



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

July 2010 Newsletter

Road Foreman's Report

Bill Foertsch, Township Road Foreman, reported that 'paving' of sections of Bullcreek and Mushrush Roads is scheduled for the week of July 26th. Seal coating of sections of Smith, Heller, Rennick Roads and Sheetz Drive is scheduled for August 11th to perhaps the 13th depending on the weather. The paver was used on Sheetz Drive with good success and may be used later this year on Hannahstown Rd. He, Supervisor Rankin, Sec/Treas. Fennell, Planning Chair. Evelyn Gross, and the Township Attorney met with representatives from Phillips Productions regarding the proposed Marcellus shale drilling to take place on the monastery property. Mr. Foertsch wants the access driveway to be further south of the 'proposed' entrance. He will be working with Dave Vaughan on the driveway permit. Phillips Productions provided requested information to Attorney Marshall for review. Attorney Marshall is preparing a 'revised excess maintenance agreement.'

Planning Commission

Chairperson Evelyn Gross reported on the June 24th Planning Commission (P.C.) meeting. The P.C. reviewed and approved the Steven & Joan Janoski Lot Consolidation Plan on Frazier Rd. Existing Lot 3 of 2.00 acres and existing Lot 4 of 1.88 acres (both lots from the R. B. Mentel Plan which have existing septic testing) are being combined into revised Lot 3R of 3.88 acres. The Supervisors reviewed and approved the plan at the July 12th meeting.

The P.C. reviewed and approved the Floyd E. Sleeper Plan #2 on Winfield Rd. contingent upon DEP module submission and approval. Original Parcel B of 4.655 acres will be reduced by Lot #1 of 1.500 acres, making Amended Parcel B 3.15 acres with existing dwelling and barn. Lot 1 has a recorded easement for a stormwater management area, which does not affect the lot area requirement. The Supervisors reviewed and approved the plan at the July 12th meeting contingent upon DEP module submission and approval.

The P.C. reviewed and approved the Penn United Technology Land Development proposing an addition for a warehouse/loading area which includes restrooms and an enlargement of the stormwater pond. All the comments from the Township Engineer were addressed satisfactorily and the a sewage permit was issued on July 7th by the Butler Co. Sewage Assn. for the septic tank and dose tank additions to the existing system. The Supervisors reviewed and approved the Penn United Technology Land Development as revised and presented.

The P.C. reviewed responses from Mr. Rosenbauer and Mr. Neupert to the Township Engineer's comments after review of: 1) Stormwater Management Plan Narrative; 2) Neupert Raceway Site Development Plan, dated 4/16/10; 3) Stormwater Management Area and Flow Segment Plan, dated 12/15/09; 4) Waiver Request Letter, dated 4/8/10; 5) Project Narrative; and 6) Revised Average Daily Traffic Volumes prepared by Owner. There are still several outstanding matters: *a final approval letter from Allegheny Power; percolation testing and permitting; specifications on lighting from the lighting engineer; and the NPDES permit which could take up to 6 months for DEP approval.* Also needed on the plan: *the height and size of the proposed bleachers/grandstands and the restroom buildings and the type, size, & height of the permanent barrier between the track and Neupert Rd.* The P.C. voted to recommend the 120-day extension (Ms. Gross said the Township Attorney said this is appropriate since Mr. Neupert has shown that he is working on the outstanding matters.) The Supervisors voted to accept and approve the 120-day extension which will expire at the Oct. 28th Planning Commission meeting.

Bob Corbett commented that Mr. Neupert has no credibility and there have been too many extensions. He commented that there is 'junk' (tractors, trailers, etc.) on the Neupert property and they will file complaints. Joan Remaley commented that they want a noise ordinance.

The P.C. talked to Mr. Tom Vucelich about the possibility of him adding a garage with living space above to the existing 4-apartment building (previously owned by Glenn Herold) located at the May Dr.- Saxonburg Rd. intersection. Mr. Vucelich will have to: present a revised 'land development' which requires certified engineer's drawings; request a modification for set-backs; apply for a building permit for the addition which is considered 'commercial' and which will require certified architectural drawings.) He was told to contact Dave McGuigan the township BCO and inspector from Code.sys Code Consulting.

Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee did not meet on July 7th. Mr. Rosenbauer said he had nothing to report.

July 12, 2010 Unfinished Business

It was noted that the Township received \$8,067.98 subsequent to the application for "2010 Snow Disaster" funding prepared and submitted by the township sec/treas. and road foreman. This amount is the 75% reimbursement allowed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

A letter was received from PA American Water (dated 6/14/10) alerting the Township that construction of the 12" water main on Saxonburg Road was scheduled to begin the week of July 5th.

Supervisor Cypher reported that the Township sent letters to Representative Metcalfe and Senator White in regards to Bonniebrook Rd. having become a 'by-pass' between Rt. 28/Rt. 356 and Rt. 422 and the need for PennDOT to take over the road. Mr. Cypher and Mrs. Gross (P.C. Chair.) attended the public transportation hearing on June 23rd in Butler to offer comment on Bonniebrook Rd. etc.

