



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

"ANNOUNCEMENTS" are at the end of the Newsletter!

Road Report

John Cypher read the road report. An estimated 1,000 ton of salt and 120 ton of anti-skid were used this winter so far. 300 ton of salt was ordered and delivered last week; they have room for another 300 ton or so which will get us to the 'minimum' required via Co-Stars for this 2021-2022 season. Repairs were done on the 99 IH 530 and the 2019 Moon Mack. The 2015 F550 Ford was inspected, and some repairs were done, including some under warranty. All the trucks and snow removal equipment have been kept clean, greased, breaks adjusted, etc. between snow and ice events. There was a downed tree during the freezing rain and snow on Feb.3rd around 10 PM on Bullcreek near Patterson Rd. It was removed with the 930M payloader. A concrete culvert crossing on Bullcreek Rd. appears to be separating and may require replacement. O'Hara and Dinnerbell road name signs have been replaced; others will be changed as the snow melts and time allows. A 35 MPH sign was replaced on Caldwell Dr. (due to a hit and run near Summit Church.) Mr. Rosenbauer noted that Summit Township is planning to 'store salt higher in their facility' in order to take advantage of the current prices; our road crew is considering the same.

Recreation Committee

Brian Patten was present to report on the Feb. 2, 2022 Recreation meeting.

Baseball: Registration is open for the 2022 season (Farm through Pony Leagues close 2/18, Colt and Legion Leagues will close later.) Clean-up date is scheduled for March 27th. Season opener is planned for May 7th.

www.saxonburgbaseball.com

Pool: They hope to uncover the pool in March and will notify the township when to pick up the pool cover for storage. They hope to have the lifeguards and concession workers hired by the end of February. The Pool Study is underway; Mr. Rosenbauer noted this evening that 347 survey responses were received so far. Mr. Rosenbauer reported some details of the pool proposal and noted the complete draft report is available for review. Counsilman-Hunsaker (pool engineer) was asked to add another option for review.

www.sebcopool.com

Softball: 2022 registration is now open through Feb. 28th. www.sagsa.org

Soccer: Registration is open through Feb. 17 for travel teams and through March 13 for in-house teams. Clean-up date is March 26th. Opening day is planned for April 5th. www.knochsoccer.org

Old Business: The Recreation Committee recommended the road through the park be named Doerr Park Drive. Mr. Rosenbauer noted that 911 prefers a continuous road name and believes they will okay a numbering system (proposed by Kristi Wise). The Supervisors voted to approve the name 'Doerr Park Drive' contingent upon 911 approval of the road name and numbering system.

Park Projects: Cale Patten is working on the design of the Kiosks/Signs at the two park entrances. He will submit a design(s) for approval. The goal is to complete the project by late spring 2022. They do not have a cost estimate yet, but Brian said it will not be elaborate: wood structure with metal roof; weather and vandalism resistant.

Mr. Rosenbauer noted that he met with the architect (subcontracted by Widmer Engineering) on the design of the proposed restroom.

Planning Commission

The draft minutes of the 17, 2022 Planning Commission meeting was presented to the Supervisors, and they show that the P.C. held their election of officers: Leo J. Rosenbauer, III – Chairman; Brian Noah – Vice-Chair.; and Martha Fleming – Secretary. The P.C. reviewed the J. R. Goodlin Plan #2 and the Liberty Point Land Development (Condominium Plan) but tabled both plans due to numerous outstanding issues.

February 14, 2022 Unfinished Business

The manager reported on several items including but not limited to: the original tree trimming contract was cancelled due to ‘inaction by the contractor’ and the manager contracted with the other tree trimming company that had quoted the project. He is currently working on the trimming to be completed on several housing plans; and an email received from the CDBG Coordinator regarding the CDBG-CV (Covid) Allocation for which no one applied. After some discussion, the Supervisors agreed to take action this evening and voted to move the remaining CDBG-CV funds to Housing Authority Projects *contingent* upon confirmation of the balance to be moved; approval by the County Commissioners; and authorizing administration by the County Housing Authority.

The Supervisors voted to adopt Resolution #484 (as advertised) appointing Merge & Hill, P.C. (Certified Public Accounts) to examine all the accounts of Jefferson Township for the fiscal year 2021.

February 14, 2022 New Business

The Supervisors voted to adopt Resolution #483 authorizing application to the Butler County Parks and Recreation Renovation Grant for 2022. The manager has completed the application to put new roofing on three pavilions at the park (total cost \$15,449.00). If approved, the county will reimburse us \$7,500 on a \$10,000 or more project.

The March 2022 to March 2023 general liability and automotive insurance renewal came in at \$23,024.00. Per C.W. Howard Insurance Agency, this is a 3 to 3.5% overall increase. The Supervisors voted to approve payment when the invoice is received.

An email was received ‘after’ the reorganizational meeting from Michelle Lesniak (So. Butler Community Library Director) that due to a change in their bylaws that automatically extended our representative’s term to 12/31/21. Therefore she has asked us to reappoint Monica Rummel for the next three-year term. The Supervisors voted to appoint Monica Rummel for a three-year term from 1/1/22 to 12/31/24.

