

**Pocono Township Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 5, 2022 | 6:39 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Pocono Township Board of Commissioners was held on July 5, 2022 and was opened by President Rich Wielebinski at 6:39 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Jerrod Belvin, present; Ellen Gnadtt, present; Jerry Lastowski, present; Keith Meeker, present; and Rich Wielebinski, present via Zoom.

In Attendance: Leo DeVito, Township Solicitor, Broughal & DeVito; Jon Tresslar, Township Engineer, LVL Engineering; Taylor Muñoz, Township Manager; Shawn Goucher, Acting Chief of Police; and Jennifer Gambino, Administrative Assistant.

Public Comment - None

Announcements

- The Board of Commissioners held an executive session on Monday, June 27 at 4:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the Public Works Collective Bargaining Agreement and accompanying contract negotiations
- “Yoga in the Park” begins with Mommy & Me classes at Mountain View Park on Friday, July 8 at 10:00 a.m. and continue every other Friday morning. Beginners Adult Yoga Classes begin Thursday, July 14 at 6:30 PM at the Park and will continue every other Thursday. The cost is \$10 per person (free for children under 12) and residents can contact the Township at 570-629-1922 to reserve their spot.

Hearings – None

Presentations

- Patrol Officer Austin Anglemyer was recognized for his promotion to the rank of Corporal.

Resolutions – None

Consent Agenda

- Motion to approve a consent agenda of the following items:
 - Old business consisting of the minutes of the June 20, 2022 regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners.
 - Financial transactions through June 28, 2022 including:
 - Ratification of vouchers payable in the amount of \$1,236.56 and sewer operating expenditures in the amount of \$505.39.
 - Ratification of gross payroll for pay periods ending June 12 and June 26, 2022 in the amount of \$233,038.62.
 - Vouchers payable in the amount of \$47,584.37.
 - Sewer operating fund expenditures in the amount of \$10,043.83.
 - Sewer construction fund expenditures in the amount of \$26,247.65.
 - Capital reserve fund expenditures in the amount of \$4,333.96.
 - Fire Tax disbursement of \$2,058.78.
 - Transfer of \$1,183.33 from the ARPA Fund to the General Fund for the purpose of Traisr implementation costs.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to approve the consent agenda. E. Gnadtt requested an amendment to the minutes for security camera installation to read “bid” rather than “quote.” All in favor. Motion carried as amended.

NEW BUSINESS - None

Report of the President

Richard Wielebinski

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to appoint Attorney Robert Kidwell of Newman Williams as Pocono Township Zoning Hearing Board conflict counsel. E. Gndt asked for clarification as to the rate. Motion to approve subject to T. Muñoz reporting back to BOC the rate during next public meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Discussion and possible action regarding the advertising of an amendment to the Township's Stormwater Management Ordinance, per the PA DEP's 2022 model ordinance – J. Tresslar stated these changes are to come into compliance with DEP MS4 requirements. Recommended we adopt the changes to the DEP ordinance, but Township has two months before action must be taken for MS4 compliance. R. Wielebinski emphasized that we will take a pause and incorporate any additional changes that may be needed.
- Discussion is ongoing regarding possible youth softball and baseball training facility at TLC Park and clarification regarding whether the facility must be located in Mount Pocono, per the grant application submitted by Pocono Pride

Commissioner Comments

Jerrod Belvin – Vice President

- Emergency Management Update

Stated there have been some further complaints regarding timing of the Warner Road/SR 715 light. Have requested that PennDOT re-paint the stop bars at the intersection, which is causing cars to not trigger the camera at the light.

Received call from control center on Saturday regarding people turning around on road near the Park Lane culvert replacement project. This is the third time someone has stolen all the Township's road signs on a project site within two years.

Asked how many fireworks complaints have been received this year. S. Goucher stated there were 11 complaints made over July 4th weekend. J. Belvin stated someone was setting off fireworks at TLC Park. Individuals will be cited for fireworks and trespassing.

- Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a revised quote for a L6Q Quick Deploy LPR Camera at TLC Park. **(Action Item)**

Two meetings ago a motion was passed for a RECOR LPR camera at TLC Park. Since that meeting, Motorola has a new camera called the L6Q, which is downscaled for the Park's need. The software license and purchase price are both cheaper. Will also integrate with the Police LPR system.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to rescind the original motion for purchase of a RECOR camera and made a motion to purchase an L6Q camera for a total of \$6,815.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by E. Gndt, to open the agenda for purpose of bidding fence replacements at Mountain View Park. All in favor. Motion carried.

