

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING

September 9, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

The Jefferson Township Board of Supervisors' regular meeting was called to order by Chairman John Cypher, Monday, Sept. 9, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. as advertised. All rose to pledge the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Those present were John Cypher, Chairman – Lois J. Rankin, Vice-Chair. – Braden Beblo, Supervisor – and Lois Fennell, Sec/Treas. Manager Leo Rosenbauer was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

William Pitts from the Butler Eagle disclosed (after he was asked) that he was audio recording the meeting.

Evie Gross noted that she will be giving the Planning Commission report in the absence of Leo Rosenbauer and Brian Noah.

An executive session was held just prior to this meeting 9/9/24 regarding personnel matters.

MINUTES:

John Cypher *moved* to approve the Aug. 12, 2024 regular meeting minutes as written. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

FINANCIAL:

The list of bills paid between the August 12th meeting and Sept. 9, 2024 totaled \$17,083.55 from the General Fund. Bills presented for payment from the General Fund this evening totaled \$439,811.55 which included the DCNR draw-down per Butler County received 9/5 and the check paid to Butler County 9/9/24; plus, the seal coat invoice to Russell Standard for \$154,454.95. No bills were presented for payment this evening from any other fund (State Fund, Impact Fee Fund, or the ARPA Checking.) The Balance of All Funds after payment of the bills presented totaled \$3,136,159.25. *Motion* by John Cypher to pay the bills presented, plus any bills that may become due prior to the October 14, 2024 meeting. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

The Recreation Committee met on August 7, 2024. In the absence of Brian Patten, John Cypher gave a synopsis of that meeting. Baseball – no report. Softball reported that their annual tournament on Aug. 2, 3, & 5 was smaller, but overall successful. They reported problems with drivers going the wrong way in the parking lot and asked the township to consider improvements. Thanks to the township road crew for mowing around the outside of the fences in preparation for their tournament. Fall Ball will run through mid-October. Soccer reported that the Fall season is expected to run through mid-October. They thanked the township road crew for fixing the potholes in the main parking area. They request replacement of older metal trash cans with plastic ones. They reported that their ADA Accessible parking spaces need attention. They reported two trees that may need to be removed (north side of Doerr Park Dr. near the park gate at the Rt. 356 entrance before the entrance to the soccer fields). The Pool Association reported that the pool is now closed; winterization prep work is beginning. They plan to leave the water features up throughout the winter. They indicated that the pool cover can be delivered whenever convenient for the road crew. PARK PROJECTS: Sophia Greene plans to return to the Board of Supervisors to answer questions regarding her proposed gaga ball pit. ACTION REQUESTS: 1) Township is requested to deliver the pool cover. 2) Township was asked to consider additional signage or road markings to indicate traffic flow in the softball parking lot. 3) Three requests from the Pool Assn. to

RECREATION COMMITTEE, cont.:

contact the township with a date to deliver the cover (after some prep work is done.) The manager will look into these matters.

Baseball: Website: www.knochyouthbaseball.com

Pool: Website: www.sebcopool.com

Softball: Website: www.sagsa.org

Soccer: Website: www.knochsoccer.org

John Cypher reported on his research regarding the proposed gaga pit. He visited two sites in the county with gaga pits and talked to the Butler County Parks Director about the proposal. He said that 'no fall safe surface is required' and that since there is no 'association' affiliation, this will be under the township's liability insurance. Sophia Greene answered questions presented to her last month. She said they would sand and stain the wood, put a bevel (or dip) as an entry in lieu of a gate. They may use some nails initially to hold the wood in place but will install bolts for permanency. If she gets sufficient donations, they may add 'caps' over the top rail. It will be installed behind the Ladies' pavilion. A PA One Call has been submitted. Lois Rankin *moved* to approve the proposed GAGA pit to be installed by Sophia Greene as a 'Gold Award Girl Scout' project (Troop 26087). *Seconded* by John Cypher. All agreed and *motion carried*.

