

**Newlin Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2022**

Call to Order: The Board of Supervisors' monthly meeting convened at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 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: No Announcements.

Comments: Colleen Gallagher, 107 Brandywine Creek Road, recommended to the Supervisors a company called Pre-Demolition Sales for the Laurel Road properties. The company arranges and conducts pre-demolition sales, selling everything from windows to doorknobs. Mr. Pearson asked Mr. Law (Fire Chief for the West Bradford Fire Company) how that would affect the Fire Companies' anticipated training exercises at the Laurel Road properties. Mr. Law said it would not affect them at all and suggested that the sale should happen first. The Supervisors directed the Secretary to contact Pre-Demolition Sales for a proposal, to be reviewed by the Township Solicitor

Minutes: Ms. Abel presented the minutes of the April 11, 2022 Board 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 April 30, 2022, the Township had \$940,529.73 on deposit, including \$487,655.43 in general and unrestricted funds. Overall, this represents a net increase of \$10,313.51 since March 31, 2022. Mr. Pearson's motion to accept the Financial Report was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved. Ms. Abel also announced that the Township's Annual Audit had been filed along with the Audit required for the American Rescue Funds received last July.

Payment Authorization and Account Transfers: Ms. Abel presented a list of pending bills, invoices, and recurring/routine payments totaling \$34,642.68 - \$33,813.28 from the General Fund and \$829.40 from the State Liquid Fuel Fund - and requested payment authorization. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve the requested payments was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Ms. Abel also requested authorization to transfer \$30,000 from the Malvern Bank Account or Truist Bank to the TD Bank Debit Account to cover six months of payments under the Township's General Obligation Loan. Mr. Pearson's motion to authorize that transfer was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Brandywine Battlefield Sign Arrangements: Mr. Cornell noted that the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force had previously invited Newlin Township to erect one of 15 signs in the area commemorating the 1777 Battle of the Brandywine. He advised that since the middle of 2021 the Township has been working with the Task Force and the Newlin Historical Society on the language and location of the sign (which will be placed at the Wickersham Farm on Marlborough Springs Road). He thanked the members of the Historical Society for their efforts throughout these is process.

Mr. Cornell presented for approval both the language of the sign and an Agreement with the Task Force and the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution and its Color Guard. The Agreement

Mr. Cornell presented for approval both the language of the sign and an Agreement with the Task Force and the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution and its Color Guard. The Agreement provides that the Society will reimburse Newlin Township \$3,000 for the sign. The cost estimate for the manufacture of the sign is \$3,000-\$3,400. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve both the language of the sign and the Agreement was seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

Laurel Road: Ms. Gallagher voiced her concerns about the continuing occasional use of the closed portion of Laurel Road by hikers, cyclists and motorcyclists. She wanted to know what the long-term plan is and who is liable if someone uses the road and gets hurt? After a discussion of the Township's plan to vacate that portion of Laurel Road, Mr. Cornell noted that once the road is officially vacated, the land will revert to the owners adjacent to the road and they will be able to take appropriate steps to discourage trespassers.

Annual Road Bids 2022: Ms. Abel announced that in response to its annual request for road bids, advertised in the Daily Local News in April, the Township had received one bid for the application of asphalt emulsion oil, from Asphalt Industries, and one bid for the operation of other roadwork-related rental equipment, from D.T. Taylor Excavating, LLC. Mr. Pearson's motions to accept these bids were seconded by Mr. Kelsall and unanimously approved.

Planning for a 2023 Increase in Fire & EMS Tax: The Board continued its consideration of an increase in Fire and EMS Taxes, effective for 2023. Bennett Baird (the Township's Commissioner on the Kennett Regional Fire and EMS Regional Commission) indicated that he would provide a proposed millage for discussion at the June Board Meeting. He also suggested that since the Township's EMS expenditures could not be expected to represent exactly one-fifth of its total Fire and EMS expenditures (which is the current ratio of Township's EMS millage to its combined Fire and EMS millage), the Board should consider establishing a single Fire & EMS Tax instead of two separate taxes. West Bradford Fire Company Fire Chief Jack Law, residing at 108 Garnet Lane reiterated, again, his opposition to the use of Township tax revenues to fund fire companies that do not have "First Due" responsibility for Newlin Township (while reaffirming, again, that he does not oppose a tax increase). He also voiced his opposition to a single Fire & EMS tax. A discussion of both issues ensued. Mr. Pearson suggested that the Board consider conducting a work session in order to further to discuss Fire and EMS Taxes.

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

Time: 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Abel, Secretary

