



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

"ANNOUNCEMENTS" are at the end of the Newsletter!

Road Report – Dec. 12th meeting

Chairman John Cypher read the road report.

- Snow fence is about 95% complete.
- The manager is planning on some tree trimming this year (work to be done before the end of March) and will be getting quotes.
- The roadcrew fixed three water issues along Great Belt Rd. and one along West Jefferson Rd.
- The rear brake pads and rotors were replaced on the 2015 F550 by our newer road employees. It was noted that they work well together and with the other road employees.
- The triple tree at the park (discussed last month) was dropped as quoted and the roadcrew did cleanup. The logs were hauled back to the township yard.
- Parts for the Tiger side deck mower were ordered (with a 15% discount for a total of \$2,408.78.) They are needed to get the mower ready for spring 2023.
- The Reay Lane sign was stolen; a new one will be ordered to install.
- The roadcrew is doing an overall sweep of township road edges to make any repairs and to make a list of missing road and lane name signs.
- The foreman has been checking the roads to get ready for the 2023 'road work list.'
- The 2023 Mack Truck has been delayed again; we are now looking for a build date of 12/14/22 for the chassis. They understand that we are on a time crunch for the grant deadline.
- The Township will consider bidding out stone (limestone & gravel); the foreman is to get a list ready for bidding.
- The Township may need to consider bidding some drainage pipe (due to prices increases, the costs will likely go over the quote threshold.) The roadcrew will get a list together for consideration. It was noted that we still have a grant application pending for pipe on O'Hara Road and Janice Lane.
- Supervisor Rankin asked about the Oak Drive culvert; the manager said the Township will not be replacing that culvert but excavating and placing stone.
- Manager Rosenbauer added:
 - ° There was an oil spill by a Vogel Disposal truck on Golden City Rd. which was cleaned up.
 - ° He noted that a 'Code Enforcement Officer assistant is being considered.
 - ° There is funding available from the "Low Volume/Dirt & Gravel Road Program" which we hope to benefit from by raising Creek Rd. from the bridge about 800 ft. or so. There is some permitting to obtain...and no final cost figures yet.

Recreation Committee – Dec. 12th meeting

There is no Recreation Committee meeting in Nov., Dec., and January, therefore no minutes to report. It was noted: the park is open, but the facilities have been winterized; the roof on the Ladies Pavilion is almost done, and the Scout Pavilion roof still has trim to be finished; the Supervisors' would like to get quotes (this

spring) to replace the T-111 siding on the Ladies Pavilion and obtain pricing for 'alternate' siding material as well; the manager is looking into a new state grant (for park projects) and will meet with Representative Mustello and Senator Scott Hutchinson. Some of the Supervisors would be interested in meeting as well.
WEBSITES: Baseball - www.saxonburgbaseball.com Pool - www.sebcopool.com
Softball - www.sagsa.org Soccer - www.knochsoccer.org

Planning Commission

Leo Rosenbauer, P.C. Chair., reported on the November 21, 2022 Planning Commission meeting. The Faust Plan No. 3, a lot-line revision of the Faust property at the corner of West Jefferson Rd. and Bullcreek Rd., was submitted for their review. Revised Lot 2 of 2.00 acres is proposed with existing trailer and septic. Lot 2 was 1.50 acres, and they propose adding Tract A of .50 acre from the farm remnant. The residual would then be 80 +/- acres after conveyance of Tract A. The plan includes a waiver from Parts 5 and 7 of the Subdivision & Land Dev. ordinance. Leo Rosenbauer noted that Butler County Planning had no comments and the HRG, Inc. review was favorable. The P.C. voted to recommend approval of the Faust Plan No. 3 as presented. The Supervisors reviewed the plan this evening (12/12/22). The Supervisors voted to approve the Faust Plan No. 3 as presented.

The P.C. reviewed a modification request for the Knoch High School Renovations, which was Item #1 in the HRG, Inc. 11/17/22 review letter. A modification is needed to allow a third driveway along Knoch Rd. This driveway (the first one to the right coming off Dinnerbell Rd.) is to be strictly one way into the property (no exiting). The P.C. voted to recommend approval of the modification request for the third driveway (entrance only) due to the fact that this entrance creates a safer traffic circulation pattern and on the condition that the appropriate fees are paid. After a brief review on 12/12/22, the Supervisors voted to approve the modification for the third driveway (entrance only) as presented.

