



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

"ANNOUNCEMENTS" are at the end of the Newsletter!

Road Foreman's Report

Chairman John Cypher gave the road report as follows:

- Drainage work on Golden City Rd., installation of 80 ft. of 12" perforated pipe and over 900 ft. of 6" underdrain, went well. The excavated material left from the pipe work was used to stabilize some steep shoulders before the paving is done in that section this summer.
- The bad storms from mid-April caused flooding, dislodged trees against both bridges, road closures, down trees and wash outs along the roads. Repair, removal, and road checks set the crew back about 2 weeks. More work still needs to be done as time and weather allow.
- The 240 ft. of concrete pipe next to the township maintenance garage was plugged with tree roots and debris. (See discussion and decision under 'New Business').
- Mowing and weed eating has begun and will continue at the township building and park.
- On-going prep work for the upcoming paving and chip seal projects will continue as time and weather allow.
- The side deck mower and boom mower 'first berm mowing' will begin around May 16th in hopes of having it done by Memorial Day weekend.
- Discussion regarding a suggested purchase of a video camera and locator to inspect drainage pipes was held under 'New Business.'
- The road crew has been busy at the park as well. Limbs were picked up and repairs made at the walking trail due to the storms. The overflow parking for the ball fields has been completed.
- Leo, Bill, Gerry, and Brian will attend an Erosion & Sedimentation LTAP Class in Brookville, PA on June 26, 2024. There is no charge. The Supervisors voted to approve.
- There have been more issues with residents blowing grass on the roads and in the storm drains. The Supervisors discussed the matter. The manager noted that other municipalities have ordinances to enforce, and although the state has regulations, the state police will likely not be available to enforce such. The manager would like to add regulations on 'excessive grass on roadways due to mowing' under Chapter 15 (same section regarding 'no plowing snow onto roads). John Cypher said it is something to consider and he would like the 'wording' prepared so the Supervisors can review it.

Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee met on May 1, 2024. Brian Patten was not available, so Chairman Cypher read the report. The Baseball Association reported by email to the Committee: Games have started as of 4/29 with full opening day on May 4th. They are planning a Community Day for June 1st with the "All Abilities Game" beginning around 10 AM. The lower concession stand is functional, but a little more work needs to be done. They are planning an 'end of year' Cornhole Tournament for Oct. 7th. It will be held at the firehall grounds and the winning ticket for a zero-turn tractor and trailer fundraiser will be pulled. The Pool Association has uncovered the pool. Maintenance is continuing in order to open over Memorial Day weekend. They planned to have the pool filled by the last week of April to allow for lifeguard testing and training (in May.) They are still looking for a new maintenance person and lifeguards for the coming season. If interested, please go to their website. They are holding a basket raffle fund raiser...tickets will go on sale on opening day

and will be sold until winners are drawn at their *to-be- scheduled* 'Christmas in July' event. The Softball Association reported that dugout renovations are complete. They received a grant from the Pittsburgh Pirates for \$12,000 for new equipment for the league. They expressed concerns about the softball parking lot: i.e. through traffic traveling too fast; pedestrians crossing the traffic lanes where there is no signage or designated crosswalks. It was reported that the area between Field #5 and the baseball field is extremely wet. The Soccer Association's representative, Brad Emsurak, attended his last meeting on May 1st Kody Durrett is to take over, and needs to be appointed by the Supervisors to the Recreation Committee. U12 and U14 fields are having significant drainage problems that Soccer will be investigating. Field maintenance weekend is planned for June 21-23. They received a quote for fence repairs which is over \$4,000. They will hold a fundraiser through Moe's Southwest Grill: taco kits can be ordered until May 13th and picked up at the soccer fields on May 15th. New Business: Dara Patten has volunteered again this year to plant flowers at the park entrance signs. She plans to have this work done by Memorial Day weekend. Park Projects: suggestions included 'dusk-to-dawn' lights in select locations throughout the park and installing another basketball hoop in the park (the one near the pool is inside a locked fence.) Action requests: 1) The Supervisors voted to appoint Kody Durrett as the new Soccer Representative to the Recreation Committee. 2) The Supervisors discussed the renovated parking lot at the softball fields. They were in agreement that it is up to the organization to police the parking. 3) Greg Bauer will coordinate the pool cover storage with the township road crew. 4) Review of the drainage issue at softballs field #5.

The Township Manager reported on the pool renovations: HRG has determined that the old filter room needs to be removed and replaced with a new building. The cost for 'engineering' is an additional \$23,000, plus the demo costs and design & construction of the new. John Cypher said that trying to renovate the existing filter room may not be cost effective. Lois Rankin said we need to be sure that DEP has been contacted about the discharge of backwash water, etc. before we proceed to spend the grant funds. The manager noted that we were NOT awarded the \$50,000 grant application through AARP toward equipment for the pool filter room. The manager noted that Antoszyk's will do the landscaping around the gazebo and two park entrances.

