



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

June 2009 Newsletter

TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM
and Friday mornings - 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM.**

(Exceptions are posted on the front door and indicated on the answering machine.)

Recreation Committee

At the Supervisors meeting on June 8, 2009, Recreation Committee Chairman Leo Rosenbauer reported on their June 3, 2009 meeting as follows: Soccer: The spring season is over. The fall session starts in September. Baseball: Tournaments have begun. They requested permission to put a concrete floor in the concrete 'bin' at the Thrower field parking lot and the Supervisors agreed. Pool: They reported that season passes are down. They requested that 12 feet of the old sidewalk be removed by the Township road crew. The Supervisors agreed. This section of sidewalk was accidently damaged by the contractor or from freezing. It will be replaced by the contractor. Park: Leo talked to the County CDBG Coordinator and she indicated that CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds could be used for ADA compliant (handicapped) parking spots in the soccer parking lot. CDBG funds can also be used to make the Scout shelter ADA compliant.

Planning Commission

The May 28th Planning Commission meeting was canceled due to lack of business.

Public Business and Comment

At the June 8th meeting, a resident requested a 'noise ordinance' for dirt bikes, quads, etc. The request stated 'not to ever include farm machinery.' Chairman Jones said the Board has received some sample ordinances from the attorney and they will have the Planning Commission review them to recommend any regulations for Jefferson Township.

A complaint was received regarding youth placing hockey nets on and playing on Janice Lane. The Supervisors said she has the right to contact the state police, but Chairman Jones said he would talk to one of the parents mentioned.

June 8, 2009 Unfinished Business

At the regular meeting on June 8, 2009 the Supervisors reviewed and signed the "Resolution (#287) for Plan Revision for the septic repair application to DEP for the Fieldhouse Restaurant. After accumulating one-year's worth of septic flows, the owner hopes to prove to DEP that a 'small flow treatment facility' is appropriate.

The roadmaster and secretary opened the road 'seal coat' bids as advertised at noon (prior to the regular meeting.) The results were:

Suit-Kote Corp. -	Unit Price \$2.77 sq.yd.	Total \$352,180.57
Glen O. Hawbaker, Inc. -	Unit Price \$2.35 sq.yd.	Total \$298,781.35
Russell Standard Corp. -	Unit Price \$2.35 sq.yd.	Total \$298,781.35.

The Supervisors considered the two lowest bids a **tie**, and since both were 'lowest responsible bidders', broke the tie by flipping a coin (as has been done in other municipalities according to PennDOT Municipal Services and PSATS (Pa State Association of Township Supervisors). Russell Standard was then awarded the contract by a vote from the Board.

The secretary presented information last month to the Board of Supervisors on a possible ‘electronic document management system’ for township office use only; and a product which would make the Township Code of Ordinances available on-line via link from the township’s website. The matter was tabled for further thought. After a brief discussion at the June 8th meeting, the Board decided against proceeding with either program due to the costs, work involved, continuing storage of hard (paper) copies of records, etc.

June 8, 2009 New Business

The Supervisors voted to adopt Resolution #288, which revises prior resolution (#282) so that it includes wording authorizing Butler County to apply and administer the ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) funds (if finally received) along with the 2009 CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Allocation. These additional ‘stimulus’ funds have already been designated for ADA (handicapped accessible) projects in the Laura J. Doerr park.

Public Comment & Miscellaneous from June 8, 2009

Some residents asked about the matter of Saxonburg Authority selling the ‘water system’ to Pennsylvania American Water Co. and their plans to bring a water line from the top of Center Ave. to Saxonburg (Alderhold Drive area) using Saxonburg-Butler Rd. Chairman Jones said no one has asked or is expected to ask for permission from the Supervisors to proceed (as was the case with the proposed Summit Township sewer line extension.) First, Saxonburg-Butler Rd. is a state-owned highway and so, the township has no jurisdiction (the water company would not be going through private property.) Second, the water company is a public utility overseen by the PUC. Chairman Jones noted that once PA American Water takes over, the township will begin being charged for the 19 hydrants already within the township (Saxonburg Authority does not currently charge the township for these.) Additional hydrants are anticipated along the proposed line to be built—resulting in more hydrant fees for Jefferson Township.

