



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

"ANNOUNCEMENTS" are at the end of the Newsletter!

Road Foreman's Report

John Cypher gave the road report as submitted by the road foreman.

- Park restrooms were winterized on 11/14/24.
- Park gates were locked up for the winter on 11/21/24.
- Leaf removal along the Township rights-of-way is nearly done. Some touch up blowing to do in the wooded areas the next time everything thaws out.
- Snow fence installation is about 90% completed. A section of snow fence was added to Frazier Rd. at the Callen farm.
- Winter maintenance is ongoing, approximately 46 tons of salt has been used so far, as of 12/2/24.
- The road crew removed a tree from the communication line along West Jefferson Rd. at the Heller Road intersection. Part of the tree was hanging in the east bound lane of West Jefferson.
- Between snow and ice events, the road crew will be keeping the snow removal equipment clean and ready to go, servicing the other equipment as time and weather allow, keeping the salt, fuel and gas replenished as needed, and repairing signage throughout the township.
- The road foreman and road crew request that the three Supervisors sit in and be part of the ongoing union negotiation as was done in the past (with the last two contracts.) John Cypher responded that unless the road crew wants to attend an executive session with the Board of Supervisors only, the matter cannot be discussed at a public meeting.

Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee has no meetings in November, December and January. There was no report this evening. Baseball: Website: www.knochyouthbaseball.com Pool: Website: www.sebcopool.com
Softball: Website: www.sagsa.org Soccer: Website: www.knochsoccer.org

Planning Commission

Leo Rosenbauer reported on the November 18, 2024 Planning Commission meeting. The P.C. reviewed the DEP Component #1 for the Usell Septic Plan (Grant Usell) on Rockdale Rd.

Two existing lots on a 50 ft. private right-of-way – Parcel C of 16.00 acres already with a dwelling and existing Revised Parcel A of 16.09 acres now 'non-building'. Septic testing was done on Parcel A and the sewage module completed to convert it to a building lot. The P.C. voted to approve DEP Component 1 for the Usell Septic Plan, Revised Parcel A on Rockdale Rd. This evening, after a brief review, the Supervisors voted to approve the DEP Component #1 for the Usell Septic Plan, Revised Parcel A on Rockdale Rd.

The P.C. approved signing the 'non-building waiver form' submitted for L. June Faust from the Faust/Noah Lot Line Rev. last month. No action for the Supervisors to take this evening.

The P.C. discussed and agreed with Leo Rosenbauer's recommendation to add regulations to the Code of Ordinances on solar energy and other alternative energy resources and grading & excavation.

John Cypher and Braden Beblo were in agreement to look into possible regulations on both and agreed that the engineer would need to provide input. The P.C. also reviewed current ordinances – Chap. 7 and 8 – and will be looking at Chap. 10 for possible discussion at their next meeting.

Dec. 9, 2024 Unfinished Business

An offer was made to a candidate for the secretary/treasurer ‘trainee’ position, but it was turned down. Another applicant has been interviewed.

In anticipation of potential hiring, the Supervisors voted to set the treasurer’s bond for the new sec/treas. trainee at \$750,000.00 to start, once the position is finally filled.

The 2024 Budget Introduction was distributed to the Board of Supervisors at the Oct. 14, 2024 meeting. There was no further discussion this evening. The Supervisors voted to adopt the 2025 Budget Resolution #536 with no change in the millage (currently one (1) mill).

The revised resolutions/agreements with Saxonburg Borough on ‘sharing maintenance on Constitution Ave. following meetings on Oct. 15th and Nov. 18th with Borough Manager Steve May was reviewed and commented on by the Township Manager and returned to Mr. May. The revised agreement will be distributed to the Supervisors for review when it is received back from Mr. May.

John Cypher and Braden Beblo tabled action on the proposed police agreement with Saxonburg Borough for further review and discussion by the Board of Supervisors.

