



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

June 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): July 5th, Sept. 6th, Nov. 25th & 26th, Dec. 24th.

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

Road Foreman's Report

Bill Foertsch, Township Road Foreman, reported that paving work is planned for late July (as bid by Wiest Asphalt) and seal coating is planned for early August (as bid by Suit Kote). The road crew has completed the 'crack sealing' on about seven roads and are continuing berming work on several roads. 'Work release' workers recently used to weed-eat on several township roads did a satisfactory job and the Supervisors agreed to have them return to help with digging outlets for catchbasins and painting at the township. Mr. Foertsch quoted street signs and compared the prices to that of the COG (Butler Co. Council of Governments) bid, and found that best price was the quote from Chemung. Some motorbikes have been using the gravel piles, but so far the operators have not been caught. 'No Trespassing' signs will be installed. Mr. Foertsch, Supervisor Rankin, and the Township Attorney plan to meet with Phillips Productions (a gas/oil well drilling company that plans to dig 8 wells at three sites in Jefferson Township) to discuss bonding and excess maintenance agreements, etc. The Supervisors agreed that the paving planned for sections of Bullcreek and Mushrush should proceed, regardless of the road use by Phillips Productions.

Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee met on June 2, 2010. Leo Rosenbauer reported that the **Pool** no longer seems to be leaking. Membership is down due to the extended school year caused by the teachers' strike. The Pool Assn. manager is to contact C.W. Howard Agency to make a claim to have them determine if the 'pool cover' damage is covered by the township insurance policy. **Baseball** will be done by the end of June. A gate was placed across the access road to the batting cages by the township road crew as previously requested by the Baseball Association. The **Softball** Association may be using the Davis Archway crews to paint fences for their association. They may be doing other projects in the park as well. The spring **Soccer** season ended on June 6th. Fencing at the handicapped parking area will NOT be included in the parking lot renovations this time. Six 'Pick Up Trash' signs have been placed in the soccer area.

Planning Commission

Chairperson Evelyn Gross reported on the May 27, 2010 Planning Commission (P.C.) meeting. The P.C. reviewed the revised Veselich Lot-Line Revision (approved contingent at their April meeting.) On June 14th the Supervisors subsequently reviewed and approved the revised plan. Three lots on the east side of Bullcreek Rd. will be combined for conveyance to Robert L. Veselich. Parcel A of 2.50 acres plus tax parcel 2F12-43A of 1.242 acres plus Parcel B of 2.08 acres from 2F12-53 makes the Revised Tax Parcel 2F12-43A a total of 5.82 acres. The remnant farm owned by Lawrence & Edward Veselich (2F12-43) is left with 54.19 acres.

The P.C. reviewed and approved a modification request from Hilterman's on Bullcreek Rd. for a proposed garage to be 41 ft. from the road right-of-way, which is 'in-line' with existing structures. On June 14th the Supervisors subsequently reviewed and approved the 9 ft. modification (41 ft. set-back) as presented.

The P.C. reviewed and approved a modification request from Nulph's on Fisher Rd. for a shed to be 15 ft. from the property line (due to the lot's narrowness). A notarized letter of permission from the affected neighbor was submitted. On June 14th the Supervisors reviewed and approved the 10 ft. modification (15 ft. side set-back) as presented.

Leo Rosenbauer recused himself for the remainder of the P.C. meeting because he represents the following clients.

The P.C. reviewed and approved the J. B. Henderson Plan contingent upon DEP module submission and approval by DEP. Lot 1 of 4.160 acres is being divided off. It is a flag lot with a 40 ft. right-of-way strip, which widens to 55 ft. along Mushrush Rd. giving the lot 110 ft. of road frontage. The plan now indicates a 25 ft. dedicated right-of-way along Bullcreek and Mushrush Roads for future utilities. Lot 1 is 'odd-shaped' due to the location of the septic tests and the topography. Revised remnant Parcel A will be left with 26.705 acres. The Supervisors reviewed the plan on June 14th and approved it contingent upon DEP module approval.

The P.C. reviewed and approved the Jane Sell Plan, a lot-line revision on the north side of Winfield Rd. Original parcel taxed in Winfield Township is being divided into Tract A of 2.49 acres and Tract B of 1.14 acres. Original Lot 2 of 1.31 acre will be added to Original Lot 3 of 1.34 ac. plus Tract A of 2.49 acres making Revised Lot 3 a total of 5.14 acres with existing dwelling in Jefferson Township. Tract B of 1.14 acres will be added to existing Lot 1 of 3.00 acres making Revised Lot 1 a total of 4.14 acres with existing dwelling in Winfield Township. A 25 ft. dedicated r.o.w. is now indicated along Winfield Rd. to future utilities. The Supervisors reviewed and approved the Jane Sell Plan on June 14th.

