

**Pocono Township Board of Commissioners
Special Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Pocono Township Board of Commissioners was held on June 14, 2026 and was opened by Chair Ellen Gndt at 5:59 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Ellen Gndt, present; Natasha Leap, 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

The Board will have an executive session directly following this meeting regarding potential litigation of amusement tax.

Public Comment

6:01 - Cheryl Parks – GPS of property line being done. Stone Path usage. Support for Kyle Hazelton

6:04 – Jim Pellegrini – Commented on Charles Keppler FB post.

6:06 – Tim Harrison – Bridge on Stadden Rd., Budget consideration, Support for Jim Pellegrini

Presentations

Interviews for BOC Seat –

Time stamp: 6:09 - Nicholas Chapogas

Time stamp: 6:18 - Blaine Fardella

Time stamp: 6:33 - Thomas Gallagher

Time stamp: 6:46 - Jaison Hall

Time stamp: 6:55 - Kyle Hazelton

Time stamp: 7:10 - Dan McCreary

Time stamp: 7:25 - James Pellegrini

Time stamp: 7:35 - Frank Riehle

Time stamp: 7:45 - Timothy Wah

7:55 – Charles Keppler nominated Timothy Wah

7:55 – Natasha Leap nominated Thomas Gallagher

7:56 – Ellen Gndt nominated Dan McCreary

7:58 – Discussion was had by the board and solicitor on how they would handle the nominations and vote process.

8:00 - Roll call vote –

Timothy Wah – Natasha Leap, nay; Ellen Gndt, nay; Matt Long, aye; Charles Keppler, aye.

Dan McCreary – Natasha Leap, nay; Ellen Gndt, aye; Matt Long, aye; Charles Keppler, nay

Thomas Gallagher – Natasha Leap, aye; Ellen Gndt, nay; Matt Long, aye; Charles Keppler, nay

8:05 – Discussion was opened among the board. Nominations were opened back up.

8:10 – Charles Keppler nominated James Pellegrini.

8:10 – Natasha Leap nominated Blaine Fardella

8:11 – Roll call vote:

Jim Pellegrini – Natasha Leap, nay; Ellen Gndt, nay; Matt Long, nay; Charles Keppler, aye

Blaine Fardella – Natasha Leap, aye; Ellen Gndt, nay; Matt Long, nay; Charles Keppler, nay

8:12 – Ellen Gndt recommended the board re-convene at the 8/20 meeting with the vacancy board to see where the nominations go. Discussion took place among the board and solicitor.

8:20 – Blaine Fardella spoke up regarding the quality of the candidate and not how many meetings they have attended.

8:22 – Charles Keppler made a motion, seconded by Matt Long, to appoint Dan McCreary, to fill the vacant seat on the Pocono Township Board of Commissioners through 12/31/27 Roll call – Charles Keppler, aye; Ellen Gndt, aye; Matt Long, aye; Natasha Leap, nay. Motion carried.

8:23 – Leo DeVito made a point of order regarding the appointment of Dan McCreary and explained the process for a new resolution in the matter.

Resolutions

8:24 – Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Matt Long, to approve Resolution 2026-25 - Daniel McCreary is hereby appointed as successor commissioner to hold the office for the unexpired term of Michael Velardi. All in favor. Motion carried.

8:25 – Solicitor Leo DeVito went over the administrative tasks the new commissioner will need to address prior to being sworn in.

NEW BUSINESS

8:27 - Peter Gonze – Paradise Township Act 537 re-zoning. Discussion took place with the board. Pat Briegel added information regarding the EDU's needed and stated based on the analysis the sewer system has the capacity to handle this increase. Further discussion took place.

8:47 - Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Matt Long, to allow conversation to further evaluate the act 537 expansion from Pocono into Paradise Township. Discussion took place by the public. All in favor. Motion carried.

8:49 - A lengthy discussion took place between the board and Paradise Twp Rep. Peter Gonza on the Sylvan Cascade Road paving regarding a discrepancy between Paradise and Pocono Township in order to come to a resolution.

9:06 - Matt Long made a motion, seconded by Ellen Gndt, to approve an increase in pay of \$1/hr. for the advancement of Kevin Kresge to Park Lead. All in favor. Motion carried.

9:06 – Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Charles Keppler, to install natural stone to new walking bridge and cap with 2" blue stone, \$18,500.00. Lengthy discussion took place among the board regarding Co-Stars and the bid. The Motion was withdrawn. Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Natasha Leap, to have Pat Briegel look into the Co-Stars' number, and/or get an additional quote to include a deadline date and penalty clause to read, \$100/day penalty if vendor goes over 30 days. Roll call: Ellen Gndt, aye; Natasha Leap, aye; Matt Long, aye; Charles Keppler, nay. Motion carried.

Personnel

Commissioner Comments

Ellen Gndt – President

Matt Long – Vice-Chairman

Commissioner Comments

Natasha Leap – Commissioner

Mike Velardi – Commissioner

Charles Keppler – Commissioner – Reminded everyone of the Fireman's Carnival.

Reports

Zoning Report-SFM Consulting –

Police – James Wagner, Chief

Fire Report – Corey Sayer

Manager Report –

Public Works – Patrick Briegel

Township Engineer Report- Jon Tresslar

Township Solicitor Report-Leo V. DeVito. – Executive session immediately following this meeting.

Adjournment –Ellen Gndt made a motion, seconded by Matt Long, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. and go directly into Executive session. All in favor. Motion carried.