

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

March 11, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

The Jefferson Township Board of Supervisors' regular meeting was called to order by Chairman John Cypher, Monday, March 11, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. as advertised. All rose to pledge the flag (led by Scout Troop 58 from Middlesex Township and here to observe a public meeting).

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 AS PRESENTED: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

William Pitts from the Butler Eagle announced, at the prompting of Supervisor Rankin, that he is recording the meeting.

Chairman Cypher announced that he attended the informational gathering with representatives from three other municipalities on Feb. 22nd to discuss the proposed development on Riemer Rd.

Supervisor Beblo and Supervisor Cypher road along with the road foreman, on Feb. 29th, to review some of his ideas for maintenance this year.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Hearing advertised by Butler County was held prior to this meeting (at 6:45 PM). CDBG Coordinator, Wendy Leslie, noted that the purpose of the hearing is to give the public opportunity to comment on the 2024 CDBG uses. It was confirmed by the Manager, Sec/Treas., and Board of Supervisors that no public (written or verbal) was received prior to the hearing. The 2024 Allocation has not been announced yet but is expected to be close to the 2023 Allocation of \$108,047 (\$88,663 for projects and \$19,384 for administration.) There is still a waiting list for housing rehab. applications for the 2022 and 2023 CDBG funds. When asked, Ms. Leslie indicated that HUD increases the income guidelines annually. When asked about unique ways some funds have been used by municipalities, she responded that a road reconstruction application would require a survey proving it would benefit low-to-moderate income in that block group. A three-year plan for 2024 will be needed (by resolution) including a chart of the 'block groups' within our area.

The three Supervisors met in a brief executive session on personnel just prior to the CDBG Hearing this evening.

MINUTES:

Chairman Cypher noted that the page numbers were incorrect on the distributed copies of the minutes (there were 5 pages, not 6). The Sec/Treas. has already made the correction. John Cypher *moved* to approve the February 12, 2024 regular meeting minutes as written (with the page numbers corrected). *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

FINANCIAL:

The list of bills paid between the Feb. 12th meeting and March 11, 2024 totaled \$61,503.74. Bills presented for payment from the General Fund this evening totaled \$11,799.56. No bills were presented for payment this evening from any other fund (State Fund, Impact Fee Fund, or the ARPA Checking.) The Balance of All Funds after payment of the bills presented totaled \$3,380,056.10. *Motion* by John Cypher to pay the bills presented and any other bills that come and are due prior to the April 8, 2024 meeting. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

The Recreation Committee met on March 6, 2024 and a brief report was given by their president, Brian Patten. He noted that the Baseball Association is planning a Community Day for June 1st. In conjunction with this, they will host another “All Abilities Game.” The Pool Association plans to uncover the pool, in the next week or so. They are still looking for a new maintenance person and lifeguards for the coming season. The Softball Association’s opening day is planned for April 20th. The Soccer Association’s opening day is April 6th, weather permitting. **One action item:** the Pool Association would like the pool cover picked up and stored by the township.

Baseball: Website: www.saxonburgbaseball.com

Pool: Website: www.sebcopool.com

Softball: Website: www.sagsa.org

Soccer: Website: www.knochsoccer.org

As requested last month, the discussion of reviewing the park organization’s “license agreements” was included on tonight’s agenda. Supervisor Rankin would like to review the ‘license agreements’ and add that the township can require financial reports (or audits) from the associations, as well as other corrections possibly needed. Chairman Cypher re-stated that a legal review could be costly. After much debate and discussion, Supervisor Rankin said it was clear she could not get support to proceed with the review she requested. Supervisor Beblo had no comment. No action.

The discussion on the proposed camera system replacement was tabled for this evening. The Manager provided additional information as requested last month. The matter was tabled again with a *motion* from John Cypher and *second* from Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*. The Board would like to possibly see a demo (in person). It was also questioned whether there is a warranty on the system and if additional lighting will be needed or required.

