

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

April 8, 2019

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Jefferson Township Board of Supervisors, held at the municipal building on 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler, PA, was called to order by Chairman John Cypher at 7:00 P.M. on April 8, 2019. All rose to pledge the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Those present were Chairman John Cypher, Vice-Chair. Lois Rankin, Supervisor Braden Beblo, Sec/Treas. Lois Fennell and Attorney Matt Marshall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Cypher announced that the Supervisors met in executive session following the March 11 regular meeting, on March 15, 2019 at Noon and on March 19, 2019 at 7 PM to discuss personnel matters. The Board also met very briefly this evening just prior to this meeting in regards to personnel matters.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED: None.

MINUTES:

John Cypher *moved* to approve the March 11, 2019 regular meeting minutes as written and distributed. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

FINANCIAL:

Bills paid between the March 11th and April 8, 2019 meetings totaled \$13,541.40 (which includes the tree trimming on Alwine and Rennick Roads.) Bills presented for payment from the General Fund this evening totaled \$25,510.72. No bills were presented from the State Fund. The total of all funds after payment of the bills reported is \$1,492,596.35. John Cypher *moved* to pay the bills plus any regular bills that may become due prior to the May 13, 2019 meeting. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

PUBLIC BUSINESS OR COMMENT:

Chairman Cypher asked Ray and Judy Wise to wait until discussion on the Spaulding septic system issue during 'unfinished business' and they agreed.

Mr. Kratzer from May Drive expressed concern that vehicles are parking at the mouth of Oak Drive (at Saxonburg Rd.) and blocking traffic turning in to Oak Drive. The vehicles are waiting for school students at the bus stop. He would like signage to prohibit parking there. Chairman Cypher said he'd have to look at the Motor Vehicle Code - Title 75, but doubts the Township has any authority. If signs are placed, the Township has no authority to fine or 'police'. It was suggested Mr. Kratzer contact the State Police or the School District Transportation Office to discuss possible options. Mr. Kratzer said 'otherwise, thanks for the good road maintenance!'

Mr. Jim Robinson was present about the possible site distance problem for his proposed driveway onto Bullcreek Rd. The proposed location of the driveway cannot be moved due to the septic system sand mound location. Chairman Cypher said we need to establish the correct site distance first and the permit officer will be asked about doing it. Evie Gross said the Planning Commission has always been told that we must allow property owners to develop non-conforming existing lots and we need to work with them to resolve this.

Jennifer Gilliland Vanasdale was present as 'candidate for Judge' this spring. She asked the Board to allow her to speak briefly at the meeting and the Board allowed her to do so.

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Recreation Committee Chairman, Brian Patten, reported on the April 3rd. Recreation Meeting. He reported two action items: 1) request the Township road crew pick up the pool cover for summer storage...around April 11th and 2) request that the Township investigate repairs to the bathrooms at the upper concession stand. He noted that the Softball Association will be performing some ground maintenance to the area between Fields #5 and #6 to rehabilitate the softball pitchers warm-up area. This area was previously used for this purpose, but SAGSA had not been maintaining it for a few years. They have found it necessary to resume using the area. The Recreation Committee reviewed the Revised Park Rules and Regulations and had one additional revision: to #10. Walking Trail ...add 'and Sidewalks'...'are for 'walking only'. NO bicycles.....etc. John Cypher noted that under 'Hours of Operation', October, March and April need to be removed and Brian agreed. There were also a few minor grammar errors to correct. *Motion* by John Cypher to prepare the Ordinance to revise the Park Rules and Regs. as discussed and authorize advertisement for adoption next month. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

Chairman Cypher reported that we were contacted by the YMCA about using the Ladies Pavilion for a 'day camp' this summer from June through August - 7 AM to 6 PM. Supervisors were contacted individually by the secretary. *Motion* by John Cypher to ratify accepting a reduced rate of \$60 per day. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*. *Motion* by John Cypher to approve installation of two (2) separate waterproof side screens on the Ladies Pavilion by YMCA at their own expense and peril. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

Chairman Cypher noted receipt of a quote from Wain Landscaping, via Supervisor Rankin, for installation of flowering bushes and mulch border around the perimeter of the gazebo for a cost of \$1,720.63. *Motion* by Lois Rankin to accept the quote and proceed with the work. *Seconded* by John Cypher. All agreed and *motion carried*.

