



# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

## JULY 2024

## NEWSLETTER

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

### Road Foreman's Report

Chairman Cypher gave the road report submitted by the foreman.

- Paving and shoulder backup is complete.
- Investigated the garbage truck damage to the new pavement on the cul-de-sac of Audrey Lane.
- More drainage work has been completed on Golden City Rd. and Becker Rd.
- The inlet area to a 48-inch pipe on Alwine Rd. has been tail ditched and lined with large riprap. The disturbed area was seeded and mulched.
- The 2017 Mack was taken to Coach in Butler for rear brake issues. New slack adjusters and rear brake chambers were installed. We have not received the invoice yet.
- The 2015 Ford F550 engine light was on for a few weeks and the truck went into a 'power reduce mode.' The truck was taken to MDDP on Caldwell Dr. It was scanned and codes were cleared. No other actions were needed. The total cost of \$168.
- The second berm mowing has been completed.
- Insite Pipe came and jetted out seven pipes, three of which have issues to be addressed. Trees need to be removed in front of the Township Maintenance Garage due to root issues. There is a willow tree at the corner of Audrey Ln. and Fisher Rd. that is causing issues with a 15-inch pipe and possibly the surrounding area. At 687 Mushrush Rd. a 15-inch concrete pipe is half plugged with concrete debris, so this pipe will need to be replaced within the next year or so.
- 477 tons of salt will be ordered by the end of July to complete our 'minimum purchase' requirement on the current contract, otherwise they will charge us storage fees.
- The Ventrac mower had a hydraulic leak at the main line to the hydraulic pump and was taken back to the dealer for repairs since it is still under warranty. It should be ready for pick-up soon.

Manager Leo Rosenbauer noted that the paving project was good; our foreman was present with Wiest Paving during the 2024 paving project. He also noted that he had several non-compliant driveway issues (permits were not obtained prior to the work.)

### Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee met on July 3, 2024. Brian Patten reported this evening that Baseball and Soccer are basically done until fall. The Softball season is nearly over. Their annual tournament is on August 2, 3, and 4. They reiterated their concerns about the traffic interaction with pedestrians in the parking lot when crossing Doerr Park Drive. They asked if the Township could please mow around the outside of the ballfields in preparation for their upcoming tournament Aug. 2 to 4. There was no report from the Pool Association. Please see their report from last month (June 10<sup>th</sup> Supervisors' meeting or the June Newsletter) for details on ongoing plans. ACTION REQUEST: Mowing around the outside of the fences prior to the Softball Tournament Aug. 2 to 4.

Baseball: Website: [www.knochyouthbaseball.com](http://www.knochyouthbaseball.com)

Softball: Website: [www.sagsa.org](http://www.sagsa.org)

Pool: Website: [www.sebcopool.com](http://www.sebcopool.com)

Soccer: Website: [www.knochsoccer.org](http://www.knochsoccer.org)

## Planning Commission

Leo Rosenbauer reported on the June 17, 2024 Planning Commission meeting. The P.C. reapproved the Concordia Lutheran Ministries site plan for the ‘sunshade’ as they failed to have it recorded within 90 days. At tonight’s meeting, John Cypher *moved* to reapprove the Concordia Lutheran Ministries plan. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

The P.C. discussed the possibility of adding regulations to alleviate ‘excessive grass being blown onto roads by property owners/residents.’

The P.C. reviewed Chapter 4 of the Code of Ordinances. (Note: we have no regulations in Chap. 3 reserved for Bicycles.)

The P.C. members were given a copy of a sample solar ordinance...but they noted that it needs to include regulation on ‘decommissioning’ to prevent developers from abandoning the ‘sites’ after their life span (expected to be 20 years but could be much less.)

The P.C. were given a copy of an article (from Evie Gross) about ‘gas well brine used for fracking’ which they recycle, and it comes back from the ground with lithium in it...which might be extracted and used for batteries.

