



# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP FEBRUARY 2017 Newsletter

## NOTICES

The Butler County Commissioners are "Calling All of the Agricultural Community" to a Farm Town Hall Event on Tues., Feb. 21, 2017 from 7 to 9 PM at BC3's Founder's Hall, 107 College Dr., Butler, PA 16002 - Contact information: [BoardofCommissioners@co.butler.pa.us](mailto:BoardofCommissioners@co.butler.pa.us) or 724-284-5100.

The Jefferson Township Recreation Committee has scheduled a coordinated, park-wide clean-up day on March 18, 2017 beginning at 10 AM. Volunteers from the community are invited to participate.

## Statement of the Township Address

Feb. 13, 2017

We have now transitioned from 2016 to 2017. One constant is 'change'. Change is essential to our very existence as mankind. As we move forward we must learn from the past and prepare for the future to succeed. 2016 has been a year of change. We have a new United States President looking out for the future. We have a State government looking to balance the budget. We have a new Supervisor in Jefferson Township.

Our Township mission remains the same. We desire to prepare for the future by doing the best we can today. The main focus is the township road system - maintenance and improvement - as well as safety and welfare of our residents. Maintaining our rural and neighborly atmosphere throughout the Township is a priority. We spend our funds conservatively, without deficit.

The Supervisors have spent funds to maintain roads in winter maintenance, repaving, repairing, new replacement equipment, revamping township garage facilities. All without a tax increase.

We note the passing of 2 icons: Harold Riemer and Wayne Deaner. Together they spent thousands of volunteer hours of unselfish service at our community park, without expectation of notoriety or fanfare. They have left a mark forever in posterity.

The Township continues to be faced with 'unfunded mandates' from federal, state and county levels. Everything the Township performs must meet the higher levels of government approvals.

Again, we ask for volunteers to step forward to perform our Township functions: auditors, planning commission members, park committee members...all are needed.

Your Supervisors remain committed to the function to which they have been sworn, to the Constitution of United States, the State of Pennsylvania, the County of Butler and to Jefferson Township.

We, the Board of Supervisors of Jefferson Township, continue to be your faithful servants and thank you, our residents, every day!

J. Cypher, Chair.

## Road Foreman's Report

Chairman Cypher read the report submitted by Road Foreman William Foertsch. The new Mack truck in full service and working well. The 2016-2017 winter season salt usage as of 2/6/17 is approx. 850 tons and antiskid usage is approx. 250 tons. Weather outlook for February looks good and the foreman has no plans to order any more salt at this time. A list of road name signs was prepared and the signs were ordered. They were installed by the road crew last week. All of the housing plans that were double-sealed in 2016 have been swept (in January) by Ike Construction for \$1,375.00. Another sweeping is planned for late March or early

April. The road crew have been demonstrating the Volvo L70H and the Hyundai HL940 pay loaders this past week. The prices for a new loader and proposed trade allowance are still coming in from the various companies.

Paving for 2017: Proposed roads are Great Belt Rd. (from Nursery Lane to Township Line), Becker Rd., Heller Rd., and Smith Rd. XTO is offering to pay for 60% of bonded roads and Penn Township will reimburse Jefferson Township for their portion of Heller Rd. Double-Seal 2017: Proposed roads are O'Hara Rd., Caldwell Dr., Simon Dr., Frazier Rd., Creek Rd. and Bullcreek Rd. (Frazier to Mushrush). The Supervisors voted to accept the list of proposed roads. They did not schedule a 'road inspection' but the foreman is willing to take any of them out to view the roads. They will vote to authorize advertisement next month and plan to open bids in April.

In addition, XTO is offering to help with the cost of labor and shooting oil on the millings after back-filling the berms on the bonded roads being paved. Kevin Gray from Butler County Bridges has indicated that they will probably do the culvert bridge on Hannahstown when school is out of session (in June.) The road crew discovered an engine oil leak in the 99 International truck and since it had to do with the high pressure oil pump for the injectors, they took it to Dinnerbell Garage. Cost to repair will depend on whether the pump can be rebuilt or has to be replaced.

## Recreation Committee

Recreation Committee Chairman, Brian Patten reported on their Feb. 1, 2017 meeting.

