



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

REAL ESTATE TAX – COLLECTION HOURS

AT: 245 Heller Rd., Butler, PA 16002

PER: Tax Collector, Nadine Grabe

March 26th was to be one of the collection days days (noted on the tax cards) but the Tax Collector's Association scheduled a meeting on the 26th so she will NOT be collecting that day!!

March 24, 25, 30 & 31

April 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 & 30

Hours are from 4:30 - 7:30 PM

April is “Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month!

The Supervisors voted at their March 9, 2020 meeting to acknowledge this week.

Slippery Rock University announced opportunity to participate in IZE week (or Food Security Week) March 22-29, 2020. It is called IZE because they want to help their campus community to RealIZE the importance of understanding the issue, EmpathIZE with those persons impacted by the issue, and MobilIZE to change the current reality of food insecurity. Note that 10.4% of our residents; 16.3% of our children and 34% of our college students are food insecure. Groups interested in getting involved can contact 'steering committee members': Alice Del Vecchio at 724-738-4192 or Nichol Zaginaylo at 724-287-8711 ext. 8338 and ask them about 'opportunities' and the “Stick a Fork in Hunger- Butler County-IZE.”

Road Report

Chairman Cypher read the report submitted by the Manager and the Road Foreman. Chairman Cypher read the report submitted by the Manager and the Road Foreman.

The Bobcat Track Loader was ordered. Mid, April delivery anticipated. It was noted that the Manager and the Foreman will be working on the Municibid ad this week for sale of the Skid Steer (as per discussion at the Feb.10, 2020 meeting) and for the sale of other office equipment.

Four (4) pallets of crack seal material was ordered and delivered March 6; invoice \$6,048 paid Mar. 9, 2020.

A “Road Check” was performed on proposed roads, listed below for the 2020 paving season, along with other drainage issues. Supervisors voted later in the March 9, 2020 meeting to bid out the 2020 Road Paving Projects. Bids should be received and opened on April 13 at 2pm and awarded at the regular meeting that evening. Roads to be paved are Alwine and Reimer Roads with a 1 ½” scratch coat and a 1 ½” wearing course; with some areas on Reimer receiving base repair. The entire length of Hannahstown Road and Nursery Lane being double seal coated and Great Belt Road from Saxonburg to Nursery Lane being double seal coated. A single seal coat will be applied at all intersections to help reduce bleeding of the surface. Manager Rosenbauer said Mr. Harrel from the Conservation District reviewed the bridge on Golden City Rd. and the adjoining stream, and the Honzo property on Saxonburg Rd. He is looking into the previous permitting for the Golden City Rd. bridge.

100 tons of road salt have been ordered to meet our minimum requirement for the 2019-2020 winter season. For the 2020 – 2021 season an estimated 1500 tons of salt should be required. This is the same as last years' quantity. *The foreman completed the Co-Stars 'contract' on-line this morning.*

The sweeping of all roads and intersections will start as soon as weather allows. Penn Sweeping will vacuum all housing plans as done in the last few years. Price should be under \$3,000.00.

The removal of snow fence should be accomplished by April 15, 2020; weather permitting. *Manager Rosenbauer said at least ½ of the fencing has been removed as of today, March 9th.*

The Road Crew will be performing tree trimming when possible. Trucks were washed and equipment was greased; maintenance, etc. is being performed on a regular schedule. The roads were treated during winter events.

Chairman Cypher noted that the invoice for repair of the traffic light pre-emption was received...for replacement of a worn-out part (not caused by removal of the crosswalk signals.) Total cost \$1461.00. Chairman Cypher also noted that he received 'good comments' from two residents and one PennDOT staff on the maintenance efforts of our road crew.

