

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING
November 13, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

The Jefferson Township Board of Supervisors' regular meeting was called to order by Chairman John Cypher, Monday, November 13, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. as advertised. All rose to pledge the flag.

ROLL CALL:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA ITEMS AS PRESENTED: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

John Cypher noted that he and Lois Rankin attended the Safety Day on Oct. 11, 2023 with the road crew and manager.

MINUTES:

Motion by John Cypher to approve the Oct. 9, 2023 regular meeting minutes as written and distributed. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

FINANCIAL:

The bills paid from the General Fund between the Oct. 9, 2023 and the Nov. 13th meetings totaled \$11,353.70 and from the ARPA Fund totaled \$28,342.62. The bills presented for payment this evening from the General Fund totaled \$17,754.11. No bills were presented for payment this evening from the ARPA Funds or the State Fund this evening. The Balance of All Funds after payment of the bills presented tonight totaled \$3,020,360.42. *Motion* by John Cypher to pay the bills presented and any other bills that come and are due prior to the Dec. 11, 2023 meeting. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

There was no report this evening as the final 2023 Recreation Board (Oct. 4, 2023) meeting was reported on at the Oct. 9th Supervisors' meeting. The park gates have been locked for the winter.

The manager reported damage at the newly installed parking lot (gravel) and the surrounding yard area (next to the pool.) He said that the pictures on the camera system were just not clear enough to establish identification of the vandals because of the older camera system and would the Supervisors consider upgrading the camera system. After some discussion John Cypher agreed that prices should be obtained, especially since technology on these has improved.

Baseball: www.saxonburgbaseball.com **Pool:** www.sebcopool.com

Softball: www.sagsa.org **Soccer:** www.knochsoccer.org The next meeting is Feb. 7, 2024.

ROAD REPORT:

Chairman Cypher read the road report as follows:

- The snow fence installation is about 50% complete. Once the crops are harvested the crew will finish.
- Nov 1st morning rush hour came with a surprise snow. Depth varied from a ½ inch to 2 inches, and it covered the roads quickly. The road crew had the trucks ready to go and salt was applied as the roads started to cover.
- The new 2023 Mack seems to be working great.

ROAD REPORT, cont.:

- The road crew fabricated a new 3-point hitch system for the Buffalo twin-turbine blower. This made it safer and easier to attach it to the JD 6330 tractor, and then use quick pins to attach it back onto the zero-turn or the Ventrac mower. John Cypher said good job.
- The road crew began leaf removal along township roads and will continue as time and weather allow. They also completed leaf removal at the park but will do one final clean up later as time and weather permit.
- A water issue at the intersection of Rennick Rd. and Rt. 356 (due to state work) was addressed by the road crew, and they will continue to monitor it.
- The new equipment trailer has been ordered from Smouse Trailers. It is expected by the end of 2023. The quote from Altmeyers was higher and Viking no longer builds the trailers that we needed.
- The Manager approved the purchase of a new Moon Paver (\$4,300). The old one is about 20 years old. The hardware from the new moon paver can be installed on another truck, allowing the road crew to use the paver on both trucks.
- The 2008 Moritz trailer, the old catch basin vac, and the 8 ft. Servis rear blade will be sold on Municibid.
- The Manager reminded the Supervisors that the ad for the Janice/O'Hara Rd. culvert project was advertised on 11/2 with a second ad on 11/17/23. The opening, via PennBid is 11/30/23. The Supervisors will then make a final decision on Dec. 11, 2023. Paperwork can be viewed at the township, but bidding is online only.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Leo Rosenbauer reported on the Oct. 16, 2023 Planning Commission meeting. There were three presentations. 1) Knoch School District submitted revised land development plan to the original approved in Oct. 2022. It was tabled until the revised land development plans and paperwork are received for a proper review time for our engineer. 2) Penn United Technology submitted a land development which was tabled until the revised plans are received, and the engineer has had proper review time. 3) Braden Fox Subdivision on W. Main St. It was tabled until a solution is provided for Lot 2's frontage is submitted for review by the township and the engineer. No action for the Board to take this evening.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

It was noted that revisions to Chap. 15 (speed limit along with other needed changes) are still pending. The Manager told Mr. Veselich that he is getting information from PA State Assn. of Township Supervisors via their Local Technical Assistance Program and our township engineers and attorney.

It was also notes that the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with Winfield Township for a shared emergency management coordinator is still 'with the attorney.' He will call to remind him.

Mr. Keith Frndak, Concordia Lutheran Ministries, President and David Drane were present regarding their failure to submit a land development application and a building permit application (which the Manager said were submitted on 11/6/23 for the Planning Commission meeting on Nov. 20th). A lengthy discussion followed. Manager Rosenbauer said things appear to be moving in a more positive direction. Chairman Cypher reiterated that the township is obligated to enforce the current township ordinances (including subdivision and land development) and the state's PA Uniform Construction Code.