Mr. Durham has asked for approval of his modification request from back in March 2024. It was tabled for more information, and he asked at the 5/13/24 meeting that the decision be postponed. Finally, this evening he and Kevin Miller attended to report their proposal. The structural conditions of the original building were worse than the owner originally thought. The Supervisors’ question was whether the foundation was sound and if the structure could be rebuilt on the existing foundation. Mr. Miller said he needs to replace at least two posts and then re-enforce the rest of the structure. John Cypher recused himself due to familial ties with the property. After some discussion, Lois Rankin *moved* to approve the modification requested by Chris Durham to repair/renovate the existing structure (same footprint) at 737 Freeport Rd. as explained by his contractor, Kevin Miller. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. *Motion carried 2 to 1* with John Cypher recusing himself. Mr. Durham was informed by the Code Enforcement Officer that he needs to acquire a building permit for the repairs.

## July 8, 2024 Unfinished Business

The 2024 CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funding totals \$106,485.00 (with \$87,382.00 projects + \$19,103.00 admin. funds) per a recent email from Wendy Leslie, CDBG Coordinator, dated 6/21/24. The Supervisors voted to designate the 2024 CDBG funds for housing rehabilitation. The Chairman signed the ‘general application certification’ to be sent back to Wendy Leslie. The resolutions will be adopted next month and signed with the other paperwork required by the County.

## July 8, 2024 New Business

After some discussion between the Supervisors, the manager, and the road foreman. The Supervisors voted to appoint Gerry Geibel as temporary/acting foreman while the road foreman is on vacation in September.

The Township received Impact Fee (ACT 13 Funding) via the General Fund Checking on 6/27/24. It was transferred to the Impact Fee PLGIT account on 7/1/24. The total of \$129,531.23 is \$29,531.23 over the \$100,000.00 budgeted income for Impact Fees, so a ‘Supplemental Budget Resolution’ #529 needs to be adopted. The Supervisors voted to adopt Resolution #529.

After a brief discussion, the Supervisors voted to enter into contract and ratify the agreement with the Code Enforcement Agency for ‘secondary professional services.’

## Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – July 8, 2024

Only three ‘public business slips’ were submitted as follows:

- 1) Pat Knable regarding a driveway permit. She noted that she did not know that a driveway permit was needed for resurfacing/repairing her driveway. It was explained that if she were simply sealing or painting the existing driveway, no permit would be required. She did have her driveway resculpted, re-sloped, and resurfaced and therefore a permit was required. It was also noted that the ‘contractor’ was

already aware, due to two other incidents, that he should have requested the property owner to get a driveway permit prior to the start of the work.

- 2) Marilyn Bain regarding Keck Rd. She explained the damage done by a group of boys (some township signs and road; some her own property and broken windows.) It was explained that the State Police were working on it. The Township will bill for damages to Township property, but she will have to talk to the State Police about her personal property damage.
- 3) Evie Gross, long-time Planning Commission member, regarding public comment. She understands that the Sprinkle property was not on the agenda but stated that many development plans have come through the township with multiple municipalities involved...and when they were, all municipalities involved had to approve/sign off on the plans. His 'public event venue' needs to comply with the township ordinances (as well as state laws like Stormwater, ADA compliance, DEP Sewage and the PAUCC regulations) but he has never approached the Planning Commission. The Township Manager confirmed that the Township has reached out to Mr. Sprinkle several times about his 'possible' development.

Township Attorney, Matt Marshall, stated that the public comment period is for Jefferson Township residents and property owners. It is for comment only and is not a 'question and answer period.' He said comments are limited to 3-minutes each and asked that 'speakers' should stand and state their name and address first. Only the following four people addressed the Board with comments:

- 1) Ford Stepp, 137 Bonniebrook Rd. - in regard to Sprinkle appearing to be in compliance with Winfield Township.
- 2) Garrett Hartle, business address: 570 N. Pike Rd., but lives in Hampton Township - in regard to the township possibly passing an ordinance to regulate shipping containers.
- 3) Jason Robinson, 62 Bonniebrook Rd.- in regard to the township not needing any new ordinances.
- 4) An un-named commentor who did not stand and give his name - in regard to his confusion about if someone owns 80 acres (40 in one township where he dwells and 40 in an adjacent township, that the property owner would have to get permits from the township in which the development is to take place.