The P.C. reviewed the Knoch High School Renovations Land Development. After review of the HRG, Inc. 11/27/22 review letter and subsequent overview presentation from Mr. John Frydrych, the P.C. voted to approve the Knoch High School Renovations Land Development contingent upon Items 1 through 11 in the HRG, Inc. 11/17/22 review letter being satisfactorily completed and submission of the O & M Agreement, the Developers Agreement, the NPDES Permit, and other required submissions from entities having jurisdiction (such as PA DEP, PennDOT, Butler Co. Conservation District, etc.) Mr. Frydrych was present to give a brief overview to the Board of Supervisors on 12/12/22. Following a brief discussion, the Supervisors voted to approve the Knoch High School Renovations Land Development with four contingencies: 1) permit from PennDOT for the crosswalk changes; 2) NPDES permit; 3) Developers agreement; and 4) O & M Agreement needs recorded.

Several people were present with questions about future development on the Faust property located at the intersection of Bullcreek and West Jefferson roads and the P.C. offered some advice.

Leo Rosenbauer gave the P.C. copies of two letters of interest for the position to be vacated by Kay Foertsch on 12/31/22. They will discuss at their Dec. 19th meeting to determine a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors prior to the Jan. 3, 2022 meeting.

The P.C. discussed further the possibility of increasing the minimum lot size (for lots with well/septic) and the minimum frontage (to 175 ft. or 200 ft.) with a probable minimum lot depth. Brian Noah agreed to make a drawing to show 'samples' of various frontages. Leo Rosenbauer is to double check the 'building' verses 'structure' definitions in the MPC.

Supervisor Rankin suggested a preparing a letter to Kay Foertsch for her 'retirement' from the Planning Commission and to note this 'thank you' in the newsletter. It was noted that the P.C. will look at the 'false alarm' ordinance request at their Dec. 19th meeting.

Dec. 12, 2022 Unfinished Business

The 2023 Preliminary Budget was advertised for final review and adoption this evening. The preliminary budget was revised (to include \$70,000 for West Jefferson Road Bridge and \$18,000 for renovations to the Ladies' Pavilion) per discussion at the Nov. 14, 2022 meeting. There was no further discussion this evening. The Supervisors voted to adopt the 2023 Budget Resolution #497 as revised with no increase in the Real Estate Tax, which remains at 1 mill.

Chairman Cypher strongly noted that he wants more information from PennDOT regarding the Great Belt/Bonniebrook Road intersection. Lois Rankin and Braden Beblo are willing to wait for more information from PennDOT regarding possible 'study/survey' required, guarantee that the proposed powered traffic device (stop sign) will actually work and the cost of said device and cost of required maintenance.

Nov. 14, 2022 New Business

The manager asked the Supervisors about the possibility of a solar (farm) ordinance. Individual houses can already be issued a building permit for solar panel installation. There was no interest at this time in regulating solar farms (such farms would still need to meet Land Development regulations.) There was also no interest in adopting any 'animal control' ordinances since we are a rural/farming community.

A couple from West Jefferson Road were present regarding leaf blowing done by the Township. Tree trimming on various township roads was discussed briefly during the road report earlier in the meeting.

Under the 'union contract' a new full-time employee is to be offered health insurance after the first 30 days. Nevertheless, the Teamster's Insurance Fund would not accept Mr. Turner (new road employee) due to the policy requiring at least 50% of the insured to be 'union members' and Mr. Turner agreed to stay on his parents' insurance at least until the end of his probation. Under these circumstances, the Supervisors agreed and voted to authorize paying Mr. Turner the 'health benefit in lieu of going onto the township policy' including prior months of Sept. through November 2022, upon proof of current coverage.

Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – Dec. 12, 2022

PSATS for the Youth Awards Contest.

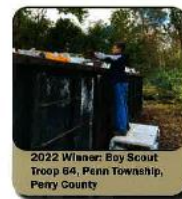
Applications are due to the County Association (via Lois Rankin, President) by Jan. 15, 2023.
The County Association (BCATO) must forward to PSATS by Jan. 31, 2023.



