

# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

## REGULAR MEETING

February 10, 2020

### 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 Feb. 10, 2020. All rose to pledge the flag.

### ROLL CALL:

Those present were Chairman John Cypher, Vice-Chair. Lois Rankin, Supervisor Braden Beblo, Leo J. Rosenbauer, III, Manager and Sec/Treas. Lois Fennell.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Cypher announced that the Supervisors met in executive session just prior to this meeting regarding personnel matters.

John Cypher urged the attendees and all the residents of Jefferson Township to PLEASE answer the 2020 Census survey questions in full. Results of the census are very important to the future funding opportunities for the Township. He also noted to be careful of scammers: Census workers WILL have IDs to show when they canvass the area!

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED: None.

### MINUTES:

John Cypher *moved* to approve the Jan. 6, 2020 organization & regular meeting minutes as written and distributed. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

### FINANCIAL:

Bills paid between the Jan. 6th and Feb.10, 2020 meetings totaled \$31,414.68 (which includes some road salt purchases). Bills presented for payment from the General Fund this evening totaled \$15,559.08. No bills were presented from the State Fund. The total of all funds after payment of the bills reported is \$1,384,316.24. John Cypher *moved* to pay the bills plus any regular bills that may become due prior to the March 9, 2020 meeting. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

PUBLIC BUSINESS OR COMMENT: None.

### RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Recreation Committee Chairman, Brian Patten, reported on the Feb. 5, 2020 meeting. He reported on the Action Items: 1) They will continue to review the bathrooms at the baseball upper concession stand as needed. Items needed at this point – rebuild the toilets (new seats, plumbing, handles); new sink faucets and drains; and investigate possibility of adding bathroom fans. 2) Ask the Township Road Crew to turn the water on at the upper concession stand at any point around April 15<sup>th</sup>. 3) Discuss the Recreation Committee vacancy for 2020 and beyond. 4) Order dumpster deliveries as noted (Soccer, Baseball, Softball – March 16<sup>th</sup> and Pool May 8<sup>th</sup>). Clean up day for most of the associations is planned for Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Baseball: Registration open until 2/28/20. [www.saxonburgbaseball.com](http://www.saxonburgbaseball.com)

Pool: They are searching for a new summer manager; contact the township if you are interested. Please see the website regarding the lifeguard applications. [www.sebcopool.com](http://www.sebcopool.com)

Softball: Registration open until 2/29/20. Large tournament is planned for July 17, 18 and 19. [www.sagsa.org](http://www.sagsa.org)

Soccer: Registration for “Travel” is closed; In-House registration is open through 3/20. [www.knochsoccer.org](http://www.knochsoccer.org)

John Cypher said the park road should be ‘named’ and perhaps name ‘quadrants’ so that locations are more easily found by non-residents. He said that Township Officials will meet with HRG, Inc. on Wed. at

Recreation Committee, cont.:

9:30 A.M. to go over the 'park master plan draft' before it is finalized and adopted. (For example, the park road is labeled Russell Rd., which is incorrect.) The total improvements indicated within the master plan come to over four million dollars; but it is basically a 'wish list' for 'possible improvements' that the Township will use as a guide.

## ROAD REPORT:

Chairman Cypher read the report submitted by the Manager and the Road Foreman. The Road Crew responded to the first real storm of the season on the evening of Thurs., Jan. 16, 2020. Although not a large accumulation of snow, the wintery mix caused their efforts to continue in the wee hours of the morning each day the entire weekend. Chairman Cypher said: 'thank you!'

"NO PARKING OCTOBER to MARCH" signs and speed limit signs were placed in all the housing plans. The trucks and roller have been washed. A card was sent to Ryan Martin thanking him for the donation of topsoil. An additional 300 ton of salt is on order for delivery soon! The Road Crew trimmed brush along Hannahstown Rd., Whitaker and Alana Drive. They coordinated removal of the large tree on Bullcreek Rd. at the stop sign at Blakely, Bullcreek and Rockdale Roads. Thanks to West Penn Power, this tree removal eliminates the potential hazard of falling on a vehicle, electric lines and communication lines.

Tree trimming is planned and on-going on Caldwell and Rancindin Roads. A letter was received from 101 Rancindin, but the Manager and the Supervisors disagree with his statements. The Township is aware of the right-of-way width and the PA Title 67 site distance tables and these trees need to be trimmed for SAFETY REASONS. If the property owners do not trim properly (trees are in the township's right-of-way) then the Township will proceed to have them trimmed.

