



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER

"ANNOUNCEMENTS" are at the end of the Newsletter!

Road Foreman's Report

John Cypher read the road report presented by the manager and road foreman. 1,400 tons of salt and 352 tons of antiskid were used to date 3/1/21. Snowplow damages to lawns and berms were fixed. Trucks, plows, and spreaders were washed, greased, cleaned and fluid filmed. The snow fence was removed and stored.

Brooming of the housing plans and the edges of Hannahstown Rd. (entire length) was completed. The \$2,000 cost included adding portions of Nursery Lane and was still under-budget. All intersections, bridges and tunnels have been blown off and cleaned. All main line roads had the outside edges broomed off. Road signs were replaced as needed. John Cypher commented 'good job'!

Trees were trimmed in the park for truck clearance. The Road Foreman suggested we consider hiring a bucket truck to help top trees in the parking area. The pool cover has been picked up and stored at the township garage.

The 550 Ford truck tarp was installed, and the chipper truck is complete; works great! The 99 530 IH salt spreader's rubber belt pan had a hole worn in it, so it was replaced before it was stored. If we are thinking about replacing the 99 IH 530 in fall of 2022, we should start looking at specs by the end of 2021, since it could take 9 months to a year to get a truck ordered and built with a new bed, plow, and spreader. The outside light under the awning (the short was located by an electrician) was repaired and replaced with a new LED light by the road crew.

The Township property between Bonniebrook Rd. and Rt. 356 has been prepped for stockpiling millings (from the upcoming milling project on Bonniebrook Rd.) The Supervisors agreed to ride along on a road check with the Road Foreman and Township Manager; tentative date is Monday, April 19th at 8 AM.

Recreation Committee

Brian Patten sent a copy of the minutes from the April 7, 2021 Recreation Committee meeting. As he could not be present this evening, Chairman Cypher gave a brief report.

The Supervisors first discussed the needed pool renovations and the proposed 'pool feasibility study' (what needs to be done and cost considerations) needed before and when we submit a DCNR grant application for the actual pool renovation. Manager Rosenbauer has been working with Greg Bauer (Pool president) and Lance Welliver (County Parks Director) to find someone knowledgeable on pool renovations. HRG, Inc. does NOT do pool studies. A Request for Proposals must be prepared for the project; cost of the study will be reimbursed to the Township from the CDBG admin. funds. In the time being the pool maintenance person is planning on sealing/repairing the leaks in order to proceed with the 2021 summer season. Hopefully, the renovations can be done in the next year or so, if a DCNR grant can be secured. The Supervisors voted to authorize proceeding with an RFP for the pool feasibility study.

A synopsis of the Recreation Minutes from April 7, 2021:

Baseball: Opening day for games is scheduled for May 8th. The Knoch Baseball Clinic is April 24th. A 11U Tournament is being planned for April 30 to May 2nd. www.saxonburgbaseball.com

Pool: Opening is planned for Memorial Day weekend. No price increase in 2021. www.sebcopool.com

Softball: Knoch HS is playing games at Laura J. Doerr Park. Opening day is April 26th for younger ages. Regional league dates are 'to be determined.' A tournament is planned for Aug. 5 – 7. www.sagsa.org

Soccer: Opening day is April 10th (season will end to June 6th). A ‘U10 & Older’ day-camp is planned for Aug. 2 – 5. www.knochsoccer.org

Action Items: Requested that the township check on downed tree on the fence at the western side of the soccer fields; to inspect/repair the potholes in the soccer parking area; and to investigate adding aggregate to the lifeguard parking area at the pool. The Supervisors had a short discussion on this parking area: there is room to park parallel or they can park in the upper lot. As the existing lawn area would have to be over excavated filled, rolled, etc. otherwise it would be a waste of funds as the aggregate will sink into the lawn area.

A letter was received from Butler County Parks and Recreation; Jefferson Township was NOT awarded a grant this year. We had applied for \$7,500 (county share) to be used toward proposed ‘paving of the trail.’

The manager and road foreman are looking at cutting down a tree at the corner of the park property. They will try to get permission from the owner, because the deteriorating tree is not on the park property.

Planning Commission

Leo Rosenbauer (Planning Chairman) reported on the March 15, 2021 P.C. meeting.

