Newlin Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2026

Call to Order: The Board of Supervisors' monthly meeting convened at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, January 12, 2026 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 that last month PA Senator Carolyn Comitta's office had notified the Township that it had been approved for a Local Share Account ("LSA") grant that had been applied for way back in 2024: $191,490 for a new tractor and boom mower. He advised that the Supervisors had authorized purchase orders for the equipment at last week's Re-Organizational meeting. He noted that LSA grants are awarded by the Commonwealth Funding Authority, using Pennsylvania's gaming revenues.

He next gave a "shoutout" to Barbara Forney, the Township's Assistant RoadMaster and "grant-writer-extraordinaire", announcing that in 2025, state and county grant awards to Newlin Township had totaled just over $559,000 - more than twice the amount of the Township's total 2025 property tax revenues. He noted that when he had tried to praise Ms. Forney for the LSA grant at last week's Re-Organizational, she had insisted – with her typical modesty – that the credit for the LSA grant belonged to Gail Abel and Rob Mastripollito. Accordingly, Mr. Cornell officially congratulated Ms. Abel and Mr. Mastripollito.

Comments: Kevin Moore asked to discuss the Township Zoning Officer's zoning permit denial letter for his property at 1022 Wheatland Drive due to restrictions in the subdivision plan that had created that lot, including a prohibition against any residence other residential use accessory to the existing dwelling at 1020 Wheatland Drive (also owned by Mr. Moore). He asked whether the Supervisors would consider waiving those restrictions. After discussion, Mr. Cornell undertook to discuss the issue with the Township Solicitor.

Minutes for Approval: Ms. Abel presented the minutes of the December 8, 2025 Board Meeting. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve those minutes was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

Ms. Abel next presented the minutes of the January 5, 2026 Re-Organizational meeting. Mr. Cornell advised that that meeting had not produced many changes from 2025: The Supervisors had reappointed nearly everyone whose terms had expired except for those who joined through the election process last year, including the election of Dave Gordon as a Township Auditor and Elizabeth Huxster as the Township's Tax Collector. 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 December 31, 2025 the Township had $783,413.88 on deposit, including $424,615.91 in general and unrestricted funds. Overall, this represented a net increase of $54,603.39 since November 30, 2025. Mr.

Pearson's motion to accept the Financial Report was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

Ms. Abel noted that the Supervisors had approved the investment of some of the Township's funds in the Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust's ("PLGIT's ") "PLGIT Prime" investment option at the January Re-Organizational meeting. She recommended that for the State Liquid Fuels Fund account, the Township should instead select the "PLGIT Class" investment option, noting that this option includes a check-writing feature that would allow her to disburse Liquid Fuels funds without commingling them with funds from other accounts. She advised that this would avoid problems with the Commonwealth's annual Liquid Fuels audits. Mr. Pearson's motion to select the "PLGIT Class" investment option for the State Liquid Fuels Fund 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 $135,144.91 (73,701.81 from the General Fund Account, $49,407.80 from the Fire and EMS Tax Account, and $12,035.30 from the State Liquid Fuel Account) and requested payment authorization. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve the requested payments was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

Ms. Abel also advised that a new Medical Expense Reimbursement "MERP" Account at TD Bank had been funded by the transfer of $5,120.00 from the TD Money Market Savings Account, noting that that amount consisted of (i) Gunn-Mowery's one-time $500.00 new account set-up fee, (ii) the Township's 2026 MERP contributions of $2,250.00 per participant and (iii) an amount sufficient to cover Gunn-Mowery's monthly service fee of $5.00 per participant for all of 2026.

Good Fellowship EMS Agreement: Mr. Cornell noted that the Township had been contributing to the Good Fellowship Ambulance and EMS Training Institute ("Good Fellowship") for EMS services for quite a few years, but that Good Fellowship had now offered up a three-year agreement to memorialize the funding arrangements. He advised that the proposed agreement called for a 2026 Township contribution of $6,024.70, which had already been provided for the 2026 Budget. Mr. Kelsall's motion to approve the Good Fellowship EMS Agreement was seconded by Mr. Pearson and unanimously approved.

Discussion – 2027 Tax Increase: As he had warned when the 2026 Budget was approved at the Supervisors' December meeting, Mr. Cornell advised that after 2026, the funds accumulated in the Township's Fire & EMS Tax account would not cover the anticipated shortfall between 2027 expenses and revenues from the Township's 2027 Fire and EMS Taxes; so a 2027 tax increase would therefore probably be necessary.

He noted that he had been assuming that at tonight's meeting the Supervisors would be starting the process for a Referendum for a 0.25 mill increase in the Township's EMS Tax, but advised that (i) the Chair of the Kennett Fire and EMS Regional Commission ("KFERC") had recently confirmed that for its annual contributions to KFERC, the Township could select whatever allocation it desired between Fire and EMS, (ii) by allocating more to KFERC for fire and less for EMS, the Township would be able to cover expected increases in Fire and EMS expenses by increasing only the Fire Tax, (iii) that would not require a Referendum and (iv) unless his fellow Supervisors felt otherwise, no action need be taken at tonight's meeting regarding Fire or EMS Taxes.

Jack Law shared his view that the Township's Fire and EMS Taxes should, respectively, be keyed to the Township's actual Fire and EMS expenditures.

After further discussion the Supervisors determined to take no action at tonight's meeting regarding Fire or EMS Taxes.

RoadMaster Update: At Mr. Pearson's request, Assistant RoadMaster Barbara Forney advised that (i) the Township is negotiating with the Chester County Conservation District for a drainage grant for Beagle Club Road and that she was optimistic that the Township will qualify for the grant; and (ii) she was working on a grant for leveling and topcoating Laurel Road. Mr. Pearson noted that that new Laurel Road project would extend approximately 3,700 from Youngs Road to Wheatland Drive.

Mr. Pearson next advised that the Chester County reconstruction of Harvey's Bridge would also involve the leveling and widening of the road surface between Youngs Road and the bridge. He also mentioned that due to recent and predicted inclement weather, the Township was already over budget on salt purchases; therefore, some of the road construction budget would need to be used for salt purchases.

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

Time: 7:56 pm
Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Abel, Secretary