

**NOTICE: Two Meetings in Feb. 2009 – Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> Regular and Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting**

REGULAR MEETING  
February 9, 2009

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Jefferson Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by the chairman, James R. Jones, at about 3:32 P.M. on Monday, Feb. 9, 2009. All rose to pledge the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Those present were James R. Jones, Phillip L. Bachman, and Lois J. Fennell, Sec/Treas. Jim Chick was absent for health reasons.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Chairman Jones announced that the Supervisors met in executive session on Jan. 27, 2009 to discuss personnel matters in regards to the health insurance. The Supervisors held an executive session prior to the start of this meeting to discuss ongoing legal matters. Jim Jones noted that the first public hearing on the 2009 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) was held as advertised at 3:20 P.M., prior to the start of this meeting. The 2<sup>nd</sup> hearing is planned for March 9, 2009 at 3:20 P.M. There were no written or verbal comments received prior to the hearing. Wendy Leslie reported that the 2009 allocation has not been determined yet, but it should be similar to 2008. In 2008 the total grant was \$114,563.00 (\$94,011 for projects and \$20,552 admin. funds.)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS AGENDA AS PRESENTED: None.

MINUTES:

James R. Jones *moved to approve the Jan. 5, 2009 re-organization and regular meeting minutes as written and distributed. Seconded by Phil Bachman. All agreed and motion carried.*

FINANCIAL:

The bills paid between the Jan. 5, 2009 and Feb. 9, 2009 meetings totaled \$11,008.32. The bills presented for payment from the General Fund today totaled \$39,204.67 (includes a \$6,000.00 check to open a new 'health reimbursement' checking account). No bills were presented for payment from the State Fund. The balance of all the funds after payment of the bills presented was \$292,680.22. James R. Jones *moved to pay the bills listed as well as any bills that become due prior to the next meeting. Seconded by Phil Bachman. All agreed and motion carried.*

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Leo Rosenbauer was expected, but had not arrived at this point in the meeting. Secretary Lois Fennell said the Board needed to officially appoint new representatives from the baseball association and the softball association to the Recreation Committee. A *motion* was made by James R. Jones to appoint Andy Bozzo as the baseball association representative (replacing Peter McMillen). *Seconded by Phil Bachman. Agreed and motion carried.* Note: Lois misunderstood. James C. (Jimmy) Jones is the new 'president' of the softball association. Loyal Fredley remains on the recreation committee as the softball representative.

The Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> Recreation minutes indicate that they will apply for the Butler Co. Parks Renovation Grant for new bleachers. The application is due by Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, so the Resolution (#280) needs to be approved today. James R. Jones *moved to adopt Resolution #280 for the 2009 County Parks Renovation Grant application. Seconded by Phil Bachman. Agreed and motion carried.*

## PLANNING COMMISSION:

The Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting was cancelled and therefore there was no report.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Last month the Supervisors voted to authorize advertisement of an ordinance to change the speed limit on Keck Rd. from 40 to 35 MPH. James R. Jones *moved* to adopt Ordinance #278 to change the speed limit on Keck Rd. to 35 MPH. *Seconded* by Phil Bachman. Agreed and *motion carried*.

The Township Secretary had already reviewed with James R. Jones and with Phil Bachman the three quotes for the township liability, property and automotive insurance package. The three quotes, with no terrorism coverage and no umbrella policy were: Kilmer Insurance Agency (Keystone Insurers Group) quote from EMC Ins. - \$10,550.00; C. W. Howard Insurance Agency quote from Selective Ins. - \$10,492.00; and Kenneth R. Sloan Insurance Agency quote through U.S. Specialty Ins. - \$13,105.00. A *motion* was made by James R. Jones to stay with C. W. Howard Insurance Agency for the Selective Ins. quote of \$10,492.00. *Seconded* by Phil Bachman. Agreed and *motion carried*.

## NEW BUSINESS:

A *motion* was made by James R. Jones to authorize advertisement for bidding of fuel (diesel) and road materials. (Coldpatch will probably be purchased 'piggyback' through the state Co-Stars program. *Seconded* by Phil Bachman. Agreed and *motion carried*.

A *motion* was made by James R. Jones to adopt Resolution #279 setting forth the Jefferson Township Email Policy. *Seconded* by Phil Bachman. Agreed and *motion carried*. Secretary Lois Fennell explained that the intent of this 'policy' is to delete all Email that does not meet the definition of 'record' and to manage 'official records' outside of the Email messaging system.

The Supervisors discussed and authorized changing the health insurance plan to a 'high deductible plan with a health reimbursement arrangement' at the executive session on Jan. 27, 2009. James R. Jones *moved* to approve and sign the bank signature cards for the new 'health reimbursement checking account'. *Seconded* by Phil Bachman. Agreed and *motion carried*.

