Newlin Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2025

Call to Order: The Board of Supervisors' monthly meeting convened at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, August 11, 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: No announcements.

Comments: Barbara Forney, the Township's Assistant RoadMaster and Library Liaison introduced Collis Townsend, President of the Board of Trustees of the Kennett Library. Mr. Townsend thanked Newlin Township for its continued support, and especially thanked Mr. Pearson for his role in the construction of the new Library building, as well as Loren Pearson for her many years of service "to the Library" as the Township's other Library Liaison.

Minutes for Approval: Ms. Abel presented the minutes of the July 14, 2025 Board Meeting. Mr. Kelsall's motion to approve those minutes was seconded by Mr. Pearson and unanimously approved.

Financial Report: Ms. Abel presented the monthly Financial Report: As of July 31, 2025 the Township had $910,089.37 on deposit, including $480,748.66 in general and unrestricted funds. Overall, this represented a net increase of $25,831.37 since June 30, 2025. 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 $159,820.23 from the General Fund Account and requested payment authorization. Mr. Kelsall's motion to approve the requested payments was seconded by Mr. Pearson and unanimously approved.

Public Hearing to Consider adoption of Ordinance 2025-01 Supervisor Pay Increase: Mr. Cornell convened a public hearing to consider a Supervisor pay increase. He advised that as required by law, the hearing was advertised in July, and that a draft of Ordinance 2025-1 had been made available for public inspection. He recounted that a 2024 Pennsylvania statute now permits townships to increase Supervisors' annual salaries from $1,875 to $3,145, and that Ordinance 2025-01 would do that. He also noted once again that the Supervisors' current salary level was set by the Pennsylvania legislature more than 90 years ago in 1933; and that according to GoogleGemini, $1,875 in 1933 would be worth $46,846 today, so the permitted increase would not exactly be keeping up with inflation. Mr. Kelsall noted that Supervisors would not be eligible for the increase until their next election after passage of the Ordinance. Mr. Pearson observed that those who wrote the Constitution did not take compensation. He also pointed out that he had never taken compensation in his 40 years of office. Mr. Kelsall's motion to adopt Ordinance No 2025-01 was seconded by Mr. Cornell and approved by majority vote (Mr. Pearson voting "Nay").

Upon Mr. Kelsall's motion, seconded by Mr. Pearson, the public hearing was adjourned.

Fee Schedule Resolution 2025-04: Mr. Cornell noted that the Township's fee schedule had not been updated since 2019 and had not kept up with the year-to-year increases in the professional' and consultants' charges. He confirmed that the changes included in Resolution 2025-4 reflected discussions with the Township's Zoning Officer and Engineer, and had been reviewed by the Township Solicitor. Mr. Pearson's motion to adopt Fee Schedule Resolution 2025-04 was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

Virginia Wallace Kelsall Property 1220 Kelsall Road Lot Line Change: Mr. Cornell reviewed a plan, captioned "Minor Subdivision Plan (lot add on plan) for Virginia Wallace Kelsall, 1220 Kelsall Road, Coatesville, PA (Tax Parcel Numbers: 49-5-9.1, 49-5-9.1B, and 49-5-9.3), last revised on July 15, 2025" (the "Plan"), providing for lot line changes for three existing parcels, totaling 54.70 acres. He added that the Plan was also and requesting a waiver of the monuments placement requirements of Section 185-74.B. of the Township's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance "SALDO"). He noted that (i) the parcels are subject to an Agricultural Preservation easement, (ii) both the Chester County Agricultural Preservation Board and the Chester County Planning Commission had approved the Plan, (iii) all of the Township Engineer's comments had been resolved to his satisfaction, and the Township Engineer had no objection to the monuments waiver and (iv) the Planning Commission had recommended that Supervisors approve the Plan and grant the waiver.

Mr. Pearson's motion to approve the Plan, final minor subdivision plan (lot add on plan) and grant the requested waiver request from SALDO Section 185-74.B, was seconded by Mr. Cornell and approved by majority vote (Mr. Kelsall abstaining due to his ownership interest).

RoadMaster Update: Mr. Pearson recounted a recent productive phone conversation with an Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") consultant about EPA's proposed public water line to resolve the Strasburg Landfill PFAS problem, and that they will be scheduling field inspections in the near future. He advised that road bank mowing is continuing and that he expected to tap roughly $45,000 soon from the State Liquid Fuels Fund in order to tar and chip a portion of Cannery Road. He confirmed that signs will be put up before work is done. He explained that the Township follows a rotation schedule to re-tar/re-chip roads every eight years. He responded to questions from Erin Finnerty and Amy Swift about the Laurel Road project. Mark Kelly inquired whether a construction design document for the Laurel Road project could be made available to interested residents. Ms. Forney advised that she would forward the document to Mr. Kelly. She also commended the road crew for their efforts in the extreme heat and for keeping temporary road closure wait times to a minimum.

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

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