



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

"ANNOUNCEMENTS" are at the end of the Newsletter!

Road Foreman's Report

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

- Cross pipe and catch basin work on Frazier Rd. near O'Hara Rd. has been completed.
- Cross pipe and catch basin work on Bullcreek Rd. near Patterson Rd. was done with some bank stabilization. More fill and a pipe extension will be added to the bank as time and weather permit.
- The road crew did a sweep through the Township to repair low shoulder drop-offs on parts of the following roads in preparation for winter: Neupert, Keck, Riemer, Golden City, Frazier, O'Hara, Heller and Bullcreek.
- Five deteriorated blocks on the retainerment wall at the park near the pool (next to the Legion Field) have been replaced. Other maintenance will continue at the park as needed.
- Service work on all the trucks is being done in preparation for winter.
- The Cat 930M payloader has been sent to Custom Application Specialists for some sandblasting and painting. It should be back in service by Oct. 30th.
- Some last-minute repairs need to be done to Great Belt Rd. on the west side between the township salt building and Ferraro Lane. Estimate received to 'repair and re-pave' was \$26,000! So, the road crew will be doing this work for a much lower cost.
- The salt spreaders will be put on the trucks at the first sign of a wet, freezing weather forecast.
- Snow fence installation is projected to start around Oct. 21st.
- The salt building cover was delivered; it will be put in a sealed wooden box for storage until it is ready to be installed. The road crew will observe when the old cover begins to deteriorate.
- A NOTICE is to be placed in the NEWSLETTER that the Road Crew will be blowing leaves out of the ditch lines and storm sewers to keep them from clogging up. The rights-of-way will be blown out several times near the end of October through December as the leaves fall. It was noted that more townships are using the type of blower we have; it was demonstrated in a recent class attended by Chairman Cypher and Bill Foertsch.

Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee met on October 2, 2024, the last meeting of this season. In the absence of Brian Patten, John Cypher gave a synopsis of that meeting. Baseball – no report. Softball reported that Fall Ball will run through mid-October. They are planning to do some off-season maintenance on Field #5. Soccer – no report. The Pool Association reported that winterization on the pool is almost finished. They will have a maintenance person position open for next year; go to their website if interested. They plan to leave prices the same for 2025. NEW BUSINESS: It was agreed that the park gates can be closed and locked for the winter the week of November 4th. PARK PROJECTS: Sophia Greene hopes to begin construction of the 'gaga ball pit' in early November. Leo Rosenbauer presented basic plans for the installation of two new bathroom units in the park - one between the Softball and T-ball fields (5 & 6) and one near the soccer concession stand. The Committee feels this is a great benefit to the park and thanks the township for adding these restrooms. There was discussion about the associations contributing to the cost of cleaning/servicing the restrooms, since the installations would decrease the use of port-o-johns. They will continue to discuss the matter. Leo Rosenbauer

confirmed that he just received the engineering drawings today. He anticipates the road crew preparing the sites, but no date yet for delivery.

Leo Rosenbauer further confirmed that the engineering designs for the pool are still being finished. The Pool Assn. is considering closing around August 14, 2025. The bidding process is anticipated for Jan. or Feb. 2025, so a mid-August 2025 start for construction is feasible.

Baseball: Website: www.knochyouthbaseball.com

Pool: Website: www.sebcopool.com

Softball: Website: www.sagsa.org

Soccer: Website: www.knochsoccer.org

Planning Commission

Leo Rosenbauer reported on the September 16, 2024 Planning Commission meeting. Victor Wilczynski (Avas Enterprises, LLC) presented a revised land development plan for Austin's Place at 447 Dinnerbell Rd. It was noted by his engineer, Robert Mahler from Gateway Engineering, that the original plan was for a new building on the flag lot (Lot 2) with a small stormwater pond on the west side of Lot 1 to handle the stormwater which would flow onto the adjacent neighbor's property. Due to the adjacent property owner being unwilling to proceed with the proposed easement, the revised land development was submitted. The revised plan includes a new stormwater pond on the east side of Lot 1 which will handle the stormwater from Lot 2 (a proposed new structure) and the addition to the existing building on Lot 1 including the parking lot, gazebo, walkways, etc. It was further reported that the stormwater runoff from the long driveway (from Lot 2 and along Lot 1 to Dinnerbell Rd.) is directed to a dry extended detention basin at Dinnerbell Rd. (this discharge has been approved by PennDOT as it is in their right-of-way.) Mr. Mahler said they replied to HRG's letter of 9/11/24 this afternoon, so Leo Rosenbauer has not reviewed the response yet. Leo Rosenbauer noted that the addition to the existing structure is being proposed (which is used for clients) (former garage) plus a two-story walkway connecting the house to the addition. He also asked if the revisions to Lot 1 will be completed first, with the new structure on Lot 2 to follow later. Mr. Mahler confirmed this was the case. Evie Gross asked and was told that six additional clients will be served by the revised structure on Lot 1. The P.C. voted to recommend approval of the preliminary/final land development plan contingent upon satisfactory review of revisions suggested by HRG (letter of 9/11/24) which include the approval of the NPDES permit by DEP and submission of the Stormwater Operations and Maintenance Agreement. The Supervisors reviewed the revised plan this evening. The Supervisors voted to approve the preliminary/final Austin's Place land development plan contingent upon 1) DEP approval of the NPDES Permit; 2) executed Stormwater Operations and Maintenance Agreement; and 3) sheet #100 to be signed; right-of-way bearings and distances added to the stormwater easements and basins being numbered consistently throughout the land development plans. Discussion took place due to a Saxonburg Vol. Fire Dept. representative suggesting a possible dry hydrant on the pond (to be used for stormwater and for recreation) which would assist the fire dept. and may reduce the property owner's fire insurance premium. The property owners would be responsible for the cost. The owner agreed to look into the suggestion.