The YMCA would like to use the GFWC (Ladies) Pavilion again this summer at the reduced rate of \$55.00 per day (same as last year) – weekdays June 10 to August 16, 2024. *Motion* by John Cypher to authorize the fee for the YMCA at \$55.00 per day, the same as last year. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

ROAD REPORT:

Chairman John Cypher gave the road report as follows:

- The mild winter continues and therefore the snow fence removal has started (as of March 5th) and depending on the weather it should be completed by the end of March.
- The salt spreaders will stay on the three Mack trucks until the end of March.
- It appears the limestone purchase will not exceed the quote limit for this year. The end price is still to be determined. As requested by the Manager, John Cypher *moved* to authorize purchase of the aggregate/limestone up to the \$23,200 bid limit. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.
- The excavator has been ordered and we hope to have delivery at the end of April or sometime in May 2024.
- Butler County work release crew has been in the help at the park with picking up sticks and making piles for the road crew to gather with equipment. They plan to keep helping as time allows.
- The new style garbage cans will be labeled and installed throughout the park by April 1st. All the old heavy (plastic) barrels will be hauled back to the Township for possible sale on Municibid or for recycling.
- The used 2-way radios purchased from Concord Township have been installed in the backhoe, 2023 boom mower, trac-loader, and grader. The last two will be installed on the Athey and on the new excavator (when it is delivered).

ROAD REPORT, cont.:

The Manager and Road Foreman met with the PennDOT Municipal Services Representative last week. The paving of the cul-de-sac on Stoneybrook Dr. has been included in the bid specs pending an agreement with the owner/developer to pay their share of the 'ears' of this temporary cul-de-sac. It can be planned for adoption after they have been paved and the share paid by the developer. The seal coat and paving bid package is planned for advertisement in the Butler Eagle with opening/review set for April 8, 2024 at 2 PM. The final decision and award will take place at the regular meeting, at which the Supervisors may or may not reduce the number of roads on the list or may or may not remove the paving of the 'ears' on the temporary cul-de-sac. *Motion* by John Cypher to authorize advertisement of the paving and seal coat bids for 2024. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Leo Rosenbauer, P.C. Chair., noted that the 90-day review period for the JMAG, LLC Plan on Heller Rd. does not actually expire until after the April 8th Supervisors' meeting. Therefore, John Cypher *moved* to table the JMAG, LLC Plan until the next meeting. If Mr. Leicher fails to bring in his revisions prior to that date, the Supervisors will then have to take action on the plan. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

Leo Rosenbauer, P.C. Chair., reported on Feb. 19, 2024 Planning Commission meeting. The P.C. reviewed the Lot Line Revision for Richard & Grace Grimm, 488 Great Belt Rd., submitted by their engineers (Land Surveyors).

- Tax Parcel 190-1F155-7 – Tract 2 of 19.59 acres *will convey* to Parcel A of 1.98 acres to Tract 1, making this tract on the north of Great Belt Rd. proposed Lot 2 of 17.61 acres (vacant).
- Tax Parcel 190-1F155-7 – Tract 1 of 22.86 acres *will be conveyed* the 1.98-acre Parcel A from Tract 2, making this tract on the south side of Great Belt Rd. proposed Lot 1 of 24.84 acres with dwelling and out-buildings.

A non-building waiver was submitted, and the wording has been placed on the plan. A letter requesting a waiver of parts. 5 and 7 of Chap. 22 regarding designation of wetlands, etc. was submitted. Mr. and Mrs. Grimm were asked to consider giving 8 ½ ft. additional right-of-way for future utilities (if needed) along Great Belt Rd. for both Lot 1 and Lot 2. They will consider the matter and get back to Leo Rosenbauer if they agree. The P.C. voted to recommend approval of the Richard and Grace Grimm Lot-Line Revision with the non-building waiver and the waiver for Parts 5 and 7 of Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances. The Supervisors reviewed the plan tonight. *Motion* by John Cypher to approve the Ag. Exemption (non-building waiver) for Lot 2. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*. *Motion* by John Cypher to approve the Richard and Grace Grimm Lot-Line Revision as submitted including the waiver for Chap. 5 and 7 of Chapter 22. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Tabled from last month, the Supervisors considered re-joining the Council of Governments now under the umbrella of BCATO. After some discussion, John Cypher *moved* to join the Council of Governments for 2024 for \$100.00 (annual fee.) The township officials can then determine in the next year the benefits of being members of this COG. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