The International truck was stuck on Bullcreek Rd. The crew removed the truck and replaced a small hydraulic line. The 2019 Mack truck had to be taken to Tri-County Mack for a check engine light. The parameters needed reset so the truck will burn-off or regen at a lower temperature. Work was done 'under warranty.' The roller was in for repair for a bad hydraulic drive motor for the rear drum (cost \$3,643.09). The existing motor could not be rebuilt. Roller was picked back up on Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>. Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> through Jan. 27 (Monday morning) was busy with slick roads. The 530 International truck blew an oil line early Sunday morning while treating the roads. The Road Crew worked to try to get it repaired, but the OEM parts could not be acquired from Hunter's Truck Sales & Service until Monday morning. It is now back in operation.

The Road Crew is currently looking at a track loader (and information) to replace the 1997 skid loader. A Bobcat demonstration model was delivered for review and received a 'thumbs up' from all who attended the demonstration. The price is \$61,650.46 via Co-Stars for a 2020 Bobcat track loader and two buckets. The dealer offered a trade-in value of \$6,400, however, the Road Foreman and Supervisor Beblo hope to get at least \$10,000 if advertised and sold on Municibid. Lois Rankin *moved* to proceed with ordering the machine. John Cypher offered reasons for consideration/purchase of the Bobcat: 1) type of construction and adjustability of the tracks, 2) expected good dealer service, 3) better height/lift than the Takeuchi or John Deere models, 4) better visibility from the cab, 5) easier cab removal (for maintenance), 6) our existing attachments can be used on the Bobcat plus other attachments are available for sale or rent from the dealer. Braden Beblo *seconded* the motion to proceed with the purchase. All agreed and *motion carried*. Discussion continued as far as trading or selling the Skid loader. *Motion* by Braden Beblo to advertise to sell the 1997 skid loader *after* finding out the expected time of delivery of the new machine and *after* trying to get a better trade-in price or service benefits from the dealer. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

Quotes and photos for a 'park blower' were provided to the Manager and distributed to the Board. The Buffalo turbine (cart self-contained unit) will cost around \$12,000. After some discussion it was agreed that 1) the Road Foreman will find out the availability of this machine and 2) they would like to borrow Penn Township's for a demonstration to the Supervisors and Manager.

The Supervisors agreed to obtaining prices on tree trimming for Riemer Road and Marwood Rd. Concordia owns a tree off the Marwood Rd. right-of-way that is potentially hazardous and they may pay for its trimming or removal.

Road Report, cont.:

The Road Department assisted in traffic control on Friday, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> at the Rt. 356 traffic light in order to repair the emergency pre-emption system per the request of the Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Department. The cost incurred will be between \$1,000 and \$2,000. Chairman Cypher indicated that the problem occurred when PennDOT had the 'walk lights' removed and he believes they or the contractor owe us for these repairs.

Proposed 2020 road maintenance: repave Riemer Road; repave Alwine Road; repave (or double seal for another couple years) Hannahstown Road; storm sewer work is needed at the end of Hannahstown from Rt. 356 to 331 Hannahstown; seal coat Great Belt Road from Saxonburg Road to Nursery Lane; and seal coat Nursery Lane. It was agreed that price estimates be obtained and perhaps a road check done before the next meeting for a decision on what to advertise.

## PLANNING COMMISSION:

Leo Rosenbauer reported on the January 20, 2020 Planning Commission (PC) meeting. The P.C. reviewed the Dorothy A. Veselich Subdivision on Patterson Road. It consists of proposed Lot 1 of 1.50 acres with house, shed, septic and well; the remnant of 58.5 acres +/- with 'out-buildings' and garage. Mrs. Veselich said the corn cribs will be removed (on Lot 1), but the silos on the remnant will remain. The review letter was received from the County Planning Commission. The non-building waiver was submitted and signed this evening. A letter was received requesting waiver for Chap 22, Part 5 & 7 to 'not show contours, watercourses, etc. for a minor subdivision.' Payment was made for a 'walk around', but the written report from the SEO is needed. Clarification is needed on the 30 ft. water line/gas line right-of-way on the eastern property line of remnant. The P.C. approved the Dorothy A. Veselich Subdivision contingent upon receipt of the SEO's written 'walk around' report and clarification on the 30 ft. water/gas line right-of-way. The Supervisors reviewed the plan this evening. *Motion* by Lois Rankin to approve the plan with a non-building waiver for the remnant and **contingent** on the walk-around report to be done by the SEO. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*. The surveyor, Land Surveyors, will need to provide the mylar for signing.

