

EUREKA! THE NEWS

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF EUREKA TOWNSHIP, MN.

JULY, 2006



Eureka Township Supervisors
Meet monthly, 2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.
Cory Behrendt, Chair
952-985-5411, term to 3/09
Gary Smith, Vice Chair
651-463-8045, term to 3/07
Gloria Belzer, term to 3/08
612-202-5821
Cheryl Monson, term to 3/08
952-469-1835
Dan Rogers, term to 3/09
952-469-3739

Eureka Planning Commission
Meet monthly, 1st Monday, 7:00 p.m.
Mike Greco, Chair
952-469-8418, term to 4/08
Rich Stevens, Vice Chair
651-463-4609, term to 4/07
Sharon Buckley, term to 5/09
952-469-2290
Kevin Flaherty, term to 4/08
612-325-7361
Nancy Sauber, term to 5/09
952-469-5146

Township Contact, Clerk/Treasurer
Nanett Champlain, 952-469-3736
Monday, 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
At other times, calls transferred to
voice mail; all calls are returned.

- for general information
- to get on meeting agenda
- for building, etc. permit info.

E-mail: eurekatn@frontiernet.net
Website <http://eurekatownship-mn.us>

- official meeting minutes
- ordinances, calendar, etc.
- permit applications

Township Roads:
Gary Smith, 651-463-8045
Dan Rogers, 952-469-3739

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

Official Notices published in
This Week Life and Times newspaper,
and posted on bulletin board outside
the Town Hall, 25043 Cedar Ave.

Editor: Carolyn Papke, 651-463-8546
Mailings by Georgie Molitor

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: CREATING A STRATEGIC VISION FOR EUREKA

by Eureka Township Planning Commission

As usual for this time of year, the planning commission has had a busy few months. In April, we welcomed two new members-Sharon Buckley and Nancy Sauber-and bid farewell to long-time member Francie Madden, as well as our chair Cory Behrendt. We've also handled the usual spring onslaught of building permit requests, conducted public hearings on several proposals to change township ordinances, and worked to improve our administrative procedures.

But our most exciting work has been completing the search for a planning consultant, which Eureka citizens first requested at the 2004 annual meeting. After interviewing three firms who replied to a request for proposals, the planning commission recommended the township contract with McCombs Frank Roos Associates, a firm based in Plymouth. Bill Weber, a consultant with 30 years experience in rural planning, will be the principal for the project.

The planning commission's goal in working with the consultant is to create a township-wide, citizen-based strategic vision for Eureka that can help guide the township's next comprehensive plan update, which is due to the Metropolitan Council in 2008. Without a shared vision based on what we value about our community, there is a real risk that future growth in Eureka will be haphazard, inefficient, and dictated by the needs of developers, not the interests of the township or its residents. The planning commission believes that by creating a shared vision, we can enjoy the benefits of growth and ensure that future development preserves those unique features that make Eureka a special place to live, work, and raise a family.

Ultimately, the key to the success of the strategic visioning process is citizens like you. We want to know what citizens have to say: what you value about Eureka, what you would change, and where you want the community to go. Of course, we also realize that not everyone has the time to devote to following township business. That's why we've designed the strategic visioning process to provide many different opportunities for public input: through a citizen advisory committee that will steer the process, public forums and open houses, a township opinion survey, website announcements, and periodic mailings.

We hope that everyone with an interest in the future of our community will find ways to participate in the strategic visioning process. For those who would like to serve on the citizen advisory committee that will guide the process, we encourage you to read the call for applications on page 2 of this newsletter. No matter what level of participation you choose, if you would like to be kept up-to-date on the strategic visioning process through periodic mailings, just send your name and your e-mail or U.S. mail address to town clerk Nanett Champlain at eurekatn@frontiernet.net or P.O. Box 576, Lakeville, MN 55044.

We look forward to meeting many of you during this process, learning what you value about our community, and creating a vision for the future of Eureka of which we can all be proud.

TOWNSHIP ROADS

Supervisor Contacts: Gary Smith and Dan Rogers

Hope you've noticed the roads are improving. Graveling has been done on Granada Ave, 225th, 245th, and 265th Streets, as well as spot graveling in various locations. Dust coating has been completed on many of the Township gravel roads.

MESSAGE FROM TOWN BOARD CHAIR, CORY BEHRENDT

Here we are just past the summer solstice 2006 and with the year half over; the Township continues to work through many difficult issues. We currently have three public utility projects in motion, two Watersheds at different stages of implementing rules and regulations, and one Township struggling to deal with the impacts and pressures of change. Information on all of these issues is available at the Town Hall. The following are a few updates and resources to be familiar with for each of the issues:

Elko-New Market Sanitary Sewer Interceptor - This project will be completed in three segments over the next 3 years. Construction has started with the County Road 2 project and construction will move into our Township beginning next summer. Citizens are being contacted to establish the required easements.

