



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

"ANNOUNCEMENTS" are at the end of the Newsletter!

Road Foreman's Report

John Cypher read the 'road report' submitted by the Manager and the Road Foreman.

- Salt and Anti-skid usage as of 3/1/2021: Salt – 1400 tons & Anti-skid – 352 tons
- Winter storms of February 2, 2021 through February 22, 2021 kept the crews busy all most every day. Morning ice patches were addressed as needed, thereafter.
- Trucks were washed, cleaned, and greased in between storms.
- Finished scraping, painting the new 'used' rear blade. Ready for spring!
- Delivered/picked up "Road Closed Signs" for tree trimming on Bonniebrook Road.
- The pay loader quit on Feb. 17 and in order to keep ahead of the storms the trucks were loaded with material using the backhoe and stored in the garage for a quick response. This took 3 times longer to load material. Winter maintenance never missed a beat.
- The pay loader showed an electrical default and was fixed (main power relay) on February 18, 2021 by the Cat Field Service Truck. Also, important updates to the computer system were completed for proper maintenance.
- The hydraulic cylinder on the 1999 truck is leaking and will be delivered for a quote for repair as time allows.
- 3 loads of extremely lumpy (boulder size, photos attached) salt were delivered and had to be crushed and screened, which took an additional 2 hrs. The supplier was notified immediately; the following loads were better.
- Trees on Green Manor Drive at the bend are to be removed as time and weather allows. They are almost done; stumps grinding needs done.
- The Road crew fabricated side boards on the 2019 4 door F 550 for the future chipper compartment. The truck goes to Neeley for tarp on March 12, 2021. John Cypher said it looks good.
- Does the Township want to schedule brooming of the housing plans and the edges of Hannahstown Rd (entire length) for anti-skid & stone removal? Cost estimated at \$2,300 for all. The Supervisors voted to proceed.
- Road crew cut back underbrush along Bonniebrook Rd. near address #84.
- Tree trimming for Dreher Rd and the last 500 ft or so of Becker Rd at the TWP line. Bucket truck needed or outsourced? The manager would like to get estimates and discuss/decide later.
- 2015 F 550 needed a lower left ball joint for inspection by the end of February. Work done by Dinnerbell Garage no invoice available at this time.
- Engine light came on in the 2017 Mack, had to take to Tri-County to be put on the computer. Needed a EECM (electronic engine control module) update which took care of the engine light, \$169.13.
- Some snowplow damage complaints are coming in and are being corrected as time and weather allows.
- Snow fence removal to start after March 15th – weather permitting.
- Hauled reclaimed stone from well pad #70.
- Road Foreman attended the Bonniebrook Road paving pre-bid and bid opening.

John Cypher reported on the three bids received by Summit Township on March 3, 2021 for the 'paving on Bonniebrook Rd.': Shields Asphalt \$1,142,885.67; Wiest Asphalt \$1,249,237.95 and Youngblood \$1,394,386.50. Summit Township plans to vote on the award at their March 17, 2021 meeting. The apparent lowest bidder is Shields. This price still in line with the budget parameters for the Multimodal grant. Our 'share' includes 3 catch basins to be rebuilt and 11 inlets to be adjusted. Back filling and line painting not included. The Supervisors voted to accept the apparent low bid from Shields Asphalt (subject to Summit Township's vote). It was noted that the mill and fill should be done by the end of May. The paving should take place between June 5th and early August (could be earlier if the milling is completed.) It was noted that

milling will be stored at the end of Sheetz Drive (cul-de-sac) and at the township property on Rt. 356. We may be able to purchase some of Summit Township's millings. Our road crew may be assisting Summit Township in stockpiling the millings.

Recreation Committee

Brian Patten could not be present, so John Cypher gave a brief report the draft minutes from the March 3, 2021 Recreation Committee meeting.

