

**Newlin Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes**

April 10, 2017

Call to Order: The monthly Board of Supervisors' meeting of Monday, April 10, 2017, convened at 8:00 p.m. at the Lenfest Center, Cannery Road, Coatesville, PA. Present were Chair, Janie Baird, Bill Kelsall, Bob Pearson, and Secretary, Gail Abel.

Announcement Period: Janie Baird announced that a special advertised hearing was held on Monday, March 20th for consideration of the Agricultural Preservation Zoning Ordinance. The Board adopted the change in Newlin's zoning to include the Agricultural Preservation Zone and the zoning change was to take effect 5 days after the March 20th passage.

Comment Period: No public comments.

Minutes: The minutes of the Board of Supervisors' meeting, held on Monday, March 13, 2017 were read and reviewed. Bob Pearson made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Bill Kelsall and the vote was unanimous.

The minutes of the Board of Supervisors special hearing, held of Monday, March 20, 2017 were read and reviewed. Bob Pearson made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Bill Kelsall and the vote was unanimous.

Financial Report: Read by Gail Abel. Bob Pearson made a motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Bill Kelsall.

Emergency Services:

West Bradford Fire Company: March report was received, 24 total calls, zero in Newlin,

Modena Fire Company: March report was received, 99 total calls, 1 in Newlin.

Po Mar Lin Fire Company: report was not received.

Good Fellowship Ambulance: March report was received showing 2 calls in Newlin.

Longwood Ambulance: report was not received

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

Louise Wennberg, Chester County GIS/911 Coordinator: Louise Wennberg, Research Analyst at the County presented to the Board an error in addressing for 1543 Embreeville Road, owners of record, Gordon T. Hughes, Jr. and Barbara James Hughes. The Hughes have been using 1488 Embreeville Road and that is not sequentially correct for the road in which they reside. There is also a barn and a resident in the apartment in the barn on the same property. The biggest issue is public safety. The 1488 Embreeville Road address would locate them in East Marlborough. Ms. Wennberg said the board should take this under advisement but she suggests that the township change the address to 1543 Embreeville Road for the main house and 1545 Embreeville Road for the Barn. A notice was sent to Mr. & Mrs. Hughes notifying them of the discussion but they were unable to be at the public

meeting. Ms. Wennberg did have the opportunity to discuss with them prior to the meeting. Bob Pearson made a motion in order to meet township guidelines and emergency safety situations that the property would be 1543 Embreeville Road for the main house and 1545 for the Barn and apartment, Janie Baird seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution on Redistricting Presented by Pamela Reischauer & Lucy Oblonsky:

Newlin Township resides in Congressional District 7, considered by many to be one of the most gerrymandered districts in the nation. Gerrymandering is when legislators choose their voters by manipulating district boundary lines. District 7 includes portions of five counties and bears a striking resemblance to a moose. There is nothing compact and contiguous, as called for in the constitution, about District 7.

We are seeking an end to gerrymandering in Pennsylvania. To accomplish that objective, we are working with Fair Districts PA, a non-partisan committee of the League of Women Voters, to amend the constitution of PA to require a nonpartisan independent redistricting commission to perform future redistricting in our state, including strict guidelines for public input and transparency and clear standards for the final outcome.

We are asking the Newlin Township Board of Supervisors to pass a resolution supporting having nonpartisan independent commission redistricting reform. The resolution also calls upon all of our elected officials who represent us to do the same.

Gerrymandering robs us of our voice as voters. Politicians in safely gerrymandered districts have little incentive to work together towards compromise.

Chester County and Newlin Township deserve elected representatives who truly hear our voices, understand our local needs, and are motivated to act on our behalf. Newlin Township should be represented with other Chester County voters. We have a lot more in common with East and West Marlborough Township (District 16) than with Springfield, PA.

Pamela and Lucy asked the Board to support this resolution on behalf of voting fairness for Newlin Township residents.

After discussion and comments from those in attendance, Bob Pearson commented that the Board will table a decision and will add to the May agenda for further discussion.

Beagle Club Grant Application: Barb Forney was in attendance and said with her and Bob Pearson having the successful project on Hill Top View repairs, they decided to move onto Beagle Club Road and apply for a Dirt & Gravel Road Grant through the Chester County Conservation District. Janie Baird made a motion to approve the application to apply for the grant through the Conservation District, Bill Kelsall seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Roads - Laurel, Green Valley and Brandywine Creek Road:

Janie Baird spoke with Nolan Ritchie, Executive Director of the Senate Transportation Committee in the Office of Senator John C. Rafferty, Jr. last month regarding the roads in Newlin, specifically Laurel Rd. He made some good comments about possible funding. As far as the MM grants, political pressure must be put on DCED in order to get funding. Letters are not enough.

Janie also met with Rep. Eric Roe on March 28 in his office and then took Rep Roe on a tour of Newlin Township's road situation. He was appalled at the situation on Laurel Rd. They

Janie also met with Rep. Eric Roe on March 28 in his office and then took Rep Roe on a tour of Newlin Township's road situation. He was appalled at the situation on Laurel Rd. They walked the entire length of the destroyed section of the road. They also visited Green Valley Rd. and Brandywine Creek Rd. and crossed Harvey's Bridge. He has promised to help secure the MM grant and will use his newness as a Rep. to an advantage.

On April 4 Janie met with Senator Tom Killion, and Bob Kennedy, PennDot Maintenance Manager for District 6 to discuss the situation with our roads, particularly Laurel Rd. They also discussed PennDot roads Green Valley and Brandywine Creek.

On April 5th Janie took Senator Killion and his assistant on a tour of the road situation in Newlin. Laurel Rd was the first stop and they walked the destroyed section. The Senator was shocked at the damage. He asked questions and his assistant took pictures. The Senator also viewed Green Valley Rd., where repairs had been started, and Brandywine Creek Rd. along the one-way section. They walked that section as well. He has agreed to put pressure on DCED for the MM grant, will help with a possible Low Volume Road grant from the CC Conservation District for Laurel. There isn't much money available with the Conservation District but some help will maybe get things started. Barbara Forney is certified to work with the Conservation District and will put a grant request in along with assistance from Gail.

Where we stand now on Brandywine Creek Rd. is that the plans for a permanent repair are almost complete but the engineer tells me that the money is not available and has no time frame for that to happen.

Green Valley bridge temporary repair has started however it will be weight limited to 16 Tons which is insufficient for fire trucks to cross. The estimated time for completion is the end of April. Janie reached out to the PennDot engineer and requested a steel plate over the old bridge which would allow the fire equipment to cross. Bob has been discussing this with PennDot Maintenance and Senator Killion's office is also pushing the engineer to change his plans.

If our next attempt for a MM grant is denied, we can apply to the PA Infrastructure Bank, part of PennDot, for a loan. There is 0% financing charges for natural disasters; maximum 10 year payback; security can be our Liquid Fuels allocation; no match is required; and no application fee.

Equipment For Sale-Opening of Bids: A Bid Notice was published in the Daily Local News on March 28, 2017 to advertise for sale a 2001 4x4 Red Ford F450 Super Duty and 2002 Chevy Duramax Dump Truck. The Secretary presented 7 total sealed bid envelopes, 4 for the Chevy and 3 for the Ford. Bob Pearson made a motion to award both bids to Steve Snyder as the highest bidder for each truck, Bill Kelsall seconded and the vote was unanimous.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Abel
Recording Secretary