Contact: Jim Roth (Project Manager) 651-602-1123

Reference: <http://www.metrocouncil.org/environment/CapitalProjects/cip-8016.htm>

MinnCan Crude Oil Pipeline Project - This project is moving toward final route hearings and approval of the Routing Permit tentatively scheduled in August or September. **NOTE:** Citizens are not required to entertain proposed routes or agree to any easement terms until the Routing Permit has been issued. This permit will document the approved route.

Contact: Larry Hartman (Project Manager) 651-296-5089

Reference: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=18339> or <http://www.minncanproject.com>

Northern Lights Natural Gas Project - This project is nearing federal approval and is planned to be completed and in service on Nov. 1, 2007.

Contact: Harry Bouvette (ROW Project Manager) 952-895-3444

Reference: http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket_search.asp Docket #: PF06-7 or <http://www.northernnaturalgas.com/expansionprojects/EPNorthernLights.asp>

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization - The VRWJPO is currently working on proposing rules and regulations intended to protect the environmental stability of the Vermillion River. A significant impact being proposed is the implementation of required buffers which will limit use on citizen's properties next to waterways in the Vermillion Watershed from 40' to 300' in some places. It also includes the use of Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans similar to the newly adopted North Cannon River Watershed ordinance. The VRWJPO is working to adopt these rules and will then require adoption tentatively by the end of 2006.

Contact: Joseph Harris (Commissioner) 651-438-4427

Reference: <http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/vermillionjpo>

New Watershed Ordinance SWPPP - Please be aware this ordinance has been adopted and requires projects that, in general, disturb land greater than 1 acre must apply for a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan Permit. Please refer to the newly adopted ordinance for specific details.

As you can see this is a lot of information to be aware of, including the potential for significant change of land use for certain citizens. The Township will continue to work through these issues and asks that citizens continue to provide feedback and input. Many of these issues have already provided significant challenges and frustrations, but can only be resolved through continued dialog. We have heard the call from the Township to become more active in providing reasonable solutions to land owners in light of the many issues that surround us. The most important piece to our future is continuous citizen input which must be highly regarded.

STRATEGIC VISIONING CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Call for Applicants

Eureka Township invites applications from individuals who wish to serve on the Township's Strategic Visioning Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC will act in an advisory capacity to the Eureka Planning Commission, and will formulate a broad strategic vision to help guide future planning for Eureka in preparation for the Township's 2008 Comprehensive Plan update.

The committee will meet approximately 5-6 times and conduct two public open houses during the course of the next 9-12 months. All meetings will be on weekday evenings, with the first meeting taking place sometime after September 11.

Ideally the CAC will include a broad cross-section of Eureka Township. Applicants must be current residents or landowners in the township, must be able to commit to attending all meetings and open houses, should have knowledge of and interest in the future of the community, and must have good communication skills and the ability to work well in groups.

Those interested in applying must send a letter or e-mail with (1) their qualifications, (2) their reasons for applying, and (3) contact information, including daytime and evening phone numbers, by 5:00 p.m. on August 14, 2006, to: *Strategic Visioning CAC, c/o Nanett Champlain, Eureka Township, P.O. Box 576, Lakeville, MN 55044* E-mail: eurekatn@frontiernet.net

Applicants will be interviewed by the Eureka Planning Commission during the week of August 21, 2006. A Township representative will contact each applicant to schedule an appointment for the interview. Applicants must attend the interview to be considered for the advisory committee. Applicants chosen for the CAC will be appointed by the Town Board at the Board's September 11, 2006, meeting.

MEET NEW EUREKA PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS

appointed for 3 year terms to 5/09

Nancy Sauber has been a part of the community since childhood. Formerly a fifth and sixth grade Lakeville teacher, she has volunteered extensively in school and student activities, and loves to knit and garden. Besides ensuring that Township ordinances are followed and that the entire community be considered when making decisions, her goal is to give all citizens a chance for input concerning our future planning.

Sharon Buckley, a 23 year resident, has a desire to apply Eureka ordinances fairly and objectively with no specific agenda to advance. She served on the Township gravel mining taskforce. She has nursing and public health degrees, and is currently employed as a nurse. Her special interests include genealogy, needlecraft, and a variety of recreational pursuits.

Note: In the Planning Commission reorganization, Mike Grecco was elected chair, and Rich Stevens, vice-chair.

ACTIVITIES IN THE TOWNSHIP

EUREKA! THE NEWS ADS

You may recall at the last annual meeting Amy Neilsen suggested we include ads in our newsletter. A one-page business card ad insert has just been approved by the Town Board.

