Newlin Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2025

Call to Order: The Board of Supervisors' monthly meeting convened at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 9, 2025 at the Township Garage located at 1751 Embreeville Road. Present were Supervisors Jim Cornell (Chair), Bill Kelsall (Vice-Chair), Bob Pearson and Secretary/Treasurer Gail Abel.

Announcements: Mr. Cornell announced the Township had received an Application for a Zoning Hearing for Fredric J. Hammerle & Nancy J. Jones, 300 Youngs Road Tax Parcel 49-1-18.2 (this is the old Young/Tupitza farm), seeking Zoning Ordinance relief for a bank barn, accessory sheds, driveway additions and associated improvements within the setbacks and steep slope buffers within and adjacent to the existing barn ruins. He noted that the application would be on the Planning Commission June 25th agenda and that the Zoning Hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 8th at 7:00 p.m.

Comments: No public comments.

Minutes for Approval: Ms. Abel presented the minutes of the May 12, 2025 Board Meeting. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve those minutes was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

Financial Report: Ms. Abel presented the monthly Financial Report: As of May 31, 2025 the Township had $696,195.42 on deposit, including $229,994.78 in general and unrestricted funds. Overall, this represented a net increase of $44,641.97 since April 2025. She noted that she had transferred $10,000 from the General Fund Money Market Account at TD Bank into the General Fund Account at TD Bank in anticipation of June disbursements. She also advised that the Township has received $137,068.05 from the Chester County Conservation District (representing nearly half of the grant money it had awarded for the Laurel Road project), which she had deposited this into the General Fund Money Market Account at TD Bank, since that account currently provides the best rate of return of all of the Township's bank accounts. Mr. Pearson's motion to authorize the Secretary to transfer funds between accounts from time to time as needed was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved. Mr. Pearson's motion to accept the Financial Report was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

Bill Payment Authorization: Ms. Abel presented a list of pending bills, invoices, and other recurring/routine payments totaling $10,513.28 from the General Fund Account and requested payment authorization. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve the requested payments was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

Open Space Committee Members update: Mr. Cornell noted recent Open Space Committee quorum problems and suggested a solution: Reducing the number of Committee members from six to five, by designating one of the current members as an "Alternate". He noted that one

Committee member, Melina McConatha, was currently away on sabbatical. Mr. Pearson's motion to redesignate Melina McConatha as an Alternate member of the Open Space Committee was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

Discussion: Firearm Discharge Ordinance: Mr. Cornell advised that the Township had recently received requests from some residents for enactment of an ordinance prohibiting the discharge of firearms after 8:00 p.m. He noted that the first step in such enactment would be to submit the issue to the Planning Commission. In the ensuing discussion, Mr. Kelsall questioned the availability of enforcement of such an ordinance, noting that the Township's Zoning Officer did not live near the Township and, even if he did, would be unlikely to go out in the middle of the night to ask someone to stop shooting. Mr. Cornell noted that the Township has no police force and that the State Police cannot be expected to enforce local ordinances. Mr. Pearson opined that the offending evening/nighttime firearm discharges were relatively isolated events, and suggested that neighbor-to-neighbor discussions would likely resolve the issue.

Mr. Pearson's motion to take no action on the residents' request was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

RoadMaster Update: Mr. Pearson advised that as noted earlier by Ms. Abel, the Township had received nearly half of the grant money that had been awarded for the Laurel Road project, and that he expected to start the project before the end of June. He noted the likelihood of temporary Laurel Road closures, emphasizing that he would try to minimize disturbance for residents.

He also advised that as AT&T cell tower on Rte. 842 nears completion, he and Township Engineer Jim Fritch would be meeting with project personnel to review an amended landscape plan, which he expected to provide for more sensible plantings of new trees.

Richard Mitchell inquired about the blocked storm drain on Brandywine Creek Road near the intersection with Hilltop View Road. Mr. Pearson explained that that is the State's Road, not the Township's. He advised that the Township had requested repairs or replacement several times, without success. He encouraged Mr. Mitchell to contact Christina Sappey's office.

Adjournment: Upon Mr. Pearson's motion, seconded by Mr. Kelsall, the meeting was adjourned.

Time: 7:43 pm
Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Abel, Secretary