

**Newlin Township  
Board of Supervisors  
Meeting Minutes**

**February 11, 2019**

**Call to Order:** The monthly Board of Supervisors meeting on Monday, February 11, 2019, convened at 8:00 p.m. at the Lenfest Center, Cannery Road, Coatesville, PA. Present were Chair, Janie Baird, Bill Kelsall and Secretary, Gail Abel. Bob Pearson was unable to attend.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Announcement Period:** Janie Baird announced that the Board had an executive session on January 23, 2019, to discuss land. She also announced that if anyone has a question about meeting changes due to inclement weather, updates are on the website on the News & Events tab.

**Comment Period:** Barb Forney complimented the road crew during the recent inclement weather.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the Board of Supervisors meeting, held on Monday, January 14, 2019, were read and reviewed. Janie Baird made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Bill Kelsall and the vote was unanimous

**Financial Report:** Read by Gail Abel. Bill Kelsall made a motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Janie Baird and the vote was unanimous.

**Emergency Services:**

West Bradford Fire Company: January report was received, 21 total calls, 0 in Newlin.

Modena Fire Company: January report was not received.

Good Fellowship Ambulance: January report was received showing 4 calls in Newlin.

Po Mar Lin, Modena Fire Co & Longwood Ambulance reports are received by the Regional Fire Committee.

**Right to Know Requests:** The Township has had two right to know requests since the last meeting.

**Open Space Committee Recommendation Presented by Janet Sidewater:**

Janet Sidewater, Chairperson for the Newlin Township Open Space Committee, made a recommendation for the Board of Supervisors to approve the expenditure of open space tax funds for a Farm Preservation Easement involving Tax Parcel #s:

49-1-18.2	14.77 acres
49-1-18.2A	38.05 acres
49-1-18.2C	97.23 acres

Total 150.05 acres.

For discussion purposes, these parcel numbers will be referred to as “The Farm.” Both the Chester County Farmland Preservation and The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County (TLC) have been directly involved in obtaining this easement. At the November 5, 2018 meeting, the committee received a formal request from TLC for the Newlin Township Open Space Fund to contribute \$13,000.00 to be applied toward the closing costs associated with obtaining this easement. The committee unanimously voted that the request be presented to the Board of Supervisors with the recommendation that the release of funds be approved. To date, both Federal & County funding are in place. This is an important property and it is an opportunity for the Township to become a partner and make a small yet significant contribution towards land preservation. Janet commented that both Jeff Shillington from the County Open Space Department, along with Abbie Kessler from TLC were significant in the process of this application.

Pamela Reischauer inquired what property the application represents? Janet Sidewater commented that out of respect for the owner’s privacy the committee did not want their names released at this time.

Bill Kelsall made a motion to approve the contribution of \$13,000 toward the closing costs of the easement as requested by the open space committee, Janie Baird seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

**Arcelor Mittal Annual Downstream Notification:** Correspondence was received from ArcelorMittal in Coatesville for the annual 2019 Downstream Notification. They own and operate storage tanks in the plant adjacent to the West Branch of the Brandywine Creek. In accordance with the Pennsylvania Storage Tank and Spill Prevention Act 32, they are required to notify all downstream water users and municipalities within 20 miles of where materials are stored.

Aboveground Tank Inventory as of December 2018:

Kerosene 275 gallons

Diesel 13,275 gallons

Waste Oil 4,100 gallons

Lube, Motor, Gear & Hydraulic Oil 18,065 gallons

Grease 19,348 gallons

Waste Antifreeze 440 gallons

Acids 3,900 gallons

Underground Tank Inventory:

Unleaded Gasoline 12,000 gallons

**Pa House Bill 2564 Wireless Update:**

House Bill 2564, promoted by Verizon and AT&T, would have stripped municipalities of their zoning authority over wireless facilities in rights-of-way and cut fees to municipalities.

The bill failed to get out of committee in 2018 but may be brought up again in 2019.

Newlin requires cell antennas to be on existing structures in our Township. Newlin’s Planning Commission voted to maintain the current position in our Zoning Ordinance. No further action is required at this time.

**Endorsement of Landscapes3, The County’s Comprehensive Plan:**

Chester County Commissioners have adopted Landscapes3 as the County’s Comprehensive Plan, and it is now the official comprehensive plan for the county. We have been asked to adopt a resolution as an endorsement for Landscapes3.