Mr. Jack Keihl's modification request was tabled last month. At that meeting the P.C. offered three options to build another non-residential structure on Lot 2, adjacent to his lot with an existing dwelling (Lot 1, 220 Hannahstown Rd.): 1) build a temporary structure. 2) remove the property line, which would eliminate the need for modification. 3) submit a simple land development for the proposed carport according to Chap. 22-601 (which would also eliminate the need for a modification.) Leo Rosenbauer reported this evening that Mr. Keihl called last week to say he will follow through with option #2 and will submit a lot-line consolidation; however, Graff Surveying will not be able to complete the work until early 2025. The P.C. voted to deny the original 'modification request' reviewed last month by the P.C. Leo Rosenbauer noted that Mr. Keihl's Lot Consolidation Plan has been submitted already for the P.C.'s Oct. 21st meeting.

Leo Rosenbauer noted receipt of the attorney's responses regarding Chap. 15 for final review and processing, which he will now be reviewing. The P.C. reviewed Chap. 5 (Fire Prevention Code) and Chap. 6 (Conduct & Park Rules/Regs.)

Oct. 14, 2024 Unfinished Business

The Supervisors voted to authorize quoting of and award of tree trimming (list: Frazier, W. Jefferson, Victory, Neupert, and Burtner Roads). The project could be reduced to make it more economical to quote. If necessary to bid, the bids will be opened at the Dec. 9, 2024 meeting.

After some discussion, the Supervisors voted to confirm the authority of the Township Manager to extend an offer to hire a secretary/treas. trainee at a rate and hours to be determined, subject to final approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Oct. 14, 2024 New Business

The 2024 Budget Introduction was distributed to the Board of Supervisors prior to tonight's meeting. The first discussion/review will take place at the Nov. 11, 2024 regular, advertised, meeting, unless the Board wants a budget workshop. After a brief discussion, the Supervisors agreed to 'no' workshop.

Saxonburg Borough's Mayor, Bill Gillespie, Jr. attended to discuss a possible meeting with the Borough Council to discuss a possible 'intergovernmental agreement' about maintenance of Constitution Ave. (and perhaps other shared roads.) The Supervisors voted to appoint 'John Cypher' to represent Jefferson Township at the Saxonburg Council meeting. After further discussion about possible other police services, the Supervisors voted to appoint John Cypher to represent Jefferson Township at the initial meeting with Saxonburg Police Officers to discuss *possible* police coverage within the Township.

The Supervisors voted to approve the Liberty Pointe Drawdown requests #5 and #6 as presented. HRG has reviewed and approved both with minor adjustments. Total of Drawdown #5 and #6 is \$264,326.00.

The Supervisors voted to approve Resolution #534 Establishing a policy to notify property owners of 'intent to remove hazardous or dangerous trees' and the 'form of notice'.

The Supervisors voted to adopt Resolution #535 for 'reapplication to the Commonwealth Financing Authority for a Statewide Local Share Assessment Grant of \$555,000.00 for pool funding.' The Township has applied twice for this funding (varied amounts). The manager was told that if we do not hear from them on these prior applications by the first of November that we 'should proceed to apply' for the next round (which is due 11/30/24).

Public Comment & Miscellaneous Business – Oct. 14, 2024

Chris Stephenson from Bullcreek Rd. attended to discuss his situation on Bullcreek Rd. Since last month, the township manager and road foreman flagged the right-of-way (in lieu of Mr. Stephenson having to get a survey.) Mr. Stephenson still wants to put the proposed 'rocks' on the line (1/2 township side and 1/2 on his side). He also has to consider the front yards. Leo Rosenbauer said he has contacted LTAP, but they cannot do site visits until funding is released and since they are the 'experts' on these matters the Township needs their input. Again, John Cypher reiterated that the Township officials cannot allow anything in the township right-of-way due to liability. It is hoped that LTAP could come up with a solution. There was discussion and the township officials 'understand' Mr. Stephenson's situation, but their hands are tied.