Recreation Committee

Recreation Committee Chairman, Brian Patten, could not be present to report on the March 4, 2020 meeting, so Chairman Cypher gave the following synopsis: **Spring Cleanup:** Most associations will have a cleanup day on Saturday 3/21; Baseball's is 4/4. **Baseball:** www.saxonburgbaseball.com Registration is now closed except for Colt and Legion teams, see website. **Pool:** www.sebcopool.com The Pool Association is searching for a new summer manager, those interested can email Greg Bauer at gregobau@aol.com. Anyone interested in a lifeguard position can see the pool website for the application. The pool is gathering information on replacing the heater which needs to be replaced this spring. The pool cover will be removed on 3/14 so it can be drained and inspected to find the leak. **Softball:** www.sagsa.org Registration is now closed. Both Knoch High School and BC3 teams are using field # 5 again this season with first games scheduled for 3/16 for Knoch and 3/21 for BC3. SAGSA received a donation from a Pittsburgh Pirates Charity in the form of catcher's equipment and batting tees with an approximate value of \$1,200. SAGSA would like to thank the Pirates for their generosity. **Soccer:** www.knochsoccer.org Registration for Travel is closed, registration for in-house is open until about 3/20. Opening day 4/4; Practices start 3/23/20.

Park Projects: Automatic park gates: still on hold; gathering information for system design.

Park Informational Kiosks: Still working on a list and will continue to discuss and finalize it.

Naming of the Park road: In order to provide better emergency location service (EMS, Police, etc.) it was suggested that the main road through the park be named. After discussion the Committee agreed to suggest the name "Doerr Park Drive" to the Supervisors. Landscaping at Park Signs: Residents Cale and Dara Patten have volunteered to complete the annual rehab of the mulch and flowers at the park entrance signs. The work will be completed as soon as the weather permits.

Misc. and Action Items: All associations were advised to notify the Township of all known/planned tournaments so as not to conflict with the pavilion rental. Mrs. Kristi Wise attended the meeting and expressed interest in filling the vacant member-at-large position on the Recreation Committee. After discussion the Committee unanimously agreed to recommend Kristi to take over the Resident-at large position to the supervisors.

Action Items:

1. Continue to review the bathrooms at the baseball upper concession stand as needed. Items needed at this point: 1. Rebuild the toilets (new seats, plumbing, handles). 2. New sink faucets and drains. 3. Investigate the possibility of adding bathroom fans. *It was noted at the Supervisors' meeting that the restrooms MAY be expanded if CDBG funding can be used to make it truly handicapped accessible.*
2. Ask the Road Crew to turn on the water at the upper concession stand at any point around April 15th.
3. Discuss/consider the Recreation Committee's recommendation for Kristi Wise to fill the vacancy for the Resident-at- Large opening for 2020. On March 9, 2020, the Supervisors voted to appoint Kristi Wise as the member-at-large to the Recreation Committee to fulfill the term of Viki Nulph which expires 12/31/20.
4. Ask that the Road Crew pick up the pool cover on 3/16 or 3/17 and take it to the Twp Building for summer storage. *The manager, Leo Rosenbauer, will inform the road crew.*

5. Consider naming the road through the park “Doerr Park Drive”. *The Supervisors agree with the name, but perhaps the lane going to the Soccer Fields and the Tee Ball Field need separate lane names. Manager, Leo Rosenbauer will check with 9-1-1.*

Planning Commission

Leo Rosenbauer reported on the February 17, 2020 Planning Commission (P.C.) meeting. The P.C. reviewed the T. Ferraro Plan on Great Belt Rd. New Lot 2 of 2.19 acres with septic testing (primary and alternate via a DEP soils scientist with our SEO). Lot 1, the remnant, is 7.77 acres with existing septic, house and non-conforming out-buildings. The DEP module has been submitted and the County Planning review letter was received. After some discussion the P.C. voted to approve the **T. Ferraro Plan contingent** on the following: 1) completion of the sewage module to be sent to DEP for approval; 2) proposed driveway and sight distances need to be indicated on the plan per *Chapter 21-304, E*; 3) add the floodplain and stream locations on the plan per *Chapter 22-702*; 4) add appropriate rights-of-way as per *Chapter 22-905* for the floodplain and stream; and 5) acreages on the plan and on the application do not match and need to be clarified. At this March 9, 2020 meeting, Manager Rosenbauer said these five contingencies have been satisfied. The Supervisors reviewed the plan on Mar. 9, 2020 and voted to approve the **T. Ferraro Plan contingent** upon DEP’s approval of the sewage module and to approve the DEP module Resolution for Plan Revision #449. Upon inquiry, Jason Ferraro was told that if he proceeds with any grading, it will be at ‘his own risk’ since it is possible the DEP module could take 6 to 8 months for final approval (since this is a new type septic system being reviewed by them) and that a building permit cannot be issued until the DEP approves the module and a septic permit has been issued.

