

Eureka! The News

A Publication of Eureka Township, Minnesota

January 2009



Eureka Township Supervisors

Meet monthly, 2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Jeff Otto, Chair

952-469-8561, term to 3/10

Corey Behrendt, Vice Chair

952-985-5411, term to 3/09

Brian Budenski, term to 3/11

952-292-6028

Carrie Jennings, term to 3/11

952-469-4976

Dan Rogers, term to 3/09

952-469-3739

Eureka Planning Commission

Meet monthly, 1st Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Sharon Buckley, Chair

952-469-2290, term to 4/09

Ken Olstad, Vice Chair

952-985-7248, term to 4/11

Vince Mako, term to 4/11

952-469-3928

Kenny Miller, term to 4/10

952-469-4803

Nancy Sauber, term to 4/09

952-469-5146

Township Contact, Clerk/Treasurer

Nanett Sandstrom, 952-469-3736

Fax 952-469-5525

Town Hall Office Hours:

Monday, 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Thursdays 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

At other times, calls are transferred to voice mail; all calls are returned.

Drop box – A locked drop box is available on the door of the Town Hall to receive applications and other documents.

E-mail: eurekatn@frontiernet.net

Website: <http://eurekatownship-mn.us>

Ken Olstad 952-985-7245

Township Roads:

Brian Budenski 952-292-6028

Jeff Otto, 952-469-8561

Building Inspector:

Scott Qualle 952-442-7520

scott@mnspect.com

Waldron & Associates

www.mnspect.com

Emergency 911: ambulance, police, fire
(non-emergency 651-437-4211)

Official Notices are posted on the bulletin board located on the south (parking lot) side of the Town Hall, 25043 Cedar Ave. and published in ThisWeek Life and Times newspaper.

Editor: Jody Arman-Jones, 651-463-2876

Mailings: Georgie Molitor

Commercial-Industrial Task Force Planned

This spring the citizens of Eureka Township will be invited to join a task force (study committee) on the subject of potentially re-zoning areas of the Township for commercial and/or industrial development. This task force will include a review and update of the findings of a similar study completed in 2003 (available on the website at <http://eurekatownship-mn.us/taskforce/commercial.html>). The first step in forming this group is underway with a search process for a professional planner to work with the new task force.

This commercial-industrial task force initiative is one of the next steps in the planning process to update our Comprehensive Plan, and follows up on issues identified for further study in the Plan. The Comprehensive Plan was submitted to the Metropolitan Council in December 2008 as is mandated by the State, following public input, review by neighboring government units, Dakota County and agencies such as the Watershed Districts.

The need to proceed with the commercial-industrial study is motivated by recent developments since the 2003 study such as the annexation of the 98 acre Hat Trick property into Lakeville in 2008 and the announced plans by the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) to develop additional hangar capacity on the southwest side of the Airlake Airport runway in 2010. Other MAC plans include paving a portion of 225th St. east to Cedar Avenue in order to improve access to the proposed additional hangars and long term plans to extend the runway to the southeast.

The Town Board realizes that it would be advantageous to consider the complex subject of commercial and industrial zoning benefits and disadvantages without undue pressure to make a snap decision. One of the first key questions will be to determine if and where there is owner interest to even consider rezoning prior to investing time and effort into the study. A key goal, then, will be to identify the type of development that would be compatible with the localized areas in the Township and further, whether such development will truly be a financial benefit to the Township in helping to minimize property taxes.

By laying the groundwork of determining whether rezoning makes sense and if so, where and what type we might consider, we can be more responsible in responding to inquiries from both inside and outside the Township. The lead time to do a study, seek approvals to amend our Comprehensive Plan and finally, make zoning ordinance changes to put new zoning into effect, could easily take two years or more.

Please consider assisting this effort with your ideas and energy. The next newsletter will include details of how you can get involved.

TOWN BOARD NEWS

CapX2020 – All evidentiary hearings and testimony have been completed on the Certificate of Need portion of the proposed high voltage electric power line process. A decision on whether any or all portions of the proposed three-pronged project are warranted is expected within the next several months. The Brookings, line through Eureka Township, has been submitted for a route permit prior to the Certificate of Need decision. Currently, both proposed routes from Brookings, SD impact Eureka Township significantly, with one bisecting the Township near 240th St, west to east the “preferred route” and the other following County Road 86 along a substantial portion of the Township, the “alternative route”. The Eureka Township proposed County Road 70 route is not included in the permit request. The public may continue to comment on the routes, and all residents are encouraged to contact our legislators on this topic.

Comprehensive Plan - <http://eurekatownship-mn.us/CompPlan/CompPlanUpdate.html#Update>

Winter 2008—The Town Board approved a final draft of the Comprehensive Plan for submission to Met Council in December 2008.