Baseball: Field clean-up day is March 27th (rain date is March 28th.) Opening day for games is scheduled for May 8th. www.saxonburgbaseball.com

Pool: Pool is hiring Lifeguards and Concession staff for 2021 season, see website for details. Opening is planned for Memorial Day weekend. Due to current COVID restrictions, they cannot use the pool chairs and asked that the township store the pool chairs again this summer. They have requested that the township road crew transport and store the pool cover a day or so after it is removed (removal planned for 3/27/21.) www.sebcopool.com

Softball: Field clean-up day is scheduled for March 20th (rain date is March 27th.) www.sagsa.org

Soccer: Field prep day is March 20th. Season will run from April 10th to June 6th. They reported that Chris Tully has recently taken over as KASA president and will also be their representative to the Recreation Committee. The Supervisors voted to formally appoint Chris Tully as KASA Representative on the Jefferson Township Recreation Committee. www.knochsoccer.org

New Business: Jim Jones reported that softball is repeatedly finding dog owners present with their dogs on the softball fields. This is not permitted under the park rules and it is unsanitary for the players. He expressed an idea to add a 'dog park' area in the park (like a fenced area with grass and woods.) The Supervisors discussed the matter: maintenance cost, liability and enforcement are issues of concern. The Supervisors voted to develop wording for the signs and place the signs at the two park entrances (i.e. dogs must be on a leash – dog walkers must clean up after their dogs); perhaps signs(s) could also be placed on the trail. Otherwise, the 4 organizations can place their own signs on their fields (i.e. No Dogs on Fields) if they wish.

Planning Commission

Leo Rosenbauer (Planning Chairman) reported on the Feb. 15, 2021 P.C. meeting at the township office. Kevin Miller was present at their meeting regarding the re-submission of Stoneybrook Phase II via Graff Surveying. Discussion included a list of the 'outstanding items' as follows:

- 1) Updated cost estimate for bonding purposes.
- 2) Bond delivered to the township office.
- 3) Payment of all outstanding and 'current' fees and costs.
- 4) Executed 'Operations & Maintenance Agreement' for storm water management...for recording.
- 5) Executed Developers Agreement...for recording – subject to Township Attorney review.
- 6) A copy of the Restrictive Covenants for review (both condo and single-family lots).
- 7) The Subdivision Plan submitted to the Township for approval. The Township minutes do not appear to reflect that a Subdivision plan was submitted simultaneously with the Land Development. Such plan drawings should include the Phasing Lines and bearing and distance for all proposed storm water entities. Mylars for these drawings should be submitted for recording purposes. (Reference Planning Commission minutes and Jan. 6, 2020 Supervisors' minutes.)
- 8) Land Development drawings C27 and C28 should be revised to include the Phasing Lines. Also, revise the large stationing along the western property line for clarity and revise overwrites on building labels for buildings 22 and 23. Mylars of these sheets should also be provided for recording purposes.

It was noted that the NPDES Permit was received. The developer requested consideration of a 'land escrow' in lieu of bonding for the road. He was asked to provide more detail in writing for the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors to review. The P.C. voted to table action on the Revised Phase 2 Stoneybrook plans. The Supervisors discussed only the request from the developer for consideration of a 'land escrow in lieu of bonding for the road.' The manager reported the Attorney's response to Mr. Miller and the matter was discussed. The Supervisors, in the best interest of the Township, agreed that a standard road bond is required (per the MPC and the Township ordinance.)

Marlen Lang was present to get information and discuss his possible purchase of the Waddingham property off Bonniebrook Rd. and Sheetz Drive. It was noted that the Emery property is for sale, and both Emery and Land contacted the Township to offer purchase of property to straighten the bend on Bonniebrook Road. Leo Rosenbauer indicated that his option had been addressed before the Supervisors and since the Bonniebrook Road reconstruction project is already underway, the Township does not have an interest in purchasing property from either owner. Mr. Lang inquired about a possible right-of-way off Bonniebrook Rd. along the southern property line of the Emery property, but the P.C. communicated to him that this would probably not be feasible due to sight distance, stream crossing, and environmental impacts. A possible subdivision of about 3 acres (from the 51+ acre property) with the existing Waddingham house and out-buildings was discussed. He would have to submit plans to the P.C. 15 days prior to their meeting and subsequently to the Board of Supervisors. He is in the process of having it surveyed.