Russ Lang presented to the P.C. a request to add a mirror across the street for a proposed residential driveway because of insufficient sight distance looking south (to left) coming from his property (Lot 2 of the Rodney Lang Farm plan) onto Bullcreek Rd. Chairman Rosenbauer reported 160 ft. entering Bullcreek to left instead of the required 265 ft. The P.C. voted only to recommend proceeding with issuance of the driveway permit with a no left turn restriction until the bank is cut back to get sufficient site distance; a mirror was NOT approved. The Supervisors reviewed the request and voted to deny the modification, stating that Mr. Lang should do what it takes to get the site distance taken care first, making sure he has sufficient site distance before he applies for the driveway permit.

Leo Rosenbauer presented a modification request to install a shipping container on a nearby 18-acre parcel which does not have a residential dwelling. The current residence (1.25 acre) does not allow for adding a storage unit due to topography, a narrow lot and septic field location. He plans for this 10’ x 53’ shipping container to be there only a few years. He obtained a letter of permission from the neighbor and will use an existing access. The P.C. voted to recommend approval. The Supervisors voted to approve the modification as presented.

Scott Ekas presented to the P.C. a DEP Component (module) to change a 7-acre ‘non-building lot’ to a ‘building lot’. Leo briefly explained that because of DEP regulation changes, the SEO is suggesting that the Township process his module promptly. The module was reviewed by the SEO and Supervisors. They voted on March 8, 2021 to approve the module contingent upon the P.C.’s satisfactory review. On March 15th, the P.C. voted to approve the Ekas Sewage Component I as submitted. The Supervisors voted to *confirm* approval.

A DEP Component 3S was submitted for Dave Kuhn (115 Caldwell Dr.). Mr. Rosenbauer has not had time to review it. It is for a ‘small flow treatment facility’ and DEP will probably accept this application because it will fix an existing malfunctioning system. The P.C. voted to approve the Kuhn Component 3S contingent upon satisfactory review by Mr. Rosenbauer and the SEO. After a brief review and since Mr. Rosenbauer and Doug Duncan (SEO) reviewed the Component 3S and were satisfied, the Supervisors voted to adopt the Resolution #470 for New Land Revision and to approve the Kuhn Component 3S as presented.

Brady Young, contractor presented a modification request from Adam Olsen for a 20 x 20 ft. addition at 148 Dusty Lane to the P.C. The property owner submitted it late due to a personal hardship, so Mr. Young was asked to be his representative and Mr. Rosenbauer accepted the late submission. Also, timeliness is needed since the Make-a-Wish Foundation will be providing financial assistance for this addition. The proposed addition will cover the existing deck area and will be 16.5 ft. from the right-side property line; (a notarized letter of permission was submitted from the neighbor. The P.C. voted to approve the 8.5 ft. modification as submitted. At the April 12th meeting, the Supervisors voted to approve the modification as submitted.

Nothing was submitted from Kevin Miller’s office or the surveyor, Stan Graff, on the Stoneybrook Plan. The 90-day review period will expire on May 16, 2021. The P.C. needs the submission from the developer to review and make decision by the April 19th P.C. meeting and the Board of Supervisors will need to take action by the May 10th meeting unless an extension is provided!

Chairman Rosenbauer asked for input about setting a time limit (expiration date) on modifications. It

was discovered later that a one-year time expiration was already designated the modification application.

Chairman Rosenbauer explained the DEP regulation changes made in February. There will be no more ‘shallow placement’ alternate site systems (i.e. small flow treatment facilities). There is concern that this will eliminate 75% of future subdivisions. Commissioner Geyer wrote an excellent letter to Governor Wolfe. Townships are being urged to send letters as well; the Supervisors have authorized Mr. Rosenbauer to draft a letter.

There was a discussion on the 10-acre exemption matter. The DEP has restrictive regulations on 10-acre+ lots prior to Jan. 10, 1987, but after this date, the DEP does NOT allow 10-acre exemptions. The Township regulations HAS required septic tests on all lots (regardless of size) according to the ordinance.

April 12, 2021 Unfinished Business

There was no ‘unfinished business presented or discussed at the April 12, 2021 meeting.