No one was present from Bullcreek Rd. regarding their complaints about Wain Landscaping last month. Mr. John Moore called the manager earlier today and asked for an update on the completion of Wain Landscaping's buffer.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by John Cypher to Adopt Resolution #525, the annual Disposition of Records. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The Manager requested that the Board consider increasing the Supervisor Pay (non-working, set by township code) since it has not been updated in many years. The pay for populations 5,000 to 9,999 should be \$2500.00 per year and we are still paying the \$1875 per year for townships under 5,000 population. There was some discussion, but no action. John Cypher noted that they are not in it for the pay! Mr. Grimm shared his thanks for the township officials and the condition of our roads in Jefferson Township.

PUBLIC BUSINESS OR COMMENT:

Evie Gross expressed her concern that there has been nothing submitted to the Planning Commission from Sprinkle Woods (Doug Sprinkle). There was significant discussion on the matter, but no action to be taken at this meeting. The manager noted that the Conservation District and the DEP are already informed, and Mr. Sprinkle has been made aware that there are ordinances that may apply to his 'development'.

Mark Burd spoke to the Supervisors, noting that he is a 38-year member of the Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Dept. and said that SVF has always had a great relationship with Jefferson Township. At the request of Representative Marci Mustello, he is here to promote the Transportation Forum being held on April 3rd at BC3 Founders Hall sponsored by Rep. Marci Mustello and Rep. Aaron Bernstein for Township Officials, who must RSVP.

Mr. Burd noted the Farmers Breakfast on April 4th from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM at the American Legion Post 778 (Lyndora). The guest speaker is Sec. of Agriculture Russell Redding. The general public is invited, and there is no cost to attend BUT registration is required by calling 724-283-5852 or online at: RepMustello.com/events.

There is also a Seniors for Safe Driving Seminar sponsored by State Rep. Marci Mustello on Thursday, April 11th from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Saxonburg Memorial Presbyterian Church, 100 West Main St. This seminar requires registration by calling 1-800-559-4880 or online at SeniorsForSafeDriving.com. There is a fee of \$17 and lunch is included.

MISC. BUSINESS

The Manager reported on several matters:

- The Intergovernmental Agreement Resolution #516 was adopted Nov. 13, 2023, but the actual agreement with Summit Township for the Bonniebrook Road seal coat project was never signed by Jefferson Township; so, he had the Supervisors sign the agreement this evening.
- Water for park restrooms will be activated the week of April 1, 2024.
- Pavilion Rentals are underway and are looking great.
- Flooding on Creek Rd. is waiting on a cost estimate to prepare the needed Joint Permit Application (DEP and the Army Corp.) for a possible solution.
- Filed an application for an 'up to' \$50,000 AARP Grant
- Proposed Resolution list was received from PSATS for voting on at the Spring Conference
 - He plans to pre-order a "Beyond the Code" booklet offered by PSATS. If we pre-order, Lois Rankin could pick it up at the conference.... the cost will then be \$40.00 (instead of \$50).
- The crack sealer requires a 'cleanout' every other year, so later this year we will schedule that for \$1,350.00.

ATTENDANCE:

Wendy Leslie (for the CDBG Hearing only), Bill & Mandi Foertsch, Brian Patten, Robert Veselich, Jim Rankin, Mark Burd (SVF & Rep. Marci Mustello's office), Roger Cypher, Evie Gross, Perry Dawson (*with Dylan Cebollero, Jacob Elphinstone, Kurt Elphinstone, Liam Kirby, and several other scouts*), Bill Broman, Chrisse Keck, Justin Kennedy, Carol Freehling and William Pitt (from the Butler Eagle) were present.

ADJOURN:

John Cypher *moved* to adjourn at 8:52 P.M. on March 11, 2024. *Seconded* by John Cypher. All agreed and *motion carried*.

NEXT MEETING:

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, April 8, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at the municipal building - 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler, PA 16002.