**Final Comment** by Chairman John Cypher:

The Township does not deal in 'innuendos', computer or social media, public opinion, gossip or subterfuge. The Township must deal with facts, stating again that there are Township Ordinances, as well as County, State, and Federal regulations that 'we' as a township are charged with enforcing. These regulations apply to anyone and everyone in the township

Notification was received from Coherent (II-VI, Inc.) of the 6-month test on their Community Early Warning System – Fri., July 19<sup>th</sup> and Sat., July 20<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 12 Noon. A notice will be placed on the website.

A notice was received from Civil & Environmental Consultants to inform that PennEnergy Resources is applying to DEP for a minor modification to a previously authorized Erosion & Sediment Control General Permit (GP5) and Temp. Road Crossings (GP-8) for PA American Water Co. & Little Buffalo Creek to W58 Temporary Above-ground waterline project.

South Butler Community Library sent notification of their Booktoberfest on Sunday, 9/29/24. They are looking for raffle donors, sponsors, or financial donations. Set a cost if the township will contribute a basket this year. For more info., go to their website: [www.southbutlerlibrary.org](http://www.southbutlerlibrary.org)  
Lois Rankin is willing to prepare a 'basket donation' again this year. The Supervisors voted to spend between \$75 to \$100 for the basket and contents.

Lois Rankin said she would like to contact CCR (Center for Community Resources) to get a bin for collecting gently used (or new) coats again for this winter. When it is in place, the Township will put a notice on the website and newsletter. She would also like to promote "Hang Tough" and have the Township Office be a source for giving out stockings to be filled with items for cancer patients. The filled stockings could then be dropped off at the township. The Supervisors voted to participate as suggested.

Lois Ranking reported that the VFW 7636 on Dinnerbell Rd. (W. Main St. Saxonburg) is having a "Corn Hole Tournament" for "Wreaths Across America" on Aug. 10, 2024. She said there are over 500 needed for the Saxonburg cemetery. A notice will be placed on the website and in our newsletter.

Road Foreman Bill Foertsch addressed the public regarding the hazard of excessive grass clippings on the roadways stating that besides being a hazard to motorcyclists traveling over it, it is also a drainage issue which causes clogged inlets and storm pipes which creates ponding of stormwater on the roadways.

### Major Expenditures since the June 10th meeting through July 8, 2024

Hampton Concrete Products – concrete rings, 2-CBB & CB riser	\$1,645.00
Holbein – tar and chip Hannahstown Rd./repair caused by logger	\$1,600.00
Teamsters #251 & Employer –health insurance premium	\$6,949.72
Wiest Asphalt Products & Paving – base repairs/milling/paving (Gen.Fund)	\$116,659.43
“ “ “ “ (State Fund)	\$250,000.00
Purvis Brothers – diesel & gas	\$1,646.99

### 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

#### **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 alternate P.C. member.

#### **Recreation Board – 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Demek (Baseball Assn. President  
or alternate representative Justin Thompson (new Baseball Vice-Pres.),  
James C. Jones (Softball), and Kody Durrett (New Soccer representative)

*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: [jefftwpbutlerpa@zoominternet.net](mailto:jefftwpbutlerpa@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.

By mail anytime, other times call for an appointment. Secure Drop box located on the porch.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS ↓↓

⇒ **THIS SEASON, when MOWING** your grass, PLEASE **do not** allow the cut grass to accumulate on the roadway. It is a safety issue - especially if the grass becomes wet. It could cause a vehicle to lose traction and 'you' could be held responsible.

⇒ **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.

#### ⇒ **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).

#### ⇒ **Butler County Recycling Events**

## 2024 Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Collection Events

Butler County received DEP collection permit approval to hold its 2024 Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics collection events for our county residents as follows:

**Sept 7 - 157 East Airport Rd, Butler, PA 16002    Nov 9 - 690 Valencia Road, Mars, PA 16046**

Residents will be required to pre-register to attend these events and are scheduled for an approximate arrival time which helps to keep attendees from waiting in long lines. The Noble Environmental web site can be found here: <https://nobleenviro.com/> or they can call 412-567-6566. At the top of the web page, click on "Ewaste and HHW Collections" to find the registration page and details about attending an event. Please note that only credit cards are accepted for payment. Cash and checks are not accepted.



## 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.**



**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>

**Do you live in Jefferson Township?**  
*You may be eligible to have your windows, furnace, roof or more replaced!*



**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.

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

 **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](http://www.housingauthority.com)