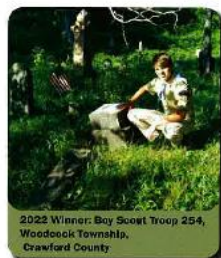
Here's your chance to volunteer in your community and maybe win a \$500 prize for your organization. If your group has completed a community service project that benefits a Pennsylvania township of the second class — governed by a board of supervisors — enter it in the 2023 PSATS Youth Awards!

To enter:

- Go to psats.org.
- Choose Programs & Services, PSATS Award Programs, and then PSATS Youth Awards.
- Download the guidelines and entry form.
- Submit your entry by January 15, 2023.



*Eligible groups include Boy and Girl Scout troops, 4-H Clubs, school and church groups, civic service clubs, and other officially established youth organizations from elementary through grade 12.



Lois Rankin noted that the Spring PSATS Conference is April 23 to April 26, 2023.

Copies of an email and attachments (financial statement and budget) from the South Butler Community Library were given to the Board. Find out about events/activities at the library on their website: www.southbutlerlibrary.org

Major Expenditures since the Nov. 14th meeting through Dec. 12, 2022

Teamsters' #261 & Employer – health insurance Jan. 2023	\$ 5,404.21
Stephenson's Tree & Landscaping – 3-way tree removal at park	\$ 3,200.00
Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham – legal – Nov. 2022	\$ 1,909.00
Purvis Brothers, Inc. – diesel and 10% ethanol gas	\$ 1,870.80
R. A. Service – 2023 accounting and annual tech. assistance	\$ 1,250.00
Triangle Gasoline Co. – road dept. supplies	\$ 1,583.84

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: jefftwpbutlerpa@zoominternet.net – 724-352-2324

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 7:00 P.M.

Members: Leo Rosenbauer (Chair.), Martha Fleming (Secretary), Evelyn Gross, Kathryn Foertsch, James Jones, Brian Noah (Vice-Chair.), Robert Williams, Dan Driscoll, and Bernie Shulik.
Robert Wetzel is an 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), Jamie McSwaney (Baseball), James C. Jones (Softball), and Chris Tully (Soccer)

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

Please see websites for the park associations under 'Recreation Committee' above.

REAL ESTATE /PER CAPITA TAX COLLECTOR

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

⇒ **NEED HELP during COVID19: Call (dial) 2-1-1 for help or Contact one of the 'community resources' below:**

- **Food For Kids** Program information: <https://files.constantcontact.com/5061598a001/e62a6eb1-16b1-48d2-ad5c-349fc68f4395.pdf>
- **Food Bank** Information: <https://files.constantcontact.com/5061598a001/2d7ca64b-ee3d-4b4f-8ad9-45aa6cc125a3.pdf>
- **Link for Butler County Food Bank donations:** <https://anrinfo.org/product/butler-county-food-bank-donation/>
- **Butler County Health and Human Services** Resources are available 24 hours a day 7 days a week at, <http://pa211sw.org/> or by calling 211.
- **The Center for Community Resources** is also available 24 hours a day 7 days a week at (855)-284-2494. You can also chat with them at their website, <https://ccrinfo.org/>

- **24 Hour Crisis Services Local Hotline** (800) 292-3866
- **United Way of Butler County** – Check with them for help, but also to give donations that will help Butler County citizens. 724-283-4883 <https://www.butlerunitedway.org/butler-county-emergency-relief-initiative-beri>

⇒ **During the upcoming WINTER months**, as per the Township Ordinances, NO ONE is to park on the cul-de-sacs or any public road 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 leaving 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.

⇒ **PA AMERICAN WATER – 'WaterSource'**

LIHWAP – Low Income Household Water Assistance Program – contact www.compass.state.pa.us or request an application by calling the Dept. of Human Services Customer Service at 877-395-8930 (or for the hearing-impaired call PA Relay at 711).

⇒ **DON Housing Department**

USDA Access & Rehabilitation Program for Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Lawrence, Mercer & Westmoreland Counties.

This grant provides needed repairs and renovations for homeowners with very low to low income whose primary residences are located in a USDA eligible area. Funds awarded through an application process on a first come, first served basis. To find out more, go to www.doninc.org/HPP or phone 724-652-5144 (for hearing impaired TTY/VP: 724-652-5152). *The Township has NO involvement in the grants or processing of the applications!*

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