

# EUREKA! THE NEWS

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF EUREKA TOWNSHIP

March 2002



## Eureka Township Supervisors 7:30 pm, 2nd Monday of Month

Beverly Topp, Chairperson  
952-469-4859  
Don Pflaum, Vice Chairperson  
651-463-3577  
Connie Anderson  
952-469-2355  
Kenny Miller  
952-469-4803  
Clark Smith  
952-469-3352

Oliver Leine, Town Clerk  
952-469-2294  
Nanett Leine, Treasurer  
952-469-3736

## Eureka Planning Commission 7:30 pm, 1st Monday of Month

Greg Gudbjartsson, Chair  
952-469-3963  
Paul Boyum  
952-469-3800  
Mark Malecha  
507-645-4015  
Francie Madden  
952-469-2958  
Calvin Pflaum  
651-463-3577

## Township Contact

**Nanett Leine**  
by telephone: 952-469-3736  
Monday - 8:00 AM to noon  
Thursday - 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
E mail:  
eurekatn@frontiernet.net

Editor: Bob Papke  
651-463-8546

Official notices published in:  
Farmington Independent and  
This Week/Life and Times  
newspapers, & outside on the  
Town Hall bulletin board.

## The ANNUAL MEETING - A SUMMARY

The Annual Meeting of the township was held on March 12, 2002 at Mount Olivet Retreat Center. The move to the retreat center was dictated by the lack of capacity at the Town Hall to seat all of the residents who were expected to attend.

At the 2001 Annual Meeting, the town board was directed to create a Town Hall Task Team to review the status of the existing town hall and research other options such as rental possibilities or rehabilitation of the building. This team consists of Gary Gunderson, Oliver Leine, Chris Nielsen, John Strunk, and Jerry Swedin.

John Strunk, as chair of the task team along with Oliver Leine, gave a report on the result of their research. They found that rental sites were not available for the town over the long term. They also found the building foundation is in need of replacement or significant repair. The electrical wiring is deficient. The building could be rehabbed at considerable expense but the site lacks a well, a septic system and adequate on site parking. The present building also lacks storage space to protect the town records. They reported that over 120 meetings were held at the town hall during 2001.

The lot itself is insufficient to provide for an adequately-sized new building, new septic system, new well, and sufficient parking area. Leine also said that a lot size sufficient for a town hall, with adequate parking would be about one to two acres.

After considerable discussion, the Town Board was directed by a voice vote to acquire land suitable for a site for a new town hall, subject to approval by citizens at a special town meeting. It was suggested that the Town Board pursue whether a landowner might wish to make a donation of land for a site for a new town hall.

The Town Board was further directed by a voice vote to present the residents with a proposal for a new town hall, including a design for the building, total costs for a new facility and possible methods for financing the building.

The Treasurer's report was approved showing total expenses for 2001 of \$461,381.63. The end of the year balance is \$280,117.21.

Kenny Miller gave a report on the proposed development of a Commercial Task Team that would be finalized at a town board meeting on March 18, 2002. The purpose of this group would be to research all of the issues in new commercial development. They are not responsible for developing an ordinance but are required to research the pros and con of new commercial development.

Mike Greco provided an overview of the status of the work of the Envisioning Task Team. Phase 1 was completed which only verified the special software.

(Continued on next page)

## THE ANNUAL MEETING - A SUMMARY (continued)

Connie Anderson reported that the North Cannon River WMO will establish a permanent monitoring station at Randolph. A one year extension was granted for the Second Generation 509 Watershed Management Plan. Residents Glen Shirley and Bill Kuhns were appointed to a Citizen and Technical Advisory Committee to assist with the 509 Plan. The Vermillion River Watershed management project will be finalized by a joint powers agreement between Dakota and Scott Counties. Citizen participation will be sought for the Planning Commission of the watershed. Contact Connie for more information.

Kenny Miller reported that a number of entryways in to the township lack signs. He described the types of signs available, possible style and sign content. With a voice vote, the town board was directed to determine the type and quantity of signs and purchase them.

