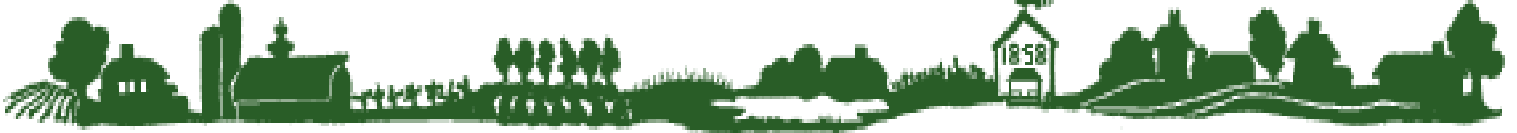


Eureka! The News

A Publication of Eureka Township, Minnesota

1st Quarter – Winter 2018



Eureka Township Supervisors

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

- Seat 1 Donovan Palmquist
507-645-9868, term thru 3/20
- Seat 2 Butch Hansen
612-490-0091, term thru 3/20
- Seat 3 Carrie Jennings, Vice Chair
952-469-4976, term thru 3/18
- Seat 4 Dan Rogers
952-469-3739, term thru 3/18
- Seat 5 Lu Barfknecht, Chair
952-469-3513, term thru 3/19

Eureka Planning Commission

Meets monthly, 1st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

- Nancy Sauber, chair
952-469-5146, term thru 4/18
- Ralph Fredlund
952-469-1335, term thru 4/19
- Bill Funk
651-442-5172, term thru 4/20
- Julie Larson
952-469-3512, term thru 4/20
- Randy Wood
651-460-2347, term thru 4/18

Township Contact

- Clerk** – Mira Broyles
Deputy Clerk – Cheryl Murphy
Treasurer – Marcia Wilson
952-469-3736, Fax 952-469-5525

Town Hall Office Hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 am-2pm
25043 Cedar Ave. S.,
Farmington, MN 55024

Drop Box – Items may be placed in locked drop box near the Town Hall front door.

E-mail: clerk@eurekatownship-mn.us

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

Phone: 952-469-3736

Township Roads:

- Dan Rogers 952-469-3739
Donovan Palmquist 507-645-9868

Building Inspector - 952-469-3736 or
clerk@eurekatownship-mn.us

VRWJPO - Mark Ryan 952-891-7596

Mark.Ryan@co.dakota.mn.us

Emergency/non-emergency authorities – all contacts - 911 (ambulance, police, fire)

Official Notices - posted on the bulletin board on the south (parking lot) side of the Town Hall and published in Sun ThisWeek and Dakota County Tribune newspapers.

Editor: Jody Arman-Jones, 651-463-2876
jodyarmanjones@gmail.com

2018 Township Election of Board Supervisors Tuesday, March 13 Eureka Town Hall 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.



Who can vote?

- A U.S. citizen
- At least 18 years old on Election Day
- A resident of Minnesota for at least 20 days
- Finished with all parts of any felony sentence
- Must be a **resident** of Eureka Township – owning property does not give you the right to vote if you do not reside in the Township

General voting information <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/>
What's on your ballot <http://myballotmn.sos.state.mn.us/>

The Sample Ballot is located later in this newsletter.

Early voting <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-in-person/?searchTerm=vote%20early>

Am I registered to vote? <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterStatus.aspx>

Election questions and answers by phone – Minnesota Secretary of State's office 651-215-1440, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Township Annual Meeting

**Tuesday, March 14, 2018
8:15 p.m.
Eureka Town Hall**

New Township Building Inspector on the Horizon

Darrel Gilmer resigned as the Township residential building inspector effective December 31, 2017. Advertisements solicited interest in the position and the Board is currently in discussions with MNSpect, headquartered in Waconia, to provide Building Official Services. MNSpect previously provided services to the Township. Until such time as a contract is signed, please contact the Town Clerk at clerk@eurekatownship-mn.us or 952-469-3736 for information and questions related to building permits, inspections and other services.

Two Planning Commission Seats Available

Two positions on the Planning Commission will be available for appointment in 2018. The three-year terms run May 1, 2018, through April 30, 2021. The Planning Commission meets monthly, usually on the first Tuesday of the month.