ROAD REPORT:

John Cypher gave the road report as submitted by the road foreman.

- The chip seal and fog seal roads are completed for 2024 and the road foreman is pleased with the outcome.
- The third and final berm mowing was completed on Sept. 3rd. It took an extra day due to the road crew helping with the search for the missing 17-year-old boy. John Cypher noted that there was a State Police organized search with a command center at the township building. Lois Rankin noted that she was informed early in the morning, and she called the road crew out around 4:30 AM. She expressed her thanks to the road crew, the manager, all the search teams, and all those who donated food, coffee, etc. Everyone is relieved that the boy was found safe.
- The replacement cover for the salt building may be delivered this week. Balance is \$3,053.00.
- The price of salt has gone up by \$4.29 per ton for the 2024-2025 season; that is \$90.07 per ton (under the same vendor as last year). We must purchase a minimum of 720 tons.
- The road crew hopes to do some patching of depressions, repair low shoulder areas, crack seal, perform some maintenance at the park and township facility, and perhaps install some pipes and catch basins in the next month or so.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Evie Gross reported on the Planning Commission (P.C.) meeting on August 19, 2024. They discussed the modification request from Jack Keihl to build another non-residential structure on Lot 2 next to his lot with existing dwelling (220 Hannahstown Rd.) There is an existing garage (considered non-residential as there is no dwelling on that lot.) He was given three options to consider: 1) Build a temporary structure. 2) Removal of property line, which would eliminate the need for a modification. 3) According to Chap. 22-601, submit a simple land development for the proposed carport (which would also eliminate the need for a modification.) There was significant discussion before the P.C. voted to table the decision so Mr. Keihl could consider his options.

The P.C. reviewed wording for Chap. 15 revision; but did not begin review of Chap. 5 or 6 of the Code of Ordinances at their meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

John Cypher reported on his research regarding the request from Judy Varney concerning a road-safety issue on Constitution Ave. A problem had developed across the road (which is in Jefferson Township) in front of the Liberty Pointe Development: employee's and other vehicles were parking and blocking the road. The Township Manager and Asst. Codes Enforcement officer have alleviated that matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS, cont.:

John Cypher had noted on Aug. 12th, our record of Township Ord. #87 and the Borough Ordinance #364 from 1991 for 'occasional police enforcement and traffic control on boundary line roads between Jefferson Township and Saxonburg Borough' which we believe is still in force, but it does NOT require the Borough to ticket or fine. He spoke to the Saxonburg Borough Manager, Mr. May, and they do have record of a 1955 agreement between the Borough and the Township for 'maintenance' of the cartway (which at the time was gravel.) They also have the cooperation agreement (our #87, their Ordinance #364 from 1991). The matter to be considered this evening is whether the township officials want to discuss the two 'intergovernmental agreements' with the Saxonburg Borough officials...to determine what to do next (i.e., update or enter into revised agreements.) Lois Rankin noted that she spoke to Bill Gillespie recently and perhaps this is the time to enter into an agreement like the one Summit Township has with Saxonburg Police. After considerable discussion, Braden Beblo *moved* to authorize the Board of Supervisors to attend a Borough meeting and then invite the Saxonburg Council (or their representatives) to attend one of our meetings to discuss the possibilities. *Seconded* by John Cypher. All agreed and *motion carried*.

Two fuel bids were received for opening this evening as advertised. Both provided a Bid Bonds and insurance certificates.

PURVIS BROTHERS, INC.

Item 1 – up to 6,500 gal. on road diesel fuel - Unit price \$2.2456 & \$.17 differential = \$2.4156 per gal.
Winterization per gal. \$.04 (cents).

Item 2 – up to 1,000 gal. unleaded No Ethanol gas -Unit price \$2.9545 + \$.50 differential = \$3.4545 per gal.