**Baseball:** Registrations are currently open - see the SABA website for details: [www.saxonburgbaseball.com](http://www.saxonburgbaseball.com) Opening day is April 29th. They are planning an 11U tournament June 17-18. Baseball is still pursuing the lighting of at least one field in order to hold night games.

**Softball:** Softball is still interested in the lighting project and hopes they can partner with Baseball on it. Registration is open until the end of February - see the SAGSA website for more information: [www.sagsa.org](http://www.sagsa.org) Renovations to the concession stand are almost completed. Jim Jones asked that the park gates be opened beginning March 1st. because the High School games are scheduled to start March 6th. They have noticed a lot of scooters, skate boards, etc. using the sidewalks and requested signs be posted to prohibit. After discussion at the Feb. 13th Supervisors' meeting, it was agreed that the "Park Rules and Regulations" document be reviewed and changes/corrections be proposed at a workshop set for 6 PM on March 1st (prior to the regular Rec. Committee meeting.) They have a tournament scheduled for July 21-23.

**Pool:** The Pool Association is beginning plans on a 50th anniversary celebration of the 'pool opening' this year. Possible date is August 12th, but details are still being worked on and will be announced as they become available. The 2017 admission rates for the pool will be the same as 2016's. They are searching for life guards for the 2017 season. Applications are available on their website: [www.sebcopool.com](http://www.sebcopool.com) They expressed thanks to the township road crew for addressing the water drainage behind the bath house. They would like the Township to look at the oak tree next to the fence, close to the sliding board, which is dying and asked if the road crew could cut it down. The Supervisors said the tree needs to be marked or someone needs to meet the road foreman to show him the tree. They agree that all parties need to meet with Thrower Communications to review access to the security cameras.

**Soccer:** Soccer registration is open; travel teams ending very soon and in-house teams closing at the end of February. Spring clean-up is set for Sat., March 18th. Season opening is April 8th. They are planning a tournament in July sometime. Website: [www.knochsoccer.org](http://www.knochsoccer.org)

**Park Projects:** All member associations have agreed to hold a coordinated, park-wide clean-up day on March 18th beginning at 10 AM. Volunteers from the community are invited to participate. They may have some refreshments available at their concession stands. This is to be 'announced' in the township newsletter. Viki Nulph is planning to paint the park entrance signs this spring...as soon as weather permits.

**Misc. Business:** Rod Miller is considering the vacant position on the Recreation Committee. The Committee still needs to find a secretary to take minutes, etc. and they will be talking to Viki Nulph again to find out if she is able to do it.

**Action Items:** 1) The township road crew is to look at the drainage between the T-Ball and Farm Fields. 2) Supervisor Rankin will meet with Recreation Committee members in a 'workshop' - 6 PM on March 1st - prior to regular Rec. Committee meeting. 3) The Rec. Committee is to coordinate a meeting with Thrower Communications so that 'all' parties (including Supervisors and road foreman) can review access to the security camera footage. 4) Determine 'who' will be unlocking the gates to the park beginning March 1st.

Chairman John Cypher suggested looking into 'rough' cost of paving the trail; and determining what width the currently constructed trail was set up for (was it specifically for a walking trail or mixed used)? Leo Rosenbauer said we need to follow storm water regulations for any improvements.

## **Planning Commission**

Leo Rosenbauer, Planning Chairman, reported on the Jan. 26, 2017 Planning Commission (P.C.) meeting. He reported that the P.C. had their election of officers, which remain the same: Leo Rosenbauer (Chairman), Danielle Sedlak (Vice-Chair.) and Evelyn Gross (Secretary.)

Mr. and Mrs. Wilczynski approached the P.C. to talk about the purchase of property on Dinnerbell Rd. with existing house, barn and arena. They are planning to move their 'non-profit' business (Austin's Place) from Wexford to that site. It is a day-program (no overnight/no weekends) for intellectually challenged people. They said they must submit a set of drawings showing all of the rooms in the existing house and an occupancy permit to the state (PA Dept. of Human Services' Office of Developmental Programs.) The P.C. referred them to the PA UCC Inspectors, Code.sys Code Consulting to find out what is needed for the 'change of use' and the proposed entrance ramp; and to get an occupancy permit. The P.C. said that if the handicapped parking area and access is already 'gravel' and less than 5,000 sq. ft., then it may not need a land development.