Commissioners receive a stipend of at least \$60 per meeting and standard IRS mileage. The Eureka Planning Commission is a citizen advisory committee appointed by the Town Board that assists them on matters related to planning and development. Visit the Township website at <http://eurekatownship-mn.us/planning-commission/> for more information about the Planning Commission and Commissioners.

Interested persons should send a letter indicating interest in serving on the Planning Commission to the Town Clerk via e-mail at clerk@eurekatownship-mn.us or by USPS to 25043 Cedar Ave. S., Farmington, MN 55024.

Letters should be received no later than Thursday, April 5 2018. Interested persons should be present at the April 9, 2018 Town Board meeting in order to be interviewed.



Annual Meeting Discussion County Road Swap?

Mike Slavik, Eureka Township's representative and Chair of the Dakota County Board of Commissioners, asked if the Township would be interested in turning any Township roads over to the County. In the past, this has often meant that the County would turn an equal number of miles of County roads back to the Township. We have not been able to get an answer on that yet. At the annual meeting we would like suggestions as to which roads may be candidates to consider turning over to the County. This may be Highview from 220th Street to 250th Street, 245th Street from Dodd to the Scott County line, etc.

The downside of any possible turnover is that the County would establish a 110 foot right-of-way and blacktop the road. As you know many of the newly blacktopped County roads have become dragstrips. The sheriff informed us that the group racing on 250th Street had spotters and radios (they got caught), and also put stickers on their vehicles indicating how many times they got caught and for what.

This is something to think about and make recommendations for consideration by the Township Board of Supervisors at the March 13, 2018 Annual Meeting. It may also be something we are not interested in pursuing. Thank you for taking time to think about this ahead of the Annual Meeting.

Eureka Town Board and Road Supervisor, Dan Rogers

Update from Dakota County Rural Solid Waste Commission



Burn Barrels

In 2017 Dakota County **banned the use of burn barrels**, and the Dakota County Sheriff department is issuing citations to violators.

Recycling

The State of Minnesota has mandated an increase in the amount of recyclable materials that are actually being recycled. Dakota County is targeting an increase to 75% of recyclables being reclaimed by 2030.



<http://ruralsolidwastecommission.org> and <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/CommunityInvolvement/RuralSolidWasteCommission>

Ray Swedeen

On January 10, 2018, Eureka Township lost a good friend. His widow, Lorraine said, “Ray had a special love for Eureka Township. He always told friends and relatives that he “lived in paradise”. In support of our community he always wanted the area to remain rural and be a place where everyone was interested in the greater good for all citizens. One of his signature projects was the History Wall at the Town Hall [which] was done by a committee: Carolyn Papke did the artwork, Mike Greco contributed ideas for the overall design, [Lorraine Swedeen] did the research at the library to find the names of Supervisors, and Ray coordinated with Gordy Erickson at Lakeville Trophy to make the project have the “wow” look.” The History Wall at the Eureka Town Hall is a tribute to all who have served the Township in government and special projects. It is also a lasting legacy to Ray and those who spent countless hours working on it. The current Board of Supervisors agreed to update and keep it current into the future.

Raymond Harley Swedeen, was born in Minneapolis in 1935, one of six children. He was a Navy veteran and worked in the auto collision repair industry for 46 years, teaching at Dakota County Technical College for 27 of those years, where he was awarded Instructor of the Year in 1996 from I-CAR Education Foundation and 1997 from General Motors. He was also very involved in the Highview Christiania Church congregation. Ray is survived by his wife, Lorraine, with whom he built their home overlooking Chub Lake in the mid 1980’s, three children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

“[Ray] was a kind, sweet, gentle and caring man with so much common sense. A Eureka rock!”



County Sheriff Update



Deputy Smith reports thefts are now occurring via snowmobiles coming across fields to access property. He also reported items parked on the side of the road, listed for sale, are being stolen if not locked in place. This is particularly with trailers or other items that can be hitched to a vehicle and hauled away.

Citizens are urged to report anything out of the ordinary, as it may link to something under investigation. All contact is now initiated by calling 911.

Metropolitan Council Lift Station in Eureka Update

The Town Board has received a number of questions, concerns and complaints about the lift station owned and operated by the Met Council and located on Dodd Blvd. These have been investigated, and residents should be aware of the following:

The reworking of the site took place in 2013. That site plan indicated seven trees. There are now actually nine red cedar trees to the south and the east of the building, as was to be amended. Red Cedar is a species of tree native to this area. Due to sandy soils (proximity to gravel pits), this species has a greater chance of surviving than, say, a blue spruce.