Connie Anderson reported that Dakota County has a Rural Address Sign Program (RASP). This is a steel highly reflective sign for emergency personnel to locate your street address quickly. Landowners are strongly encouraged to purchase signs. The cost is \$7.00 and they are available through the County. To order a sign, contact Kerry Budginger at 952-891-7135 and tell her you want to order a RASP sign.

Mike Greco reported that an informal group consisting of Oliver Leine, Amy Nielsen and he are proposing that the township develop a web page. The scope of this idea and value to the township was provided in an informative handout. By voice vote the town board was directed to spend up to \$1000.00 to implement this plan, with results to be reviewed at the 2003 annual meeting. Volunteers would keep it updated.

Don Pflaum gave a report on the road projects for 2002. Two new culverts will be installed on Denmark Ave. to replace the concrete ones. Graveling projects are planned for Fordham to Essex, 2 and 1/2 miles of Denmark Ave., and spot graveling on other roads.

Clark Smith reported that hard surface roads need repair; 1 and 1/2 miles of roads in Eureka Estates with seal coating. Additional roads in Eureka Estates and Rice Lake Heights need crack sealing to extend the life of the blacktop. Estimated cost for the first project is \$18,000 and \$9000.00 for the second.

Nanett Leine reported that category changes were made in the new budget. Bev Topp requested \$250 for recognition awards. The 2003 budget was approved by voice vote. Estimated expenses are \$345,331, revenues at \$342,313. The difference is the inclusion of \$1000 for the web page and a \$2000 error correction in administrative costs.

**THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 11, 2003: LOCATION TBD.**

### Election of Town Officials

Donald Pflaum and Kenny Miller have each been elected to three-year terms as Supervisors. Oliver Leine was reelected to a two year term as Town Clerk. The total vote cast was 55. Pflaum, Miller and Leine ran unopposed.

### Commercial Task Team

The Town Board at their March 18, 2002 meeting approved the formation of the new task team. Appointed were Ken DeMaster, Mike Greco, Mark Malecha, Chris Nielsen, Bob Papke, Bob Ruddle and Clyde Thompson.

## **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY**

**Saturday, April 20, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Lakeville Parks Maintenance Building, 21400 Hamburg Ave. (Airlake Industrial Park)

This is a one-day only convenient drop-off for Eureka and Dakota County residents during the Lakeville cleanup day. The collection is supported by the Dakota County Board of Commissioners.

Dakota County citizens can drop off material such as: fluorescent lights, vehicle/rechargeable batteries, auto fluids, oil/filters, paints, pesticides, household cleaners, lawn and garden products and much more at no charge.

**\*\*\*No business hazardous waste accepted.\*\*\***

## > CHAIR'S CORNER <

Approximately 40 Eureka Township citizens attended the annual meeting at Mount Olivet Retreat Center on Tuesday March 12th. The agenda was lengthy and the discussion was lively. But most evident to me was the affirmation of the positive way in which grassroots democracy works. There was a diversity of opinion on any given subject, yet decisions were reached which will guide the township officers as they move onto the coming year.

I share with you now the update I presented on ordinances at the annual meeting.

The township officers' work on ordinance revisions is finally nearing completion. Since we were working from many ordinances which were over 30 years old, located in two different publications, and with no numbered index, this effort should result in not only an updated review of township laws, but also a document which will be infinitely more user-friendly.

As most of you know from past communication, while we have been updating ordinances, we have also worked on a new ordinance to address the present commercial properties in the township and we have also spent much time preparing the updated mining ordinance for adoption. Our ideal goal would be to adopt everything in code book form by our May 13th board meeting. This, however may be too ambitious a goal, since it all has to be reviewed by our township attorney and then put out for public review. If it cannot happen that quickly, the board will be holding a public hearing on just those ordinances that need to be added or revised to make adoption of the Mining Ordinance possible by May 13th, the last board meeting before the township mining moratorium expires on June 1st. Please watch the Farmington Independent and Lakeville Life and Times in the next couple of months for notices.

