

**NEWBERRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**February 27, 2024 @ 6:00 pm**

**Call to order by Chairman Harkins at 6:00 p.m.**

Executive Session was held tonight at 5:30 pm to discuss Teamster and Police contract negotiations.

**Attendance**

Chairman, Rob Harkins  
Vice-Chairman, Diane Shellenhamer  
Supervisor, Dave Kirkpatrick  
Supervisor, Aaron Schwartz  
Township Manager, Tony Miller  
Solicitor, Tom Lang  
Engineer, Bill Rudy  
Public Works Director, Scott Getgen  
Sewer, Brent Zeiders  
Police Chief, Steve Lutz  
Codes and Zoning, Jeremy Eutzzy

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Julie Dibble, Newberrytown Church of God – Stated she will be stepping out of public ministry to focus on her family. She read a passage from Luke 22 Chapter 39 through 44.

Sandra Gonzalez – Resident, 140 Oak Road – Spoke about her support of the police department. She stated she is unhappy with issues she has overheard and would like the Supervisors to come together to build trust in the community.

Tom Adams – Resident, 1610 Valley Road – Mr. Adams was inquiring about the greenhouses on Pines Road. Vice Chairman Shellenhamer stated there were several meetings with the Senator and DEP and no plans have proceeded to date.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION        By Vice Chairman Shellenhamer to approve the minutes from January 23, 2024, seconded by Aaron Schwartz, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION    None

## LAND DEVELOPMENT/ SUBDIVISION PLAN REVIEW

None

### REPORTS

#### **Public Safety – Chief Lutz**

Chief Lutz stated there is bingo at Goldsboro Fire Department on February 9<sup>th</sup> and February 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is bingo on February 16<sup>th</sup> at Newberrytown Fire Department. They are having an R & K sub sale February 9<sup>th</sup> through March 11<sup>th</sup>. Chief Lutz displayed a website to show the Safer Grant. Last year the police department applied for a federal grant which is called the Safer Grant. Within that Grant the police were awarded recruitment and retention. The website is [keepnewberrysafe.org](http://keepnewberrysafe.org). The site links all three fire departments that service Newberry township. There is an incentive program for the volunteer fire fighters to earn up to 1,600.00 per year. Lt. Ditty explained the website and how it works.

#### **Police Department – Chief Lutz**

The Police Department handled 1,189 calls for the month of January. Chief Lutz stated that there was another incident at Walmart. It is posted on Facebook and their website. He stated on February 8<sup>th</sup> the police department was dispatched to an active threat call at Walmart located at 50 Newberry Parkway. A call was received by an individual stating that he was armed with a mag 10 machine gun, had already shot someone, took another individual hostage, and placed bombs within the facility. Due to the information multiple police units were dispatched from York County to assist in the incident. Upon arrival there was an extensive search done of the facility. It was determined that the information was not credible. A bomb sweep was done with K9 units to ensure the public was safe. Chief Lutz wanted to thank his officers who responded quickly and put their lives on the line to protect everyone. He stated that what took place is referred to as a Swatting event. It can be used as a distraction technique to target another area.

#### **Solicitor – Tom Lang**

Tom Lang sitting in for James Sanders. He added that an agreement has been reached with Mr. McNaughton about the Woods Extended site. They are waiting for a developer's agreement to continue which is related to traffic improvements.

#### **Engineering –Pennonni Associates**

Bill Rudy submitted a report to the board.

#### **Highway –Scott Getgen**

Scott Getgen submitted a report to the board.

#### **Zoning – Jeremy Eutz**

Jeremy Eutz submitted a report to the board.

**Sewer – Brent Zeiders**

Brent Zeiders submitted a report to the board.

**Township Manager – Tony Miller**

Tony Miller submitted a report to the board.

**Treasurer –Jane Deamer**

Jane Deamer stated that in November it was discussed to take sewer funds and invest them in a CD treasurer ladder. To date \$38,000.00 of interest has been earned. The money is in the US Treasury and is very secure. The interest is rolled back into the principle.

**Supervisor’s Report**

Vice Chairman Shellenhamer asked if the residents have signed up for the Savvy Citizen app. She stated that it is a very helpful app for residents to stay informed. It was discussed to add to the March 19<sup>th</sup> workshop meeting to help residents navigate the app.

Supervisor Wintermyer asked Jane Deamer to explain the mercantile tax. She stated that the township adopts the tax. It is based on one of three things – retail, wholesale, or service. You are charged a percentage of your revenue based on what service you provide to the public.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Approve Advertisement of Ordinance 425 for Towing Service for Removal of Motor Vehicles Damaged, Abandoned, Immobilized, Illegally Parked or Disabled on Public Rights-Of-Ways or on Public or Private Property Within the Township**

MOTION By Supervisor Kirkpatrick to approve the advertisement of Ordinance 425 for towing service for removal of motor vehicles damaged, abandoned, immobilized, illegally parked, or disabled on public rights-of-ways or on public or private property within the township, seconded by Vice Chairman Shellenhamer, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION Supervisor Kirkpatrick explains the township met with the towing companies that work within the township that are used by the police department. A set of rules have been agreed upon with the towing companies. The rules are set forth in the Ordinance that will be published.

