

**Newlin Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes**

March 11, 2019

Call to Order: The monthly Board of Supervisors meeting on Monday, March 11, 2019, convened at 8:00 p.m. at the Lenfest Center, Cannery Road, Coatesville, PA. Present were Chair, Janie Baird, Bill Kelsall, Bob Pearson and Secretary, Gail Abel.

Pledge of Allegiance

Announcement Period: No announcements.

Comment Period: Jack Law thanked Rob Mastrippolito for a great job with winter maintenance. Jack wanted to know if before next year the Board would entertain a motion that would prohibit parking on the street for 24 hours after a snow storm. In his development, Garnet Lane, people park on the Lane which makes for additional work for snow removal which can take days after a storm.

Minutes: The minutes of the Board of Supervisors meeting, held on Monday, February 11, 2019, were read and reviewed. Bill Kelsall made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Janie Baird and the vote was unanimous

Financial Report: Read by Gail Abel. Bob Pearson made a motion to approve the financial report and move \$1,000 from the general fund to the land acquisition account to keep below the \$250,000 FDIC limit. The motion was seconded by Bill Kelsall and the vote was unanimous.

Emergency Services:

West Bradford Fire Company: February report was received, 6 total calls, 0 in Newlin.

Modena Fire Company: February report was received, 58 total calls, 1 in Newlin.

Good Fellowship Ambulance: February report was received, 1 call in Newlin.

Po Mar Lin, Modena Fire Co & Longwood Ambulance reports are received by the Regional Fire Committee.

Right to Know Requests: The Township has had one right to know requests since the last meeting.

Open Space Committee Recommendation: Janie Baird announced that John Goodall from Brandywine Conservancy, Janet Sidewater Newlin's Open Space Chair along with Kristin Camp, the Township's solicitor, are in attendance. Janet Sidewater announced she is pleased to attend a meeting again. The Open Space Committee has another application to propose to the Board for review: Parcel 49-5-9.3 and 49-5-9.1. The Committee is looking for a commitment from the Township to get the ball rolling for this application. The property is rated at the County level as the number 1 farm. The funding is not to exceed \$10,000 a year for 10 years which is a creative way of funding for open space.

John Goodall commented, there were 5 farms that applied for funding, and only 3 are eligible through the County program. Over 50% of this farm is farmed. Funding commitments so far are 5% from Brandywine Conservancy, 5% from Natural Lands, 5% Cheshire Hunt. It has taken a lot of funding resources to get to this point. An appraisal is still needed for the property. A commitment from the Township is essential. This is prime agricultural property and contiguous to over 4,000 acres of preserved land.

Rodney Wynn said his concern is the discussion always speaks of farms but never mentions names or addresses. He said he does not benefit from this tax and thinks as a taxpayer he is entitled to know what property funding is for. Janet Sidewater commented that the committee honors the land owner's privacy. They do disclose the tax parcel number. John Goodall said the property had not closed yet. Bob Pearson commented that everyone benefits from open space. The fact is, it costs the Township more for homes to be built than it does to preserve the property.

Jack Law commented he is not against open space or open space tax. He does agree with Mr. Wynn that the name and address should be disclosed.

Barb Forney commented she is delighted about the open space preservation but also agrees that names and addressed should be disclosed.

Kristin Camp commented that once there is an official agreement, the confirmation will then public knowledge.

John Goodall commented the landowner is in agreement to take installments without interest.

Bob Pearson commented the owner could get more money if they sell to a developer. It is a huge compromise for the owner to give up the development rights. With no further discussion, Bob Pearson made a motion that the Township fund 20% for 10 years, Janie Baird seconded, and the vote was unanimous. Bill Kelsall recused himself.

910 Stargazer Road Sewage Planning Modules: There has been a failure of a septic system at 910 Stargazer Road. The property has a high water table. Chester County Health Dept.'s Sewage Enforcement Officer's opinion is that the lot is unsuitable for an on-lot septic system. A stream discharge system has been proposed and supported by the Health Dept., CC Planning Commission and Newlin's Sewage Enforcement Officer, Craig Kologie. Hilbec Engineering has prepared the planning modules and the Operations & Maintenance Agreement, which the resident has signed. Newlin's Planning Commission has signed the DEP papers. Public notice was published in the Daily Local News on December 15, 2018, allowing a 30 day comment period. There were no comments received. The landowner has signed a 3-year maintenance contract with Tri-County Water Services. Kristin Camp has reviewed the O & M agreement and recommends that Newlin sign the agreement and adopt Resolution 2019-07. DEP has the final review and approval.

Janie Baird made the motion to approve the O & M agreement and adopt Resolution 2019-07, seconded by Bob Pearson, and the vote was unanimous. Rodney Wynn inquired exactly what is a discharge 3 system? Bob Pearson replied to say it is a very sophisticated and expensive stream discharge system.

Beagle Club: Janie Baird announced the notice for bid and procurement for the Beagle Club culvert project will be advertised for the invitation to bid and opened at the April 8th meeting. Barb Forney commented it would be good to have the project done by mid-June to assist in new applications for funding.

Hill Top View Road: Barb Forney commented that Hill Top View is in great shape right now and there is no storm damage.

Laurel Road Update: Janie Baird announced the Township has received a letter from DCED about the grant that was approved. They need 2 signatures from officials of the Township. Kristin Camp has reviewed the documents. There is a 45 day time period to return the signed documents. The Township wants to hold onto the opportunity to use the funding but still does not have a concept plan. The deadline to use the funds is June 2021. Bob Pearson made a motion to sign the contract, seconded by Bill Kelsall and the vote was unanimous.

John Hughes residing at 619 Laurel Road said it is going on 5 years since the road closure. Looking back on everything it seems the Township keeps coming up against money issues. His driveway comes right to the gate. His concern is not the road being restored but what would happen if additional damage by storms happen. He has lived there for 37 years. Bob Pearson commented the Board is entertaining options, but he cannot comment on these options tonight.

Adjournment: With no further business, Bob Pearson made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Bill Kelsall and the vote was unanimous.

Time: 8:47pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Abel

Recording Secretary

