



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP December 2023 NEWSLETTER

"ANNOUNCEMENTS" are at the end of the Newsletter!

Road Foreman's Report

Chairman Cypher read the road report as follows:

- Snow fence installation has been completed for this winter. Leaf removal along the roads was completed last week. The final sweep at the park for leaves was done on Nov. 30th.
- The road foreman is waiting for the purchase order for the new tarp cover for the salt building to come in the mail. It will need to be reviewed, signed, and sent back. Delivery is expected by spring (2024) and it should be installed in the spring or summer.
- The 2017 Mack engine light came on during the last salt run on Nov. 28th so it was sent to Tri-County Mack for service.
- The road crew will continue to service trucks and equipment between winter maintenance events.
- A tree trimming list for 2024 was turned into the Manager for approval.
- The road crew wished the Township's elected officials, volunteers, other employees, and all the Township residents a "MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!"

The Manager noted on the agenda that the bids for the (MIP grant) culvert project on Janice Lane and O'Hara Road were advertised and opened via PennBid on Nov 30, 2023. HRG, Inc. has forwarded results to the township for the Supervisors to discuss and make a decision this evening. The grant requires Davis-Bacon wage rates, Performance and Payment Bonds, and an insurance certificate (to liability and workmen's comp.) The ten bid prices ranged from \$96,861.00 to \$237,406.00. HRG, Inc. has recommended the lowest bid of \$96,861.00 from CRS Contracting (which is a local company). The Supervisors voted to award the bid to CRS Contracting for the bid amount of \$96,861.00 as long as they are a qualified company.

Recreation Committee

No Report – The Recreation Committee does NOT meet in November, December, or January.

Baseball: www.saxonburgbaseball.com

Pool: www.sebcopool.com

Softball: www.sagsa.org

Soccer: www.knochsoccer.org

The next meeting is planned for Feb. 7, 2024 at 8:00 PM.

Planning Commission

Leo Rosenbauer reported on the Nov. 20, 2023 Planning Commission meeting.

Christina Corigliano submitted a modification request to be permitted to subdivide a lot from her parent's 14+-acre lot (with existing house) on Blackberry Hill Lane. She presented her case eloquently, explaining the reason they would like to be able to build a house there. Regretfully, and unfortunately, the P.C. members communicated that this private lane (which is not up to public road standards) has been in existence for many years (probably over 50 years). Since then, regulations have been put into place to limit the number of lots allowed on a private lane, and to the best of the knowledge of township officials and P.C. members, and upon the advice of the township attorneys throughout the years, no further subdivision is permitted on this private lane (and/or any other private lane having three or more lots) unless the lane is brought up to current

specifications by the property owners; this would then be presented to the township for approval. After much discussion the P.C. voted to recommend the denial of the modification request from Christina Corigliano.

At the Supervisors' meeting tonight (12/11/23) Leo Rosenbauer noted that there are 20 lots, 14 of which have houses. Their lot is part of the original Jane Fire Plan from the 1960's/1970's. The private right-of-way is approximately 20 feet in width in some places. He reported that he had advised Ms. Corigliano to try to acquire another right-of-way to Heller Rd. from the neighbor(s). She said she talked to two neighbors, and they were not interested in selling any property. Ms. Corigliano said their parents' deed is the only one that states that (wording from the deed): "*the property is specifically restricted so as to result in use of the same by no more than two families.*" It was noted again by the township officials that the township does not have jurisdiction to (and therefore does not) enforce deed restrictions. Mr. Corigliano explained again why that are asking for this modification. After much discussion, the Supervisors voted to deny the modification request from Christina Corigliano because they simply cannot meet the current ordinances and they failed to prove a hardship as defined in the ordinances.

The Knoch School District submitted a revised land development of the original presented in Oct. 2022, which was revised and scaled back. The P.C. tabled the decision on the submitted revision at their Oct. 16th meeting. The P.C. reviewed the Nov. 13, 2023 review letter from HRG, Inc. which states that the applicant (Knoch S.D.) has provided adequate responses to the previous comment letters and that they support a recommendation for approval by the P.C. The P.C. voted at their November 20, 2023 meeting to recommend approval of the Revised Knoch School District Land Development.

John Frydrych (CEC), the Knoch School District's engineer, was present tonight at the Supervisors' meeting. The O & M was executed, but still needs to be recorded by the school district. The Supervisors voted to approve the Revised Knoch School District Land Development.