April 12, 2021 New Business

The Township received an “Agricultural Area” application from Clifford and Patricia Black. According to the Township’s adopted procedure from 2017, the date of receipt is noted as 3/22/21 and computed 180-day ‘deemed approved date’ as 9/18/21. At the following meeting (4/12/21) the Supervisors voted to accept the application and tabled any discussion on the Clifford and Patricia Black Ag. Security Area application. After the 180 days are up the Supervisors will then adopt, at the Oct. 11, 2021 meeting, the Resolution adding the parcel to the Ag. Security Area. It can then be recorded at the county.

Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – April 12, 2021

The 1st Public Hearing on the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) for 2021 was opened by Chairman Cypher at 6:48 P.M. The hearing was advertised by Butler County CDBG Coordinator, Wendy Leslie, who was unable to attend this evening. John Cypher reported: CDBG is a PA DCED funded program. The actual amounts for 2021 are not available yet, but they have been running slightly lower annually over the last few years. About 80% are ‘project funds’ and 20% are administration funds (for planning and admin.) The funds are to benefit populations or areas with 50% or more ‘low to moderate’ income OR for handicapped accessibility projects. In the past our funds have been used for the traffic light at Marwood Rd. and Rt. 357 (Concordia area); ADA projects at Laura J. Doerr Park (or portions of projects).; and handicapped ramp at the Jefferson Grange (voting site.) There were some questions, which will be relayed to the CDBG Coordinator.

Leo Rosenbauer presented a ‘2021 fire hydrant tax review/rough estimate’ to the Supervisors. An All-State Insurance Company agent contacted the Township for a second time to assist a homeowner to apply for a reduction of their yearly fire insurance cost. The cost savings for one property inquiry could save the property owner over \$300.00. The agent stated that by reducing the owners rating from a 9 to a 5 the savings range is between 25% to 50%. Currently the township pays 100% of the fire hydrant bill from PA American Water (\$7,463.76 annually). By taxing only those owners who will benefit from having their homeowner’s insurance reduction the township could re-coop this annual cost for an estimated tax of \$25.22 per year from each property. The tax could give the township other options, including increasing the donation to the fire dept. The Manager is checking with the attorney about the use of such a tax. The Supervisors said it is worth considering.

Notice was received from Gateway Engineers that Concordia is applying for renewal of existing NPDES Permit.

The P.C. Chairman (Leo Rosenbauer) received notice was received from PA American Water that they are applying to DEP for renewal of water withdrawal (10 million gallons) from Thorn Creek.

Manager Rosenbauer received an approval letter from DEP for the Nativity Land Development An outstanding condition regarding the water supply volume need submitted.

The Township received an inquiry about timbering at the park. There is no interest.

Lois Rankin announced that the Butler Co. Association of Township Officials is planning a ‘Fall Convention’ on Oct. 28, 2021 at the Butler Country Club. It will be a full day with a luncheon. They are also planning to compile and print a 2021 Directory.

Supervisor Rankin noted that Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Dept. 'donation cards' were sent out this month. They are planning a 'food truck' event on April 23, 24 and 25. **She asked that a notice be placed in the newsletter in hopes the Saxonburg Volunteer Fire and Ambulance will get 'more' support!**

Major Expenditures since the February meeting through March 8, 2021

Stephenson's Tree Service – trimming and stump grinding	\$7,050.00
Teamster #261 Health & Welfare – health ins. (April 2021)	\$5,849.56
Dillon McCandless King Coulter & Graham – legal -March 2021	\$1,239.50
Merge & Hill, P.C. – 2020 Audit	\$3,224.74
Penn Sweeping – 3/24+3/25 – street sweeping	\$2,000.00
Code.sys Code Consulting – bldg. permit inspection fees	\$4,169.92
Teamster #261 Health & Welfare – health ins. (May 2021)	\$5,849.56

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 7:00 P.M.

Members: Leo Rosenbauer (Chair.), Evelyn Gross (Secretary), Kathryn Foertsch, James Jones, Brian Noah (Vice-Chair.), Martha Fleming, Robert Williams, Dan Driscoll, and Bernie Shulik. Alternate member: Robert Wetzl.

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), Scott Kriley (Baseball), James C. Jones (Softball), and (Soccer – to be determined)

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.