Ms. Gross reported that the P.C. received several items from Brett Neupert (Neupert Raceway Park proposal). There are still several outstanding issues, but they appear to be 'in process.' No action was taken by the P.C. and no comments/no action by the Supervisors on June 14th.

June 14, 2010 Unfinished Business

The workmen's compensation insurance quotes were discussed briefly at the May 10th meeting. John Cypher reviewed the quotes as per that meeting. The lowest quote received for the workmen's compensation insurance coverage was from Housing and Redevelopment Insurance Exchange (HARIE) through C. W. Howard Insurance Agency. The quote of \$6,622.00 was based on an 'estimated' payroll for 8/1/09 to 7/31/10. This quote is actually lower than the 09/10 premium. On June 14th, the Supervisors agreed to proceed with HARIE.

The Supervisors agreed to send letters to our legislators in an effort to have PennDOT take over Bonniebrook Rd. in Jefferson and Summit Township, since it has become a heavily traveled 'by-pass' between Rt. 356 and Rt. 422.

It was reported that the secretary and the planning commission chairperson plan to attend a meeting at the County Government Center for a review of the Butler County "Draft" Stormwater Ordinance.

June 14, 2010 New Business

A request was received from Scott Hacker, President of the Knoch Track & Field Boosters, for the temporary closing of Knoch Rd. for the 10th Annual Roebing 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, August 14th. The Supervisors approved the closing from 8:15 AM to 9:15 AM on Aug. 14, 2010.

Danielle Sedlak submitted a letter of resignation and asked to be done by June 24th. Several people were asked to consider the position (Gary Stone, Wayne Deaner, Ken Messner) but all declined. Supervisor Cypher then called Dave Vaughan, who agreed saying he would be honored to serve *again* as codes and building permit officer. The Supervisors appointed Mr. Vaughan by motion, which carried to 2 to 1. Mr. Vaughan will begin takeover and training immediately at the same hourly rate (as the current officer) plus mileage and a possible cell phone. The secretary is to look into adding a cell phone to our current Verizon agreement (for the road crew) for use by the new codes officer.

The Supervisors approved a 'lane name' for an existing right-of-way off Riemer Rd. Winfield Township and 9-1-1 have already approved the name use of "Marjory Lane".

The Supervisors approved Resolution #305, a Resolution for New Land Development required for the submission of a DEP repair module for Joan Kelly on Bullcreek Rd.

Misc. Business from Township Officials

The Township received a letter from PA DCNR regarding a 'wildfire hazard assessment.' Many other townships in Butler County and across the state have communicated that they too received this letter with a flyer for a 2010 Firewise Conference to be held in Gettysburg in September. No interest was indicated.

It was reported that the State and Federal Emergency Management Agencies (PEMA and FEMA) have

revised the floodplain maps. The municipalities in the area were required to submit their 'current' floodplain ordinances for review and comment. Most municipalities will be required to adopt a revised or a new floodplain ordinance. Each municipality will be responsible to notify residents that may now be in a floodplain that were not in it before or vice-versa. The problem is whether or not our township delineation has changed and who is qualified to determine if properties are in or out of the floodplain areas. Some townships have GIS and could overlay the old and new flood maps with their township zoning or official map, but this is not so in Jefferson.

Supervisor Cypher mentioned the possibility of changing the Supervisors' meeting time. He said that 3:30 P.M. is a little too early for his work schedule. After some discussion, the Supervisors agreed to change the meeting time to 5 P.M. on the 2nd Monday of each month (except January.) The secretary's hours on 'meeting day' will be 9 AM to 5 PM instead of 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

Supervisor Rankin introduced the possibility of assessing property owners for the water hydrants that are located within a certain distance from their residences. Attorney Graham said this is generally 780 ft. Since PA American Water took over the water system from Saxonburg Authority in 2009, the Township is charged by PA American Water for monthly hydrant maintenance fees and since these property owners benefit by having lower insurance premiums (even if they are not using the public water system) it seems fair that those who benefit should pay the extra cost. The Township currently has 19 hydrants, but additional hydrants are to be installed when PA American Water installs a new water main on Saxonburg Road this year. The Supervisors will continue to look into the matter, and if they decide to proceed, an ordinance will be prepared and adopted.

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.

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)

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 Wetzell, 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!

