



Eureka Township News

Winter 2021

25043 Cedar Avenue • Farmington, Minnesota • (952) 469-3736

Town Hall Contacts

Clerk: Raneë Solis
clerk@eurekatownship-mn.us

Treasurer:
treasurer@eurekatownship-mn.us

Town Hall Hours

10 am – 2 pm Tuesday & Thursday

Website

<http://eurekatownship-mn.us>

Eureka Township Supervisors

Meet semi-monthly, 2nd & 4th Monday,
7:00 pm

Seat 1 Donovan Palmquist, Chair
(2023) (612) 250-6208

Seat 2 Ralph Fredlund (2023)
(952) 469-1335

Seat 3 Tim Murphy, Vice Chair (2021)
(612) 719-9745

Seat 4 Mark Ceminsky (2021)
(612) 819-1334

Seat 5 Lu Barfknecht (2022)
(952) 469-3513

Planning Commission

Meet monthly, 1st Tuesday, 7:00 pm

Nancy Sauber (2023)
(952) 469-5146

Julie Larson (2023)
(952) 469-3512

Bill Clancy (2022)
(612) 889-1732

Randy Wood (2021)
(651) 460-2347

Al Novacek (2021)
(952) 693-5940

Township Roads

Donovan Palmquist (612) 250-6208
Ralph Fredlund (952) 469-1335

Building Inspector

Inspectron, Inc. (651) 322-6626

Official Notices

Posted on the bulletin board on the south exterior wall of the Town Hall and published in Sun This Week and Dakota County Tribune newspapers.

✓ 2021 TOWNSHIP ELECTION ✓

Township Annual Election for Board of Supervisors Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Eureka Town Hall • POLLS OPEN 7am– 8pm

Two Board positions are open.

Supervisor Position #3: Tim Murphy

Supervisor Position #4: Nancy Sauber

Please see page 3 for candidates' statements

Vote in person on Tuesday, March 9 at the Eureka Town Hall.

Polls are open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

The address is 25043 Cedar Avenue, Farmington, Minnesota 55024 (intersection of Cedar Avenue and 250th Street).

Register at the polls on Election Day.

Proof of residence is required. For more information, visit

www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/register-on-election-day/

Voters *MUST* reside in the Township to vote in this election

Covid Guidelines for the Annual Meeting

Due to the ongoing Covid emergency and other extenuating circumstances, the Annual Township Meeting will be held on two dates. On Tuesday March 9th we will hold a brief meeting with the sole agenda of approving a motion to set the new date. The major portions of the Annual Meeting - 2020 review, 2022 budget approval, and public discussions - will be re-scheduled for a date in early summer.

We are requesting that a few of you attend the meeting at the Town Hall on Tuesday March 9th at 8:15 pm to vote in person on the motion to approve the rescheduled meeting date. In order to vote, you must be at the Town Hall at 8:15 pm. Attendance will be limited to 13 with proper mask-wearing protocols in place. If you wish to observe the meeting via zoom, here is the link:

Navigate to:

<https://zoom.us/j/3134376987?pwd=V3VRRkJKblUxeUY1eJlBdmVNUmUrdz09>

Meeting ID: 313 437 6987

Or One tap mobile: dial [1-312-626-6799](tel:1-312-626-6799), [3134376987](tel:3134376987)#

Thank you for your patience through these challenging times. If you have any questions, please call the Township Clerk at (952) 469-3736 or Board Chair Donovan Palmquist at (507) 645-9868.





We hope there will be no need to worry about heavy snows again this season, but just in case....

Snow from your property should be plowed and stored on your own property and not pushed across roads, into ditches, or on to neighboring properties. Also, postal carriers request that you please keep snow cleared from around your mailbox.

In Minnesota, *“It is illegal and punishable as a misdemeanor to plow, shovel, blow or place snow onto [roadways].”* That includes any federal, state, county, municipal or township road. Penalties can be increased if illegal snow removal results in accidents or injuries.

Thank you for helping to make this winter season a bit safer for all of us.