The P.C. discussed the matter of revising the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to provide language in the ordinance requiring reimbursement of Consultant and Professional Review costs and fees..in order to match the fee resolution(s) and the Subdivision & Land Development Application. It was agreed by the P.C. to 'continue' to charge back the actual costs for professional and consultant reviews to the developer/property owner and to not charge an application fee or deposit up front *at this time*. However the Supervisors wish to keep the option to require an 'application fee and/or deposits' After some discussion, the Supervisors agreed and asked the township attorney to prepare the draft SALDO Revision and review the proposed fee resolution(s) so that the P.C. and Supervisors can review them before authorizing advertisement.

The P.C. talked about a phone call inquiry regarding a possible subdivision of Lot 3 of the Barb Fisher property. No one came to discuss this with the P.C. They also discussed the tax sale of the old Bonniebrook Home, which has been vacant for at least 10 years. The township attorney said to wait and see what the new owner proposes. It will likely require a land development, but in any case they will have to follow current ordinances. The P.C. also discussed the Helsel (Atkinson) property on Great Belt Rd. (with house & trailer) which is now for sale by the Bank via Century 21. The Supervisors asked the attorney to draft a letter to notify the bank and realtor that the mobile home on the property (which may or may not be titled in the same name as the real property owner) does not currently have a permit to attached to the existing septic system.

## **Feb. 13, 2017 Unfinished Business**

It was noted last month that PennEnergy Resources has approached the Township to lease the park for a non-surface 'gas and oil' lease. The township attorney has been reviewing and revising the lease and addendums and DCNR was notified (because the park has received grant funds). After lengthy discussion at the Feb. 13th meeting (including but not limited to lease terms, royalties and costs) the Supervisors voted to enter into the 'oil and gas lease' for the park property with PennEnergy Resources LLC subject to final approval by the township attorney and satisfactory response from DCNR. PennEnergy will prepare the revised draft and response to PennEnergy's checklist and get it to Attorney Marshall for review.

The Supervisors were approached by the road employees about 1½ years ago regarding formation of a union. The tentative 2-year agreement was received by e-mail at the township on Friday afternoon, Feb. 10th, but the Supervisors received their copy this morning. The Supervisors voted to accept the tentative contract as presented and reviewed. The 'union/employees' now have to vote on it.

The Supervisors voted to raise the salary of the secretary/treasurer by 2% retroactive to Jan. 1, 2017. They also voted to raise the codes officer/building site inspector wage to \$16.50 per hour retroactive to 1/1/17.

It was noted that the "Floodplain Letter of Final Determination" is now not to be released until September 2017 and therefore the effective date will be in March 2018. This gives the Township a year to adopt the Revised Floodplain Ordinance.

The Supervisors tabled the appointment of a 'vacancy board chairman' at the reorganization meeting in January. They voted this evening to appoint Evelyn Gross as vacancy board chairman for 2017, and she has accepted.

## Feb. 13, 2017 New Business

The Supervisors received a letter from Butler County Commissioners regarding the 2017 County Park Renovation grant program (after our Jan. 3rd meeting.) The Board did not indicate interest, especially due to the fact that last year's project (to be funded by this grant) had to be put on hold. The County Parks Directory, Gary Pinkerton, was to get back to the Supervisors this spring with 'updates.'

The Supervisors received notice after our Jan. 3rd meeting that the road escrow certificate of deposit was maturing on Jan. 17th. (before this Feb. 13th meeting.) Due to the escrow funds being the 'maintenance bond' on Stonybrook Drive and due to the Board having questions about the funds in regard to Phase I and Phase II, they determined individually to transfer the funds into a temporary savings instead of allowing the CD to renew. They voted this evening to ratify the decision to transfer funds to a savings account. A letter will be sent to Lezzer/Miller LLC regarding the funds.

The Supervisors voted to sign the annual agreement with the Butler County Humane Society. They voted to adopt Resolution #393(Disposition of Records) to the next two-year period (years vary according to type of record). They voted to begin getting prices for roofing and gutters for the township building and replacing unit air conditioners with 'central air'. They noted that the County is holding a Farm Town Hall Event entitled "Calling All of the Agricultural Community" on Tues., Feb. 21st - 7 to 9 PM - at BC3's Founder's Hall.

