

**Newlin Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2023**

Call to Order: The Board of Supervisors' monthly meeting convened at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, November 13, 2023, 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 Board held an executive session on November 1st to discuss some legal matters. He also advised that Bob Pearson has been reelected for an additional 6-year term. Mr. Pearson responded that he was honored to serve again and thanked everyone for their support.

Comments: Ed Lewis inquired whether it would be possible to mark the drain culverts recently installed on Harveys Bridge Road. Mr. Pearson said he would address this in the Road Master's Update. Barbara Forney complimented the road crew for the improvement in leaf removal resulting from their use of the new broom on the Backhoe. Mr. Pearson noted that the road crew is also using a new blower.

Michael Vorauer inquired whether the concrete bridge on Laurel Road near the Ridings Way subdivision could be painted to improve the bridge's visibility. Mr. Pearson said that he would look into painting the bridge or installing a white delineator.

Minutes for Approval: Ms. Abel presented the minutes of the October 9, 2023, 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 September 30, 2023, the Township had \$763,028.53 on deposit, including \$378,506.90 in general and unrestricted funds. Overall, this represents a net decrease of \$10,119.01 since September 30, 2023. Mr. Pearson's motion to accept the Financial Report was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Bill Payment Authorization: Ms. Abel presented a list of pending bills, invoices, and other recurring/routine payments totaling \$196,700.89 (\$145,991.88.00 from the General Fund Account, \$8,879.40 from the Open Space Fund Account, \$28,713.98 from the Fire & EMS Tax Account and \$13,115.63 from the State Liquid Fuel Account) and requested payment authorization. Mr. Pearson's motion to approve the requested payments was seconded by Mr. Cornell and unanimously approved.

Strasburg Landfill Update: Mr. Cornell noted that on November 10th the Township had emailed a letter to the residents on Laurel Road and Wheatland Drive for which the Township had email addresses (and had posted the letter on its website), advising them of communications from the Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") referring to recent test results indicating elevated levels of perfluorooctanoic acid and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (collectively, "PFAS") in leachate from

the Strasburg Landfill superfund site (the “Landfill”). He welcomed two EPA representatives, Brad White (Senior Remedial Project Manager) and Charlie Root (Chief, Site Remediation Branch), who had volunteered to be present at tonight’s meeting.

Mr. White discussed the Landfill leachate test results, explained that EPA had not recognized the harmful effects of PFAS until years after completion of the Landfill remediation, and confirmed that there has been no determination that PFAS have migrated offsite from the Landfill. Responding to numerous questions from residents, he provided the following additional information:

- EPA plans to sample for PFAS in the Landfill’s wells as soon as possible (probably by mid-December).
- If EPA finds elevated PFAS level in the Landfill’s groundwater it will seek nearby property owners’ permission to test for PFAS in their wells downgradient from the Landfill.
- If PFAS are found to be present in residential drinking water wells, either EPA or DEP will immediately begin providing bottled water to the affected residents.
- Thereafter, EPA or DEP will provide affected residents with whatever permanent solution determined by those agencies to be most effective in dealing with the PFAS problem (currently assumed to be filtration systems).

Mr. Kelsall thanked Messrs. White and Root for their attendance.

Open Space Update Presented by: Janet Sidewater: Janet Sidewater, Chair of the Township’s Open Space Committee asked whether the Supervisors considered it appropriate to use Open Space funds to cover appraisal expenses in order to convince landowners to ease their property. Mr. Cornell noted that funding such ancillary easement expenses was exactly the type of use referenced by former Supervisor Janie Baird in her letter to residents in advance of the Township’s 2017 Open Space Tax referendum, at least in the context of a completed easement. Mr. Pearson nevertheless requested time for further deliberation; and the Board took no action on Ms. Sidewater’s request.

Road Master Update: Mr. Pearson advised that as a safety improvement, the Township had added a 3-point turnaround at the South end of the Laurel Road closure, large enough to accommodate a school bus or fire truck. He noted tree work and the addition of some inlets on Marlboro Springs Road, but confirmed that due to budget constraints the remainder of the work on Marlboro Springs Road needed to be deferred until 2024. He also mentioned the addition of an inlet and an 18-inch pipe at the top of Hilltop View Road in order to eliminate a recurring standing water problem. Finally, he advised that he had been in touch with PennDOT about the pot-hole on Brandywine Creek Road near Route 162, and that PennDOT had undertaken to make the necessary repairs.

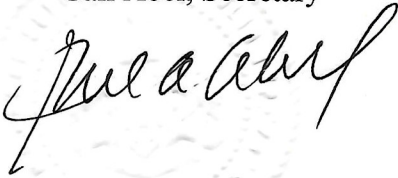
Robert Hubriec brought up the new culverts on Harveys Bridge Road. He noted that they are very depressed and wondered if they can be painted or otherwise marked. Mr. Pearson responded that the culverts needed to be recessed in order to be effective, but that he would look into additional measures to mark them.

Proposed Budget for 2024: Mr. Kelsall briefly summarized the proposed 2024 Budget (copies of which had been made available to those in attendance) and advised that it would be on the Agenda for approval at the Board's December meeting. There being no questions or comments from those attending, Mr. Pearson's motion to approve public advertisement of the proposed 2024 Budget was seconded by Mr. Cornell 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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gail Abel", is written over a faint, circular embossed seal. The seal contains text that is mostly illegible but appears to include "TOWN OF" and "SECRETARY".