

**Newlin Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2022**

Call to Order: The Board of Supervisors' monthly meeting convened at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2022, at the Township Garage located at 1751 Embreeville Road. Present were Supervisors Bill Kelsall (Chair), Jim Cornell (Vice-Chair) and Bob Pearson, and Secretary/Treasurer Gail Abel.

Announcements: Mr. Kelsall announced that the Township had been awarded two dirt, gravel and low-volume road grants through the Chester County Conservation District: \$218,812.00 for Indian Hannah Road (with a required Township in-kind contribution of \$118,150.00) and \$23,844.00 for Oak School Road (with a required Township in-kind contribution of \$11,920.00).

Comments: No public comments.

Minutes: Ms. Abel presented the minutes of the February 14, 2022, Board Meeting. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve those minutes was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Ms. Abel next presented the minutes of the special meeting held on March 7, 2022, at which the Supervisors had authorized an application for a Statewide Local Share Assessment grant to purchase a new Backhoe. 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 February 28, 2022, the Township had \$780,753.34 on deposit, including \$434,549.62 in general and unrestricted funds. Overall, this represents a net increase of \$4,219.36 since January 31, 2022. Mr. Pearson's motion to accept the Financial Report was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Payment Authorization and Account Transfers: Ms. Abel presented a list of pending bills, invoices, and other recurring/routine payments from the General Fund, totaling \$21,314.61, and requested payment authorization. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve the requested payments was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Aqua Pennsylvania-Embreeville Wells: Jim Fritsch from Register Associates, the Township Engineer, summarized a notice recently received from Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. ("Aqua") that it planned to submit a public water supply (PWS) permit amendment application to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") for the replacement of Embreeville Well #1 with Well #1R, the activation of previously-authorized Embreeville Well #2, and modifications to the treatment system that would treat both wells (all located in Newlin Township). Aqua proposes to withdraw 1.434 million gallons per day from Well #1R and 0.507 million gallons per day from Well #2.

He advised that he had requested two reports that Aqua has prepared for the project, as well as a plan showing the locations of Well #1 and Well #2 plus the proposed location for Well #1R, and had asked that Aqua representatives be prepared to attend a future Board meeting if the Supervisors so request. He also noted that in response to Aqua's request for a Township letter confirming the project's compliance with all Township ordinances, the Township Solicitor had prepared a letter (the "Response Letter") advising Aqua that Aqua had yet provided information sufficient to enable the Township to make that determination.

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After discussion, Mr. Pearson's motion to direct the Township Solicitor to send the Response Letter to Aqua was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

1050 Glenhall Stormwater Agreements: Ms. Abel noted that the Township had received a proposed Stormwater Best Management Practices Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection Plan and Agreement from Marsh Creek Homes, LLC (as the owner of the property at 1050 Glenhall Road), which had now been reviewed by Mr. Fritch. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve the Agreement was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

121 Ridings Way Stormwater Agreements: Ms. Abel noted that the Township had received a proposed Stormwater Best Management Practices Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection Plan and Agreement by and between Albert C. & Elisabeth C. Elvanian (as the owners of the property at 121 Ridings Way), which had now been reviewed by Mr. Fritch. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve the Agreement was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Planning for a 2023 Increase in Fire & EMS Tax: Mr. Kelsall noted that at the February meeting the Supervisors had decided to notify property taxpayers of an expected 2023 increase in Fire and EMS (collectively, "F&EMS") Tax millage (the "Notice"), and observed that in response to the Notice, numerous representatives from three of the Township's fire companies were in attendance (including Jack Law, Fire Chief for West Bradford Fire Company; Jason Griffith, Fire Chief for Po-Mar-Lin Fire Company ("PML"); and Frank Dowlin, Fire Chief for Modena Fire Company). Mr. Kelsall assured the attending firemen that Newlin Township is grateful for the service of all three Fire Companies.

Mr. Law objected to the Notice's statement that recent increases in the Township's F&EMS expenses were attributable in part to "additional paid firefighters", since all of the firefighters deployed by the West Bradford, Po-Mar-Lin and Modena Fire Companies are volunteers. Mr. Law reminded the Supervisors that in 2017, when they were first considering joining the Kennett Fire and EMS Regional Commission ("KFERC") (which oversees PML, Longwood Fire Company (LFC") and Kennett Fire Company (KFC")) he had objected because the arrangement would allocate substantial Township funds to Fire Companies that primarily serve other communities. He reiterated his objection. An extended discussion ensued, during which Bennett Baird (Newlin Township's KFERC Commissioner) pointed out that in addition to the other factors stated in the Notice, LFC and KFC have in fact employed an increasing number of paid firefighters in the past several years, and that those Fire Companies provide important F&EMS services to Newlin Township.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Mr. Pearson's motion to distribute a clarification of the Notice was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

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

Time: 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Abel, Secretary

