

**Pocono Township Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 3, 2023 | 6:00 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Pocono Township Board of Commissioners was held on July 3, 2023 and was opened by Vice President Jerrod Belvin at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

In Attendance: Taylor Munoz, Township Manager; Leo DeVito, Township Solicitor; Shawn Goucher, Acting Chief of Police; and Jennifer Gambino, Administrative Assistant.

Public Comment

Wayne Mazur (Township Resident) – Detailed an issue pertaining to 386 Camelback Road and claims of shooting activity causing concerns with Cobble Creek residents.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to suspend the agenda for consideration of time-sensitive action items. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Motion to approve a consent agenda of the following items:
 - Old business consisting of the minutes of the June 19, 2023 meeting of the Board of Commissioners.
 - Financial transactions through June 29, 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.

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

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by K. Meeker, to approve a Retention and Voluntary Retirement Agreement and General Release for Officer Timothy Mignosi. All in favor. Motion carried.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to approve the lease-purchase of a new CAT backhoe for the Pocono Township Road Crew in the COSTARS amount of \$151,400.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to authorize bidding for Pocono Township's Green Light Go Grant No. 2017-45101-1371, in conjunction with Smithfield, Middle Smithfield and Stroud Townships. All in favor. Motion carried.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by K. Meeker, to open a public hearing for consideration of Ordinance 2023-06 amending Chapter 439 Water, Article II designating a new water service area; requiring and providing for making connections to available public water supply lines in the Township of Pocono according to the rules of the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority, and repealing all ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith. All in favor. Motion carried.

L. DeVito noted this ordinance was advertised as required. This is an amendment to the already existing mandatory connection ordinance of Pocono Township. The amendment reflects the existing PJJWA service area as now being under BCRA ownership and adds the amended Act 537 sewer service areas to the Township's public water service area. Jackson Township enacted a similar ordinance two weeks ago for the area once known as the PJJWA service area. This is to coordinate mandatory connection area to be same for water as it is for sewer.

Elizabeth Casciano (Township resident) – Expressed concerns about mandatory water connections. Asked that the ordinance be tabled.

Lisa Buccholz (Jackson Resident) – Asked that the ordinance be tabled. Wants to compare ordinances.

L. DeVito clarified elements of the mandatory connection ordinance.

Elena Braverman (Township Resident) – Expressed concerns about the concept of mandatory connections.

Vitale Braverman (Township Resident) – Expressed concerns about commercial development along Stadden Road.

L. DeVito clarified that the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority is a public municipal authority, not a “private company.”

J Belvin made a motion, seconded by K. Meeker, to close the public hearing. All in favor. Motion carried.

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by K. Meeker, to approve Ordinance 2023-06 amending Chapter 439 Water, Article II designating a new water service area; requiring and providing for making connections to available public water supply lines in the Township of Pocono according to the rules of the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority, and repealing all ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith. All in favor. Motion carried.

Adjournment

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

DRAFT