The Penn United Technology Land Development with building addition plans and stormwater report which were tabled at the Oct. P.C. meeting. At their Nov. 20, 2023 meeting, the P.C. reviewed the responses from Gateway Engineers (letter dated 11/20/23) to the HRG, Inc. comment letter dated Nov. 9, 2023. The P.C. voted to recommend approval of the Penn United Technology Land Development with two contingencies: pending the attorney's advice regarding the parking area south of Durango Lane and regulations on a 'crosswalk' and all setbacks must be 75 ft. from all public and private road rights-of-way. The evening (12/11/23) Leo Rosenbauer reported to the Supervisors the need for the following contingencies for their consideration this evening: 1) The O & M is to be executed and recorded; 2) A bond must be submitted for the Stormwater Management Plan; 3) parking and walkway (or crosswalk) must be marked; and 4) a parking agreement must be submitted (as recommended by the township attorney.) *Motion* by Lois Rankin to approve the Penn United Technology Land Development with the four contingencies as indicated. *Seconded* by John Cypher. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The P.C. reviewed the HRG, Inc. comments and the Gateway Engineer' responses at the Nov. 20th meeting and proceeded to vote to recommend approval of the Concordia Shade Canopy Land Development. Leo Rosenbauer told the Supervisors this evening (12/11/23) that all items have been met for the land development. The Supervisors voted to approve the Concordia Shade Canopy Land Development. Leo Rosenbauer will notify them that the building permit application for be submitted now.

The Fox Subdivision was tabled at the Oct. 16, 2023 P.C. meeting until a solution is provided for Lot 2's frontage. The P.C. offered some suggestions last month, but no revisions had been received for their Nov. 20th meeting. The P.C. had to take action on the plan on Nov. 20th so that the Supervisors could vote on the plan prior to the 90-day review period expiration date. The P.C. voted to recommend denial of the Fox Subdivision as submitted due to failure to resubmit with a solution for the lot frontage. The Supervisors voted to deny the Fox Subdivision as submitted due to failure to resubmit with revisions.

December 11, 2023 Unfinished Business

It was noted that revisions to Chap. 15 (speed limit along with other needed changes) are still pending.

It was also notes that the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with Winfield Township for a shared emergency management coordinator is still ‘with the attorney.’ He will call him again!

2024 Preliminary Budget was advertised for final review and adoption this evening.

Several matters were discussed. The Supervisors voted to include a 3% raise for the manager in 2024, the official Resolution to be adopted at the Jan. 2, 2024 meeting. The Supervisors voted to include a 3% raise for the Secretary/Treasurer in 2024. As recommended by the road foreman and manager, the Supervisors voted to increase Brian Turner’s wage an additional \$1.00 hr. plus the 2% wage increase set in the union contract, to bring him up closer to the wages of GG and GF or \$24.48 per hour for 2024.

After some additional discussion on the park/pool budget and on the possible increase in line painting (which is part of the ‘public works’ budget) the Supervisors voted to adopt the 2024 Budget Resolution #518 as revised and with NO increase in the real estate tax mills (remains at 1 mill).

December 11, 2023 New Business

The Supervisors voted to approve Draw Down #2 for the 20% earth work completed by Liberty Point. The manager confirmed that 20% of this work was done and noted that this releases \$65,206.80 from their ‘letter of credit’.

The manager and road foreman would like to continue ‘tree trimming’ and the roads anticipated in 2024 are: Blakely Rd. (all), Green Manor Dr, (to Summit Township line on either end), Jones Rd. (from Bonniebrook Rd. to Winfield Township line) Patterson Rd. (all) and Simon Dr. (Rt. 356 to Summit Twp. line). The Supervisors voted to proceed with quotes for consideration before the Jan. 2, 2024 meeting.

Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – December 11, 2023

Questions from the Supervisors for the manager and/or updates from the manager:

- 1) The Manager reported that any business (including municipalities) that submits 10 or more W2s and/or 1099s in a year MUST file them ON-LINE. He said the ‘login.gov’ sign-in does not work on this Social Security website, so the alternative is for someone to register with ‘IDMe’.
- 2) The restroom project (renovations to the existing restroom) deadline is Fri., Dec. 15th. They have been notified by the CDBG Coordinator, Wendy Leslie, that the daily fines will take effect if not completed.
- 3) The Manager received three quotes for the renovations at the ‘Ladies Pavilion.’ Two of the quotes are close, but he is still looking at/confirming counter construction and materials.
- 4) The Manager has been in contact with the ‘camera security system company’ that was used by a nearby township to discuss needed updates at the park and the cost thereof.
- 5) The Manager has been in contact with PennDOT Engineer regarding the proposed right-of-way purchase at Jefferson Center.

A notice was received from Moody & Associates regarding PennEnergy Resources’ intention to withdraw 1.5 million gallons of water per day from Thorn Creek for the purpose of shale gas and/or oil development.

Major Expenditures since the Nov. 13th meeting through Dec. 11, 2023

Teamsters #261 & Health & Welfare – Jan. 2024 premium	\$6,949.72
Chase Card Serv. – misc. purchases on visa card in Nov.	\$1,202.52
RA Services – 2024 license & support – accounting & RT Tech agreement	\$1,250.00
HRG, Inc. – engineers – reviews prior month	\$3,242.50

TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS

REGULAR HOURS: Monday through Thursday - 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM (CLOSED on Fridays.)