The site was burned in the spring of 2017. It will most likely be burned every 3 years. (Other option is every 5 years.) Within two weeks or so of burn, seedlings are up. As you know, these prairie plants respond positively to fire. They appear to be well-established on site. There are approximately 20 different species of prairie plants in the Minnesota Department of Transportation mixture used.

The nanny berries ("shrubs" now with reddish leaves) finally "took off" and have grown taller. The Met Council could fill in the gap among them on the corner where some died to further screen from the roadway (mainly Dodd at that point).

Maintenance on the property is done twice a year, spring and fall: burn if year for it, mow, spot weed, replace any needed plants. Mowing is done in one swath along driveway and the perimeter of the hard surface around building. This is intended to give the site the appearance of being attended to. When burn was done this last spring on a relatively windy day, the fire got away a bit toward a nearby neighbor's property. The Met Council people received complaints from this neighbor and were asked why they do not "just mow it because it looks terrible."

Some information that needs to be understood:

- The particular vegetation planted there is chosen to reduce water consumption, thus leaving more water in the aquifer, and to help pollinators and birds.
- This berm is maintained by the Met Council, not the gravel companies.
- The berms by the lift station site are a totally separate thing from the gravel pit berms.

Other items planned:

- The Met Council is planning to put up a sign to instruct the public about the site.
- They are also thinking of putting up some bluebird houses-for the birds, but also as a "signal" that something else is going on there.

There can/will be a yearly report to the Board as to what is done each year. Along with this yearly report, it was suggested that the information could be shared each year on the Township website and also directly with the neighbors along 235th St. W. and nearby neighbors on Dodd Blvd.



Airlake Airport Update

The Metropolitan Airport Commission (MAC), requested to have 118.7 acres of the Airlake Airport annexed into Lakeville in order to provide the site with sewer and water, something that the Metropolitan Council does not plan to allow Eureka Township to access until after 2040. In January 2018, the City of Lakeville approved the request.

Sample Ballot

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Official Ballot

Town Election Ballot

Ballot ID: 1704

Judge _____

Town of Eureka

Judge _____

March 13, 2018

Instructions to Voters:

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

Town Offices

**Town Supervisor
Seat 3
Vote for One**

Timothy R. Murphy

Allen Novacek

write-in, if any

**Town Supervisor
Seat 4
Vote for One**

Mark Ceminsky

Carrie E. Jennings

write-in, if any

Town of Eureka

1704

End of the Season Reminder!



Please do not push snow across any road. Fines may be levied.

“It is illegal and punishable as a misdemeanor to plow, shovel, blow, or place snow onto Township roadways.” Similar rules apply on County and State roads. A number of residents have been plowing out their driveways by pushing the snow across roads. This has been causing difficulties and delays for the road plows and *is illegal*. **Snow from your property should be plowed and stored on your own property and not pushed across roads.**

Township Snow Plowing Priority

The process for plowing Township roads is normally determined by dividing the Township into four quadrants with the quadrant that is plowed first rotating with each snow event. On a school day, Prairie Creek School receives first plowing due to the amount of traffic. First response personnel may register with the Township to obtain preferential plowing. Contact the Clerk at 952-469-3736 or clerk@eurekatownship-mn.us for more information.

Mailboxes are Federal Property

The Township has recently been contacted about possible illegal use of mailboxes. This is an issue for the U.S. Postal Service which may be contacted at:

USPS file a complaint 1-800-275-8777 or
For Postal Inspector in our area call 877-876-2455 or write to:
POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE
1745 STOUT ST., STE 900
DENVER, CO 80299-3034



Below are some excerpts from information that can be found at <https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov>

“By law, a **mailbox** is intended only for receipt of postage-paid U.S. Mail. ... Additionally, the Postal Service has received complaints of **flyers** without paid postage being placed in **mailboxes**. Though many may be unaware, it is important to know that this type of activity is **illegal** by federal law.”

“The U.S. Code for crimes and criminal procedure prohibits the placement of unstamped flyers in any mailbox. Title 18, section 1725 states that any person who knowingly deposits "mail-able matter" without postage in an established letter box shall be subject to a fine.”

