



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

January 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. 18th, Feb. 15th, Apr. 2nd, May 31st, July 5th, Sept. 6th, Nov. 25th & 26th, Dec. 24th.

January 4, 2010 Re-Organization

All municipalities are required to hold their re-organization meeting on the first Monday of the year unless it is a holiday. The Jefferson Township Re-Organization meeting was held on Monday, Jan. 4, 2010 followed immediately by the regular meeting (as noted on page 3 of the Dec. newsletter.)

Only two supervisors (James R. Jones and Phillip L. Bachman) were able to be in attendance on Mon., Jan. 4th. They voted to keep James R. Jones as chairman and to appoint Lois J. Rankin as vice-chair., after Mr. Bachman declined the position of vice-chairman.

Township officials were appointed or re-appointed as follows: Lois J. Fennell, Township Secretary/Treasurer and Planning Commission Clerk; Code.sys™ Code Consulting, Inc. as the building inspectors (except electric) for all permits under the PAUCC (residential, commercial & industrial) and BCO for all permits under the PAUCC with Dave McGuigan as our primary contact ; Allegheny Inspection Service, Inc. as the electrical inspectors for all permits under the PA UCC; Danielle Sedlak as the code enforcement and building permit officer; Butler County Sewage Association as the sewage enforcement agency; D. Ben Cypher as fire marshal; Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham as solicitors with Matt Marshall as our primary contact; Frank B. Taylor Engineering as the Township Engineers; Dennis Sybert as the dog control officer; John Risch as the emergency management coordinator; Eric Butler as the assistant emergency management coordinator; Larry Plowman as the vacancy board member; Danielle, Keith Bachman and Justin Stirling as the members to the Appeals Board for 2010, with Kevin Miller as alternate member; Wayne Deaner to another 3-year term on the Recreation Committee; and appointing Lois Fennell (as non-voting representative) and Connie Plowman and Lois Rankin (as voting representatives) to the Butler Co. Association of Township Officials. Bob Wetzel, Bill Montgomery and Leo Rosenbauer were re-appointed to the Planning Commission for another 4 years. The Supervisors appointed Lillian Bachman to fill the vacant 'elected' auditor position until the next municipal election.

Other decisions at the re-organization meeting included: keeping First Commonwealth Bank as our primary depository plus a CD at Nextier and savings at PA Local Government Investment Trust; authorizing supervisors, auditors, secretary/treasurer, and members of the Planning Commission to attend the annual state convention in Hershey (if they so desire) and pay the usual expenses, and appointing Lois Rankin as voting delegate to the state convention; setting the mileage reimbursement at going IRS rate (now \$.50 cents) per mile; keeping the treasurer's bond at \$600,000.00; and keeping the monthly meetings on the seconded Monday of each month at 3:30 P.M. The Planning Commission will continue to meet on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. with exceptions for Nov. and Dec. 2009, which will be the 3rd Thursday. The Recreation Committee plans to meet the 1st Wednesday of each month at 8:00 P.M. (except Nov., Dec. and Jan.)

The regular business portion of the meeting began at about 3:50 P.M. on Jan. 4, 2010.

Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee does not meet in November, December or January. The next meeting is February 3, 2010.

Planning Commission

There was no Dec. 2009 Planning Commission (P.C.) meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 28, 2010 at 7:30 P.M.

January 4, 2010 Unfinished Business

The Supervisors reviewed the PA American Water Company's initial letter at the Dec. 14th meeting. That letter indicates that the 12" water transmission main to be constructed in the Saxonburg Road right-of-way is primarily to support the need for a reliable water supply in Saxonburg, however the PAWC will offer to supply water service to any resident in Jefferson Township along the proposed route that requests water service. There is **no obligation** for any resident to take water service and no fees will be assessed for the installation of the water main. *If the resident requests water service*, there will be a fee applied for the installation of the meter and the resident must install a copper service line from the meter to the point of use. On Dec. 14th, the Board wanted to know exactly what the 'franchise service area' is and how it affects the property owners. A letter responding to this inquiry states that the franchise area designation **only** allows PAWC the opportunity to offer water service to residents that reside within the franchise area and own property that abuts a street wherein there is a water main (Saxonburg Rd.) It further states that: "**no land or land owners' rights are infringed upon** by this PUC franchise area designation." The PAWC requested approval by the Township. The Supervisors had checked with DEP and subsequently with the Township attorney regarding this and were told that the Township has no 'right of refusal' since it will be constructed in the State right-of-way. Subsequently, the Supervisors voted to approve the proposed project as described in the two letters.

Brett Neupert, developer of the proposed 'race track' (Neupert Rd.) submitted a 2nd 90-day extension letter that runs through May 10, 2010. The Supervisors voted to accept and approve this extension.

The Supervisors are currently reviewing the property appraisal and preliminary drawings from the engineer regarding the S-bend on Bonniebrook Rd., and will begin negotiations with the property owners (Emery and Waddingham.) Mr. and Mrs. Wiefeling expressed concerns about their safe access onto Bonniebrook from their driveway. The Supervisors hope that if they proceed with the project, it will improve the Wiefeling's situation as well as the safety of the general traffic on Bonniebrook Rd.

Leo Rosenbauer and Kevin Miller approached the Supervisors at the December meeting because they want to continue development of the Stoneybrook Plan by bringing the sewer line in from Audrey Lane to Lots 3, 2, and 1 at the end of Stoneybrook. The water line will still need to be extended up the 'unfinished' Stoneybrook Dr. Since then, Mr. Rosenbauer has spoken to Attorney Marshall and the Township Engineers, but in order to proceed the Township needs to authorize the Township Engineer to 1) recommend how to bring Stoneybrook Dr. up to township specs. and 2) review and update the 2008 cost estimates. The Supervisors voted to table any decision since there are outstanding invoices (due from Miller's) from the 2008 legal and engineering work done.

January 4, 2010 New Business

The Supervisors voted to authorize advertisement to bid for fuel (diesel and gasoline). The Supervisors voted to enter into the 'annual' agreement with the Butler Co. Humane Society.

Misc. Business January 4, 2010

The Supervisors agreed to re-visit the request by Ashley Foertsch (newly elected real estate tax collector) to use the township meeting room (including table and chairs) as 'office space.' She will have her own phone, computer, etc. and will have her mail delivered to her home address. She indicates that she will bring everything back and forth with her. The Board approved this use and set the rent at \$50.00 per month from March to December (10 months). Ashley will sign a 'rental'

agreement. It was discussed briefly that the Township must have access to the tax collector checking account (as per Butler County Resolution effective 1/1/2010). Since the secretary/treasurer is bonded, she will likely be included on this checking account. The tax collector is bonded through the County.

Major Expenditures between the Dec.14th and Jan. 4th meetings:

Frank B. Taylor Engineering – CDBG-R project at park (to be reimbursed by County)	\$ 6,418.00
Purvis Brothers, Inc. – diesel fuel	\$ 1,234.05

Some invoices, including those for salt (on order), will be due and paid before the Feb. meeting; others will be due and paid at the Feb. meeting.

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 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 3:30 P.M. (except for January.)
James R. Jones, Chairman / Lois J. Rankin, Vice-Chairperson / Phillip Bachman, Supervisor

Planning Commission - 4th Thursday at 7:30 P.M. (except for Nov.19 and Dec.17, 2009 due to holidays.)
Members: Evelyn Gross (Chair.), Al Maurhoff, Bill Montgomery, Cheryl Prybock, 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 Weleski, Mike McCarren (Pool), Andy Bozzo (Baseball), Loyal Fredley, Jr. (Softball), and Ken Stockert (Soccer.)