Item 3 – up to 3,000 gal. regular unleaded 87 Octane gas – Unit price \$2.3244 + \$.17 differential = \$2.4944 per gal.

GLASSMERE FUEL SERVICE, INC.

Item 1 – up to 6,500 gal. on road diesel fuel - Unit price \$2.2565 & \$.157 differential = \$2.4135 per gal.
Winterization per gal. \$.035 (cents).

Item 2 – up to 1,000 gal. unleaded No Ethanol gas -Unit price \$2.262 + \$.657 differential = \$2.919 per gal.

Item 3 – up to 3,000 gal. regular unleaded 87 Octane gas – Unit price \$2.1875 + \$.157 differential - \$2.3445 per gal.

Motion by Braden Beblo to award the fuel (all three items) to the lowest responsible bidder, Glassmere Fuel Service, Inc. as bid and subject to the instructions on Attachment #1 and Table 1 Diesel Fuel attachment included in the bid packet. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by John Cypher to approve Component #3 for an SFTF (small flow treatment facility) for Terry Allen (Caldwell Drive) to repair/replace existing system and adopt Resolution #533 for the Act 537 Plan (form entitled Revision for New Land Development) as required by DEP. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

In order to posture the Township Supervisors to take immediate action if needed for possible future litigation, John Cypher *moved* to authorize of the Township Solicitor to initiate appropriate legal action/proceedings to restrain, correct or abate violations of the Township Code of Ordinances, to prevent unlawful construction, to recover damages, and to prevent illegal occupancy of a building, structure or premises at the property of 340 Rierner Road, Sarver, PA 16055, Butler County Tax Parcel #320-1F94-16A, against all responsible persons/entities. *Seconded* by Lois Rankin. All agreed and *motion carried*.

PUBLIC BUSINESS OR COMMENT:

Chris Stephenson from Bullcreek Rd. presented his complaint about cars in his yard and wrecking into his gate for his commercial business due to speed and the bend in the road. He explained again that he wants to place boulders on the grass (which is township right-of-way) to prevent vehicles from wrecking into his yard and house. Being that the matter was not on the agenda (prior to posting), John Cypher noted that the Board would have the manager look into the matter, perhaps contacting LTAP (PennDOT's Local Technical Assistance Program). He also reminded Mr. Stephenson that he can put whatever he wants on his own property, but the Board cannot approve placing boulders on the township's right-of-way. He was told that eventually, with the proposed adoption of a revised Chapter 15, the speed limit would go back down and posted at 35 MPH.

MISC. BUSINESS:

Southwest Quorum in Canonsburg (Hilton Garden Inn) is coming up on Wed., Oct. 2, 2024. The cost is \$99.00 for PSATS members.

The Municipal Grant Writing Workshop is Sept. 30th at BC3 sponsored by Butler County. RSVP due by Sept. 25th, but the manager may already be registered to attend.

The Butler County Local Government Officials Course offered three Saturdays this fall. The classes are free for governments in Butler County.

Sat., Sept. 28, 2024 – Session 1: Municipal Finance

Sat., Oct. 12, 2024 – Session 2: Powers & Duties of Local Government

Sat., Oct. 19, 2024 – Session 3: Community Infrastructure and Public Safety

It was noted that the November meeting is scheduled for the evening of Nov. 11th (Veteran's Day). The Board did not want to reschedule.

ATTENDANCE:

Those in attendance were Evie Gross, William Pitts (Butler Eagle), Doug Lefever, Robert Veselich, David & Sarah Mikolsla, Sophia Greene, Dave Gillette, Courtney Gillette, Jim Rankin, Chris Stephenson, Carol Freehling, and Chrisse Keck.

ADJOURN:

John Cypher *moved* to adjourn at 8:51 P.M. on Sept.9, 2024. *Seconded* by Braden Beblo. All agreed and *motion carried*.

NEXT MEETING:

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, October 14, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at the municipal building - 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler, PA 16002.