Office phone #724-352-2324 - Fax #724-352-8850 Manager: Leo Rosenbauer Sec/Treas.: Lois Fennell

Holidays, Vacation, & other days off/office closures are posted on the door.

ANY QUESTIONS: email or call: jefftwbutlerpa@zoominternet.net – 724-352-2324

The Office will be CLOSED on Dec. 25th and Dec. 26th for Christmas and Jan. 1st for New Year's Day.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Board of Supervisors – 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. (except Jan.)

L. John Cypher, Chairman Lois Rankin, Vice-Chair. Braden Beblo, Supervisor

Planning Commission – 3rd Monday at 6:00 P.M. (Change beginning Sept. 2023)

Members: Leo Rosenbauer (Chair.), Brian Noah (Vice-Chair.), Martha Fleming (Secretary), Evelyn Gross, Michael Gaston, James Jones, Robert Williams, Dan Driscoll, and Bernie Shulik. Robert Wetzel is alternate P.C. member.

Recreation Board – 1st Wednesday at 8 P.M. Feb. to Oct. (No meetings Nov., Dec. & Jan.)

Members: Brian Patten (Chair.), Roger Cypher, Kristi Wise, Greg Bauer (Pool), (new rep. to be appointed for Baseball), James C. Jones (Softball), and Brad Emsurak (Soccer)

Location for all meetings listed: 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler, PA 16002 - Any changes are advertised and posted.

REAL ESTATE /PER CAPITA TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector Nadine Grabe, 245 Heller Rd, Butler, PA 16002 - 724-352-3288

Pay by mail or call for an appointment. Never leave unstamped envelopes in the Tax Collector's personal mailbox. There is a secure payment drop box located on the porch.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ↓↓

⇒ **NOTICE:** The Center for Community Resources has left a small box at the Township Building for 'used coats that are clean and in good condition' for collection from Township Residents **through Dec. 31, 2023 only.**

⇒ **NOTICE:** Jefferson Township's responsibility during & following storms and excessive rain events is to clear and protect the Township rights-of-way. The Township is NOT authorized to clean up any private property; the only exception would be for Emergency access for 9-1-1 responders! It is also not legal for property owners to place any storm/rain/wind debris from their property along the township road rights-of-way.

⇒ **During the upcoming WINTER months,** as per the Township Ordinances, NO ONE is to park on the cul-de-sacs or any public road (*a minimum of 4 feet from the edge of the pavement*) so that the road can easily be cleaned of snow. Please **DO NOT PUSH SNOW ONTO THE ROADS** when plowing your driveway. Should this cause an accident, you could be named in a claim or lawsuit. In addition, this is a reminder that the Township is NOT responsible for replacing or repairing mailboxes damaged during the plowing/salting process. Mailbox installation guidelines are available at the USPS website - "Regulations for Installing a Mailbox."

Also, residents living along the Butler-Freeport Community Trail are asked to be considerate when plowing snow from their property. Some residents are plowing snow onto the trail and in front of the gates, which blocks emergency vehicle access. If there would be an emergency, Emergency Services / 1st Responders would have difficulty getting to the scene.

⇒ **Jefferson Township Burning Ordinance**

The Township Burning Ordinance limits burning of 'ordinary' (domestic) waste materials (paper, cartons, boxes, yard waste, wood, and other similar items) by residents to 'dawn to dusk'; see *on-line ordinance for excluded items.*

PLEASE use common sense! Many items that cannot be burned can be recycled. All fires are to be completely extinguished before being left unattended. Recreational fires are permitted by Ordinance #459 (Chapter 7 of the Code of Ordinances.) PLEASE be considerate of your neighbors and do NOT permit leaves and other 'allowed' materials to be left smoldering after dusk.

ALL COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL BUSINESSES, NON-RESIDENTIAL and MULTI-FAMILY are PROHIBITED from ANY burning at ANY time per the Dept. of Environmental Protection.

⇒ **Coherent (previously II-VI, Inc.) Emergency Warning Siren Test**
Scheduled for Dec. 22 and Dec. 23, 2023 at 12 Noon!

Do you live in Jefferson Township?

You may be eligible to have your windows, furnace, roof or more replaced!



Don't miss your chance to make some home improvements before the cold weather hits!

The Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program
assists homeowners in renovating their homes!

APPLY TODAY:

financial grants up to \$12,500 to assist eligible low to moderate income homeowners with home improvements including making your home more Energy Efficient. Also, if applicable, an additional \$2,500 is available to make handicap accessibility modifications to your home.

Call, Stop-in, or Email:



Redevelopment Authority County of Butler
114 Woody Drive □ Butler, PA 16001

724.287.6797/1.800.433.6327/TDD: 1.800.545.1833 x772



www.housingauthority.com