The P.C. reviewed the "Faust Plan No. 2" for James and June Faust at Bullcreek Rd. and West Jefferson Rd. It consists of proposed Lot 2 of 1.50 acre with trailer, septic & well and the remnant of 80.5 acres more/less. The review letter was received from Butler County Planning. The non-building waiver needs to be signed and the SALDO application needs signed and dated by the owner. A letter is needed for the waiver from Chap. 22 Part 5 & 7 to 'not show contours, watercourses, etc. for a minor subdivision.' Mr. Faust needs to pay for a 'walk around' to be done by the SEO. They need to show how the metal building and barn on the remnant are accessed and whether it is just a farm lane or requires a formal right-of-way. The P.C. voted to approve the James & June Faust Subdivision with five contingencies: 1) walk-around needed; 2) sign non-building waiver; 3) sign and date application; 4) submit letter requesting waiver for Chap. 22 Part 5 & 7; and 5) show the access to metal building and barn (farm lane or right-of-way). The Supervisors reviewed the plan this evening. Three of the five contingencies are still outstanding (#1, 4, and 5). There was discussion regarding the 'farm lane' (#5) access, which should be shown IF the lane is not entirely on the remnant but encroaches on tax parcel 190-2F10-4A. *Motion* by Lois Rankin to approve the plan **on the condition** that the three remaining contingencies (#1, 4 and 5) be satisfied. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The P.C. received re-submission of the Harbison Lot-Line Revision plan. Originally approved by the P.C. in May 2019 and Supervisors in June 2019, which states: the Lot-Line Revision of Lot 1 of 1.306 acres is revised by addition of Tract A (0.426 ac.) to make Revised Lot 1 equal 1.732 acres; Lot 2 of 1.135 acres is revised by addition of Tract B (0.617) to make Revised Lot 2 equal 1.752 acres; Lot 3 of 0.961 acre is revised by addition of Tract C (0.309 ac.) to make Revised Lot 3 equal 1.270 acres; Tract E of 0.850 acre is revised by addition of Tract F (0.075 ac.) and Tract D (0.200 ac.) to make Revised Lot 4 equal 1.125 acres. The residual lot, owned by L.A. Harbison, is reduced to revised total of 14.779 acres. They failed to get 'all' of the signatures needed for recording within the 90 days after Supervisors' approval, so they have resubmitted with no changes. The P.C. voted to approve the Harbison Lot Line Revision as submitted for re-approval. The Supervisors reviewed the plan this evening. *Motion* by John Cypher to approve the plan as submitted for re-approval. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

Planning Commission, cont.

The P.C. reviewed the notification received from Christopher Boltz and the DEP module received for the proposed 'small flow treatment facility' to be submitted to DEP. This is for the existing house and apartment (331 and 333 Hannahstown Rd.) behind Stans' Lawn & Garden. This proposed system will discharge into the township catch basin/culvert. The P.C. voted to approve the application to DEP. The Supervisors reviewed the DEP module and proposed Resolution #447 needed for revise our Act 537 plan. *Motion* by John Cypher to approve the Christopher Boltz DEP Module and Resolution for Plan Revision #447 **contingent** upon completion of the module by the SEO (Doug Duncan). *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

It was noted that the first public hearing on the 2020 CDBG Funding is scheduled for Monday, March 9, 2020 at 6:45 P.M. The county will place the advertisement. In the meantime, Supervisors and other Township Officials are to consider possible projects to be funded (in addition to designating funds to housing rehab.)

The bid opening for the Bonniebrook Road project (joint grant with Summit Township) will be opened on Feb. 17, 2020 at 2 P.M. at the Summit Township building. John Cypher noted that there were about 11 interested contractors at the pre-bid meeting, so it is hoped we receive some competitive and 'creditable' bids. The decision on award is set for Feb. 19, 2020 at 6:45 PM (at Summit Township.)

## NEW BUSINESS:

Leo Rosenbauer gave an update on the 9-1-1 request made about one year ago to name certain lanes within the county. After conversations with Attorney Marshall, Leo reported that the 'county policy' is to require recorded rights-of-way, which would have to be researched and would be costly. He has completed one so far. The Board agreed to handle this on a case-by-case basis as recommended by the solicitor.

Leo Rosenbauer reported that E & E Salvage (aka Weber's Scrap) failed to provide a complete junkyard renewal application with a current bond. They agreed that Attorney Marshall be contacted to guide in the 'next step' to bring them into compliance. John Cypher suggested contacting DEP again!

Butler County Parks Renovation Grant - (projects \$10,000 - county will pay 75%/local match 25% up to \$2500). Application is due by Feb. 20, 2020. *Motion* by John Cypher to adopt Resolution #446 and prepare the application for fall safe material on two playgrounds estimated to cost \$9,760.80. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

*Motion* by John Cypher to adopt Resolution #448 authorizing Disposition of Records (as listed) per the PA Municipal Records Manual adopted by the Township in December 2008 (Res. #285). This will now be an annual resolution. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