CCR Bundle UP Butler 'donation box' (approved at the July meeting) has been placed in the hallway outside the office door (mid-Sept.) Collections were due by Oct. 7th at the township building. CCR removed the box and took the contents for the CCR event that took place on Oct. 11, 2024.

'Hang Tough Stockings Stuffed with Love & Care' event flyer was received on 10-3-24 and has been placed on the website 'home page' for the public to view. It lists donations needed and volunteer opportunities. More information is available at www.hangtoughstockings.com or by calling 724-856-0222.

TRICK OR TREAT is scheduled for Halloween night as in past years - Oct. 31, 2024 - 6 to 8 PM. The Butler Radio station and Butler Eagle have contacted the office to inquire and were advised of the date/time.

C.J. Burns, our Emergency Management Coordinator, was notified of the "Tri-County Emergency Management Boot Camp" scheduled for 10/12/24 (Sat.) A copy of the email from Butler Co. Emergency Management was distributed to the Supervisors, since Elected Official were included in the invitation.

The MS4 waiver renewal paperwork was completed by HRG and a check for the 'renewal fee' of \$500 was sent with the renewal application to the DEP.

The Township has received the Pension Allocation for 2024 of \$20,170.90. The check to PSAB MRT is included in the bills presented this evening.

The Township has received the State Foreign Fire Tax Allocation of \$33,692.75. The check to Saxonburg Vol. Fire and Relief Assn. is included in the bills presented this evening. The secretary/treas. will prepare the 706 B report required by the state.

Bonus Accounting has indicated that they can do the Jefferson Township '2024 Audit' at the same rate as the prior audit for 2023 (\$5,500). The Supervisors voted to authorize the advertisement of the intent of the Supervisors to appoint a CPA (accounting firm) at their Jan. 6, 2025 meeting 'to examine all of the accounts of the Township for the fiscal year 2024'.

The sec/treas., appointed representative to the Butler County Tax Committee (BCTCC), attended their bi-annual meeting on Sept. 24, 2024. The current contract ends on 12/31/26. They are working on an 'early renewal' and asking the municipalities and school districts if they agree with an early renewal. The current cost deducted from the receipts of the Earned Income Tax is 1.45%. *They are looking at a 7-year option (first 3 years at 1.40%) vs. a 10-year option (first 4 years at 1.40%. Whichever option is offered, the percentage after the discount period will go back to 1.45% (as is currently charged.)* The Supervisors voted to approve the 'early renewal proposal of the contract with Berkheimer' preferably under the 10-year option, subject to approval by all the municipalities and school districts in Butler County.

Major Expenditures between the Aug. 12th meeting through Sept. 9, 2024

Code.sys Code Consulting – Aug. invoice – bldg. permit inspections	\$1,735.72
Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic – Liberty Pointe plan review + site visit (inspect)	\$8,799.50
Moonpaver, Inc. – new HTC1200	\$4,200.00
Silverstream – bal. due on salt bldg. tarp	\$3,053.00
HEI-WAY, LLC – coldpatch	\$3,714.53
Teamsters #261 & Employer – health insurance Oct. 2024	\$6,949.72
PSAB Municipal Retirement Trust – 2024 pension fund due (State rec'd+ Twp)	\$23,700.00
Saxonburg Volunteer Fire and Relief Assn. – foreign fire tax rec'd + paid out	\$33,692.75
Code.sys Code Consulting – Sept. invoice – bldg. permit inspections	\$9,900.04
Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham – legal Sept. 2024	\$1,330.00
Saxonburg Borough – twp. share of w/c for fire and ambulance	\$23,253.84
Skander Tire Service, Inc. – 2 tires JD6330	\$2,476.00
Weichey's Quality Auto Glass – windshield replaced on CAT930M	\$1,474.61

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 Thompson (Baseball),
James C. Jones (Softball), and Kody Durrett (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: 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

By mail anytime. All other times by appointment only. Never leave unstamped envelopes in the Tax Collector's personal mailbox. Secure Drop Box located on the porch at 245 Heller Rd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ↓↓

⇒ **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.

⇒ **NOTICE:** The Road Crew will be blowing leaves out of the ditch lines and storm sewers to keep them from clogging up. The rights-of-way will be blown out several times near the end of October through December as the leaves fall.

⇒ **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.

⇒ **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).

⇒ **Butler County Recycling Events**

2024 Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Collection Events

Butler County DEP collection permit approved hold its 2024 Household Hazardous Waste & Electronics collection events for our county residents as follows:

Last Event for this year: 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 is <https://nobleenviro.com/> or call 412-567-6566. At the top of the web page, click on "E-waste 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 it 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>

Do you live in Jefferson Township?
You may be eligible to have your windows, furnace, roof or more replaced!



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.

Don't miss your chance to make some home improvements before the cold weather hits!

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