Steve Toomey – Resident, 160 Cragmoor Road – Mr. Toomey asked if the Ordinance covered abandon trailers and storage units that are sitting on a public street. Supervisor Kirkpatrick stated that it would cover abandon trailers and storage units.

**Approve Release of Performance Bonds for Woods Phase 1 and Phase 2**

MOTION By Supervisor Kirkpatrick to approve release of Performance Bonds for Woods Phase 1 and Phase 2, seconded by Supervisor Schwartz, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Approve Release of Old Trail Court Performance Bond**

MOTION By Supervisor Kirkpatrick to approve release of Old Trail Court Performance Bond, seconded by Chairman Harkins, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION None

### **Approve Portable Toilet Bid for Walters Services, Inc.**

MOTION By Supervisor Schwartz to approve portable toilet bid for Walters Services, Inc., seconded by Supervisor Kirkpatrick, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION Vice Chairman Shellenhamer advised residents that Fink Services has sold their septic business to Walters Services, Inc. Manager Miller reviewed the portable toilet bids and the parks.

### **Approve Bid Schedule for 2024 Road Program**

MOTION By Supervisor Kirkpatrick to approve the bid schedule for 2024 road program, seconded by Vice Chairman Shellenhamer, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION Bill Rudy explains the road program. Three different streets will be completed. Estimate for the road work is \$506,000.00. The project will go out to bid at the end of the week and results will be available at the next meeting.

### **Approve Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding between Newberry Township and Newberry Township Police Department Patrolman's Association**

MOTION By Supervisor Kirkpatrick to approve Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding between Newberry Township and Newberry Township Police Department Patrolman's Association, seconded by Supervisor Schwartz, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION Vice Chairman Shellenhamer stated that this is to replace a police officer that has recently left. There is a \$5,000 sign on bonus for a new police officer.

### **Approve Certificate for Payment to Detraglia Excavators for Old Trail Sewer Extension**

MOTION By Supervisor Kirkpatrick to approve certificate for payment to Detraglia Excavators for Old Trail Sewer Extension, seconded by Vice Chairman Shellenhamer, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION None

### **Approve Resolution 2024-12 Providing Insurance Funds Towards New K9**

MOTION By Supervisor Kirkpatrick to approve Resolution 2024-12 providing insurance funds towards new K9, seconded by Vice Chairman Shellenhamer, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION Manager Miller explained the breakdown of the funds. Lt. Ditty spoke about the training costs.

## **Discuss Fire Commission**

DISCUSSION Supervisor Wintermyer would like it to be called Fire Committee. All three fire companies met and decided they would take one member from each fire company and formed a committee. They meet once a month. Jason Seymore is the head of the committee. They have established what their priorities and objectives are, which has been broken into three subcommittees – administration, operations, and training. The goal is to create a standardized response within the township for all three departments, so they are working together. The focus right now is the operational side. There will be a standardized training plan for all three departments. Associate Membership Program is a program where members from all three departments can respond at any other department if they are not a full active member.

Jane Harman – Resident, 205 Hemlock Lane – Asked if there is money in the fire tax that we have implemented to pay for a driver. Supervisor Kirkpatrick stated that the way the fire tax is written only half of it could be used towards wages, which is the law.

Mark, Chief of Newberry Township Fire Department, responded to Jane Harman’s question regarding availability of drivers. Mark stated that it varies if there is a driver available.

Lt. Ditty stated that Fairview Township Fire Department has had a paid driver for several years which has been very successful. Beyond driving the fire truck, the personnel can also check fire equipment daily and public outreach.

Steve Toomey – Resident, 160 Cragmoor Road – Stated that there is a regulation that requires a house number on your residence. He continued that it states it must be visible from the road in both directions. He asked if a residence is back from the road how is it to be marked for emergency personnel. Supervisor Kirkpatrick stated that the Newberry Township Fire Department should be contacted. They have signs that are available with a number on both sides that glow in the dark when they are hit with headlights. The sign should be placed at the end of the driveway by the road.

## **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

MOTION By Supervisor Kirkpatrick to pay the bills, seconded Supervisor Schwartz, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION Sandra Gonzalez – Resident, 140 Oak Road – Asked what the cost of National Night Out was. Supervisor Kirkpatrick stated that the only thing paid out of the general fund is for the insurance. Ms. Gonzalez asked what the purpose of National Night Out was. Supervisor Kirkpatrick stated that it was started as a community event nation wide to help boost relationships between the police department and other emergency services with the residents of their township.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION By Supervisor Kirkpatrick to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman Shellenhamer, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION None

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Miller, Secretary