Mr. Rosenbauer received an inquiry about a possible lot-line revision on Trempus Lane. The P.C. discussed requiring additional access right-of-way width as part of the possible approval. He will contact the owner to see if they would consider adding the existing flag-lot pole off the large parcel (190-1F96-19) to existing lot (190-1F96-16) in order to increase the lot size. The flag-lot pole would be in Winfield Township.

March 8, 2021 Unfinished Business

Manager Rosenbauer reported receipt of the ‘proposed escrow agreement’ (John Hook) for review by the Supervisors. It was noted that Mr. Hook agreed to reimburse the township for preparing the agreement. However, Mr. Hook now wants to use the ‘addition’ for personal work and not just storage, so he needs separate utilities. He will have to file another modification request for the Supervisors to consider, since the previous modification was for using the ‘addition’ as storage. He must understand that ‘everything’ has to be separate from the ‘existing garage/business’ or it could require submission of a land development.

A thank you card was prepared for Jason Ferraro (as directed last month) for the beautiful wooden flag (wall hanging). The card was signed by the Supervisors, Manager and Secretary and will be mailed tomorrow.

March 8, 2021 New Business

The manager reported a quote from General Code for the ‘code of ordinances’ update (ordinances and resolutions submitted for the last 15 – 18 months). He asked the Board to reconsider putting the ‘code of ordinance’ on-line via ‘E-Code’. It was agreed that he will check the price to have revisions printed verses having a searchable version available on-line to be updated by General Code from time to time.

The manager reported that DEP ‘Sewage Advisory Committee’ recently changed ‘site suitability criteria’ currently being used to ‘not acceptable’, which means a possible 75% reduction in ‘buildable lots’ depending on the township’s soils. We received a copy of the letter to Governor Wolf from Commissioner Kim Geyer, which explains the whole situation. The manager asked the Board if they wanted a letter drafted to send to the governor and/or legislature as well. The Supervisors voted in favor of a letter being drafted.

Scott Ekas is applying to change a non-building lot (previously owned by Bonnie Powers) to a building lot via a DEP Component I. Because of the ruling discussed above, it is imperative that the ‘component’ be put through the Township for approval in a timely matter. The Supervisors voted to approve the Ekas Sewage Component I contingent upon Planning Commission approval on March 15, 2021.

The manager reported a complaint about vehicles traveling too fast coming off Dinnerbell at O’Hara Rd. The speed limit on O’Hara is posted (35MPH) per the current Ordinance based on the required speed study at the time. Lt. Russo should be contacted.

Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – March 8, 2021

An email was received from South Butler Community Library reporting on their Feb. 10, 2021 meeting. Copies were distributed to the Supervisors. They continue all serves at their Express Window for the time being. Their annual fund drive concluded on Jan. 15, 2021 with total donations of \$25,848 from the community, which unlocked the \$10,000 matching gift from PennEnergy Resources. Find out what else is happening at the library: www.southbutlerlibrary.org

The 1st Public Hearing on the 2021 Community Development Block Grant will be advertised by Butler County for April 12, 2021 at 6:45 PM at the Jefferson Township Municipal building.

Chairman Cypher asked the Supervisors to consider drafting a letter to Concordia requesting that they consider including in their budget a donation to the Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Dept., since a large percentage of Jefferson Township ‘calls’ are from the Concordia facilities. After some discussion it was agreed that the manager should check with the attorney as to whether this would be appropriate. It was suggested that he also check with Saxonburg VFD to find out if Concordia already donates to them. The Board will determine then if a letter should be sent.

The road foremen commented that whoever plows the Concordia driveways, plows them ‘across Marwood’ leaving snow on the roadway.

Major Expenditures since the February meeting through March 8, 2021

Teamster #261 Health & Welfare – health ins. (April 2021)	\$ 5,849.56
Code.sys Code Consulting – Jan. 2021 inspections on building permits	\$ 2,293.56
Mary Ann Paulat – refund septic permit fees paid on ‘non-bldg’ lots	\$ 2,070.00
Detroit Salt Company – road salt	\$22,502.85
Selective Insurance – 2021-2022 ins. package renewal	\$21,779.00

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 Wetzel.

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!

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.

⇒ **During the upcoming winter months**, as per the Township Ordinances, NO ONE is to park on the cul-de-sacs or any public road 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 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: jefftwpbutlerpa.@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