



## Millcreek Township Board of Supervisors Minutes – May 14, 2025

### Opening of meeting- 7:00 PM

**Hearing of Visitors** - Carol Hicky, Abigail Harvey and Rob Birch with the Lebanon Valley Conservancy presented a short video. They spoke of the properties being conserved and their mission to continue saving properties for future generations. Gary Althouse spoke of the history of Richland and surrounding area. They are looking for volunteers to help gather more historical information on our Township.

**Public Comment** – *Judy Weik, 83 S. Mountain Road* was present to speak regarding the noise and fumes from her neighbors on dirt bikes and other vehicles. She feels harassed on her own property. She requested a noise ordinance be put into place.

*Wendy Jegla, 174 W Texter Mission Rd.* was present to also speak regarding the noise.

*Tagge Forrest, 82 South Mountain Road* was present to also speak of the noise from off road vehicles. The noise is overwhelming. He asked what their options are when trying to get the issue resolved.

Chief Hostetter spoke regarding the situation, stating that this was the first time he had heard of these issues. The weekend coverage from the police department will increase in the upcoming weeks with the warmer weather coming. At the end of speaking the Chief he invited the individuals to meet with him outside of the Township building to further discuss this matter and obtain contact information.

*Glenda Davis, 130 W Main St.* was present to discuss her water bill and questioned extra hydrant taxes. Glenda also spoke regarding the Commonwealth Code monthly report; she would like to know the enforcement process.

### Reports of Organizations:

- \*Millcreek Township Planning Commission minutes-received
- \*Newmanstown Water Authority minutes-received
- \*Western Berks Ambulance Monthly Report-received
- \*Karen Brown-Commonwealth Code Monthly Report-received
- \*Greater Lebanon Refuse-received
- \*MRJA minutes-received
- \*Newmanstown Recreation Board Minutes-received
- \*Police Activity report-received

**Minutes: A Motion by Weidman to approve the minutes as printed. DeSantis seconded, all aye motion carries.**

### SOLICITOR:

The Solicitor reported that after long negotiations and delays from Comcast there is a franchise agreement. A public hearing regarding the agreement took place at the April Supervisors Meeting.

The Solicitor requested a motion from the board to adopt proposed ordinance #051425 approving the cable franchise agreement with Comcast, along with execution of said agreement. **Weidman made a motion to adopt proposed ordinance #051425 approving the cable franchise agreement with Comcast along with execution of said agreement. Second by Desantis, all aye motion carries.**

The Solicitor spoke regarding Myerstown Borough adopting a resolution, adopting the new Cadmium Wastewater Discharge Limits. This is an EPA requirement because Millcreek Township conveys wastewater to Myerstown's facility. Resolution #051425 was prepared for adoption. The Solicitor requested a motion to adopt Resolution #051425 revising the Cadmium Wastewater Discharge Limits from .0391 milligrams per liter to .0362 milligrams per liter. **Weidman made a motion to adopt Resolution #051425 revising the Cadmium Wastewater Discharge Limits from .0391 milligrams per liter to .0362 milligrams per liter. Second by Moyer, all aye, motion carries.**

The Solicitor spoke regarding the Engine Retarding Device Ordinance. Under the recommendation of the Chief of Police, there should be a more specific language for this ordinance. The current ordinance needs to be revised. The Solicitor prepared a draft revised ordinance and requested the board make a motion to publish a notice of intent to adopt proposed Ordinance #061225 at the next meeting on June 12, 2025. **A motion was made by Weidman to authorize The Solicitor to publish a notice of intent to adopt proposed Ordinance #061225 at the next meeting on June 12, 2025. Seconded by Desantis, all aye motion carries.**

**Note:** The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is actually scheduled for June 11, 2025 at which time the proposed ordinance will be considered for adoption.

International Property Maintenance Code- Continued discussion of Property Maintenance Board of Appeals. The Solicitor was previously contacted by Code Enforcement Official Karen Brown; she recommended that the Board of Supervisors consider appointing a Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals. The Board needs to appoint three and an alternate to serve on the board, terms will be staggered. He presented the opportunity to the public present at the meeting and spoke regarding the qualifications being the ability to look at the evidence and come to a fair conclusion. Interested parties should reach out to the Township Secretary. Ms. Brown has several years of experience, and she is very efficient.

***Walking Path agreement between- Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority and Millcreek Township (Newburg Village Recreations Area) discussion was opened to the public.***

Prior to discussing the walking path, Alex from Steckbeck was present to update the Salt Shed project and the CDBG grant for the sidewalk in the park. The bids for the sidewalk will be pushed out and be opened at the Board of Supervisors meeting in July. The project is being pushed due to the summer playground program and the safety of the children.

Alex then reported on the walking path. He spoke to regarding the dedication of the land, and its purpose for recreation.