The Supervisors voted to appoint Leo J. Rosenbauer, III as Right-To-Know (Open Records) Officer for 2022 and Lois J. Fennell as ‘alternate’ RTK officer. This changes to appointment made at the Jan. 3rd meeting.

Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – February 14, 2022

Notice was received from Gateway Engineers that the PA American Water Company has applied for utility line stream & wetland crossings and temporary road crossings through Saxonburg, Buffalo, Clinton and Jefferson Township for a ‘temporary water line for Penn Energy Resources W76 in Buffalo Township.

Notice was received from Moody and Associates that PennEnergy Resources is applying to DEP for a permit to Drill & Operate an Unconventional Well in Winfield Township (W58 on Stoney Hollow Rd.)

Chairman Cypher offered the following ‘Township Address’ for February 2022. The Supervisors voted to include it in the minutes and in the February newsletter.

Statement of the Township Address - Feb. 14, 2022

Jefferson Township is around for another year, as approved and directed by Federal, State, and County rules and directives. The Township must operate on a continual basis to complete the duties assigned to us by the governing levels above.

One example of township compliance is operating with a balanced budget. Jefferson Township has not borrowed nor raised taxes for decades. In other words, we have not financed today’s ‘instant gratification’ by handing a bill to future generations. We continue to spend only today’s funds for present needs for a better future for all.

The road program remains our number-one priority and expense. Our buildings and equipment demand continual maintenance, repairs, and replacement. The township park consumes time and money to operate and expand.

There are no 'new projects' planned for this year. We do have expansion and repair projects to complete on our road system, township office, buildings & equipment, and the township park facilities. These projects will be done using funding which has been budgeted and 'set-aside' in advance.

As always, the Supervisors thank the Township Staff, Employees, and Volunteers for their extra and unselfish sacrifice and devotion.

Please continue to support our Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Department, South Butler Community Library, and the Butler County Humane Society.

May we all have a prosperous and healthy 2022 and beyond.

L. Cypher, Chairman

Manager Rosenbauer made note of several other items. The Auditor's met on Jan. 4, 2022 to set the working Supervisors wages: Cleaning person \$15.00 per hour; and if needed, road laborer (no CDL) \$18.00 per hour and road laborer/CDL driver \$21.00 per hour. We received additional royalties from PennEnergy Resources, which was deposited and will be transferred to the Park PLGIT account. The Township received a list of PennDOT projects in Butler County this morning, which included two in Jefferson Township: 1) Rt. 356 mill & fill on the north bound lane approx. 4.93 miles between Cliff Lane to Turrano Lane. 2) pipe replacement under Rt. 356 near the Bonniebrook Rd. intersection.

Mr. Rosenbauer received an inquiry about the tree trimming on Oak Dr. and in the process the property owner *complimented* the road crew for their maintenance on the township roads. Good job!

John Cypher asked the Supervisors to consider a \$30,000 to \$40,000 donation to the Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Dept. to help make up for lost revenue during COVID, which is estimated to be \$100,000.00. He hopes that Saxonburg Borough, Clinton Township, Winfield Township, and Jefferson Township will provide relief.

Major Expenditures since the Jan. 3rd meeting through Feb. 14, 2022

Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter, & Graham – legal fees – Dec.2021	\$ 1,174.75
Hilltop Roofing Supply – materials for pump house roof	\$ 1,165.39
Teamsters #261 Health & Welfare – March health ins.	\$ 4,737.98
Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter, & Graham – Jan. 2022 legal	\$ 1,444.00
Purvis Brothers, Inc. – gas & diesel	\$ 3,842.51
Compass Minerals – salt	\$17,065.49

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.), Martha Fleming (Secretary), Evelyn Gross, Kathryn Foertsch, James Jones, Brian Noah (Vice-Chair.), Robert Williams, Dan Driscoll, and Bernie Shulik.

Robert Wetzel is 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), Scott Kriley (Baseball), James C. Jones (Softball), and Chris Tully (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.

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

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ↓↓

⇒ **During the upcoming WINTER months**, as per the Township Ordinances, NO ONE is to park on the cul-de-sacs or any public road or right of way 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.

⇒ **NOTICE: PLEASE** be sure your trash containers and recycle containers are removed from the roadway during snow events. Leaving them on the roadway hinders proper snow removal procedures. The township is NOT responsible for damaged containers.

⇒ **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.

⇒ **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-ber/>

⇒ **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 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.



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).



DON Housing Department

USDA Access & Rehabilitation Program for Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Lawrence, Mercer & Westmoreland Counties.

This grant provides needed repairs and renovations for homeowners with very low to low income whose primary residences are located in a USDA eligible area. Funds awarded through an application process on a first come, first served basis. To find out more, go to www.doninc.org/HPP or phone 724-652-5144 (for hearing impaired TTY/VP: 724-652-5152). *The Township has NO involvement in the grants or processing of the applications!*



NOTICE: First Energy will be trimming vegetation during May and June and then applying ‘herbicide’ on certain properties from June to Sept. 2022. The First Energy representative has indicated that affected property owners have received notice directly from First Energy.

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