

NEWS



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

February 2023

NEWSLETTER

"ANNOUNCEMENTS" are at the end of the Newsletter!

Road Foreman's 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, the Supervisors voted 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.

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'.

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: www.saxonburgbaseball.com Pool: www.sebcopool.com Softball: www.sagsa.info.
Soccer: www.knochsoccer.org

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, the Supervisors voted to approve the Component 2 via Resolution #507 for Austin's Place as presented.

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.

February 13, 2023 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. The Supervisors voted to set his pay at \$23.00 beginning (retroactive to) 1/29/23.

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. The Supervisors voted to appoint Janet Perine to complete Monica Rummel's term through 12/31/24. For more library information, go to www.southbutlerlibrary.org

February 13, 2023 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.) The Supervisors voted to approve applying for the grant (for up to \$7,500 on a project \$10,000 or more) and adopting the authorizing Resolution #506.

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. The Supervisors voted to accept the renewal package as presented.

Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – February 13, 2023

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.

The Supervisors voted to include this in the February newsletter.

Major Expenditures since the Jan. 3rd meeting through Feb. 13, 2023

Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham – legal Dec. 2022	\$ 1,220.75
Lacal Equipment, Inc. – plow shoes, etc.	\$ 1,452.26
Teamsters #261 Health & Welfare – March 2023 health ins. prem.	\$ 5,404.21
Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic, Inc. – engineer's review of land developments	\$ 1,105.00
PSATS – (PA State Assn. of Twp. Supervisors) – annual dues & publications	\$ 1,741.00
Compass Mineral – salt	\$28,010.58
Code.sys Code Consulting, Inc. – inspections	\$ 1,373.50
Chase Card Service – deposit on new garage door & postage and other misc.	\$ 3,308.24
Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham – legal Jan. 2023	\$ 3,266.25
Purvis Brothers, Inc. – gas and diesel	\$ 1,966.27

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.), Evelyn Gross, James Vadnal, James Jones, Brian Noah (Vice-Chair.), Martha Fleming (Secretary), 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), 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.

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

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 ↓↓

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

⇒ **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.

⇒ **NEW NOTICE: 2023 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE & ELECTRONICS "recycling events"**
Butler County has just received DEP collection permit approval to hold its 2023 Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics collection events for our county residents as follows:

- April 1 at 150 Henricks Road, Butler (Center Township)
- May 13 at 207 Ash Stop Road, Evans City (Forward Township)
- July 15 at 191 Election House Road, Prospect (Franklin Township)
- September 2 at 157 Airport Road, Butler (Penn Township)
- November 11 at 690 Valencia Road, Mars (Adams Township)

Residents will be required to pre-register to attend these events and are scheduled for an approximate arrival time which helps to keep attendees from waiting in long lines. The Noble Environmental web site can be found here: <https://nobleenviro.com/> or they can call 412-567-6566. At the top of the web page, click on "Ewaste and HHW Collections" to find the registration page and details about attending an event. Please note that only cards are accepted for payment. Cash and checks are not accepted.

⇒ **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.

⇒ **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>

⇒ **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