Some of the comments made included:

*Brenda Anderson, 39 Progress Dr.* expressed her concern regarding the basin flooding where the path will be built. She also spoke of the safety concerns, and the proximity to her property. She stated this path will open the area up to dangerous individuals. She spoke regarding the security and lighting plan. She also asked about liability issues if there is an accident on their property.

*Darleen Kidder, 4 Village Dr.* spoke regarding the sidewalks in the village. She asked about future plans of pavilions, and benches to sit for older residents.

Alex addressed the comments regarding the flooding and the phases of the project. Ryan Risser mentioned the 2021 flooding and restrictor plates over the pipes, which is why the area was flooding.

*Stacia Frye, 11 Progress* spoke of the storm basin that is part of her property and the restrictor plates. She stated that the retention area drains quickly.

*Justin Arndt-128 E Main St. Newmanstown Rec Board President*, spoke regarding the Walking Path. He talked about the project history, fundraising and the phases of the plan. He reminded the public that the land is a public area, and the path will direct people where to go.

The issue of maintenance was addressed by the public; the Township employees currently maintain the grass and the trash and will continue to address any issues that arise.

Supervisor Moyer addressed the question of signs regarding motorized vehicles, rules and safety on the path. The Solicitor addressed Alex regarding the reshaping of the path, so it is further from the property lines. Alex spoke regarding marking the property lines and the placement of the path.

The Solicitor presented the Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority sewer easement. There is a sewer line that will be under the walking path. There will need to be an easement for access. The Solicitor requested the Board make a motion to adopt the easement agreement with Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority regarding the Walking path for the Newburg Recreation Area. **A motion by Weidman to adopt the easement agreement with Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority regarding the Walking path for the Newburg Recreation Area. Seconded by Moyer, all aye motion carries**

**Action –**

Yearly donations to the Newmanstown Volunteer Fire Company, Millcreek Rod and Gun Club, Richland Library, and the Recreation Board. Motion by Weidman to make the donations as listed for 2025. Second by DeSantis, all aye, motion carries.

JF Martin-Land Development Plan-A representative from John F Martin was present to give information on the plan. The Board reviewed the plans and signed.

Resolution # 051425B Bethany Road Sewage Module, Revision. Motion by Weidman to adopt Resolution #051425B, the Bethany Road Sewage Module. Second by Moyer, all aye, motion carries.

**Unfinished Business**

Break Retarder signs were discussed. Chief Hostetter will look into more information. Signs will be ordered by the Township.

Fire Tax and Incentive Program. John reported that there is no new information now. He gave information regarding the incentive program.

**New Business –**

Blue Triton \$5000.00 -Secretary will send a thank you letter.

Music in the Park” request for use of Memorial Park. Motion by Weidman to approve the dates for the 2025 Davin Sheetz Memorial Season of Music in the Park. Second by Desantis, all aye, motion carries.

PLAUD Note Voice recorder. John gave information on the recorder, the time-saving aspect and ease of use. Motion by Weidman to authorize Lauren to purchase the PLAUD note voice recorder in the amount of \$159, with service. Second by Moyer, all aye, motion carries.

Live Drive-Cloud Based back-up for office computer. Secretary reported Microaid visited the office for an equipment installation. She discussed getting information on a program for backing up files. Line Drive is a cloud-based backup system that will store our documents, so they are not lost due to unforeseen circumstances. Motion by Weidman to authorize the Secretary to contact Microaid and set up the Live Drive cloud based back up for the office computer. Second by Moyer, all aye, motion carries.

**Correspondence Received**

Bradley Shanaman, Assistant EMA Coordinator Resignation. Motion by Desantis to accept the resignation of EMA Assistant Bradley Shanaman. Seconded by Weidman, all aye, motion carries.

**Road Master/foreman Report –** Update given on Salt Shed Progress.

2025 Paving discussion. Ryan discussed double oil and chipping of Roads, he explained why the Township is choosing to oil and chip versus paving.

South Mountain Road at a quote price of \$61, 602

Texer Mountain Road at a quote price of \$23,978

Portion of East Bethany Road at a quote price of \$9221

East Alumni Ave (N Sheridan to 419) at a quote price of 29,511

Total estimate for oil and chipping is 124,313.71. This is only estimated, and the jobs will need to go out for bidding.

Motion by Moyer that we put out for bid the four roads Ryan explained for double oil and chip and get some quotes to be opened June 11 at 7:15, the next meeting. Second by Weidman, all aye, motion carries.

**Bills/Treasurer's Report –** Motion by weidman to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills as needed. Second by Desantis, all aye, motion carries.

**Adjournment-** Motion by Weidman to adjourn at 9:06pm, Second by Desantis, all aye, motion carries.

WITNESS:

Lauren Ritchie, Sec./Treas \_\_\_\_\_ Eric J. Weidman, Chairman \_\_\_\_\_