



# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP February 2010 Newsletter

## **TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Thursday - 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM & Friday mornings - 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM.

Office phone #724-352-2324 Fax #724-352-8850

Office **CLOSED** (Holidays): Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup>, May 31<sup>st</sup>, July 5<sup>th</sup>, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>.

## **Recreation Committee**

The Recreation Committee met on February 3, 2010 as reported by Chairman Leo Rosenbauer. Baseball had two sign-ups in January. Their sign-up deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup>. The Pool Association reported that the pool is still leaking. The Supervisors previously sent two letters to the County Commissioners regarding the problem; the contractor has re-caulked, but it has not fixed the problem. The Supervisors want to know if there is still a maintenance bond in affect. Softball has scheduled a work day on Sat., March 27<sup>th</sup>. Sign-ups are 'on-line – [www.saga.org](http://www.saga.org). The season opening is Sat., April 14<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of May 1<sup>st</sup>. They were approached by "Good Neighbors," an organization of age 60 and over softball players. They are tentatively scheduled for early August, but need Supervisor approval for parking of self-contained motor homes for that weekend. The Supervisors want to know how many motor homes and if the group is being charged for the use of the fields, etc. Soccer sign-ups are on-line (in-house [knochinhousesoccer@gmail.com](mailto:knochinhousesoccer@gmail.com) or travel [knochtravelsoccer@gmail.com](mailto:knochtravelsoccer@gmail.com)) and the season starts April 10<sup>th</sup>. The ADA (handicapped accessibility) project (basically parking lot and sidewalks) will begin in February and should be completed before the season starts. The Supervisors approved the appointment of Michael Gore as the new Soccer representative on the Recreation Committee. He replaces Ken Stockert.

The Supervisors have received quotes for and will be installing 640 ft. of chain link fencing on the east side of the park. This work will likely be done in early March. All organizations are to submit tournament schedules to the township secretary for pavilion rental and/or extra dumpster pick-ups. The Ladies' Aux. Pavilion is the only pavilion that is 'rented' out for a fee of \$60.00. It cannot be rented during tournaments due to parking issues. The Supervisors authorized the Recreation Committee to apply for the Butler County Park Renovation Grant. Several of the listed projects could be: replace roof on the pool bath house; replace bleachers throughout park; install permanent fall-safe material under the swing sets; drill a well for the concession stands (softball and lower baseball fields); and/or install handicapped accessible drinking fountains.

## **Planning Commission**

Chairperson Evelyn Gross reported on the Jan. 28, 2010 Planning Commission (P.C.) meeting. The P.C. reviewed and approved the Blackburn Subdivision with a modification for the 50 ft. private right-of-way in lieu of an 'owned flag pole/r.o.w. to the lot, due to the fact that at least 99% of the plan is located in Winfield Township AND contingent upon the plan complying with Winfield Township regulations. The Supervisors reviewed the plan on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> and voted to approve with the same modification and contingency.

Ms. Gross reported that nothing new has been submitted on the proposed race track. At their Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> meeting the Supervisors had approved another 90-day extension which runs through May 10<sup>th</sup>.

The P.C. held the 'election of officers'. Evie Gross remains chair person; Bill Montgomery remains vice-chairman; and Danielle Sedlak was elected secretary. Cheryl Prybock, previous secretary, plans to resign. Ms. Gross recommended that the Board consider Kathryn Foertsch as a replacement because of her prior experience on the Planning Commission. The Supervisors will wait for the written resignation from Ms. Prybock. It was further agreed that the P.C. meetings would remain on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday monthly, at 7:30 PM (except for Nov. and Dec.)

Ms. Gross reported that a small committee met with the township attorney in mid-January to discuss the possible noise regulations; the pros and cons; the problem of enforcement, etc. The P.C. subsequently discussed the matter on Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>. The general consensus of the P.C. members is that 'no noise is needed at this time.' The Supervisors discussed the matter and took comments. The Supervisors were in agreement to put the proposed noise and/or off-road vehicle ordinance(s) 'on hold' until further notice. Ms. Gross noted that if the township passes a noise ordinance in the future, it would be enforceable when adopted and NO one is 'grandfathered in' whether there is an existing use or not!

### **January 4, 2010 Public Business or Comment**

The Norman Neupert applauded the excellent work by the road crew during the recent snow storm! The Board and several others in attendance agreed. Bob Corbett inquired about the status of the 'noise' ordinance. (It was discussed later in the meeting, under the Planning Commission report.)

### **February 8, 2010 Unfinished Business**

Chairman Jones reported that the Supervisors are still in negotiations to purchase the Emery property at the S-bend on Bonniebrook Rd. The appraisal, which came in high, was adjusted by the appraiser due to a non-complying septic system. They also must negotiate some small pieces of land owned by Mr. Waddingham.

The Supervisors voted to ratify the appointment of the secretary/treasurer as an authorized signature on the Tax Collector's checking account (as required by the new Butler County Resolution) in case of the death or other incapacity, etc. of the 'elected' tax collector.

The Supervisors voted to ratify the approval for Supervisor Bachman to be included in the health, disability & life insurance coverage for 2010 (the same as the regular full-time employees) as a working supervisor/employee.

Last month the Supervisors authorized advertisement of the fuel bid for opening today, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>. James R. Jones opened and read the 'only' bid received, which was from Purvis Brothers, Inc. They bid the diesel and gasoline at the OPIS (Oil Price Information Service) plus \$.10 (10 cents). The OPIS price fluctuates from week to week; so had there been other bidders, the Supervisors would have been compared the 'differential'. Since there were no other bidders, the Supervisors awarded the diesel and gasoline 'fuel' bid to Purvis Brothers, Inc.