At the last meeting discussion was held regarding fences needing replacement at the Park. After a visit to the park, it was determined the following fences were most in need of replacement: the Little League field backstop, fence along Sullivan Trail, and the softball field backstop.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to put the replacement of three Mountain View Park fences out for public bid. E. Gndt asked for clarification regarding the fences. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ellen Gndt – Commissioner

E. Gndt made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to amend the agenda for discussion and possible action regarding the restoration of the spillway stone wingwalls at TLC Park. All in favor. Motion carried.

E. Gndt made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to bid out restoration of the stone wingwalls at TLC Park. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding purchase of ballistic shields. S. Goucher stated Sanofi may cover the cost of two ballistic shields and that the Township should receive confirmation before the next Board meeting.

Jerry Lastowski – Commissioner

- Update – Paving of Burton Road following UGI project work. Stated UGI has been unresponsive, and they did not take action right after school let out like they indicated they would.

Keith Meeker – Commissioner. No update.

Reports

Zoning

Stated a civil complaint hearing is upcoming on Thursday for 332 Butz Lane, the Taveras case, that has been ongoing for two years now. Expect at least one neighbor to be present. Seeking maximum judgment of \$12,000.

Three ZHB hearings are pending:

Camelback appeal – July 19, 2022

Sunset Hill Shooting Range (Heinzee) – Tentative for August 2, 2022

STR on Laurel Lake Road in an R1 zone – date will be determined

Seeking injunction and liens filed against 2168 White Oak Drive property. Discussion regarding three police reports received for Camelback Road short term rental. Ordinance states that two repeated or uncured violations can result in revocation of license for a year.

Police Report

Hiring process is ongoing. 9 applicants took the written test, and 8 applicants passed. Interviews will commence on July 11. New Glockes are on their way. Range officers are taking red dot training. Update regarding new county RMS system. Gave update regarding progress of 12-hour shifts. Year to date, there have been 54 total open shift hours compared to 319.5 total open shift hours in 2021. Extended call hours are also down.

Ambulance Report – None

Public Works Report

- Current Public Works projects include the Deer Mountain drainage work and the Park Lane Culvert replacement project.
- Mountain View Park updates – No update.

- Update – Park Lane Culvert Replacement – Dirt and Gravel Grant. Project is in progress.

T. Munoz stated repairs will be made to Wilke Road. E. Gndt asked if drainage is causing concern.

Administration – Manager’s Report

- Evaluation ongoing regarding electric supplier rates.
- Public hearing for Zoning Ordinance changes scheduled for July 18.
- 2022 Township Events
 - Community Day – Saturday, September 10, 2022
 - Trunk-or-Treat – TBD
 - Christmas Tree Lighting – TBD

Township Engineer Report

- Public bid currently underway for the TLC Park Dog Park. Bids are due by July 18.
- Engineering study for identified stormwater projects – Laurel Lake Road and Oakwood Acres. Completing remaining assessment.
- Parking area design for Old Learn Farm open space parcel adjacent to PPL easement. Further design of parking area underway per PPL ROW requirements.
- TASA SR 611 sidewalk project. Meeting at end of the month with PennDOT.
- Update – Righthand turn lanes from Rt. 611 onto Rimrock Road and Bartonsville Avenue. On hold until funding issues for remaining engineering are resolved.

R. Wielebinski asked for an update regarding sidewalk installation for St. Luke’s Ambulance, Wendy’s and Turkey Hill.

Township Solicitor Report

- Zoning Hearing Board updates.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by E. Gndt, to have Township Solicitor attend the CMBK Resort Holdings, LLC hearing on July 19, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Update – Johnson Appeal. No update.
- Update – Kelly Trust Property. All documents submitted to the Court and waiting on hearing date.
- Update – PJJWA transfer agreement. Forwarded copy of transfer agreement to the Board. Two articles important to the Township – specifically representations and covenants. Discussed remaining funds in PJJWA account and possibility to keep Authority in place for two years in case of any claims. PJJWA would not own anything and would be dissolved after two years. E. Gndt asked questions regarding keeping the Authority in existence; specific provisions in the agreement and whether a pension is in existence; outstanding balance in the PJJWA bank account; and approval of the final agreement.

Public Comment

For any individuals wishing to make public comment tonight, including those dialed in by phone, please state:

- 1) *The spelling of your name;*
- 2) *Identify whether you are a taxpayer of Pocono Township; and*
- 3) *Your street address.*

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].

Adjournment

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by E. Gndt, to adjourn into executive session for the purpose of discussing the public works contract. All in favor. Motion carried.