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

ROAD FOREMAN REPORT:

Chairman Cypher read the report submitted by Road Foreman William Foertsch. Snow fence is down and stored as of March 14, 2019. Cunningham & Son's Tree Care completed the tree trimming on Alwine and Rennick Roads. The road crew have 2 trees to fall on Smith Road and then they will be done with that road's trimming. The road crew picked up and chipped all down limbs and sticks at the park and leaf removal was completed as well. A 'job well done' to the road crew!

The Ferris IS 3200 was picked up on March 15, 2019 and has worked very well at the park. Mr. Foertsch asked what the Board would like to do with the old mower. *Motion* by John Cypher to bid it out on Municibid at a 'reserve price' to be determined by the road foreman. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

All of the Township's main roads and intersections have been swept. The housing plans are scheduled for sweeping on April 10th and it should take about 3 days. The road crew completed a repair on a disintegrated concrete catch basin riser on Mushrush Rd. Thank you to the resident who called it in. The road crew is preparing to install a new drainage pipe and catch basin on Bullcreek Rd. The old concrete pipe was totally plugged and too deep in the ground. Bullcreek Rd. will be closed to through traffic on April 9th and 10th. The Cat pay loader and all trucks have been steam cleaned, washed and cabs were cleaned out. Salt spreaders will come off soon...hoping the snow and ice are done until December!

The road foreman has gone over Frazier Rd. and part of Bullcreek Rd. with the XTO representative and they marked out areas for some mill and fill base repair. The work is to be done around June 1,2019 at no cost to Jefferson Township.

The road foreman's projected paving project for 2019 is as follows: Hannahstown Rd. "mill and fill" almost full length both sides 4 ft. wide and 5 inches deep. Caldwell, Frazier and Bullcreek (from Frazier to Mushrush) Roads with 1/2 inch scratch and level and 1+ 1/2 inches wearing surface - all Superpave. Cost estimate is \$856,410. He is hoping to get approval from XTO for contribution for bonded roads...about \$195,776.50 and hopes to use \$198,489.00 from our impact fee funds. The balance of \$471,144.50 will be from

ROAD FOREMAN, cont.:

the General and State Funds 'road maintenance/construction' budgets. Chairman Cypher noted that something must be done with Hannahstown Rd. and there is no way of knowing actual prices without bidding. *Motion* by John Cypher to get bids, carefully noting that any or all bids may be rejected or any portion thereof. Braden Beblo *seconded*. All agreed and *motion carried*.

Motion by John Cypher to ratify authorization for Bill Foertsch and Austin Taylor from the road crew to attend two PA One Call classes - April 17 (am/breakfast) and April 18 (afternoon/lunch included) in New Castle. There is no registration fee. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The LTAP study on O'Hara Rd. possible guide rail was received. Section 2 and 3 are okay as is; Section 1 has about 310' of possible guide rail which could be installed. The only other option would be to move the road could cost 10 times as much. The Supervisors decided to review the report and consider what action to take at the next meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Planning Secretary, Evelyn Gross, and acting chair. for the March 18, 2019 P.C. meeting, reported on their meeting. The P.C. reviewed a side set-back modification request from Mr. and Mrs. Snyder, 318 Hunter Lane. A notarized letter of permission was submitted from the neighbor, Joseph Yaroschak. The hardship: the property 'drops off' in the back and water well is 47' from property line, so they plan to build between the well and the line. The P.C. recommended approval. *Motion* by John Cypher to approve the 10 ft. set-back (a 15' modification) for the proposed garage for David Snyder. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The P.C. reviewed a side set-back modification request from Ms. Angela Parisi, 103 Rancindin Rd. A notarized letter of permission was submitted from the neighbor, Jeffrey Hartzell. The hardship: property drops off in the back and must leave room between house and septic tank with sand mound for maintenance. The P.C. recommended approval. *Motion* by John Cypher to approve the 10 ft. set-back request (a 15' modification) for the proposed garage for Angela Parisi. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The P.C. reviewed a side set-back modification request from Bill and Mandi Foertsch, 205 Bullcreek Rd. A notarized letter was requested by the P.C. and submitted this evening. The hardship: the property zigzags through his father's farm and this is the only 'flat' area close to the other structures. The proposed carport will be constructed on an existing asphalt pad behind his existing garage. The P.C. recommended approval contingent upon the receipt of the notarized letter of permission. *Motion* by John Cypher to approve the 8 ft. set-back (17' modification) for the proposed carport for Bill and Mandi Foertsch. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