Township entry signs were a topic addressed at the annual meeting. The board will make this a part of their road project agenda for 2002. We are presently doing a careful inventory and replacement of other missing and damaged signs in the township so this project should complete the updating of road signage and enhance the safety of our township roads.

I don't believe we have published an issue of *Eureka! The News* that has not addressed township waters – whether through mining impacts, dangers of stagnant waters breeding disease--spreading mosquitoes, or the status of our watersheds. And for obvious reasons, it will appear as a topic again. As the world population grows, so will grow the importance of water. I was especially reminded of this on our recent trip to the southwest, where large parts of the land are arid. We

encountered many signs in our hotel stays and public places where the reminder was posted to conserve on water. It probably caught our attention because we do not see much of this in the state of Minnesota. (I do have to admit I was somewhat unnerved last summer, however, when I read of some Scott County wells drying up during the dry months.) I think I was most impacted, though, by a U. S. weather report one evening that showed the emergency low state of New York's water reservoirs. It brought home to me again, why we must be committed to protect the water resources we have. I also found myself conjecturing on how the condition of water supplies elsewhere could translate to issues for our water rich state of Minnesota. I also find myself appreciating more the fresh, clean water I drink everyday. Here's to you.....

## OPPORTUNITY TO TOSS YOUR WASTE!

### Large Appliances

Drop off at:

- J.R.'S Appliance Disposal, 9080 Jefferson Trail W., Inver Grove Heights @ \$10 each, +\$10 for air conditioners
- Bloomington Lakeville Appliance, 18863 Cedar @ \$20 each non-refrigerated items, \$30 refrigerated items.

Picked up at your Curbside:

- J.R.'S (see above) 651-454-9215 (fee depends on your address) @ \$30-\$35 for first item, \$10 each additional items (+\$10 for A.C.)
- Bloom. Lakeville Appliance (see above) 952-469-2435 @ \$30, +\$10 for refrigeration items.

**Good Deal:** If there are 15 or more **large appliances** that can be transported to the town hall, we can organize a one-morning drop off at only \$9 per item. If you can commit to this, call Connie Anderson 952-469-2355 or Carolyn Papke 651-463-8546 now.

### Electronic Items

Drop off at:

- Materials Processing Corporation, 2805 West Service Rd, Eagan, call for detailed message 651-681-8099 (Used equipment also for sale)  
Computers no charge, monitors \$15, keyboards & printers 35¢ per lb., TVs \$15 or 35¢ per lb. whichever greater. VCRs, radios, etc. 35¢ per lb.

If any resident sees a person dumping trash in the township, get the automobile license. Then call the sheriff, at 651-438-4700, and any township supervisor. We can stop the illegal dumping!

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

### **Dust Control on Townshio Roads**

The town board has developed and implemented a plan to provide dust control on township roads. Some residents may choose to have more dust control of their road : Others may wish to not to have any dust control at all on the road in the front of their property.

**If either of the above catagories fit your situation, please call Nanett Leine by April 5, 2002 to inform her of your decision to be removed from the plan or to have additional dust control. In the absence of your response, the Town Board will follow the approved plan.**

## **TOWNSHIP INFORMATION**

- for general information
- to get on the Town Board meeting agenda
- to get information on the requirement for a township building permit
- tentative agendas of meetings are available at the town hall

**CONTACT: Nanett Leine**  
**Email: eureka@frontiernet.net**

**OR**

**at 952-469-3736**

**for immediate response on:**

**Monday 8:00 AM to noon**

**Thursday 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

**Other days & evenings, calls are transferred to Voice Mail. All calls will be returned.**

**Eureka Township**  
**24797 Highview Avenue**  
**Lakeville, MN 55044**  
**Tel: 952.469.3736**

### **Calendar of Meetings**

**Town Board**

**April 8**

**May 13**

**June 10**

**Planning Commission**

**April 1**

**May 6**

**June 3**

**All meetings start at 7:30 PM**  
**in the Town Hall on old**  
**Cedar Avenue, a block south**  
**of 250 St. W.**