

## **Newton Township Board of Supervisors' Meeting**

**October 9, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 6:31PM with Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members in Attendance: Kevin Carr and Robert Naegele

Absent: Douglas Pallman

Board Guests in Attendance: Robert Sheils, III, Solicitor; D. Scot Haan, CEO and Francine Fawcett, Secretary/Treasurer

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Naegele to approve the minutes of August 14, 2023, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carr. Motion voted, all in favor.

Approval for the minutes from the September 11, 2023 meeting are tabled until next month.

**Announcements:** None

**Correspondence:** Correspondence is available with the Secretary's office during regular business hours for review.

### **Public Input:**

**Jyl Reeves** – 1271 Winola Road, asked about the status of storm damage in the township. Mr. Naegele gave her an update regarding outside contractors working in the township and stated that we are still working with the County, PEMA and FEMA. She also asked if there was a way, we could have warned the residents about the storm. Supervisors stated that they did not know how we could have possibly reacted to this storm because we had no way to know that we were getting five inches of rain in an hour.

**Michel Kiernan** – Lisa Lane, wanted to stop in and thank the township for the excellent work done on Lisa Lane. The drainage was working very well.

**Denise Miller** – 1755 Newton Ransom Blvd., stated that it would be a good idea to hire our own police force before a new contract is signed with an outside source.

**Adam Stella** – 1264 Country Club Road, asked if we heard anything more regarding the RTK request sent to PADOT. Sheils explained that he is in contact with DEP for the NPDES permit as PADOT answered the RTK that we needed to contact them as they didn't have the permit. Sheils will follow up with the PADOT lawyer.

**New Business:**

**Joe Beezup** – Upper Maple Drive: Mr. Beezup wanted to discuss with the board about the possibility of putting a pipe across Upper Maple Drive to drain in a swale that is between his property and his neighbor's. Years ago, when the township engineer looked at it, they stated that the water should go down the swale, however, the property owners would not sign easements. It was also discussed that the neighbor is digging in the township's right-of-way. Attorney Sheils will send a letter stating that he needs to cease and desist. Sheils will also work on easements to be signed by both property owners. Mr. Beezup then discussed the property across the street from him. He wants the township to have the owner put in a retention pond when they build.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**Standing Committee Reports:** POSTED - Planning Commission

**NRVFC:** No report.

**Recreation Center:** The committee reported on the rentals, meeting, activities and the building status. They also wish to discuss the budget with the Supervisors.

**Tax Collector:** No report.

**Road Master:** Naegele discussed the work of the DPW. Hickory Lane drainage work was started, however, due to the storm, work has stopped until next year. They are working with contractors. They also worked with a vac truck to clean out pipes and the vac truck will be back to finish up. Abington Paving is working on paving the salt shed. The easement for Upper Fords Pond still needs to be done. DPW still working on storm damage.

**CEO:** Haan reported that he is fielding calls. He also went to Dunmore Borough to discuss with the secretary the status of the SAPA plan being signed. They will sign but it probably won't be until next year. The hold up is the height of the landfill.

**Planning Commission:** Planning Commission recommended approval for the conditional use of Kailin Bouse to open a wellness center in the Florey Homes building. They discussed a possible land development of Summit Hills Golf and plans for Red Barn Village.

**Solicitor:** Sheils reported that we reached an agreement with Mascaro to pay for the damage their truck did on our newly oiled road, Hilltop Drive. They offered to pay the township \$2,000 and requested a limited release be signed. Since Mr. Pallman was not available, **motion was made to authorize Mr. Carr to sign and approve the limited release, motion by Carr and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.** Sheils also reported that he spoke with Mr. Jacoby's attorney and has not received any new information. Sheils has also spoken with Terra Manor's attorney.

**Public Input:** None

***Bills:*** Motion by Naegele to approve the bills as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carr. Motion voted, all in favor.

Being no further business, Naegele motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:12PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carr. Motion voted, all in favor.