“The U.S. Code for crimes and criminal procedure prohibits the placement of unstamped flyers in any mailbox. Title 18, section 1725 states that any person who knowingly deposits “mail able matter without postage in an established letter box shall be subject to a fine.” The Government Accountability Office reports that fines may be as high as \$5,000 per occurrence for individuals and \$10,000 per occurrence for organizations. The law is commonly known as the “mailbox restriction.” The restriction also includes anything placed upon, supported by, attached to, hung from, or inserted into a mail receptacle. Circulars and sale bills are specifically prohibited in the document.”

Got a Project in Mind?

A reminder that Eureka Township governmental actions take place on a **monthly basis**, not a business day model. If you are planning a project that may require a building permit, please plan ahead and allow ample time, especially if you have a specific deadline in mind. When completing applications, be sure they are done in full, with all requested information provided.

2018 Eureka Township Calendar

Events held at Eureka Town Hall, 25043 Cedar Ave., unless otherwise indicated

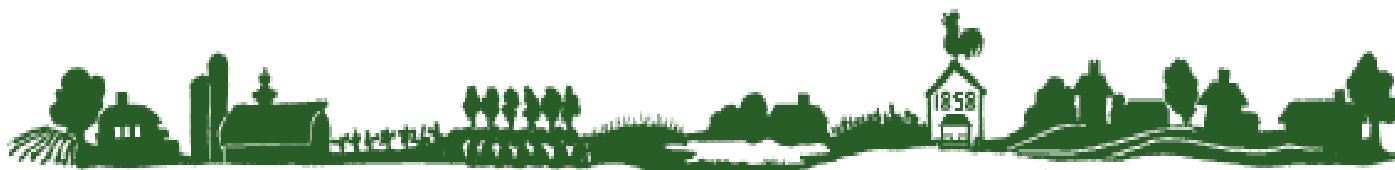
February 22	Thursday	noon	Applications due for March Planning Commission Meeting
March 6	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Special Board Meeting
March 6	Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Deadline for items to be included on March Town Board agenda
March 12	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting, Special Planning Commission Meeting
March 13	Tuesday	7 am – 8 pm	Town Board of Supervisor Election
March 13	Tuesday	8:15 p.m.	Annual Town Meeting
March 22	Thursday	noon	Applications due for April Planning Commission Meeting
April 3	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Special Board Meeting
April 3	Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Deadline for items to be included on April Town Board agenda
April 5	Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Letters of Interest for Planning Commission seats due
April 9	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting, Special Planning Commission Meeting
April 19	Thursday	noon	Applications due for May Planning Commission Meeting
May 1	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Special Board Meeting
May 1	Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Deadline for items to be included on April Town Board agenda
May 7	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting, Special Planning Commission Meeting
May 24	Thursday	noon	Applications due for June Planning Commission Meeting

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 Hall at 952-469-3736 or clerk@eurekatownship-mn.us.

PLEASE NOTE – As of January 26, 2017, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization is again overseeing parts of the permitting process for anyone who lives in the Vermillion River Watershed (northern 2/3 of Eureka Township). Those residents will need to contact the VRWJPO ***BEFORE*** applying for a building permit from the Township. Contact Mark Ryan at Mark.Ryan@co.dakota.mn.us or 952-891-7596.

Applying for a Transfer of Building Rights? Stub abstracts required at the time of making the application.

Eureka Township Ordinances are available from the Town Clerk at \$5 for a CD or can be accessed on the website, <http://eurekatownship-mn.us>, or at the Dakota County libraries in Lakeville and Farmington, the Eureka Town Hall and the Dakota County Law Library.



ADS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



This newsletter, *Eureka! The News*, is electronic! If you wish to receive a copy (e-mail or hard), please contact the Town Clerk at 952-469-3736 or clerk@eurekatownship-mn.us. There is no longer a blanket mailing to property owners and residents. The newsletter is also available for viewing on the website <http://eurekatownship-mn.us>.



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Business Ads by Residents and/or Landowners in Eureka Township

No endorsement of products, services or business status is implied. Eureka landowners and/or residents who wish to advertise their businesses in this newsletter, may place a "business card ad" for the price of \$20.00 per quarter or \$75.00 per annum. Thank you for your support.