The Supervisors authorized the advertisement of the Revision to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance for stormwater and road specifications.

Chairman Jones announced that the township received notice from RAR Engineering Group regarding the application by PA American Water Co. for two 'minor' stream crossings needed in conjunction with the water main line installation on Saxonburg Rd. There was no action needed.

### **February 8, 2010 New Business**

The Supervisors voted to ratify the appointment of James R. Jones and Lois Fennell as delegates to the Butler Co. Sewage Association. Lois Rankin was offered but declined to replace either one.

## NEW BUSINESS, cont.:

The Supervisors voted to authorize the Butler Co. Sewage Association to apply for the DCED (Dept. of Community and Economic Development) Shared Municipal Services Grant. It will be used to help offset the cost of alternate system inspections due to the lack of DEP reimbursement for 2009 and probably 2010.

Chairman Jones reluctantly announced the resignation of Phil Bachman as 'supervisor'. The resignation is effective March 5, 2010. Since Mr. Bachman will not reconsider, the two remaining Supervisors will try to appoint a replacement at their next meeting, March 8, 2010. The Board has 30 days from March 5<sup>th</sup> to make this appointment; if they fail to agree on an appointment, they have another 15 days for the 'vacancy board' to meet and determine the appointment.

The secretary/treasurer reported that First Commonwealth Bank had notified the township that beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>, they would no longer provide the 'backs' of cancelled checks, just copies of the 'fronts.' Since then, the bank has reversed this decision and are in the process to reinstate the check imaging policy (copies of both fronts and backs), but this may take a month or two. The Board had no comment; no objections to staying with First Commonwealth.

The Supervisors authorized the purchase of the new set of 2009 Building Code books. Cost is close to \$600.00. These books are to be on file at the township for township officials and property owners and developers to review. It was noted that they are 'copywrited', so they cannot be 'copied' in full or in part.

The Supervisors reviewed and discussed a proposed agreement between Concordia and Winfield, Jefferson, Butler County, and South Butler School District for payment in lieu of taxes for the tax property 190-1F94-14-0001 (9 acre apts.) Attorney Marshall noted that the School District believes it to be a good deal and the agreement 'form' is acceptable; but it is up to the Supervisors to decide whether the amounts are a good deal or not for Jefferson Township. Chairman Jones is to talk further with Attorney Marshall before they decide to sign it.

### **Misc. Business February 8, 2010**

Chairman Jones announced that the Township has talked to and will continue to talk to gas companies and/or Marcellus shale developers as they contact us, but that ultimately, there will be a bidding process with proper advertising. This will enable the township to ascertain a fair minimum bid price before advertisement is authorized.

Chairman Jones announced that Butler County has advertised and awarded the Park ADA (handicapped accessibility) project (previously authorized by the township.) It was awarded to Mahoning Builders out of New Castle, PA for \$48,109.00. The CDBG-R (stimulus funds) are \$33,470.00. The balance of \$14,639.00 will be taken from the regular CDBG administrative funds. Nothing will have to be paid out of our general fund.

The next meeting date is Monday, March 8, 2010 at 3:30 P.M. The 2<sup>nd</sup> CDBG 'public hearing' is planned for that day at 3:15 P.M. prior to this meeting.

#### **Major Expenditures between the Dec.14<sup>th</sup> and Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> meetings:**

Saxonburg Area Library – 2010 Donation	\$ 6,000.00
Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Department – 2010 Donation	\$ 8,000.00
Winfield Township Volunteer Fire Dept. – 2010 Donation	\$ 1,600.00
S.D. Graff Professional Surveying – update twp. map and staking at park	\$ 2,007.00
North American Salt, Inc. – salt	1/26 \$11,520.75 + 2/8 \$32,059.79
Purvis Brothers, Inc. – clear diesel	1/26 \$1,685.56 plus 2/8 \$ 1,508.17
Frank B. Taylor Engineering, Inc. – fees re: Bonniebrook, Park, road spec., raceway	\$ 5,725.55

## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

During the winter months, as per the Township Ordinances, **NO ONE** is to park on the cul-de-sacs so that they 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.**

According to the Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) it **illegal** for any business to burn solid waste without a permit from DEP (724-656-3160 – *DEP Solid Waste Management Program*). There is a "burning ordinance" in Jefferson Township for residences! Please call the Township office for details. Recyclable items are **NOT** to be burned!!

It is illegal for residents or other non-resident users of Laura J. Doerr Park to dump their personal household trash in the park dumpsters. This is considered "theft of services." The Township officials will continue to monitor the situation and will prosecute violators if necessary.

### **The Newsletter**

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](http://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](mailto:jefftwpbutlerpa@zoominternet.net) - 352-2324.

### **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

*All meetings listed take place at the municipal building, 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler, PA 16002  
Any changes are advertised and posted.*

**Board of Supervisors** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 3:30 P.M. (except for January.)  
**James R. Jones, Chairman / Lois J. Rankin, Vice-Chairperson / Phillip Bachman, Supervisor**

**Planning Commission** - 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 7:30 P.M. (except for Nov.18 and Dec.16, 2010 due to holidays.)  
Members: Evelyn Gross (Chair.), Al Maurhoff, Bill Montgomery, Cheryl Prybock, Harold Riemer, Leo Rosenbauer, Danielle Sedlak, Robert Wetzal, and Robert Williams.

**Recreation Board** - 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. at 8 P.M. Feb. to Oct. (no meetings Nov., Dec. & Jan.)  
Members: Leo Rosenbauer (Chair.), Wayne Deaner, Viki Weleski, Mike McCarren (Pool), Andy Bozzo (Baseball), Loyal Fredley, Jr. (Softball), and Mike Gore (Soccer.)

