RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of New Russia Township Special Meeting

HELD **March 23, 2026**

Chairman, Scott Justin, called the March 23, 2026 Special Meeting to order @ 6:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees: Cynthia Breda, Scott Justin, Michelle Tyner were present, as well as Fiscal Officer, Lisa Akers. Staff and Public: n/a

Purpose for Special Meeting: Discuss/approve retroactive and future legal fees and to approve emergency parking lot repairs.

-Fiscal Officer discussed and reviewed with Trustees, three separate legal invoices received from Benesch Law Firm. The first invoice was for the balanced owed from a previously approved resolution regarding Phase I of the Megasite. The second invoice was for legal services for an issue with a consultant from a previously approved resolution. The third invoice was for legal services for Phase II of the Megasite. These services were never authorized by a formal resolution which would grant the Trustees authority to seek outside counsel. The Fiscal Officer reminded the Trustees of the seriousness of not having a prior approved resolution. FO stated that even though Trustee Tyner is the liaison for the Board with the attorney, the entire Board works as one unit and all three are responsible for lack of authority. FO stated she consulted with the Prosecutor's Office to make them aware of situation. A resolution has been created to retroactively authorize Phase II and approve legal services dating back to December 2, 2025. A Then/Now Certificate will be created to pay invoice, but the certificate will only date back to January 1, 2026, as you cannot appropriate funds from a previous fiscal year. FO asked Trustee Tyner as the liaison between the attorney and Board, to please do her due diligence moving forward to help prevent this from happening again. FO also stated she has spoken with Robert Zimmerman from Benesch Law Firm regarding issue as well. Trustees signed all three legal invoices and approved charges to be paid at the next scheduled regular Trustee Meeting.

Motion to Approve Retroactive Resolution Employing Township's Attorneys

Motion was made by Scott Justin to approve the retroactive Resolution Employing Township's Attorneys, Benesch, Friendlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP, from December 2, 2025 thru March 18, 2026 regarding Phase II of the Megasite, not-to-exceed $75,000.00, seconded by Michelle Tyner. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye; Cynthia Breda—aye. **MOTION CARRIED** **2026-03-372**

Motion to Approve Resolution Employing Township's Attorneys

Motion was made by Scott Justin to approve the Resolution Employing Township's Attorneys, Benesch, Friendlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP, starting March 23, 2026, regarding Phase III of the Megasite, not-to-exceed $200,000.00, seconded by Michelle Tyner. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye; Cynthia Breda—aye.
MOTION CARRIED **2026-03-373**

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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-Chairman Justin stated three catch basins are in need of repair in the parking lot of "The Lodge". One basin is sinking and the other two are not as bad but should be re-paired as well. Dovin Landworks submitted an estimate for $9,680.00. Trustee Breda stated she feels this isn't an emergency repair and the Service Manager had time to get additional estimates for comparison, and hopes no one has any affiliation with this company.

Motion to Approve Catch Basin Repair

Motion was made by Scott Justin to approve three catch basin repairs in "The Lodge" parking lot from Dovin Landworks LLC at a cost of $9,680.00, seconded by Michelle Tyner. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye; Cynthia Breda—nay.

MOTION CARRIED **2026-03-374**

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Scott Justin to adjourn meeting at 6:39 pm, seconded by Michelle Tyner. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye; Cynthia Breda—aye.

MOTION CARRIED **2026-03-375**

AFFIRMED by Scott Justin at April 7, 2026 Regular Meeting

ATTESTED by Lisa Akers at April 7, 2026 Regular Meeting