. Time stamp: 7:40 Jim Pellegrini – commented on the oversight of the ordinance draft. Time stamp: 7:42 Lew Ginsburg – stated his view. Time stamp: 7:42:42 Josh Knapp – First Amendment stats. Roll call: Ellen Gndt, aye; Natasha Leap, aye; Mike Velardi, aye; Matt Long aye; Charles Keppler, nay. Motion carried.
- Motion to approve the Release, waiver of Liability, and Assumption of Risk Agreement for use of Township Property and Special Events. ***(Discussion and Possible Action Item)***
- Time stamp: 7:46 - Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Mike Velardi, to reject all Materials Bids received. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Time stamp: 7:48 - Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Mike Velardi, to waive the zoning permit fees for the Pocono Heritage Land Trust Trail Head Sign. All in favor. Motion carried.

### **Personnel**

#### **Commissioner Comments**

**Ellen Gndt – President** - Time stamp: 7:48

- EAC meeting will be held June 18<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 pm.
- Park Board meeting will be held June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1 pm.

**Matt Long – Vice-Chairman**

#### **Commissioner Comments**

**Natasha Leap – Commissioner**

**Mike Velardi** – Commissioner Time stamp: 7:49:34

- Data Center information

**Charles Keppler** – Commissioner Time stamp: 7:51

- PMCCCI
- Data Center Overlay Repeal

### **Reports**

**Police – James Wagner, Chief**

**Public Works & Manager Report** – Time stamp: 7:55

- Township space for HOA meeting requests.
- TLC Park Bridge Construction
- Dog park incident addressed by the police.
- Touch a Truck event this weekend at the old municipal building with the fire company selling food.
- Change out of Valve Station One this week.

**Zoning Report-SFM Consulting** – Time stamp: 7:57:47 – Paul Morgan went over the status of the zoning department along with upcoming zoning hearings.

Time stamp: 8:05 – Charles Keppler had follow-up questions for Pat Briegel regarding the following:

- AED program
- Pocono Land Trust trail from Old Mill to TLC Park

**Township Engineer Report- Jon Tresslar** – Time stamp: 8:08

- Swiftwater Solar – DEP hearing regarding dirty water discharges.
- Inspection work on current projects under construction
- TLC Park Bridge replacement
- PennBid – future bid options

**Township Solicitor Report-Leo V. DeVito.** – Time stamp: 8:11:37

- Draft of the proposed amendment for the data center ordinance has been circulated.
- Sewer Rules and Regulations
- Time stamp 8:14:41 Charles Keppler questioned the data center overlay draft

**Adjournment** –Ellen Gnanadt made a motion, seconded by Matt Long, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.  
All in favor. Motion carried.