Chairman Cypher noted that the Supervisors did NOT want to have a budget workshop, so discussion was planned for this evening, Nov. 13, 2023. The Supervisors revisited the discussion from last month on the 'extra one-time donation' to the Saxonburg Volunteer Fire and Relief Assn. originally placed int the 2023 budget for \$40,000 (in addition

UNFINISHED BUSINESS, cont.:

to the annual donation currently \$10,000). It was suggested earlier this year that a \$25,000 one-time donation be considered, but no vote was taken. After some discussion this evening, John Cypher *moved* to donate an additional one-time \$25,000 donation. *Motion died for lack of a second.* Braden Beblo *moved* to donate an additional one-time donation to SVFRA of \$15,000 (in 2023) over the annual donation of \$10,000. *Seconded* by John Cypher. All agreed and *motion carried.* Braden Beblo then *moved* to set the annual donation beginning in 2024 at \$15,000. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried.*

Also, last month it was voted to purchase a new 20' equipment trailer for up to \$16,000 (in 2023.) The manager noted that Smouse Trucks and Vans gave us the lowest quote of \$15,749. Leonard Truck & Trailer quote was \$17,073 and Tom's Equipment Sales was \$17,474. Viking Trailers was contacted, but they do not make the trailer we needed. The new trailer has been ordered from Smouse and should be delivered by the end of the year.

Discussion on the 2024 Proposed Budget continued. Besides the increase in the fire department annual donation to \$15,000 the Supervisors discussed increasing the library donation. *Motion* by John Cypher to increase the annual donation to the So. Butler Community Library by \$500 to \$8,500 in 2024. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried.* The Supervisor then discussed the request to include funds for the possible purchase of the PennDOT right-of-way strip abandoned where the new bridge was installed in Jefferson Center. If purchased, it must be available for public use in perpetuity (for example: for stockpiling; or as a park and ride; or as a public fishing area.) Purchasing the right-of-way strip would give the township control and enforcement privileges. After some discussion, John Cypher *moved* to allow \$5,000 in the 2024 for procuring this PennDOT right-of-way. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried.*

Motion by John Cypher to authorize advertisement of the preliminary 2024 budget for final review and adoption at the Dec. 11, 2023 meeting. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried.*

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by John Cypher to adopt Resolution #516 to enter into an 'Intergovernmental Agreement' with Summit Township for the seal coating and line painting of Bonniebrook Rd. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried.*

PUBLIC BUSINESS or COMMENT:

Chris Durham attended to discuss his property on Freeport Road. No formal land development application was submitted. He attended looking for direction from the township officials. Chairman Cypher stated that Mr. Durham clearly tore down a non-conforming structure and therefore, he must follow the Township Ordinances and the PA Uniform Construction Code. The manager and the other Supervisors will continue to look at the Township Ordinances for clarification but will also enforce the PA Uniform Construction Code.

MISC. BUSINESS FROM TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS:

Manager Rosenbauer reported that birds are getting into the roof/ceiling area, and he contacted Kevin Miller about how to resolve it. The matter of leaf removal at 343 West Jefferson Road appears to have been resolved. As he noted earlier, the Janice Lane and O'Hara Road bids are being advertised and the Supervisors should be able to vote on the award at the Dec. 13th meeting. He will be working with Lance Welliver to complete the application for the LSA Grant for the pool renovations. He also noted that the renovation project to the existing park restroom is well underway.

MISC. BUSINESS, cont.:

Lois Rankin noted we received a 'thank you' from the Butler Co. Humane Society for our annual \$500 donation and a 'thank you' from CCR for the coat donation box placement at the township. We have placed a notice on the website that the box will be available until the end of the year.

A notice was received from Gateway Engineers that PennEnergy is applying to DEP for an Erosion & Sedimentation Control Gen. Permit for Earth Disturbance, a General Permit 5 for utility stream and wetland crossings and a General Permit 8 for temporary road crossing associated with Oil and Gas Exploration. Work is to be done in Saxonburg Boro., Buffalo Twp, Clinton Twp., and Jefferson Twp.

ATTENDANCE:

Evie Gross, Robert Veselich, William Foertsch, Chris Durham, Dave Drane, Keith Frndak, Pat Knable and Terry Becker.

ADJOURN:

Lois Rankin *moved* to adjourn at 9:20 P.M. on Nov. 13, 2023. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

NEXT MEETING:

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, Dec. 11, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at the municipal building - 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler, PA 16002.