WE ASK THAT IF YOU HAVE BUSINESS AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE TO PLEASE CALL AHEAD, SO WE KNOW YOU ARE COMING -724-352-2324. Masks required.

The Township is endeavoring at public meetings to limit attendance to protect

Township residents and the possible spreading of the virus.

We urge you to take precautions attending any event or 'scheduled' meeting.

We hope you will limit exposure to others, including at the township building.

Practice social distancing, such as no longer shaking hands and staying six feet apart,

No more than ten (10) people at a meeting place and washing hands often or using hand sanitizer!

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

STAY at HOME applies, especially if you are sick!

ANNOUNCEMENTS ↓↓

⇒ **Butler County's Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Collections - 2021 Saturdays- May 8, June 19, July 17, Aug. 21, Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 13, and Dec. 18.**

By Appointment Only (pre-registration required)

CALL 1-866-815-0016 Location: 129 Ash Stop Rd., Evans City, PA 16033

Butler County Department of Recycling & Waste Management

Sheryl Kelly, Environmental Specialist, Recycling & Waste Mgt. Coordinator (PROP-Certified Recycling Professional)

124 West Diamond St. PO Box 1208, Butler, PA 16003 Phone 724.284.5305

Email skelly@co.butler.pa.us

Web Site www.recyclebutler.us

A copy of the 2021 "Hard to Recycle Guide" provided annually by Butler County, can be found on the Township website.

REAL ESTATE /PER CAPITA TAX COLLECTOR

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

SPRING HOURS: March 9; April 20, 21, 22, 27,28 & 29 from 4:30 to 7:30 PM.

Pay by mail or call for an appointment. Never leave unstamped envelopes in the Tax Collector's personal mailbox. There is a secure payment drop box located on the porch.



NEED HELP during COVID19:

You can contact (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>
- **Pennsylvania American Water** has extended its suspension of water service shutoffs and late fees until after March 31, 2021 for all customers, both residential and non-residential. The company urges customers who are facing financial hardship to seek financial assistance immediately by contacting Pennsylvania American Water pennsylvaniaamwater.com or calling 1-800-565-7292. Please do not wait until a shut-off is looming to contact them.



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 also not legal for property owners to place any storm/rain/wind debris from their property along the township road rights-of-way.



Jefferson Township Burning Ordinance

A copy of the Burning Ordinance #459 has been placed on the Jefferson Township website: www.jeffersonbutler.com

The Township Burning Ordinance limits burning of 'ordinary' (domestic) waste materials (paper, cartons, boxes, yard waste, wood, and other similar items) by residents to 'dusk to dawn'. **Items 'excluded' from burning are:** sewage, all putrescible animal & vegetable matter resulting from handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food, rags, old clothes, leather, rubber, carpets, furniture, tin cans, glass, crockery, masonry, metals, chemicals, tires, shingles and petroleum products such as (but not limited to) paint, grease, oil and plastic products. PLEASE use common sense! Many items that cannot be burned can be recycled. All fires are to be completely extinguished before leaving unattended. Recreational fires are permitted (as per Ordinance.) 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. TIRES are NEVER to be burned by ANYONE. Dumping of Tires is ILLEGAL and subject to fines.

THE NEWSLETTER is only available On-line OR via e-mailing OR can be picked up at the Township Office. **Our Web Site is:** www.jeffersonbutler.com If you want to have the newsletter e-mailed to you or if you have not received your e-copy, please contact the Township Secretary: jefftwbutlerpa@zoominternet.net - 352-2324.

Do you live in Jefferson Township?

You may be eligible to have your windows, furnace, roof or more replaced!



Don't miss your chance to make some home improvements before the cold weather hits!

The Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program

assists homeowners in renovating their homes!

APPLY TODAY:

financial grants up to \$12,500 to assist eligible low to moderate income homeowners with home improvements including making your home more Energy Efficient. Also, if applicable, an additional \$2,500 is available to make handicap accessibility modifications to your home.

Call, Stop-in, or Email:



**Redevelopment Authority County of Butler
114 Woody Drive □ Butler, PA 16001**



724.287.6797/1.800.433.6327/TDD: 1.800.545.1833 x772

www.housingauthority.com