New comprehensive plans are developed every 10 years. Landscapes3 is an update of Landscapes2 and is available for your review on the internet by logging on to Landscapes3.

Resolution 2019-06 is our endorsement of Landscapes3. Janie Baird ask for motion to approve the Resolution. Bill Kelsall made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-06 endorsing Landscapes3, The County’s Comprehensive Plan. Janie Baird seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

Jim Cornell inquired if there is any downfall if the Township does not endorse the Resolution. Janie Baird commented she did not see any reason Newlin would not support this as the Township supported Landscapes2.

**Proclamation for Pa One Call System to Designate April as “Pa 811 Safe Digging Month”:** Each year we receive correspondence from Pa One Call requesting support for the Proclamation recognizing the month of April as Pa 811 Safe Dig Month. They encourage all homeowners and excavators to dial 8-1-1 at least three business days in advance of an excavation project, including even small projects such as planting a tree, installing a mailbox post, building a deck or swimming pool or replacing a driveway, in order to avoid injury, protect the environment, prevent millions of dollars in damages. Bill Kelsall made a motion to sign the Proclamation to recognize April as Pa 811 Safe Dig Month, Janie Baird seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

**Aqua withdrawal of water in Newlin:**

Last month Janie Baird reported on the notification Newlin received from the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) on December 17, 2018, regarding Aqua’s request to withdraw water from Embreeville Well # 2 bringing the total water withdrawal to 1 million gallons per day from the 2 wells in Cheslen.

Janie has reached out to Dr. Martin Helmke, Professor of Hydrology at West Chester University. Dr Helmke was recommended by several water professionals. Dr. Helmke has offered to use this information for a “real world” case study for his Hydrology class at no cost to Newlin. Dr. Helmke also recommended that Janie contact a consulting firm to also evaluate the information as well as he would not be able to provide a written report or testify, if necessary, since he is an employee of the state. Jim Fritsch recommended Kevin Sech of Hilbeck Engineering and Geosciences. Hilbeck is familiar with Newlin and has worked on issues within Newlin. Mr. Sech reviewed the documents that Janie forwarded to him from the DRBC. After his review of the application and documents, he felt that everything was in order and didn’t see anything out of the ordinary but did recommend that Janie respond to the DRBC to inform them that Newlin was concerned and request that Newlin be notified immediately of any problem with Aqua’s withdrawal and affect on the aquifer or the Brandywine. Mr. Sech did his review at no cost to Newlin. Janie has written to the representative of DRBC that she has been communicating with to express Newlin’s concerns and request immediate notification of any problems regarding the draw from both wells.

Janet Sidewater commented on Janie's loyal commitment to the Embreeville Sewage Treatment plant and her constant effort on behalf of the residents. She inquired if there is anything anyone else can do to help. Janie commented she has done everything that can be done at this time. She received guidance from Jan Bowers at the Chester County Water Resource Authority and Vince Pompo, Esq.

**Beagle Club Road Phase II Update:** Barb Forney provided an update that this is Phase II of Beagle Club Road repairs which is installing the culvert. Bids will be advertised for opening at the March meeting.

**Hill Top View Road Update:** Barb Forney provided an update that a few years ago we received a grant to repair Hill Top View Road and since that time it has slowly started to deteriorate and repairs and maintenance need to be made. There is grant money available. She will be meeting with Bob Pearson later this week to obtain a supply and equipment list along with a cost analysis to be able to write the grant.

Deb Torchiana inquired about Laurel Road. Janie Baird commented the Engineer is working on options and there were no updates available this month. An update for Laurel Road should be available at the March meeting. Deb Torchiana also inquired what happens when the open space funds are depleted due to requests. Janie Baird explained that before the tax was enacted, the Township turned down a few requests. She said that if there is no money, requests would need to be denied. The Township already has about 60% of the properties conserved.

Bob Shippee re-enforced the money is not there to purchase land it is only to assist landowners with application fees.

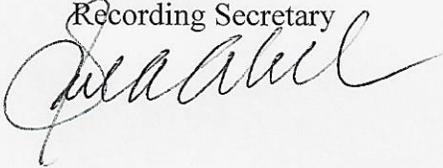
**Adjournment:** With no further business, Bill Kelsall made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Janie Baird and the vote was unanimous.

Time: 8:35pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Abel

Recording Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'G. Abel', written in black ink over the typed name 'Gail Abel'.