The secretary, Lois Fennell, and Chairman Jones plan to attend a special meeting of the Butler County Sewage Association on Thursday, June 11th. Both were ‘appointed’ representatives from Jefferson Township when the township joined the BCSA in 2008. The meeting will address the state funding shortfall.

Major expenditures between meetings and at the June 8, 2009 meeting:

Air Vac Equipment Co. – Crafcoc melter rental	\$ 1,500.00
Hei-Way, LLC – coldpatch	\$ 3,225.02
Code.sys Code Consulting – building permit inspection fees	\$ 1,119.00
Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham – legal fees (building code appeal)	\$ 3,033.31

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.

THIS SUMMER, when mowing your grass, PLEASE do not allow the cut grass to accumulate on the roadway. It is a safety issue - especially if the grass becomes wet. It could cause a vehicle to lose traction!

2010 CENSUS: A SNAPSHOT

The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States (all 50 states, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.) This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, both citizens and non-citizens. The 2010 Census will create hundreds of thousands of temporary jobs across the nation. *(If you are interested, visit www.usajobs.gov go to 'Search Jobs' and 'My USAJobs', enter CENSUS in "Keyword Search")*

YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE 2010 CENSUS MATTERS:

Every year, more than \$300 billion in federal funds is awarded to states and communities based on census date. That's more than \$3 trillion over a 10-year period. Census data guide local decision-makers in important community planning efforts, including where to build new roads, hospitals and schools. Census data affect your voice in Congress by determining how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives.

COMPLETING THE 2010 CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE: SIMPLE AND SAFE

The 2010 Census questionnaire will be sent to households in early 2010. The questionnaire asks only a few simple questions of each person – name, relationship, gender, age and date of birth, race, and whether the respondent owns or rents his or her home. This simple, short questionnaire takes just a few minutes to complete and return by mail. The Census Bureau does not release or share information that identifies individual respondents or their household for 72 years.

LOOK IT UP: www.census.gov/2010census

Public Information Office 301-763-3691 / 763-3762 (fax) / 301-457-1037 (TDD) or e-mail: < pio@census.gov >

New Web Tool Allows Pennsylvanians to Check Status of Property Tax/Rent Rebates

- Eligible older adults and residents with disabilities can now check the status of Property Tax/Rent Rebate applications online at www.papropertytaxrelief.com
- Six weeks after submitting a Property Tax/Rent Rebate application, the applicant may visit www.papropertytaxrelief.com and check the status of the rebate by entering his/her Social Security number, anticipated rebate amount and birth date. Applicants may use the Web site to confirm claim status, rebate amount and the date a rebate is expected to be mailed or direct-deposited. Rebate checks will begin being distributed to early applicants on July 1.
- Through a similar automated phone service, Property Tax/Rent Rebate applicants can check rebate status by calling, toll-free, 1-888-PATAXES.
- The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. A 2006 program expansion increased the income limit from \$15,000 to \$35,000 (which excludes half of Social Security income) for homeowners and raises the maximum standard rebate for both homeowners and renters from \$500 to \$650. The income limit for renters is \$15,000.
- The program expansion also provided for supplemental property tax rebates of up to \$325 – on top of the standard rebates – to homeowners in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Scranton and to those in other parts of the state who pay more than 15 percent of income on property taxes.
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate claim forms (PA-1000) and information are available online at www.papropertytaxrelief.com and by calling 1-888-222-9190. Forms and assistance also are available at Department of Revenue district offices (listed in the government section of local telephone directories), local Area Agencies on Aging, senior centers and state legislators' offices.
- The deadline to apply for a rebate on property taxes or rent paid in 2008 is Dec. 31.

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

Board of Supervisors - 2nd Monday at 3:30 P.M. Recreation Board - 1st Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.

Planning Commission - 4th Thursday at 7:30 P.M. (except for Nov.19 and Dec.17, 2009 due to holidays.)

Jefferson Township Board of Supervisors 157 Great Belt Rd. Butler, PA 16002 724-352-2324 / FAX 352-8850
James R. Jones, Chairman / James Chick, Vice-Chairman / Phillip Bachman, Supervisor

