



# NEWVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

## Office of the Borough Council President

### Public Statement for Release

January 31, 2023

In late December 2022, it was discovered that there were discrepancies between the financial reports provided to the Newville Borough Council and the actual bank statements. Upon learning this, in conjunction with the Newville Water and Sewer Authority, an internal investigation began to find the depth and accuracy of these discrepancies. In early January there appeared to be sufficient evidence to begin to take action. On January 12, 2023, a Special Joint Meeting of the Borough Council and the Authority was held and actions were taken (see the January 12, 2023 minutes) to mitigate and begin a formal investigation. At that point, the Cumberland County District Attorney's Office was contacted. The District Attorney's Office promptly opened up an investigation in which the Borough Council and Authority have willingly cooperated.

At present, the District Attorney's Office has been working through its investigation and has sought a forensic audit of all Borough accounts. The Borough Council and Authority is also initiating assistance from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania regarding this matter.

Because this is a legal and personnel matter we are prohibited from sharing in-depth details of this situation.

The following are the priorities of the Borough Council:

1. To be as transparent and honest with the citizens and shareholders of Newville. You deserve to have as much information as we can share with you, when we can share it with you.
2. This Council will make every effort possible to maintain payroll and insurance benefits for our employees.
3. To identify and make current outstanding accounts.

and

4. To cooperate and support the continued investigation at all levels.

In the coming months, this Council will have difficult decisions to make. We are confident in moving forward that we will have honest and accurate information to make those decisions with the information gained through the investigation.

The Borough Council and Authority have a deep and profound love for this community. We have chosen Newville, just like many others, to raise our families, live out our lives, and lay

our heads at night to sleep. We all share the love of the people of Newville, its natural and historical beauty, and its natural resources. We are confident that the Newville Borough will be self-sufficient, transparent, and honor its values at the end of this process.

Mr. Marcus McKnight, Newville Borough Solicitor has been appointed spokesperson on this matter. All questions and inquiries should be directed to his office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott Penner', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Scott Penner  
President  
Newville Borough Council