



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

March 2024

NEWSLETTER

"ANNOUNCEMENTS" are at the end of the Newsletter!

Road Foreman's Report

Chairman John Cypher gave the road report as follows:

- The mild winter continues and therefore the snow fence removal has started (as of March 5th) and depending on the weather it should be completed by the end of March.
- The salt spreaders will stay on the three Mack trucks until the end of March.
- It appears the limestone purchase will not exceed the quote limit for this year. The end price is still to be determined. As requested by the Manager, the Supervisors voted to authorize purchase of the aggregate/limestone up to the \$23,200 bid limit.
- The excavator has been ordered and we hope to have delivery at the end of April or sometime in May 2024.
- Butler County work release crew has been in the help at the park with picking up sticks and making piles for the road crew to gather with equipment. They plan to keep helping as time allows.
- The new style garbage cans will be labeled and installed throughout the park by April 1st. All the old heavy (plastic) barrels will be hauled back to the Township for possible sale on Municibid or for recycling.
- The used 2-way radios purchased from Concord Township have been installed in the backhoe, 2023 boom mower, trac-loader, and grader. The last two will be installed on the Athey and on the new excavator (when it is delivered).

Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee met on March 6, 2024 and a brief report was given by their president, Brian Patten. He noted that the Baseball Association is planning a Community Day for June 1st. In conjunction with this, they will host another "All Abilities Game." The Pool Association plans to uncover the pool, in the next week or so. They are still looking for a new maintenance person and lifeguards for the coming season. The Softball Association's opening day is planned for April 20th. The Soccer Association's opening day is April 6th, weather permitting. **One action item:** the Pool Association would like the pool cover picked up and stored by the township.

Baseball: Website: www.saxonburgbaseball.com

Pool: Website: www.sebcopool.com

Softball: Website: www.sagsa.org

Soccer: Website: www.knochsoccer.org

As requested last month, the discussion of reviewing the park organization's "license agreements" was included on tonight's agenda. Supervisor Rankin would like to review the 'license agreements' and add that the township can require financial reports (or audits) from the associations, as well as other corrections possibly needed. Chairman Cypher re-stated that a legal review could be costly. After much debate and discussion, Supervisor Rankin said it was clear she could not get support to proceed with the review she requested. Supervisor Beblo had no comment. No action.

The discussion on the proposed camera system replacement was tabled for this evening. The Manager provided additional information as requested last month. The matter was tabled again by a voted from the Supervisors. The Board would like to possibly see a demo (in person). It was also questioned whether there is a warranty on the system and if additional lighting will be needed or required.

The YMCA would like to use the GFWC (Ladies) Pavilion again this summer at the reduced rate of \$55.00 per day (same as last year) – weekdays June 10 to August 16, 2024. The Supervisors voted to authorize the fee for the YMCA at \$55.00 per day, the same as last year.

Planning Commission

Leo Rosenbauer, P.C. Chair., noted that the 90-day review period for the JMAG, LLC Plan on Heller Rd. does not actually expire until after the April 8th Supervisors’ meeting. Therefore, the Supervisors voted table the JMAG, LLC Plan until the next meeting. If Mr. Leicher fails to bring in his revisions prior to that date, the Supervisors will then have to take action on the plan.

Leo Rosenbauer, P.C. Chair., reported on Feb. 19, 2024 Planning Commission meeting. The P.C. reviewed the Lot Line Revision for Richard & Grace Grimm, 488 Great Belt Rd., submitted by their engineers (Land Surveyors).

- Tax Parcel 190-1F155-7 – Tract 2 of 19.59 acres *will convey* to Parcel A of 1.98 acres to Tract 1, making this tract on the north of Great Belt Rd. proposed Lot 1 of 17.61 acres (vacant).
- Tax Parcel 190-1F155-7 – Tract 1 of 22.86 acres *will be conveyed* the 1.98-acre Parcel A from Tract 2, making this tract on the south side of Great Belt Rd. proposed Lot 1 of 24.84 acres with dwelling and out-buildings.

A non-building waiver was submitted, and the wording has been placed on the plan. A letter requesting a waiver of parts. 5 and 7 of Chap. 22 regarding designation of wetlands, etc. was submitted. Mr. and Mrs. Grimm were asked to consider giving 8 ½ ft. additional right-of-way for future utilities (if needed) along Great Belt Rd. for both Lot 1 and Lot 2. They will consider the matter and get back to Leo Rosenbauer if they agree. The P.C. voted to recommend approval of the Richard and Grace Grimm Lot-Line Revision with the non-building waiver and the waiver for Parts 5 and 7 of Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances. The Supervisors reviewed the plan tonight. The Supervisors voted to approve the Ag. Exemption (non-building waiver) for Lot #2. Then they voted to approve the Richard and Grace Grimm Lot-Line Revision as submitted including the waiver for Chap. 5 and 7 of Chapter 22.