Mr. and Mrs. "Doc" Wise from O'Hara Rd. came to talk to the P.C. about their existing barn with existing business on the ground level and a remodeled second floor, which to date has been used by family and friends for receptions and events. The upper level has two bathrooms and no kitchen. They wanted to know what they need to do to get the 'hall' (upper level) okayed as a business for public use (rental.) They were advised to first check with Dave McGuigan from Code.sys to find out what they will require under the PAUCC and then contact an engineer to prepare a 'certified' drawing showing the existing improvements and needed improvements on the lot per the Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. They were given a 'land development application' and were told they need both approval of a submitted land development and PAUCC approval. They may also need to contact the current sewage officer to discover if the current system is adequate for the 'proposed business.'

The P.C. reviewed revised drawings from AT&T which indicate the 40 ft. set-back already approved at prior P.C. and Supervisor meetings. As requested by the permit officer, they voted to 'confirm' that the drawings are acceptable and that the building permit for the generator and pad can be released.

The P.C. reviewed a 'new' (revised) driveway application from Pine Run Midstream for Golden City Road access. This is one of the driveways applied for in November 2018 (access onto Golden City and onto Victory Roads.) Those minutes state that: the Supervisors voted to deny the two driveway permits on the basis that they do not comply with our regulations. One requested modification for sight distance and for paving the first 50 ft. of

PLANNING COMMISSION, cont.:

the access (*Victory Rd.*); the other requested modification for paving the first 50 ft. of access (*Golden City Rd.*); and it was understood that several matters were still outstanding (*at the time.*) This 'revised' driveway application for Golden City Road access has no modification request connected to it. The P.C recommended approval contingent upon the Codes Officer's review and approval, and subsequent review and approval by the Supervisors. Danielle Sedlak did review the submitted application papers and recommended approval if they provided items listed in a note she left in the file. Scott Sweder is in the process of getting those to the Township. *Motion* by John Cypher to approve the Pine Run Midstream driveway application for Golden City Rd. **contingent** upon the permit officer's final satisfactory review. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried.*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

As follow-up on the resignation of the codes officer, Danielle Sedlak. Chairman Cypher reported that Supervisor Rankin talked to Clinton Bonetti from Penn Township. He helped Clinton Township during their transition. He agreed to help Jefferson Township as temporary 'permits officer' (for several months.) *Motion* by John Cypher to ratify hiring of Clinton Bonetti until we hire someone for the position. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried.*

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Spaulding and their neighbors, Ray and Judith Wise (and son) were present regarding the failed septic system on the Spaulding property. Mr. Wise (son) said they filed two letters of complaint with the DEP and had water testing done. They showed the Supervisors some pictures of the site. John Cypher asked how this came about. They explained that a gas line was replaced for Wise's, then the Spaulding's system started leaching out. Mr. Spaulding tried to fix it a couple of times. He said he wants to do something now but his options are limited. Chairman Cypher reiterated his understanding at this point: The gas line traverses both the Spaulding property and the Wise property and when the gas line was replaced the septic line was compromised...whether or not a problem existed prior to this is unclear. Mr. Cypher said "it sounds like neighbor needs to help neighbor out." They both agreed that there is no dispute on the location of the property line and the septic line appears to run right on it. Mr. Spaulding would like to get an easement from the Wises for a 'small flow treatment facility' which discharges 'clean, treated water' into the stream. DEP would have to approve the permit. The Wises agreed to talk to the Spauldings about the easement.

NEW BUSINESS:

Wendy Leslie, County CDBG Coordinator, was present for the "1st Public Hearing on the 2019 CDBG Grant Entitlement" advertised by Butler County at 6:50 P.M. this evening. She reported that the purpose of the public hearing is to take public comment on the 2019 CDBG Entitlement Funds. No calls or letters have been received. The grant for 2019 is expected to be close to that of 2018, which was \$102,944 (\$84,476 projects and \$18,468 admin.) She reminded the Supervisors that CDBG funds could be targeted again for elimination by the Federal government for 2020. She was asked to forward information on the current income guidelines and number of applicants currently on the waiting list for 'housing rehab.' At the next meeting, the Board needs to vote to designate the funds for an eligible project (if one is determined) or for housing rehab. again.

