

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

February 13, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

The Jefferson Township Board of Supervisors' regular meeting was called to order by Chairman John Cypher, Monday, February 13, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. as advertised. All rose to pledge the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Those present were John Cypher, Chairman – Lois J. Rankin, Vice-Chair. (by speaker phone) – Braden Beblo, Supervisor – Leo J. Rosenbauer, III, Manager, and Lois Fennell, Sec/Treas.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

MINUTES:

Motion by John Cypher to approve the January 3, 2023 re-organizational and regular meeting minutes as written and distributed. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

FINANCIAL:

The list of bills paid between the Jan. 3, 2023 meeting and February 13, 2023 totaled \$48,559.62 (which included \$28,010.00 paid to Compass Mineral for salt). The list of bills presented for payment this evening from the General Fund totaled \$13,085.53. No bills were presented for payment this evening from the State Fund. The Balance of All Funds after payment of the bills presented totaled \$2,852,449.53. *Motion* by John Cypher to pay the bills presented and any other bills come and are due prior to the March 13, 2023 meeting. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

There was no Recreation Committee meeting on Feb. 1, 2023 due to lack of a quorum. The Township Manager noted that he has scheduled a meeting with Representative Marci Mustello and Senator Scott Hutchinson to obtain support for a new grant to be used as matching funds to the DCNR grant for the proposed 'pool renovation'.

Baseball: Website: www.saxonburgbaseball.com

Pool: Website: www.sebcopool.com

Softball: Website: www.sagsa.org

Soccer: Website: www.knochsoccer.org

ROAD REPORT:

Chairman John Cypher gave the road report as follows: First of all, kudos to the road crew for the winter maintenance well done!

760 ton of salt and 100 ton of anti-skid have been used this winter season as of 2/10/23. Only 380 ton of salt will be required for purchase to meet the minimum on the Co-Stars Salt Contract.

All trucks and equipment are greased washed and ready to go for the next event. The road crew continues to keep up with sign damage, down limbs/trees, dead animals, and potholes.

The new John Deere tractor has been delivered to Land Pro Equipment and is expected to be taken to Seigworth Supply for the boom mower installation this week sometime. The Township is expecting delivery in March. This notice was followed by discussion on the used boom mower. Seigworth had estimated the used value to be between \$20k and \$30k. John Bucko from Wayne Township has contacted the road foreman showing interest in the used boom mower and said they would pay between \$25,000 to \$30,000. After significant discussion, John Cypher *moved* to offer the used boom mower to Wayne Township at \$30,000; and if they are not interested at that price, then it will be placed on Municibid. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

ROAD REPORT, cont.:

The road crew made a sweep through the park picking up sticks and branches on Tues. 2/7/23. Some patch work was done on Fisher Rd. between Rt. 356 and Hannahstown Rd. Snow fence will start to be torn down in March depending on the weather.

The new Mack truck is at Super City and should be getting the bed built by the end of February. It will then go to Stephenson's Equipment for the plow system and hydraulics. The Township expects delivery in April. This is a problem because the 'grant' deadline is March 7th. Subsequent to a discussion with the DEP grant facilitator, the Manager said that due to the supply delay, the Township must re-apply for the grant. If the grant is not re-awarded then the total cost of the vehicle comes out of the township funds. The manager noted that due to price increases, he signed off on a price increase on the truck body (around \$4300) hoping this would facilitate a more timely completion of the truck.

The road crew has been looking into and talking about purchasing an excavator. The Supervisors said they cannot consider the purchase in light of the possibility of paying the full amount of the Mack truck ordered.

Manager Leo Rosenbauer added the following:

There was a grant procedure meeting at the County on Feb. 9th for all MIP Grant recipients (ours is for the culverts on O'Hara and Janice Lane.) He noted that the grant expenditure 'reimbursements' can be applied for periodically during the project (so that the Township does not have to wait until the project is completed before getting the grant amount.)

LTAP asked for pictures and our winter maintenance procedures...due to LTAP wanting to split their training class.

Chairman Cypher, Manager Rosenbauer, and a few Planning Commission members met with Saxonburg Fire Dept. volunteers to discuss their needs and the proposed 'false alarm' ordinance.