Eureka landowners/residents, who wish to advertise their businesses, can place a "business card ad" by the quarter at \$35 or annually for \$125. It would also be possible to purchase a double space at double the price. Any revenue would be applied to the cost of printing & mailing the newsletter.

To do this economically, we need a minimum of 8 or a maximum of 12 business card ads for a one-page insert. The first 8 to 12 responses will be in the insert. Others will be returned. Mail to Carolyn Papke, 5965 W. 235th Str, Farmington, Mn. 55024, with business card and check to *Eureka Township* no later than Sep. 15, 2006, for October newsletter.

"FAVORITE IMAGES OF EUREKA" PHOTO CONTEST AT TOWN HALL

Submit up to 3 favorite 8" x 10" photos of images that you value about Eureka Township. Attach name and address on back. They will be judged by an expert photographer outside the township for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place and recognized in the newsletter. All photos will be displayed in the Town Hall through September and October, and may be used at later meetings. Bring photos to Town Clerk's office by August 17. Photos will not be returned.

THANK YOU• Roger Beissel for the donation of a refrigerator to the Town Hall.

• the Mahowald Family (Patrick, Jean, John and Laura) for the picture of the old Town Hall.

BLUEBIRDS

Marlys Shirley is a Dakota County Coordinator for Mpls. Audubon Society's Bluebird Recovery Program. Call her at 952-469-3510 for advice, brochures, sample newsletter or any practical information about bluebirds.

COME PLAY BALL!!!

Eureka Township youth are invited to come play ball (softball, kickball ... we're flexible) at the Twin Church Ball Park, Tuesday evenings - 6:30 to 8:30 PM - until Labor Day weekend. The ball park is located about a mile west of Highview Avenue on 267th Street. Grab a friend and come get to know some of the other kids in the neighborhood. Please call Cheryl Groves at 507-645-7103 with questions.

NOTES FROM THE TOWN CLERK (952-469-3736; Mon & Thurs 10:30-2)

Job position open: Deputy Clerk/ Treasurer:

- Person would need to be available to fill in for the Clerk/Treasurer in case of illness, injury, vacation, etc., including evening meetings and daytime office hours.
- Pay Schedule: Monthly at \$12.50/hr., Town Board Meetings are paid at \$50.00 per meeting, Special Meetings at \$35.00 per meeting, and Training Sessions at \$50.00.
- Work hours will be scheduled with the Clerk/Treasurer to learn aspects of the job, at a maximum of 8 hrs. per week.

EMERGENCIES

- Did you know that Emergency calls (fire and ambulance dispatching) are billed to the Township? Please use these resources wisely, as accurate reporting and maintenance of security systems will aide appropriate use of fire fighters, equipment, and costs.
- Non-Emergency calls: Dakota County Sheriff (651-437-4211). Please report non-emergency calls such as illegal burning (while it is occurring), illegal dumping, illegal driving such as wheelies and tearing up the road, etc. to the sheriff's department.

NEW POLICY FOR BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATIONS

- To give commissioners more time to evaluate application requests, the Planning Commission has adopted a new policy for processing applications. For building permit, land split, cluster, or other land use requests to be placed on the agenda for consideration at a Planning Commission meeting, **a complete application must be received by Monday at noon, one week before the Planning Commission meeting.**
- Applications received after this deadline will not be acted on until the following month's meeting. Please plan ahead to ensure your application is complete and submitted on time. For information on what is required for a complete application, download application information from the "Permits" section of the Township website (<http://eurekatownship-mn.us/permits.html>) or contact Town Clerk Nanett Champlain at eurekatn@frontiernet.net or 952-469-3736.



Eureka Township
P.O. Box 576
Lakeville, MN 55044

25043 Cedar Avenue
Phone 952-469-3736
Fax 952-469-5525
Email:
eurekatn@frontiernet.net
Website:
<http://eurekatownship-mn.us>

*Your email address may be added to the list for current updates of monthly calendar, agendas, minutes, etc.
Blind copies are sent, so e-mail addresses are kept private.
Send the e-mail address to the clerk (eurekatn@frontiernet.net)*

EUREKA CALENDAR - events at Eureka Town Hall unless otherwise indicated.

July 3, 2006	Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Planning Commission Meeting*
July 10, 2006	Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Township Supervisors Meeting
Aug. 7, 2006	Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Planning Commission Meeting*
Aug. 14, 2006	Mon.	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for Strategic Visioning Citizen Advisory Committee Applications
Aug. 14, 2006	Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Township Supervisors Meeting
Aug. 17, 2006	Thurs.	2:00 p.m.	Deadline for Photo Contest
Sep. 5, 2006	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Planning Commission Meeting*
Sep. 11, 2006	Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Township Supervisors Meeting
Sep. 15, 2006	Fri.		Deadline for newsletter ads

*Note: Completed building applications must be received by Mon. noon 1 week before Plan. Com. Mtgs.