Dec. 9, 2024 New Business

It has been 16 years since the tax collector’s wage/salary was increased (currently \$240 month = \$2,880.00 year (since 2009). Tax Collector wages need to be set by Resolution at the Jan. 6, 2025 meeting before the petitions are submitted by candidates for the next term which would begin Jan. 2026 to Dec. 2029. After a brief discussion, the Supervisors voted to prepare the resolution stating the rate at \$275 per month (or \$3,300) for adoption at the Jan. 6, 2025 meeting.

Liberty Pointe Partners sent a request for Drawn Down #8 of \$259,174.28. The Supervisors voted to approve Liberty Pointe Drawdown No. 8 as presented in the amount of \$209,174.24 as reviewed and adjusted by HRG, Inc. as the asphalt paving was 84% complete at the time of inspection. This leaves a balance of \$185,575.14 in the line of credit for Phase I.

The Supervisors voted to approve Pay Application #1 for \$62,822.25 (as reviewed and approved by HRG, Inc.) for the O’Hara Road and Janice Lane storm sewer project to CRS Contracting, LLC, which is funded in part by the Butler County Municipal Infrastructure Program by 80% with a 20% township match.

Foreman Bill Foertsch suggested that James Brian Turner should be moved from Tier 1 (\$24.48 per hour) to Tier 2 (at the rate of \$25.21 per hour per the current union contract effective immediately. The Supervisors voted to move James Brian Turner to Tier 2 at the rate of \$25.21 per hour effective for the pay period 11/30 to 12/11/24 (paycheck date 12/12/24.)

Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – Dec. 9, 2024

After a brief discussion the Supervisors present agreed to meet in an executive session with the road crew to discuss personnel matters immediately after adjourning this meeting.

Leo Rosenbauer announced receipt of a letter regarding ‘early warning signal testing’ by Coherent (II-VI, Inc.) on Friday, Dec. 20 and Sat., Dec. 21 at 12 Noon.

Leo Rosenbauer reported receiving a call from Mr. Gombos who now owns the Nowicki property that abuts the township park. He would like to post ‘purple paint markings’ along the property line. John Cypher said that would be no problem since the township prohibits hunting in the public park.

Major Expenditures between the Nov. 11th meeting and Dec. 9, 2024

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| Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic, Inc. – engineering fees/plan reviews | \$8,647.75 |
| Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic, Inc. – engineering on MIP Culvert project | \$2,439.50 |
| Teamsters #261 & Employer – health insurance Jan. 2025 | \$7,575.20 |
| RA Services - annual serv. contract and RT Tech. annual service contract | \$1,250.00 |
| Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter, & Graham – legal fees Nov. 2024 | \$1,670.00 |
| CRS Contracting, LLC – Payment #1 on Janice/O’Hara Culvert project | \$62,822.25 |

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Board of Supervisors – 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. (except Jan.)

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

Planning Commission – 3rd Monday at 6:00 P.M.

Members: Leo Rosenbauer (Chair.), Evelyn Gross, Mike Gaston, James Jones,
Brian Noah (Vice-Chair.), Martha Fleming (Secretary), Robert Williams, Dan Driscoll, and Bernie Shulik.
Robert Wetzel is an alternate P.C. member.

Recreation Board – 1st Wednesday at 8 P.M. Feb. to Oct. (No meetings Nov., Dec. & Jan.)

Members: Brian Patten (Chair.), Roger Cypher, Kristi Wise, Greg Bauer (Pool), Justin Thompson (Baseball),
James C. Jones (Softball), and Kody Durrett (Soccer)

Location for all meetings listed: 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler, PA 16002 - Any changes are advertised and posted.

Please see websites for the park associations under 'Recreation Committee' above.

TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS

REGULAR HOURS: Monday through Thursday - 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM (CLOSED on Fridays.)

Office phone #724-352-2324 - Fax #724-352-8850 Manager: Leo Rosenbauer Sec/Treas.: Lois Fennell

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

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Tues., Dec. 24th through Wed., Jan. 1st for the Christmas/New Year's Holiday!