MISC. BUSINESS FROM TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS: (See post meeting discussion)

## ADJOURN:

James Jones *moved* to adjourn at 3:48 P.M. Phil Bachman *seconded*. Agreed and carried.

## ATTENDANCE:

Evie Gross, William Foertsch, Sue Hartzell, Dave Perine, and Lois & Jim Rankin.  
Leo Rosenbauer arrived after the meeting adjourned.

AFTER ADJOURNMENT DISCUSSION: (Jim Chick had not been present and Phil Bachman had to leave at 3:45 for an appointment, so there was no longer a quorum.)

*PUBLIC BUSINESS: Dave Perine talked to Supervisor/Chairman James R. Jones and Planning Chairperson, Evelyn Gross about his request for an address on O'Hara Rd. for a proposed new house on his 26+ acre parcel. He submitted some old 'historical' maps for the area, which appear to show an old lane (1941) which was apparently abandoned sometime between 1941 and 1959, but his research and the township records do not clearly show whether the 'lane' was a private lane or an adopted township road*

*or how wide the lane was at the time. It was agreed that Mr. Perine's lots (2F10-25 and 25) border O'Hara Rd. and that he has a right to use the 'previous cartway path' on his own property for access to O'Hara Rd. It was also understood by Mr. Perine that no further subdivision would be permitted unless Mr. Perine provides sufficient right-of-way width for any future lots. Jim and Evie asked the secretary to prepare a letter to Mr. Perine.*

*RECREATION COMMITTEE: Leo Rosenbauer talked to Jim Jones about their Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. He noted several issues: 1) The registrations are down substantially for the 2009 season. 2) The softball association requested that gravel be spread on the parking area beyond the Legion Field. 3) The associations have inquired about 'sewage holding tanks'. Evie and Lois noted that the township ordinances only permit holding tanks to 'abate a nuisance.' Whether an ordinance allowing them 'only in the park' is do-able, is something to ask the attorney. 4) In regards to the associations paying a share of park expenses (in lieu of user fees), the softball association will support it, but requests a way to petition the Supervisors to reduce the fee amount (if or when needed.) 5) In response to Chairman Jones suggestion that the associations pay half of the insurance coverage on their buildings, it was suggested that they meet with the Supervisors and the Township's insurance agent (Jeff Howard) on March 9<sup>th</sup> at the end of the regular meeting to discuss the matter.*

**Next Regular Meeting:**

**Mon., MAR. 9, 2009 at 3:30 P.M. following the 2<sup>nd</sup> CDBG Public Hearing at 3:20 P.M.**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

February 17, 2009

**CALL TO ORDER:**

This special meeting of the Jefferson Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by the chairman, James R. Jones, at about 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009. All rose to pledge the flag.

**ROLL CALL:**

Those present were James R. Jones, James P. Chick, Phillip L. Bachman, and Lois J. Fennell, Sec/Treas.

**BUSINESS:**

Chairman Jones explained that this special meeting was called to allow Olsen and Associates do a second presentation of the Summit Township proposal to run a sewer line through Jefferson Township to the Saxonburg Area Authority from the Herman area via Thorn Creek from the Simon/Caldwell Dr. area to Jefferson Center to Dinnerbell Rd. The Supervisors heard the first presentation in an executive session on Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, but Mr. Chick could not be there. The Supervisors then decided to hold a second presentation, opening it to the public.

Mr. Craft from Olsen & Associates offered some hand-outs: 11 x17 drawing indicating the proposed service area in Herman; 11 x 17 drawing indicating the alignment of the proposed 'interceptor line' through Jefferson Township from the Herman area to the Saxonburg Area Authority's old plant on Dinnerbell Rd. and the notes from the Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> presentation.

Mr. Craft began by explaining the Act 537 Plan history – much the same as listed in the notes from Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>:

- 1) DEP studied the Herman area in Dec. 2004 and found a high percentage of failures. DEP directed Summit Township to review the service to the area.
- 2) Gray-Warnick (now Gateway Engineering) created a Task Activity Report in Jan. 2005.
- 3) Gateway Engineering prepared a draft report indicating various scenarios for sewage service:

- a. Summit Township to construct a new sewage treatment plant
  - b. Extend service from the Saxonburg Area Authority through Jefferson Township
  - c. Extend service from the Butler Area Sewer Authority to Herman.
- 4) Gateway had indicated that both the SAA and BASA line extension would cost approx. twice as much per month as constructing their own facility.
  - 5) Olsen & Associates re-reviewed Gateway's draft report and found that the SAA alternative is actually cost effective and would cost slightly less.
  - 6) Summit Township met with SAA, PENNVEST and the DEP to further investigate the matter.