The Sisters from the Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery were present. The revised plans (addressing contingencies listed in the P.C. minutes from Jan. 20, 2020) were just received late this afternoon and the Manager, Leo Rosenbauer, did not have time to review the outstanding items thoroughly. Since the 90-day ‘clock’ expires on March 15th, this evening a decision was required. Sister Christina verbally asked for a 90-day extension and will provide the extension request in writing. The Supervisors voted to accept the 90-day extension request.

The P.C. briefly discussed a noise ordinance as requested by Brian Noah. The Supervisors noted this evening, March 9, 2020, that they recall the discussions on ‘noise’ and the ‘racetrack’ over 10 years ago. They have no interest in re-considering noise regulation mainly due to the difficulty for enforcement.

March 9, 2020 Unfinished Business

The bid opening for the Bonniebrook Road project (joint grant with Summit Township) was held on Feb. 17, 2020 at Summit Township and the decision on award was made at their regular meeting on Feb. 19, 2020 at 6:45 PM. The successful bid, for \$611,202.00, was from J. S. Bova Construction of Ohio. Work is to begin around June 15, 2020.

March 9, 2020 New Business

It was noted that the first public hearing on the 2020 CDBG Funding was held at 6:45 PM today, March 9, 2020 as advertised by Butler County (CDBG). The Supervisors discussed possible use of the funding with director, Wendy Leslie. She noted that the funds must be used for low to moderate income properties or areas. The 2020 allocation figures have not been released yet; the figures should be similar to that of 2019’s (which was \$86,497 for projects and \$18,910 for admin. expenses.) There were no public comments or questions received. Chairman Cypher asked about balances in the prior year’s admin. funds, which are approximately: \$13,000 for 2016; \$16,896 for 2017; \$18,468 for 2018 and \$18,910 for 2019. Discussion: paving the ‘walking’ trail - CDBG funds ‘cannot’ be used, however providing handicapped access to existing restroom(s), to handicapped parking areas, to the playground could possibly use CDBG funds. Admin. funds could possibly be used for engineering to plan the paving project with these ‘access’ points. Both activity and admin. funds could possibly be used to plan and alter the possible alteration/enlargement of the existing (baseball) restroom to make it truly ‘handicapped accessible’. Wendy Leslie will reach out to Widmer Engineering (the County’s engineer hired under ‘RFP’ or request for proposals, which we did not

require from our own engineer) and Lance Welliver, Butler County Parks and Recreation Director to set up a meeting to discuss these matters further.

The Supervisors voted to “Acknowledge the Month of April as Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month”. This will be noted in the March & April newsletters.

After discussion about moving forward with Earned Income Tax relief for “Volunteer Fire and Ambulance”, it was agreed that the manager should finish research and draft something for the Board to review and possibly act on at the April or May meeting. Manager Rosenbauer said Summit Township adopted a plan and it appears most of it is handled by Berkheimer (Tax Collectors for Butler County). The township share of EIT is 1/2 % on income for ‘residents’ of the township.

Manager Rosenbauer presented a quote for tree trimming on Green Manor Dr. (our end next to Summit Twp.) There are five oaks, either dead or dying, up against the pavement. \$1,800 to fall and let the property owner take/clean up or \$2,300 to fall and remove all material. Mr. Rosenbauer is trying to reach the property owner to find out what they would like to do.

There was a lengthy discussion on applying for the DCNR Grant for paving of the ‘walking trail’ at Laura J. Doerr Park. It is a 50/50 grant; the project could be ‘up to’ \$281,000; however, part of that may be engineering which could be reimbursed to us via the CDBG Admin. Funds. Besides the funding, there is a problem of ‘timing’ because the application is due by April 14th. Chairman Cypher said several things need to be done (i.e. pass a resolution; a letter committing to the project and that funding (our 50%) is available; support letters from Representative Marci Mustello and Senator Joe Pittman ...and park user(s) like the YMCA.) Mr. Cypher said Lance Welliver, the Butler County Parks and Recreation director, has paperwork nearly ready to proceed otherwise. The Supervisors voted to pass and sign a resolution to apply for the DCNR Grant contingent upon 1) engineering and preliminary acceptable cost estimate in a timely fashion in order to apply for the grant and 2) creation of a commitment letter once the cost estimate is considered Marci Mustello said she will get information to the township regarding CFA (Commonwealth Financing Agency).

Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – March 9, 2020

State Representative, Marci Mustello, was present tonight to promote several events her office is sponsoring:

1. Thurs., April 16 – “Think Like a Bad Guy” – self-defense course for Ladies Only – 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Summit Township Sportsman Club – space limited to 30 participants – RSVP by April 10th. Call 724-283-5852.
2. Fri., April 17 - “Farmer’s Breakfast” with PA Secretary of Agriculture, Russell C. Redding. Breakfast served at 9 AM; program begins at 9:15 AM at the Butler County Community College Founders Hall, 107 College Dr., Butler. RSVP due by April 10th – call 724-283-5852

BCATO Spring Convention is May 21, 2020 at the Butler Country Club. Registration is \$28 per person. *Motion* by Lois Rankin to pay registration and mileage for township officials wishing to attend (including Supervisors, Auditors, Tax Collector, Sec/Treas., Manager). *Seconded* by John Cypher. All agreed and *motion carried*.

Major Expenditures since the Feb. 10th meeting through Mar. 9, 2020

Detroit Salt Company – road salt	\$22,975.06
Dinnerbell Garage – inspection and repair equip.	\$1,125.29
Purvis Brothers, Inc. – gas and diesel	\$1,254.77
Selective Insurance – 2020-21 ins. package	\$20,127.00
Teamsters #261 Health & Welfare – Feb. health ins.	\$4,387.17
Traffic Control Equipment – repair pre-empt. at light -Rt 356/Marwood	\$1,461.00

TOWNSHIP OFFICE 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 and noted on the answering machine.

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.), Bernie Shulik, Kathryn Foertsch,
James Jones, Brian Noah, Robert Wetzal, Robert Williams and Dan Driscoll.

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

Members: Brian Patten (Chair.), Roger Cypher, Kristi Wise (newly appointed for 2020),
Greg Bauer (Pool), Scott Kriley (Baseball), James C. Jones (Softball), and Shane Huffman (Soccer)

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

TAX COLLECTOR

Nadine Grabe, 245 Heller Rd., Butler, PA 16002 - 352-3288 - Pay by mail or call for an appointment.

NEVER leave unstamped envelopes in the Tax Collector's mailbox.

The Tax Collector is **NOT** responsible for envelopes left there by individuals other than the Mail Carrier.

MAIL your taxes or bring them 'in person' or put them in the 'Drop Box' in front of the house!!!!

ADDITIONALLY, DO NOT bring or mail your TAXES to the Municipal Building and **DO NOT** leave them in either of the mailboxes. Again, they need to be taken or mailed directly to the Tax Collector!!

Spring (Discount) Collection Dates: March 24, 25, 30 & 31 - 4:30 to 7:30 PM

And April 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30 – 4:30 to 7:30 PM

NOTE: NO collections on the 26th, due to a Tax Collector's Assn. meeting that night!!!



Jefferson Township Burning Ordinance

The Township Burning Ordinance limits burning of 'ordinary' (domestic) waste materials (paper, cartons, boxes, leaves, wood and other similar items) by residents to between the hours of 6 AM to 6 PM from Monday through Saturday. **Items intended to be '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 no later than 6 P.M. PLEASE be considerate of your neighbors and do NOT permit leaves and other 'allowed' materials to be left smoldering after 6 PM.

BUSINESSES/COMMERCIAL (ALL non-residential) and MULTI-FAMILY, according to the PA Dept. of

Environmental Protection, are PROHIBITED from ANY burning at ANY time.

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: jefftpbutlerpa@zoominternet.net - 352-2324.

NOTE: The previous month's approved minutes are available ON LINE 'only' at www.jeffersonbutler.com after being approved by the Supervisors.

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