Spring/Summer 2009— The Metropolitan Council has 240 days to accept or reject the Comprehensive Plan.

Summer/Fall 2009— The Township formally adopts accepted Comp Plan and begins update of ordinances to implement it (or, if the Met Council rejects the plan, continues revising it until the Met Council accepts it).

Interceptor Sewer Line – Work continues on the interceptor sewer line but should be completed soon.

MinnCan Oil Pipeline – The project is substantially complete in Eureka Township, though not all landowners have reached a settlement with the pipeline company.

Northern Natural Gas Pipeline – Concerns regarding overfilling of the ditch at Highview, just north of 225th street need to be addressed with the company. It appears water may be diverted too close to the road surface.

Township Roads – Residents and landowners are requested to visit with either supervisor Jeff Otto at 952-469-8561 or Brian Budenski at 952-292-6028 regarding Township road or ditch issues, rather than the road contractors.

Annual Road Review - The Planning Commission held their fall review of roads on Saturday, November 1, 2008. For minutes of that review, visit <http://eurekatownship-mn.us/minutes/2008/Road%20Review%20Nov%20%201-1-2008.pdf>.

Scheduled Road Maintenance - Residents are advised that this spring maintenance is planned for the paved streets in Eureka Estates and Rice Lake Heights. One activity will be pavement crack sealing, which will be brief and cause virtually no travel disruption. The more involved project will be building up the shoulders to reduce the possibility of the pavement edges cracking loose. Since most residents like to maintain their lawns up to the edge of the pavement and the streets are low speed residential areas, the plan is to build up the shoulders with soil rather than gravel. The build-up will then be seeded with grass as part of the project. This will preserve the current finished appearance and avoid the risk of gravel stones intruding onto lawns. The shoulder project will be tentatively scheduled for approximately May 1, 2009, depending upon weather. The desire will be to do the project early enough so the seed will get a good start, however, the start date will be dependent upon whether the ground is too soft for effective work.

PLANNING COMMISSION MESSAGES

Planning Commission Openings – Two Planning Commissioner terms expire at the end of April 2009. If you are interested in applying for the open three year positions, watch the Township website and the local *Lakeville This Week News/Life and Times* for a public notice in March 2009, announcing the application deadline and procedures. For more information, you may also contact any Township Supervisor, current member of the Planning Commission, or the Township Clerk.

NOTES FROM THE CLERK

The complete, uncanvassed Eureka Township results of the 2008 general election are available on the Township website at <http://eurekatownship-mn.us/election.html>. 111 new voters were registered, bringing the total registered voters in the Township to 1121. Of the registered voters (including 63 absentee ballots) 927 people voted in the election, for an 82.7% voter turnout. Nice work Eureka!

Keep on top of Township happenings!

Sign up to receive Township update e-mailings with the Township Clerk by emailing your request to eurekatn@frontiernet.net.

Welcome Teresa Koentopf

Teresa has been hired to share hours with Clerk, Nanett Sandstrom, as a part time office assistant. She will be in available during regular office hours.



ANNUAL ELECTION AND TOWNSHIP MEETING

On Tuesday, March 10, 2009, Eureka Township will hold its annual election of Town Board Supervisors, followed by the Annual Meeting. Polls will be open at the Town Hall, 25043 Cedar Ave. South, from 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. The Annual Meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m., also at the Town Hall. Please see the Secretary of State’s website at <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/home/index.asp?page=204> for more information, including access to absentee ballots and how to become a registered voter, or call their election office at 651-215-1440 or Dakota County’s election office at 651-438-4380. The following candidates have applied for this year’s Town Board Supervisor election:

Supervisor #3 Candidates- Three year term to expire in March 2012

Nancy Sauber – Nancy has been a resident of the Township for over 50 years and currently resides in the northern section on 225th St. **EDUCATION/PROFESSION**- She has a BS in Psychology from Loyola University of Chicago, a BS in Elementary Education from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities and numerous graduate level credits from Hamline University. She was an elementary teacher in Lakeville for 12 years. **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** - Three years on the Eureka Township Planning Commission, including attending nearly all Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings in order to stay informed; Comprehensive Plan committee; eight training/workshop sessions through Government Training Services, Lorman Group, Bush Foundation, etc.; Girl Scouts – 11 years as a troop leader and at the Service Unit level, including chairing, co-chairing and participating in Service Unit events all 11 years and as Service Unit Correspondence Chair for five years, leading girls through the Silver and Gold Awards, and receiving the Outstanding Volunteer Award and the Adult Gold Award; Minneapolis Institute of Arts trainings in the Art Adventures program with five years volunteer school presentations through the Arts Committee, kindergarten through grade 8; Chaired and co-chaired numerous committees at daughter’s school for 10 years, as well as Parents Association at daughter’s school, including officer positions. **STATEMENT** – “If elected, I would work to equitably apply the Ordinances without prejudice, to respectfully listen to citizens’ concerns and to assist in thoughtful planning for the Township’s future. I am committed to the best interests of our community as a whole and have worked diligently to that end. I ask for your vote.”