ANY QUESTIONS: email or call: jefftwbutlerpa@zoominternet.net – 724-352-2324

REAL ESTATE /PER CAPITA TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector Nadine Grabe, 245 Heller Rd, Butler, PA 16002 - 724-352-3288

By mail anytime. All other times by appointment only. Never leave unstamped envelopes in the Tax Collector's personal mailbox. Secure Drop Box located on the porch at 245 Heller Rd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ↓↓

⇒ 'Hang Tough Stockings Stuffed with Love & Care' event flyer was received on 10-3-24 and has been placed on the website 'home page' for the public to view. It lists donations needed and volunteer opportunities. More information is available at www.hangtoughstockings.com or by calling 724-856-0222.

⇒ **NOTICE:** Jefferson Township's responsibility during & following storms and excessive rain events is to clear and protect the Township rights-of-way. The Township is NOT authorized to clean up any private property; the only exception would be for Emergency access for 9-1-1 responders! It is also not legal for property owners to place any storm/rain/wind debris from their property along the township road rights-of-way.

⇒ **NOTICE:** The Road Crew will be blowing leaves out of the ditch lines and storm sewers to keep them from clogging up. The rights-of-way will be blown out several times near the end of October through December as the leaves fall.

⇒ **During the upcoming WINTER months**, as per the Township Ordinances, NO ONE is to park on the cul-de-sacs or any public road 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. Mailbox installation guidelines are available at the USPS website - "Regulations for Installing a Mailbox."

Also, residents living along the Butler-Freeport Community Trail are asked to be considerate when plowing snow from their property. Some residents are plowing snow onto the trail and in front of the gates, which blocks emergency vehicle access. If there would be an emergency, Emergency Services / 1st Responders would have difficulty getting to the scene.



PA AMERICAN WATER – ‘WaterSource’

LIHWAP – Low Income Household Water Assistance Program – contact www.compass.state.pa.us or request an application by calling the Dept. of Human Services Customer Service at 877-395-8930 (or for the hearing-impaired call PA Relay at 711).



Jefferson Township Burning Ordinance

The Township Burning Ordinance limits burning of ‘ordinary’ (domestic) waste materials (paper, cartons, boxes, yard waste, wood, and other similar items) by residents to ‘dawn to dusk’; *see on-line ordinance for excluded items*. PLEASE use common sense! Many items that cannot be burned can be recycled. All fires are to be completely extinguished before leaving it unattended.

Recreational fires are permitted by Ordinance #459 (Chapter 7 of the Code of Ordinances.)

PLEASE be considerate of your neighbors and do NOT permit leaves and other ‘allowed’ materials to be left smoldering after dusk.

ALL COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL BUSINESSES, NON-RESIDENTIAL and MULTI-FAMILY are PROHIBITED from ANY burning at ANY time per the Dept. of Environmental Protection.



NEED HELP during COVID19: Call (dial) 2-1-1 for help or Contact one of the ‘community resources’ below:

- **Food For Kids** Program information: <https://files.constantcontact.com/5061598a001/e62a6eb1-16b1-48d2-ad5c-349fc68f4395.pdf>
- **Food Bank** Information: <https://files.constantcontact.com/5061598a001/2d7ca64b-ee3d-4b4f-8ad9-45aa6cc125a3.pdf>
- **Link for Butler County Food Bank donations:** <https://anrinfo.org/product/butler-county-food-bank-donation/>
- **Butler County Health and Human Services** Resources are available 24 hours a day 7 days a week at, <http://pa211sw.org/> or by calling 211.
- **The Center for Community Resources** is also available 24 hours a day 7 days a week at (855)-284-2494. You can also chat with them at their website, <https://ccrinfo.org/>
- **24 Hour Crisis Services Local Hotline** (800) 292-3866
- **United Way of Butler County** – Check with them for help, but also to give donations that will help Butler County citizens. 724-283-4883 <https://www.butlerunitedway.org/butler-county-emergency-relief-initiative-beri>