Mr. Craft presented different cost scenarios based on 'no involvement from Jefferson Township with no Jefferson Township residence connected' to 'Jefferson Township permitting the installation of the interceptor and requiring a mandatory tap by all (approx. 60) homes along the route.' For comparison purposes, no tap-in fee and no grant were considered.

Mr. Cornetti noted that Saxonburg Area Authority (SAA) has not even met on the matter – because the first step is to determine if Jefferson Township will even 'allow' the installation of the interceptor. IF Jefferson Township ok's the installation of the line through Jefferson Township, then proper submission to SAA by Summit/Olsen will be required for SAA to review and determine if it is cost effective for SAA to take over or to build the interceptor.

There was significant discussion. Property owners asked questions and Mr. Olsen, Mr. Cornetti and Mr. Craft responded as best they could. Some are listed here:

- 1) How will this affect township growth? Public sewerage "infrastructure" does increase the probability of growth, but also increases the value of land should the property owner wish to sell or develop it.

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- 2) What are the current township 'requirements' on tap-in? The Township ordinance now states that: A. Any structure erected (*new construction*) in Jefferson Township, any point of said structure being located within one hundred fifty feet (150') of an existing line of the Authority. B. Any structure located within one hundred fifty feet (150') of an existing sewer line of the Authority that is currently serviced by an existing septic system, holding tank, sand mound, mechanical sewage treatment system, mine hole, or any other means of storing and/or disposing of acceptable sanitary sewage, in the event that the presently existing system shall fail and shall be incapable of being repaired without the installation of a completely new system.
- 3) What will be the cost to those whose property the line will go through? IF the Saxonburg Authority does the actual building of the interceptor, they would approach the affected property owners and offer \$1.00 for the (20 ft) right-of-way (r.o.w.) through their property. They will negotiate to move the line one way or the other to accommodate the property owner (for buildings, pools, etc.) If negotiations fail, the SAA will condemn the property for the r.o.w. only and offer the estimated just compensation for the 20 ft. r.o.w.
- 4) What is the length of time for construction? Mr. Olsen said the design stage and grant application will take at least one year. Construction will be about 2 more years. Mr. Craft said the Penn Township line was constructed on an average of 400 ft. per day.
- 5) Is this for sewer and water or just sewer? The interceptor is for public sewer only (not water.)
- 6) What about the capacity of the SAA? Mr. Cornetti said that SAA is running at about ½ capacity now and estimate that they could be running at 100% by the year 2027. At the current 3500 edu's, the addition of 602 edu's from Summit Township may be acceptable – but this is what the SAA will consider as they review any proposal that comes before them.
- 7) What about the water table? There are concerns that putting in public sewer will deplete the water table --- however, there are also concerns that ill-maintained or malfunctioning on-lot systems are probably currently polluting the ground, ground water and streams.
- 8) When will the Board make the decision? Jim Jones said there are definite pros and cons to consider. The Township is aware of problems with septic systems (specifically the Meadows, the Fieldhouse Restaurant, and problems with Bonnie Brook Home) in the township. The

Supervisors, Mr. Cornetti and Mr. Olsen all concurred that it is only a matter of time before DEP comes in to review complaint history, at which time they could require sewerage to at least certain areas in the Township. The Supervisors could allow the construction of the interceptor with no involvement from Jefferson Township – absolutely free – and still have access to that line should DEP come through and mandate sewer in certain areas. If the Supervisors deny the installation of the interceptor, and DEP mandates sewerage in the future, the Township will have to assume all costs for any sewer extension or public system. Jim Chick would like to get more information and consider it further before making a decision. Their next meeting is March 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 P.M.

ADJOURN: James Jones *moved* to adjourn at approximately 6:00 P.M. Jim Chick *seconded*. All agreed and motion carried.

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Larry Osche and Mr. Rod Scott from Summit Township; Mr. Rick Craft, Chris Rearick and Mr. Ron Olsen from Olsen and Associates; Mr. Paul Cornetti and Mr. Chuck McGee from Saxonburg Area Authority; Sue Hartzell, Evie Gross, Leo Rosenbauer, William & Mandi Foertsch, Lois & Jim Rankin, Paula & Dean Thomas, James Nagy, Dale Hickey, David Huff ?, Nadine Grabe, Gene Leslie, George Olzak, Chris Dean, and Terry Dean. There was one name whose signature was unreadable. A couple other people arrived after the meeting began and did not sign in.

**Next Regular Meeting: Mon., MAR. 9, 2009 at 3:30 P.M. after the 2<sup>nd</sup> CDBG Public Hearing at 3:20 P.M.**