A letter was received from South Butler School District Superintendent Dr. David Foley requesting authorization to temporarily close Knoch Rd. for Commencement on Friday evening June 7 from 6:30 PM to 9 PM (or for rain Sat., June 8 from 9:30 AM to 12 Noon.) Chairman Cypher noted that we have previously authorized temporary closing for other functions/events at the school. *Motion* by John Cypher to authorize the temporary closing of Knoch Road for the '2019 Commencement' as described in the letter on the condition that the school provides traffic control and signs to notify and re-direct traffic, notifies the State Police of the temporary closing, and gets separate approval from Clinton Township for their side of Knoch Rd. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried.*

Chairman Cypher explained that the Supervisors have been discussing during executive session about losing Danielle Sedlak (as the Codes and Permit Officer) and what to do next. Considering the need to replace

NEW BUSINESS, cont.:

Danielle with a permanent employee and to prepare for the future eventual retirement of the current sec/treas. it appears to be time to consider hiring a full-time manager. This person will basically run the township business from day to day with authority given by the Board of Supervisors by 'ordinance.' Once an ordinance is passed, which could take some time, then sufficient time is needed for training and transition of duties. The Supervisors and Attorney Marshall discussed the 'content' needed in the manager ordinance verses what can be part of the more detailed 'job description'. *Motion* by John Cypher to proceed in preparation of the ordinance to create the manager position. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*. Attorney Marshall recommends that he draft an ordinance (with options for the Board to decide on that will 'fit' this township) and which will state duties (as required by law) without being too specific, by the next meeting. The Board agreed.

MISC. BUSINESS:

Received NOTICE from XTO - Galan A Unit Wells 1H, 3H, 7H, and 11H on Rhodaberger Rd. in Clearfield Township.

Received NOTICE from Gateway Engineers for Penn Energy Resources - Per W44 Well 1H on Leasureville Rd. in Winfield Township.

Received NOTICE from Moody & Associates for Penn Energy Resources regarding intention to withdraw approx. 1.5 million gallons of water per day from Thorn Creek. Evie Gross commented earlier in the meeting that this amount is unbelievable. Brief discussion at this point noted that DEP regulates such stream-water withdrawal.

Received NOTICE from Penn United Technology - application made for plan approval permit for installation of a thermal oxidizer to control VOC emissions from a proposed coating operation in the electroplating process - at 795 North Pike Rd. existing facility.

Butler County Tourism sent an invitation to the "Toast of Tourism" on Thursday, May 9th. Cost is \$40 per person. No interest indicated.

PennDOT sent an invitation to the one-hour "Community Outreach Presentation" on May 13th from 10 to 11 AM at the Cranberry Township Public Safety Training Center. No interest indicated.

A notice was received from PennDOT stating that they plan to collect traffic counts on locally owned roads within our township this year.

Lois Rankin noted this evening that she would like to be registered for the NIMS classes at Penn Township on May 2, 2019 for PSATS "Township Role in Emergency Management" & "NIMS and the Incident Command System." The Board voted last month to authorize registration and mileage for township officials wanting to attend.

The 104th Annual Spring Convention of the Butler County Association of Township Officials is Thurs., May 16, 2019 at the Butler Country Club. The Board voted last month to authorize the usual township officials to attend and pay the registration and usual expenses. So far, John Cypher, Lois Rankin, Lois Fennell, Sue Hartzell and Evie Gross will attend. Lil Bachman and Braden Beblo will let the secretary know later.

Pat Knable, Darla Clark and Terry Becker from the Victory Road area noted that it appears the junkyard is 'cleaning up at bit' since the last meeting.

ATTENDANCE:

Ron Kratzer, Evie Gross, Wendy Leslie, Leo Rosenbauer, Brian Patten, Sue Hartzell, Lil Bachman, Terry Becker, Darla Clark, Pat Knable, Dave & Brenda Snyder, James & Kathleen Robinson, Ray & Judith Wise and son, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Spaulding, Bill & Mandi Foertsch, Angela & Peter Parisi, Jennifer Gilliland Vanasdale.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Lois Rankin to adjourn at 8:50 P.M. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 13, 2019 at 7 P.M. at the Township Building, 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler.

Respectfully submitted by Sec/Treas., Lois Fennell