



# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP JANUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

**"ANNOUNCEMENTS" are at the end of the Newsletter!**

## **Organization & Appointments - Jan. 3, 2022**

As required by state law, all municipalities must hold their organization meeting on the first Monday of the year unless it is a holiday. The Jefferson Township Organization meeting was held on Monday, Jan. 3, 2022 followed immediately by the regular meeting *as advertised*.

The Supervisors voted to appoint L. John Cypher as Chairperson and to appoint Lois J. Rankin as Vice-Chairman (subject to her acceptance). Other Township officials were appointed or re-appointed *as follows*: Lois J. Fennell, Township Secretary/Treasurer and Planning Commission Clerk; Code.sys™ Code Consulting, Inc. as the building inspectors (including electric) for all permits under the PAUCC (residential, commercial & industrial) and BCO for all permits under the PAUCC with Dave McGuigan as our primary contact and BCO (building code officer); Leo J. Rosenbauer, Township Manager, Codes Enforcement Officer, Building Permit/Site Inspector, Stormwater Manager, Flood Plain Administrator, and alternate Open Records Officer; Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Dept. as fire marshal; Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham as solicitors with Matt Marshall as our primary contact; Herbert, Rowland and Grubic, Inc. as the Township Engineers with Rob Arnold as our primary contact; the State Dog Warden (Tom Wharry) as the dog control officer; Adam Hartwig as the emergency management coordinator; Eric Butler as the assistant emergency management coordinator; Keith Bachman and Kevin Miller were reappointed and Clinton Bonetti was newly appointed as the members to the Appeals Board; Ed Kosinski as alternate Appeals Board Member for 2022 (subject to his acceptance); and TJB Consulting (Tammy Boice) was re-appointed as our 'webmaster' for 2022. Brian Patten was re-appointed to the Recreation Committee for another 3-yr. term 2022, 2023, & 2024. Lois J. Fennell was re-appointed as primary delegate and Erma Mowry as alternate delegate to the Butler Co. Tax Collection Committee; and Lois Fennell and Lois Rankin were re-appointed as representatives to the Butler Co. Association of Township Officials. Doug Duncan was re-appointed as primary sewage enforcement officer (new fee schedule to be adopted this evening) and Collin Fantasky was newly appointed as alternate sewage officer. Martha Fleming, Dan Driscoll, and Leo Rosenbauer were re-appointed to serve 4 years (2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025). Bob Wetzel was reappointed as 'alternate member' for the same 4-year term. The 'elected' auditors will meet only to set the 'working supervisors' pay'. Evie Gross was appointed as 'vacancy board member'.

Other decisions at the re-organization meeting included: re-appointment of the cleaning person (Lois Rankin - working-supervisor); keeping First Commonwealth Bank as our primary depository plus a CD at Nextier and savings accounts at PA Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT); authorizing supervisors, secretary/treasurer and manager to attend the annual state convention in Hershey (if they so desire) and pay the usual expenses (Supervisor Lois Rankin was appointed the voting delegate); setting the mileage reimbursement at going IRS rate (\$.585 cents per mile); setting the treasurer's bond at \$800,000.00 (the manager's at \$650,000.00); and setting the monthly meetings on the second Monday monthly at 7:00 P.M. except Jan. 3, 2022.

The Supervisors voted to set the Tier 1 union employees at \$21.65 per hour (the Tier 2 wages of \$24.00 and Tier 3 wages of \$27.00 were set via the Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2022, 2023 and 2024 approved last month). The Supervisors voted to set the part-time laborer/CDL employees at \$18.50 per hour. The Supervisors also approved a premium/hazard pay for those essential employees that worked during the March 2021 through Dec. 2021 pandemic (to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Funds).

## **Road Foreman's Report**

John Cypher gave the road foreman's report as follows: Snow fence installation was completed on 12/9/21. Leaf clean-up at the park was finished on 12/15/21 and the park was locked up to vehicle traffic on 12/16/21. Estimated build date for the new Mack truck is Sept. 15, 2022 and should arrive at Super City by

the end of September; it is hoped the truck will be done and delivered by the end of this year. After a few days of rain and some steady down pours, the road foreman checked on the new riprap swale installed on O’Hara Rd. It was working and handling the water as it should. “Well done” Beblo Excavating! Some discussion took place on the suggested replacement of the boom mower and purchase of a small tractor to help with park maintenance. Chairman Cypher said this should be a continued discussion to take place upon presentation of several options. It was noted that we should have the two tree stumps grinded in front of the maintenance garage that were cut down by the power company, when a contractor is in the area. The road foreman would like to look into renting a vac truck for cleaning the catch basins out. The foreman was asked to get prices this spring or summer when time allows.

## **Recreation Committee**

The Recreation Committee does not meet in November, December, and January. No report. [Baseball: www.saxonburgbaseball.com](http://www.saxonburgbaseball.com) [Pool: www.sebcopool.com](http://www.sebcopool.com) [Softball: www.sagsa.info](http://www.sagsa.info). [Soccer: www.knochsoccer.org](http://www.knochsoccer.org)

## **Planning Commission**

The Planning Commission cancelled their December meeting due to lack of business. No report.

## **January 3, 2022 Unfinished Business**

There was no ‘unfinished business’ to discuss this evening.

## **January 3, 2022 New Business**

The Supervisors voted to adopt the revised Butler County Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution #480.  
 The Supervisors voted to adopt the revised Professional Services Fee Resolution #481 as presented.  
 The Supervisors voted to adopt the revised Sewage Fee Resolution #482.  
 The Supervisors voted to adopt the revised Jefferson Township Fee Resolution #483 as presented with reference to the revised Professional Fee Resolution #481 above and the Sewage Fee Resolution #482.  
 The Supervisors voted to authorize the Delinquent Per Capita list for 2021 to be sent to Sharp Collections *when it is received* from the tax collector (early 2022).

## **Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – January 3, 2022**

It was noted that the Manager acquired a temporary construction right-of-way and authorized Beblo Excavation to install erosion & sedimentation controls on O’Hara Rd. to correct off-site water discharge effecting the structural integrity of O’Hara Rd. Cost was \$7,190.00 for this ‘emergency situation.’ Chairman Cypher said he appreciates the job well done by Beblo Excavating.

It was also noted that the Manager is authorizing the removal of invasive species along the soccer field fence line by Beblo Excavating in the amount of \$5,300.00. This project is adjacent to the fence and ARPA funds can be used.

The Manager received information from DON Housing Dept. out of New Castle, PA in the mail, and contacted Wendy Leslie at the County office to inquire about it. He was informed that it is a legitimate funding source for very low to low income and is based on location in a USDA eligible area. We can pass the information on via our newsletter/website, but the township has no involvement in the grants or processing of the applications.

### **Major Expenditures since the Dec. 13th meeting through Jan. 3, 2022**

Compass Minerals – road salt	\$17,317.99
PA State Assn. of Township Supervisors – annual dues, etc.	\$ 1,680.00
Teamsters #261 Health & Welfare – Feb. health ins. (less credit)	\$ 3,158.92

## **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

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

L. John Cypher, Chairman	Lois Rankin, Vice-Chair.	Braden Beblo, Supervisor
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**Planning Commission – 3rd Monday at 7:00 P.M.**

Members: Leo Rosenbauer (Chair.), Evelyn Gross (Secretary), Kathryn Foertsch, James Jones, Brian Noah (Vice-Chair.), March Fleming, 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](mailto: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:** 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-beri>



## 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](http://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](http://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!*

**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