Supervisor Rankin, Sec/Treas. Lois Fennell and P.C. Chair. Evelyn Gross attended the public hearing on the County Stormwater Plan on July 7th. Comments centered on the 150 ft. set-back from streams (in high-quality water sheds...which includes Jefferson Township) and the 5,000 sq. ft. maximum area before a 'stormwater study' would be required for all development (single family not exempt.) There was also discussion on the costs to implement and enforce; lack of qualified staff; and penalties and appeals (which are not provided for in Act 167, but are written into the plan.) It is not known when the Commissioners will vote on the matter or if they will try to raise the square footage before they pass it. Once adopted, the DEP must approve it, and then each municipality in Butler County will have to pass a stormwater ordinance equal to or greater than the county's regulations.

July 12, 2010 New Business

PSATS (the PA State Association of Township Supervisors) sponsor a Youth Awards Contest. Youth groups with a project benefiting 'Townships of the 2nd Class', such as Jefferson, may apply and could be awarded a \$500 prize and award/plaque. Contact the township secretary for an application, which must be completed and signed by a township supervisor for submission to the Butler Co. Association of Township Officials by Sept. 1st. They in turn, recommend the project to PSATS for consideration.

The Supervisors adopted Resolution #306 'Opposing Forced Local Government Mergers and Consolidations' which has been proposed by certain PA legislators. A copy will be sent to Representative Metcalfe and Senator Don White.

The new building and codes officer, Dave Vaughan, will consider and get back to the Supervisors regarding possibly attending the "Managing Floodplain Development" seminar Nov. 15 to 18. Supervisor Rankin and Sec/Treas. Fennell would like to attend a seminar entitled "Top 10 List for Improving Your Municipal Operations" on Sept. 13th. However, this is a meeting day and since the seminar does not end until 4 PM, Supervisor Rankin asked if it would be feasible to move the time for the Sept. 13th meeting 'only' to 7:30 P.M. The Supervisors voted and agreed.

The Supervisors reviewed the letter from Sharp Collections, Inc. proposing terms to collect delinquent per capita tax. After some discussion, the Board agreed to attempt to contract with Sharp Collections depending on their responses to several questions: 1) clarify 'no cost' to township, 2) clarify 'length of contract' or how often it is 'renewable'; and 3) does the Township have the right to 'not proceed' beyond the District Justice jurisdictional level if they deem the effort too costly in relation to the tax due.

The Township received notice of public hearings on 'proposed changes' to Chapter 78 Oil and Gas Regs. The closest ones are both on Thursday evening, July 22nd. That is the Planning Commission meeting, so no one on it can attend. Mrs. Gross would like to prepare and send comments. The Board agreed. Supervisor Rankin noted that there was a letter to the editor in today's paper which says 'we must prepare', in regards to 'gas well drilling.' The problem is that gas well drilling is regulated and permitted by the State (DEP). Local ordinances are 'pre-empted' by the Oil and Gas Act. The only authority of the township is bonding of the township roads.

July 12, 2010 Public Business/Comment

Lt. Tom Hill, Station Commander from the Butler State Police, gave a brief overview of their services and programs (i.e. Camp Cadet, the Aviation Unit (helicopter), the SERT Team.) He noted that they have at the Butler barracks, a Captain over four counties and a Major over 4 areas (Erie, Washington, Butler & Punxsutawney.) County Commissioner Dale Pinkerton, who attended the meeting, thanked Lt. Hill and the State Police for their excellent job. Supervisor John Cypher agreed wholeheartedly.

Bob Corbett questioned the proposed 'hydrant' tax on properties within a certain distance from the existing (and future) hydrants in Jefferson Township. The reasoning behind the suggestion (made at the June meeting) was that those few property owners (not the township as a whole) benefit by having lower insurance premiums and increased property values. Mr. Corbett said we donate to the library, why can't we absorb the hydrant fees. Supervisors Cypher and Rankin said it is not the same as supporting the public library which benefits everyone...as everyone in the Township has access to its resources.

Misc. Business from Township Officials

Supervisor John Cypher reported that Summit Township Supervisor, Rod Scott, contacted him by phone wanting to know if Jefferson would re-consider the sewer line through Jefferson Township to Saxonburg Authority. Mr. Cypher told him that he would have to present something at a township meeting. Mr. Scott did not call back; he did not attend this meeting or provide anything for consideration at this meeting.

Major Expenditures since the June 14th meeting through the July 12th meeting:

Hei-Way, LLC – coldpatch	\$28,180.96
McClymonds Supply & Transit – 2RC limestone	\$ 4,692.55
Purvis Brothers, Inc. – diesel fuel	\$ 1,865.13

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

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 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 - 352-2324.

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): Sept. 6th, Nov. 25th & 26th, Dec. 24th.

Other days off/office closures are posted on the door and noted on the answering machine message.

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 - 2nd Monday of each month at 5:00 P.M. (changed 6/14/10 meeting)(except for January)

James R. Jones, Chairman / Lois J. Rankin, Vice-Chairperson / L. John Cypher (appointed 4/7/10)

NEXT SUPERVISORS' MEETING FOLLOWING THIS NEWSLETTER – AUG. 9, 2010 at 5 PM

Note: Sept. 13 meeting ONLY – time changed to 7:30 PM for this 1 meeting.

Planning Commission - 4th 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, Kathryn Foertsch, Harold Riemer, Leo Rosenbauer,
Danielle Sedlak, Robert Wetzel, and Robert Williams.

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



TAX COLLECTOR – Ashley Foertsch
CALL 724-996-2240 to make an appointment!