On Thursday, Jan. 30, 2020, Jeff Howard from C. W. Howard Insurance Agency presented information on the 3/2020-3/2021 insurance renewal package with Selective. The total is \$20,127.00 (about a 5% increase from 2019-20.) *Motion* by John Cypher to approve. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The Delinquent Per Capita List for 2019 was received from Tax Collector, Nadine Grabe. Three residents came in to pay since it was received by Nadine on 1/12/20. She could not accept the payments but had no problem with the Township accepting payment prior to tonight's vote: *Motion* to authorize sending it to Sharp Collections by John Cypher. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The Manager received proposals for repair or replacement of the heater (radiant heat tubes at the ceiling) in the rear garage (meeting building). A new system will cost over \$6,000. In an effort so save cost, Mr. Rosenbauer is considering replacement of the burner on the existing system and installing a re-built blower motor. *Motion* by Braden Beblo to authorize Mr. Rosenbauer to use his best judgement in proceeding. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

## MISC. BUSINESS:

Received NOTICE from XTO Energy applying for well permit renewal on Rhodaberger Rd. in Clearfield Township.

Misc. Business, cont.

Email and info. received on Jan. 15, 2020 from Michelle Lesniak, So. Butler Community Library Director. She notes their first Board of Trustees meeting was Jan. 8, 2020. Their monthly meeting will continue on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:30 in the library. They consider the fundraisers and events of 2019 a great success and survived the July 2019 'ransomware attack.' They provided the Municipalities (Saxonburg Borough, Penn, Clinton, Jefferson, Winfield, and Jefferson Townships) with a summary of their Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> meeting and a 3-year strategic plan for 2020-2022. For more information, go to: [www.southbutlerlibrary.org](http://www.southbutlerlibrary.org)

John Cypher noted an e-mail received from Viki Nulph – a long-time volunteer on the Recreation Board – giving fundraiser info.: [Great Cycle Challenge USA - Riders - Viki Nulph](#) This June, I am taking part in the Great Cycle Challenge to fight kids' cancer! Why? Because right now, cancer is the biggest killer of children from disease in the United States. [greatcyclechallenge.com](http://greatcyclechallenge.com)

A letter was received from State Representative, Marci Mustello. Ann Coleman explained that the representative is hosting two informative events:

1. Feb. 26 – REAL ID Seminar – 6:30 PM at the Butler Township Building and
2. March 13 – Aid & Attendance Seminar for Veterans & Family Members – 1 to 3 PM at American Legion 778 in Lyndora.

Interested persons should register ... so they can make sure they have plenty of space! Call 724-283-5852.

"Statement of the Township Address":

A new year and a new decade are now upon us. Yes, 2020 is here. The number is synonymous with perfect vision. It is our task at the Township to envision the future and prepare the best path to get us there. One example is the newly commissioned 'Laura J. Doerr Park' master plan update. It gives guidance for the next 10 to 15 years. The plan is now ready for finalization and adoption. By popular demand of residents, the Township has expanded its role in maintenance at the park.

The Supervisors agree that 46 miles of road maintenance is the Township's top priority. Repairs to pavement, berms, rights-of-way clearance are never ending. Each season involves various stages to be performed – berm work, asphaltting and sealing, mowing, crack sealing, tree trimming, snow and ice removal, drainage updates, etc. Full-time? YES. Expensive? YES. Fortunately, our Road Foreman and road crew are top-notch! We thank them for their dedicated service and pride in their work.

Each day seems to bring another function to the Township's list of duties and responsibilities. Federal, State and County mandates (unfunded) are expanding every year and the Township must conform, which further strains our manpower and the township budget!

We are in an era of instant gratification and anticipated immediate response. The Supervisors have accepted the reality that a change in Township structure was needed. Therefore, we welcome Leo J. Rosenbauer, III as our full-time Township Manager. His well-rounded, eclectic background and experience is acknowledged and appreciated. He is performing many functions, including daily business and decision and responsibilities.

Also, we thank Lois Fennell for her years of dedicated, unselfish, continuing service to Jefferson Township. She has agreed to stay with us on a reduced hour basis to continue sharing her expertise and guidance.

We thank both new and experienced members of the appointed positions, especially the Planning Commission and Parks & Recreation Board. There are still positions unfilled. If you can serve the Township, fire department, library or humane society, please contact the Township office.

To paraphrase JFK - "Ask not what your Township can do for you, but what you can do for your Township!" May God grant us the '20-20 vision' needed to view the future and guide us today 'to plan how to get there!'

- L. John Cypher, Chairman-

ATTENDANCE:

Brian Patten, Evie Gross, Bill & Mandy Foertsch, Dorothy Veselich, Roger Cypher, Jim Rankin and Ann Coleman (Marci Mustello's office)

ADJOURN:

*Motion* by John Cypher to adjourn at 9:36 P.M. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 9, 2020 at 7 P.M. at the Township Building, 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler.

*Respectfully submitted by Sec/Treas., Lois Fennell*