## Miscellaneous Business - Feb. 13, 2017

- Received NOTICE from HRG that PennEnergy Resources, LLC is applying for a DEP permit to Drill & Operate Unconventional Gas Wells in Winfield Twp. 559 Marwood Rd., W34 wells 1H, 2H,3H,4H,6H+ 8H

- Received NOTICE from Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. that PennEnergy Resources, LLC is applying for DEP Permit to Drill and Operate an Unconventional Well for 6 gas wells in Winfield Township off Cornetti Rd. (W22 Well Pad, #1H to 6H)

- Received NOTICE from Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. that PennEnergy Resources, LLC is applying for DEP Permit to Drill and Operate an additional well (4H) on Golden City Rd. (Boldy) PER W70 (previously notified of wells 1H-3H.)

- Received NOTICE from Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. that PennEnergy Resources, LLC is applying for DEP Permit to Drill and Operate 5 gas wells off Dinnerbell Rd. (Korim Property) in Jefferson Township PER W71 Wells 1H, 2H, 3H, 4H and 5H.

Lois Rankin announced that the Butler County Association of Township Officials' Spring Convention is scheduled for Thurs., May 18, 2017 at the Butler Country Club. Registration is at 8 AM; sessions begin at 9 AM. Registration fee has not be set yet; information should be distributed to townships soon.

### Major Expenditures since the Jan. 3, 2017 through Feb. 13, 2017:

Amerihealth Casualty Service - W/C prem. installment (Feb.)	\$1,302.84
Amerihealth Casualty Service - " (Mar.)	\$1,302.84
Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham - Dec. legal	\$1,070.50
Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham - Jan. legal	\$4,107.00
Tri-County Mack Truck Center - new Mack Truck	\$124,369.15
American Rock Salt - road salt	\$16,937.49
South Butler Community Library - 2017 Donation	\$7,500.00
Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Dept. - 2017 Donation	\$8,000.00
Winfield Volunteer Fire Dept. - 2017 Donation	\$1,600.00
Highmark Blue Shield - health ins. prem. - March	\$3,096.44
Herbert, Rowland and Grubic, Inc. - MS4 waiver appl. work	\$2,675.62
Ike Construction, Inc. - sweep housing plans	\$1,375.00
U.S. Municipal - signs, posts, etc.	\$2,459.40
Code.sys Code Consulting, Inc. - issue bldg. permits/inspect.	\$2,244.94

## The Newsletter

The Newsletter is only available On-line OR via e-mailing OR can be picked up at the Township Office. Our Web Site is: [www.jeffersonbutler.com](http://www.jeffersonbutler.com) If you want to have the newsletter e-mailed to you or if you have not received your e-copy, please contact the Township Secretary: [jefftwpbutlerpa.@zoominternet.net](mailto:jefftwpbutlerpa.@zoominternet.net) - 352-2324.

### TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday - 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM & Friday mornings - 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM.

Office phone #724-352-2324 Fax #724-352-8850

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

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

**Board of Supervisors** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. (except Jan. & April)

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

**Planning Commission** – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 7:00 P.M. except for Nov. 19 & Dec. 17, 2015)

Members: Leo Rosenbauer (Chair.), Bill Montgomery (Vice-Chair), Evelyn Gross (Secretary), Kathryn Foertsch, James Jones, Leo Rosenbauer, Gary Stone, Robert Wetzal, and Robert Williams

**Recreation Board** – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at 8 P.M. Feb. to Oct. (no meetings Nov., Dec. & Jan.)

Members: Brian Patter (Chair.), -vacant- (Secretary), Viki Nulph, Greg Bauer (Pool),

Mike Comely (Baseball), James C. Jones (Softball), and Shane Huffman (Soccer)

Location for all meetings listed: 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler, PA 16002

Any changes are advertised and posted.

The Tax Collector is Nadine Grabe - 724-352-3288

245 Heller Rd., Butler, PA 16002 - 352-3288

⇒ During the winter months, as per the Township Ordinances, NO ONE is to park on the cul-de-sacs 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.

**Do you live in Jefferson Township?**  
*You may be eligible to have your windows, furnace, roof or more replaced!*



**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.*

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

**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](http://www.housingauthority.com)