Baseball: Website: www.saxonburgbaseball.com

Pool: Website: www.sebcopool.com

Softball: Website: www.sagsa.org

Soccer: Website: www.knochsoccer.org

Planning Commission

Leo Rosenbauer, P.C. Chair., reported on the April 15, 2024 P.C. meeting. The P.C. reviewed the Alex Lefever modification request to place a new shed only 18 inches (left corner) from the fence (which may not be the property line) and the right corner may be 5 ft. from the fence. The P.C. voted to table the decision on the Alex Lefever Modification Request. This would give Mr. Lefever until either the May 20th or the June 17th P.C. meeting for their decision, and then to the Supervisors for final approval.

The P.C. reviewed the Braden Fox Subdivision at 546 West Main St. The P.C. voted to recommend approval of the Braden Fox Subdivision with the contingency to move the proposed driveway for Lot 1 within 50 ft. of the western line of Lot 2. The Supervisors voted to approve the Braden Fox Subdivision as presented (the contingency was satisfied).

The P.C. reviewed the Penn United Lot Line Consolidation Plan. Three tax parcels (190-1F96 parcel 7E, 7F, and 7FA will be combined for Rev. Lot 1 of 20.296 acres with multiple buildings and internal roadways after removing the existing dividing lines. After reviewing the plan and the HRG, Inc. letter of April 11, 2024 there was significant discussion. The P.C. voted to recommend approval of the Penn United Technology Lot Consolidation Plan **contingent** upon Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 from the HRG comments (letter of 4/11/24) be fully addressed and resubmitted (they are clerical in nature) and with the township solicitor's opinion on #1, #7, and #9. It was reported that all the contingencies have been met, except that a 'recorded septic easement' has been recommended by the township attorney. The Supervisors voted to approve the Penn United Lot Line Consolidation with one contingency (the recorded septic easement).

The P.C. reviewed the Christopher Durham Modification Request to repair/replace the existing posts in the back half of the structure at 747 Freeport Rd.

After significant discussion, the P.C. voted on denying the modification for Christopher Durham with three members agreeing and three members opposing. Then the P.C. voted on approving the Christopher Durham Modification with three members agreeing and three members opposing. Therefore, both 'votes'

resulted in a tie and Mr. Durham was told to attend the next Supervisors' meeting. However, Mr. Durham contacted the township manager about an extension of time for review and decision by the Supervisors. The Supervisors voted to approve an extension for the modification review as requested by Christopher Durham for a decision at the Supervisors' meeting of July 8, 2024.

Leo reported on the JMAG, LLC plan and the culvert for two driveways. The owner agrees to install a modified Catch Basin on the proposed property line between the two lots to ensure each driveway culvert will be located on each individual lot. A recorded Maintenance Agreement for the Catch Basin between both parcels will be provided.

The P.C. plan to review Chap. 3 and 4 of the Code of Ordinances on May 20th if time allows. Four members of the P.C. have signed up to attend the BCATO Spring Convention on May 16, 2024.

May 13, 2024 Unfinished Business

The manager reported that the sample signs (picture of the signs posted in a neighboring township were provided last month) are 'not legal' per PennDOT. We can add 'state approved' No Trucks sign and triangle to existing speed limit or weight limit signs. After some discussion the Supervisors said the residents can 'call the state police.' The Road Foreman was in attendance at the meeting and informed the Board that there are already 'No Truck' signs posted. No further action was needed.

May 13, 2024 New Business

The Governor has signed SB740 into law effective 4/15/24, authorizing the Supervisors to increase the compensation for elected auditors, IF they so choose. A resolution is required to increase the compensation from \$10, which is the rate in the township code, to 'up to' \$18.00 hour for *incoming* elected auditors. A resolution will be prepared for adoption at the June 10, 2024 meeting at which the Board can confirm the hourly rate. Currently the Township uses a CPA for the annual audit; the elected auditors meet once in January to set the 'working supervisors' pay rate.

The 2023 Audit has been completed and filed by Bonus Accounting, as required by state law. The Balance Sheet prepared by Bonus Accounting was printed in the Butler Eagle on May 7, 2024. Copies were distributed to the Board of Supervisors.

A report was received from the So. Butler Community Library Director by email. They are showing a movie (segments of which were filmed in Saxonburg in 2021) on Wed., May 22nd at 6:30 PM and on Thurs., May 23rd at 1 PM. Please go to their website at www.southbutlerlibrary.org to see more about this and their full schedule of events.