March 11, 2024 Unfinished Business

Tabled from last month, the Supervisors considered re-joining the Council of Governments now under the umbrella of BCATO. After some discussion, the Supervisors voted to join the Council of Governments for 2024 for \$100.00 (annual fee.) The township officials can then determine in the next year the benefits of being members of this COG.

No one was present from Bullcreek Rd. regarding their complaints about Wain Landscaping last month. Mr. John Moore called the manager earlier today and asked for an update on the completion of Wain Landscaping’s buffer.

March 11, 2024 New Business

The Supervisors voted to Adopt Resolution #525, the annual Disposition of Records.

The Manager requested that the Board consider increasing the Supervisor Pay (non-working, set by township code) since it has not been updated in many years. The pay for populations 5,000 to 9,999 should be \$2500.00 per year and we are still paying the \$1875 per year for townships under 5,000 population. There was some discussion, but no action. John Cypher noted that they are not in it for the pay!

Mr. Grimm shared his thanks for the township officials and the condition of our roads in Jefferson Township.

Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – March 11, 2024

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Hearing advertised by Butler County was held prior to this meeting (at 6:45 PM). CDBG Coordinator, Wendy Leslie, noted that the purpose of the hearing is to give the public opportunity to comment on the 2024 CDBG uses. It was confirmed by the Manager, Sec/Treas., and Board of Supervisors that no public (written or verbal) was received prior to the hearing. The 2024 Allocation has not been announced yet but is expected to be close to the 2023 Allocation of \$108,047 (\$88,663 for projects and \$19,384 for administration.) There is still a waiting list for housing rehab.

applications for the 2022 and 2023 CDBG funds. When asked, Ms. Leslie indicated that HUD increases the income guidelines annually. When asked about unique ways some funds have been used by municipalities, she responded that a road reconstruction application would require a survey proving it would benefit low-to-moderate income in that block group. A three-year plan for 2024 will be needed (by resolution) including a chart of the 'block groups' within our area.

Evie Gross expressed her concern that there has been nothing submitted to the Planning Commission from Sprinkle Woods (Doug Sprinkle). There was significant discussion on the matter, but no action to be taken at this meeting. The manager noted that the Conservation District and the DEP are already informed, and Mr. Sprinkle has been made aware that there are ordinances that may apply to his 'development'.

Mark Burd, a 38-year member of the Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Dept. said that SVF has always had a great relationship with Jefferson Township. At the request of Representative Marci Mustello, he is here to promote the Transportation Forum being held on April 3rd at BC3 Founders Hall sponsored by Rep. Marci Mustello and Rep. Aaron Bernstein for Township Officials.

Mr. Burd noted the Farmers Breakfast on April 4th from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM at the American Legion Post 778 (Lyndora). The guest speaker is Sec. of Agriculture Russell Redding. The general public is invited, and there is no cost to attend BUT registration is required by calling 724-283-5852 or online at: RepMustello.com/events.

There is also a Seniors for Safe Driving Seminar sponsored by State Rep. Marci Mustello on Thursday, April 11th from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Saxonburg Memorial Presbyterian Church, 100 West Main St. This seminar requires registration by calling 1-800-559-4880 or online at SeniorsForSafeDriving.com There is a fee of \$17 and lunch is included.

Major Expenditures since the Feb. 12th meeting through March 11, 2024

Grahamboys, LLC – change order/plumbing at park pavilion	\$1,121.25
PSATS – dues for 2024, CDL Program, etc.	\$1,688.00
Silver Stream Shelters – replacement tarp dep. (for salt bin)	\$2,500.00
Teamsters #251 & Employer – April 2024 ins. prem.	\$6,949.72
Purvis Brothers, Inc. – gas & diesel	\$1,387.98
Stephenson's Tress & Landscaping – tree trim along twp. rds.	\$13,050.00
Selective Insurance Co. – 2024 ins. package renewal	\$28,278.00
Chase Card Service (VISA) – misc. expenses	\$1,115.18
Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham – legal Feb. 2024	\$3,770.00
Encova Insurance – w/c ins. difference after audit (last year)	\$5,013.00

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 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 – 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), Justin Demek (new Baseball Assn.
President or *alternate* representative Justin Thompson (new Baseball Vice-Pres.),
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.
SPRING HOURS: April 16th, 17th, 23rd, 24th, 25th, and 30th from 4:30 - 7:30 pm.
By mail anytime, other times call for an appointment. Secure 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.

⇒ **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>



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).

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