Supervisor #4 Candidates- Three year term to expire in March 2012

Dan Rogers – Dan is the incumbent for this position and has lived in the Township for 15 years, all in the Eureka Estates area. **EDUCATION/PROFESSION** – He is a U.S. Navy veteran (13 years active duty and 16 years Navy Reserve), and recently retired from Lockheed Martin after 32 years as a technician, customer trainer, manager of the Training and Technical Documentation Department and Logistics Project Engineer. **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** – Six years as a Eureka Town Board Supervisor; past president of the Lakeville Pan-O-Prog celebration and 17 years of service with Dakota County Community Action Council (CAC). **STATEMENT** – “I hope to continue to serve Eureka Township for another three years. There are many challenges ahead of us. These include, but are not limited to, possible establishment of a business district within the Township and addressing possible further annexation requests from the City of Lakeville. I hope my service to the community has been satisfactory and by request, would like to help to complete some of the efforts that were initiated during my present tenure. Now that I am retired, I will have even more time to dedicate to my community.”

Township Representative Needed

CEEF Enhancement Group (Castle Rock, Empire, Eureka, Farmington)

This advisory group brings together approximately 10 representatives of Castle Rock, Empire, Eureka and Farmington, providing a neutral environment for interaction of the Townships and City, as well as supports the efforts of local civic projects and events.

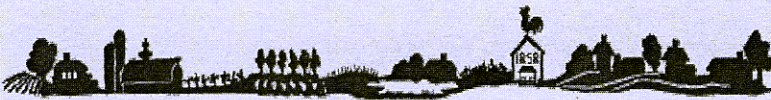
The group meets quarterly, usually in the early evening for about 1 ½ hours, often at Dunn Brothers in Farmington. Interested individuals should contact

Clerk Nanett Sandstrom at 952-469-3736 or
eurekatn@frontiernet.net

Town Hall Available for Rent

The Town Hall is available to be rented Sundays through Saturdays, from 7:30 a.m. through 11:30 p.m. An application is available by calling the Clerk at 952-469-3736 or in person at the Town Hall. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age. A fee of \$25.00 per block of four hours and a \$200 deposit is required at least two weeks prior to the event.

Please note that events may not be of a commercial, promotional, sales or fundraising nature. No admission may be charged to events. Alcoholic beverages, gambling and smoking are prohibited on the premises. No food preparation or cleaning facilities are available. The Town Hall capacity is 140 people.



Eureka Township
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 E-mail: eurekatn@frontiernet.net
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2009 Eureka Calendar...events at Eureka Town Hall, 25043 Cedar Ave., unless otherwise indicated

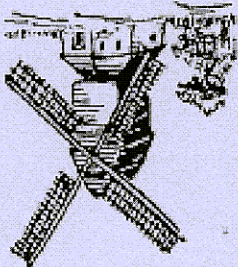
• February 2	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting
• February 9	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting
• February 19	Thursday	noon	Applications due for March 2 Planning Commission Meeting
• March 2	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting
• March 9	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting
• March 10	Tuesday	10 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Town Board Supervisor Election
• March 10	Tuesday	8:15 p.m.	Annual Township Meeting
• March 19	Thursday	noon	Applications due for April 6 Planning Commission Meeting
• April 6	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting
• April 13	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting
• April 23	Thursday	noon	Applications due for May 4 Planning Commission Meeting
• May 4	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting
• May 11	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting
• May 21	Thursday	noon	Applications due for June 1 Planning Commission Meeting

• **Note: All new structures, most types of remodeling (both interior and exterior), and some types of repairs require a building permit under the Minnesota State Uniform Building Code and Eureka Township Ordinances. If you are in doubt about whether a project requires a permit, please contact the Town Clerk at 952-469-3736. Eureka Township Ordinances are available from the Town Clerk at \$25 for a hard copy, \$2 for a CD disk or can be accessed on the website, <http://eurekatownship-mn.us>, or at the Dakota County libraries in Lakeville and Farmington, or Eureka Town Hall or the Dakota County Law Library.*

Business Ads by Residents and/or Landowners in Eureka Township

This is not meant as an endorsement of products, services or business status by Eureka Township. Eureka landowners and/or residents who wish to advertise their businesses in this newsletter, may place a "business card ad" for the price of \$35.00 per quarter or \$125.00 per annum. Any revenue obtained will be applied to the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter. Contact the Newsletter editor at 651-463-2876.

Eureka Sand & Gravel



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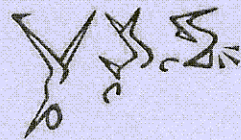
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