The Supervisors discussed the water issue in front of the maintenance garage. Several options were noted: i.e. 1) Auger out the existing 12" concrete pipe, take out the trees that are in the way (the neighbor has no problem with the removal of the trees), and re-install the pipe. 2) Replace the concrete pipe with 12" or 15" plastic pipe. It was noted that the 'gas line' is under the concrete pipe. The road foreman said either option will work, but what is best for the township. He further noted that several other pipes (2 or 3 on Fisher Road. 1 on Blakely Rd., 1 on Mushrush Rd., and 1 on Green Manor Drive are in need of cleaning also and can be incorporated in the one-day rate. After some discussion, Supervisor Bebo suggested cleaning out the pipe, re-using the concrete pipes, and cleaning out the other pipes (listed) using Insight Pipe for 1-day \$5,000 minimum and this was agreed upon by vote of the Supervisors. The existing pipe is to be left uncovered until Insight Pipe comes to do the work (to be scheduled.)

The purchase of camera with locator for storm sewer pipe inspections was suggested by the manager and road foreman. Costs range depending on capabilities...but up to about \$2500.00. During discussion, Braden Beblo noted that a 'push camera' does not have a 'view' capability...especially in muddy or clogged pipe. These cameras are different than the system used by Insight Pipe. Further discussion will follow at a later date.

The township is adding an upgrade to the Ecode360 in order to have the ability to download the Ordinances to a word document for making revisions, for a cost of around \$195 a year. The Supervisors had no objection.

The Supervisors discussed briefly the need to advertise for a secretary/treasurer 'trainee' for the position that the current Sec/Treas. will vacate by the end of 2025. It was noted that this training could take a year or more and the manager would like to start the process soon! The Supervisors voted to authorize the

manager to complete a job description, suggested benefits, and a draft advertisement to be reviewed by the Supervisors before an ad is placed.

3 or 4 of the retractable screens on the Ladies' Pavilion that were installed and paid for by the YMCA and then 'donated' to the township are not functional. Chairman Cypher said the township does not take responsibility for the repairs and/or replacement of these screens. They were wanted by the YMCA for a more 'watertight' area of protection for the kids in their program. They wanted to leave them up year-long rather than removing and reinstalling them each year. The manager noted that 2 receiving posts are cracked and 1 is missing; also, a handle is missing. Some of the pieces were removed temporarily for safety concerns. The manager contacted the YMCA and was told they would have their 'maintenance supervisor' look at the condition, to see if they could make repairs.

Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – May 13, 2024

Notification was received from Saxonburg Area Authority has applied to the DEP for a renewed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for its wasteway treatment facility.

Emails were received from Butler Freeport Trail Council regarding their efforts to maintain the trail especially in light of recent damages along Buffalo Creek. Maintenance is done solely by volunteers and funded by 'membership donations.' Go to their website for more information: www.butlerfreeporttrail.com

Transportation Forum – rescheduled for May 30, 2024 at BC3 Founders Hall – 1 to 3 PM per Rep. Marci Mustello's office. Lois Rankin will check her calendar to see if she can attend.

Manager Leo Rosenbauer reported that Gateway Engineers requested that the Jefferson Township Board of Supervisors be asked the following questions at their May 13, 2024 regularly scheduled meeting: Would the Township allow a Building Permit to be issued for an addition to the existing structures located at 447 Dinnerbell Road prior to the submission of a Land Development and then follow up with the required Land Development Submission post Building Permit issuance? Following a discussion the Board stated, "absolutely not". They must follow the ordinances.

Manager Rosenbauer reported the following:
Bonniebrook Road Seal Coat is planned for the second week in June, after school is done.
Wiest Asphalt contacted the road foreman that they plan to do the paving project between June 6 and June 19 – weather permitting.
Wain Landscaping has their E & S under control, but they need to submit a new land development for the excess stormwater runoff.
The PennDOT representative handling the Frazer Road property that the Township inquired about has been replaced by another representative.
The DEP Truck Credit 'grant' MAY be received by the end of 2024.

Major Expenditures since the April 8th meeting through May 13, 2024

Code.sys Code Consulting – PAUCC inspections	\$27,319.08
Zillweger Contracting, Inc. – bal. of work on Ladies' Pavilion	\$14,423.00
Allegheny Mineral Corp. –stone purchase per bid	\$17,385.66
Teamsters #251 & Employer –health insurance premium	\$6,949.72
Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic (HRG) – engineering services	\$2,491.92
Purvis Brothers, Inc. – gas & diesel	\$1,161.29
Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham – legal	\$1,100.00
HEI-WAY, LLC – coldpatch	\$2,821.15

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 (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 – 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.

⇒ **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:

Jun 15 306 E. Water St. Slippery Rock, PA 16057

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>



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

