

**Newlin Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2020**

Call to Order: The Board of Supervisors' monthly meeting convened at 8:00 pm on Monday, June 8, 2020, at The Newlin Township Maintenance Facility, 1751 Embreeville Road, Coatesville, PA. Present were Supervisors Bill Kelsall (Chair), Bob Pearson and Jim Cornell, and Secretary/Treasurer Gail Abel.

Announcements: There were no announcements.

Comments: There were no public comments.

Minutes: Gail Abel presented the minutes of the Supervisors' May 11, 2020, monthly meeting. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve those minutes was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Financial Report: Ms. Abel presented the monthly Financial Report: As of May 31, 2020, the Township had \$1,967,759.36 on deposit, including \$1,583,270.16 in general and unrestricted funds. Overall, this represented a net decrease of -\$1,032.47 since April 30, 2020. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve the financial report was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Payment Authorization: Ms. Abel presented a list of pending bills, invoices, and other recurring/routine payments totaling \$95,702.02 and requested payment authorization. She confirmed that the amount of all items listed were within the 2020 Budget. Mr. Pearson's motion to authorize payment of the listed items was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Fire & EMS Update: Bennett Baird reminded the Supervisors that Newlin Township's membership in the Kennett Regional Fire and Emergency Management Commission ("KFEC") will continue through the end of 2021 unless, by June 30, 2020, the Township delivers a notice of its intention to exit KFEC. He then briefly reviewed the pros and cons of continuing KFEC membership. After discussion, Mr. Pearson's motion to continue Newlin's KFEC membership was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved. Mr. Pearson thanked Messrs. Baird and Kelsall for their representation of the Township in KFEC.

Kelsall Road Property Easements: The Township is replacing culverts underneath Kelsall Road by installing new box culverts with wing walls. Kristin Camp (Township Solicitor) has advised that this requires temporary construction easements and permanent easements from the owners of the following properties:

- Virginia Kelsall 1220 Kelsall Road
- Natural Lands Trust

Ms. Abel presented easement agreements for each property, prepared by the Township Solicitor (to be recorded at the Chester County Recorder of Deeds). Mr. Pearson's motion for

Newlin to enter into these agreements was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Agricultural Preservation Easement Sale Agreement and Funding Agreement: Mr. Kelsall recused himself. Mr. Cornell noted that at the March 2019 Supervisors' meeting, on the recommendation of Newlin's Open Space Committee the Supervisors had authorized the expenditure of up to \$10,000 per year over a 10-year period in order to participate with Chester County, Brandywine Conservancy, Natural Lands and Cheshire Land Preservation Fund in the acquisition of an Agricultural Preservation Easement covering two parcels in Newlin Township.

He advised that after appraisals and further negotiations, the County had ultimately agreed to fund a larger share than originally expected, so Newlin's contribution had been reduced to \$8,879.40 per year for five years, and that Newlin's Township Solicitor had provided two agreements relating to the transaction and had requested that the Supervisors specifically approve the Township's execution of these agreements:

- Agreement of Sale
- Funding Agreement

He further advised that the seller, Virginia Kelsall, had already signed the Agreement of Sale.

John Goodall, Brandywine Conservancy's Western Area Manager, voiced enthusiasm for the transaction, noting that Chester County had assigned these parcels its top ranking for agricultural preservation, and praised all participants for their cooperative efforts.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Township's execution of the two agreements, in the form provided by the Township Solicitor, was approved by Messrs. Pearson and Cornell (Mr. Kelsall abstaining).

Cheslen Parking Safety Concerns: Ms. Abel advised that a number of residents have requested that in light of the heavy use of the Township's Maintenance Facility parking area (the "Parking Area") by families entering the Cheslen Preserve (directly across Embreeville Road from the Parking Area), the Township should arrange for a painted pedestrian crosswalk or some other alteration that would make it safer to cross Embreeville Road at that location.

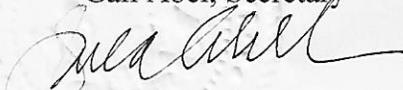
Mr. Pearson noted that several years ago the Township had supported the opening of the Preserve by offering to make the Parking Area available to Cheslen Preserve users, and that Preserve usage had increased considerably as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. He cautioned that the Township should not make changes that could increase its liability in the event of injury to crossing pedestrians.

Mr. Cornell reported that he had discussed this subject with Don Centofante, of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's ("PennDOT's") District 6, who had advised that PennDOT did not favor "mid-block" painted crosswalks (i.e., crosswalks not at recognized intersections) – particularly if located near curves in a roadway – because crossing pedestrians' assumption that they were "safe" within the crosswalk could actually increase their risk of injury. He noted that the Township had already installed all signage that PennDOT had recommended several years ago to address pedestrian crossings into the Cheslen Preserve,

intersections) – particularly if located near curves in a roadway – because crossing pedestrians’ assumption that they were “safe” within the crosswalk could actually increase their risk of injury. He noted that the Township had already installed all signage that PennDOT had recommended several years ago to address pedestrian crossings into the Cheslen Preserve, and advised that PennDOT had promised to reassess this portion of Embreeville Road in order to determine whether to recommend additional safety measures. The Supervisors deferred any decision on additional safety measures.

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

Time: 8:16 pm
Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Abel, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gail Abel", written over a faint circular official seal.