Knoch School District has asked for an appeal hearing under the PA UCC for a required 'storm shelter'.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Leo Rosenbauer, P.C. Chair., reported on the Jan. 16, 2023 Planning Commission meeting. The DEP Component 2 Sewage Planning Module for Austin's Place at 447 Dinnerbell Rd. was presented for review by the P.C. It is for a proposed new facility on flag lot #3 of 10.06 acres. It is for a proposed sand-mound system. They are planning for 30 peoples per day (daylight hours for 15 staff and 15 clients.) This is a Revision to our Act 537 Plan and requires a Resolution. The P.C. voted to recommend approval of the Component 2 for Austin's Place. The Supervisors reviewed the information presented this evening (2/13/23) and after a brief discussion, Lois Rankin *moved* to approve the Component 2 via Resolution #507 for Austin's Place as presented. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The land development plan for S. Sell on Freeport Rd. and the land development plan for J. Chick on Great Belt Rd. were tabled by the P.C. due to 'access issues.' The engineer, attorney, and the manager have been working on solutions.

It was noted that the P.C. voted to retain the same slate of officers for 2023: Leo Rosenbauer, Chairman – Brian Noah, Vice-Chair. & Martha Fleming, Secretary.

John Cypher commented that along with considering the size increase for lots with on-lot septic/well the P.C. and Supervisors should consider looking at the lot size for lots with public sewer and water.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The road foreman has recommended that Brian Turner's wages be set under Tier 2 (\$21 to \$24) at \$23.00 per hour as of 1/29/23 (the day after he completed his 180-day probation.) This is due to his capabilities and his work ethics as observed. *Motion* by John Cypher to set his pay at \$23.00 beginning (retroactive to) 1/29/23. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS, cont.:

The manager noted that he had two names for possible appointment of library representative for Jefferson Township. Mrs. Beblo indicated that she did not have the extra time for the position. Janet Perine had applied via the South Butler Community Library. *Motion* by John Cypher to appoint Janet Perine to complete Monica Rummel's term through 12/31/24. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*. For more information on the library, go to www.southbutlerlibrary.org

NEW BUSINESS:

The application for the 2023 Butler County Parks Renovation Grant is due by Feb. 24th. The application has been completed for further renovation of the 'Ladies Pavilion' (to include, but not limited to: vinyl skirt board on three sides, metal siding over the existing T111, adding soffit panels on overhang, adding additional electrical outlets and countertops.) *Motion* by John Cypher to approve applying for the grant (for up to \$7,500 on a project \$10,000 or more) and adopting the authorizing Resolution #506. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The Manager and the Sec/Treas. met with Jeff Howard on Feb. 9th to hear the 3/2023 to 3/2024 insurance package renewal details (excluding W/C & Public Officials.) Chairman Cypher noted that the coverage is the same with a 6% overall increase for a total of \$24,898.00. *Motion* by John Cypher to accept the renewal package as presented. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

MISC. BUSINESS:

Chairman John Cypher shared this annual "State of the Township Address" as follows.

Jefferson Township, of Butler County, Pennsylvania, USA, continues to thrive and grow each day. We continue to enjoy low crime rates, good employment figures, and excellent residents. We continue to be a rural farm community, while at the same time adding additional homes and businesses.

The Township has laws and rules that each of us must follow. Some laws are 'handed to us' from higher levels of government to enforce. Everyone must follow the same guidelines as the township. The ultimate goal is to provide for health, safety, welfare, and enjoyment by all residents and visitors of the township. It is up to the Township Supervisors, Manager, Secretary-Treasurer, and Road Department Employees to assure and enforce compliance.

It is hoped that this coming year we can somehow find the funding to renovate the township pool at the Laura J. Doerr Community Park. Without an additional \$550,000.00 of funding, it cannot be done. Therefore, reaching out to residents, if you have valid ideas, please advise.

We thank all of the volunteers who diligently do the work of the township, especially the Planning Commission and Park Recreation Committee. Their unselfish efforts are so appreciated.

We offer a very special thanks to our first responder volunteers – Saxonburg Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Services – Please remember to financially support and to volunteer personal services if you can.

Thank you for the South Butler Community Library efforts, their volunteers, and for all of their functions and events. Thank you also to the Butler Humane Society.

As we continue forward may all of us remember the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you! May we all be healthy and practice kindness and friendliness with our neighbors.

Motion by John Cypher to proceed to put the "2023 State of Township Address" in the newsletter. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED: None.

ATTENDANCE: Evie Gross, Bill Foertsch, and Shalynn Bergbigler

ADJOURN: Lois Rankin *moved* to adjourn at 7:53 P.M. on Feb. 13, 2023. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

NEXT MEETING: The next scheduled meeting is Monday, March 13, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at the municipal building - 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler, PA 16002.