EUREKA TOWNSHIP CALENDAR

Upcoming Township meetings and events – through May 2021

Check the Township website for additional meetings or changes in schedule

Meetings held online via Zoom, until further notice

You can join the Zoom Meeting one of the following ways:

1. Navigate to <https://zoom.us/j/3134376987?pwd=V3VRRkJKblUxeUY1eJJBdmVNUmUrdz09>

Meeting ID: 313 437 6987

2. One tap mobile: dial [1-312-626-6799](tel:1-312-626-6799), [3134376987#](tel:3134376987)

March 8	Monday	7:00 pm	Town Board Meeting
March 9	Tuesday	7am-8pm	Township Election
March 9	Tuesday	8:15 pm	Annual Township Meeting (see page 1)
March 10	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Board of Canvass
March 22	Monday	7:00 pm	Town Board Meeting
April 6	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Planning Commission Meeting
April 12	Monday	7:00 pm	Town Board Meeting
April 26	Monday	7:00 pm	Town Board Meeting
May 4	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Planning Commission Meeting
May 10	Monday	7:00 pm	Town Board Meeting
May 24	Monday	7:00 pm	Town Board Meeting

Next page: candidate statements

2021 EUREKA TOWNSHIP BOARD CANDIDATES

Supervisor Position #3: Tim Murphy

My vision of leadership is simple: the best leaders are servants first. Leaders listen, not dictate. Leaders support other's success, not their own. They bring people together, because the sum can be so much greater than the individual parts.



In my 1st term as a Supervisor I believe we have made great strides in our goal for operational effectiveness and efficiencies. My role as staff liaison has helped give our Township the opportunity to hire, mentor and educate a fantastic Town Clerk. This accomplishment has greatly afforded our residents the ability to experience pleasant, supportive and professional interactions at Town Hall. I assure you we will continue to progress forward here.

However, I believe numerous cumbersome township ordinances and processes still exist that infringe on all our property values and residents rights. This holds true for our farmers and our population majority; large acreage single family homes. I am not in favor of any rezoning prior to 2040 which our prior town leadership has agreed to in our comprehensive plan. However, we currently are able to build beyond the one in forty acres that agricultural zoning allows (100% of our 35+ sq. miles are zoned agricultural). Our current "Building Right Transfer" process make possible four homes in eight acres! No governmental, municipal or environmental organization support this, yet Eureka Township currently allows it. I would like to see our Township develop at a rate of no more than one in ten acres even beyond our own 2040 comprehensive plan when the Met Council has indicated we could have municipal sewer. Any one in ten development between now and 2040 would actually impede one-in-three development or "neighborhoods". Our immediate neighbor to the north (Lakeville) is now predicting that their available single family residential zoned land will be built out within two years. Annexation we cannot stop will be their only recourse. Due to the complexity of "Building Right Transfers" and our current "Clustering" we have come to a standstill of residential development. County records by the 2010 census show we had 537 single family homes in 2010, today we have 555 (2018 County estimate of 549 plus new homes since). A density increase of just 1.6 homes per year. Can we not help ourselves remain this way past 2020? If we are able to control density and development by use of "Building Right Transfers" we can do it in a more fair and realistic fashion. Since 1982 when our ability to build anywhere in our township was taken away our township has stagnated.

Please remember that the vast majority of undeveloped land in our township belongs to our farmers. Without rezoning the destiny and use of their property remains in their hands and with that, in itself, we have and retain density control until they so choose to allow it or sell.

We have constrained and ruined our property values long enough. Help me help you by allowing me the next three years of service to you.

Supervisor Position #4: Nancy Sauber

My name is Nancy Sauber, and I am asking for your vote for Town Board Supervisor, Seat #4.

Having grown up on a farm in Eureka, I highly value our quality of life here in this rural setting. I chose to continue living here as an adult because of the ability to connect with nature, the views of woodlands and farm fields, the abundant wildlife, the relative quiet, and the small community atmosphere.



As we move to the future, I think we all acknowledge that change is inevitable. As a community, we need to plan and manage that change as much as possible under the oversight that exists. I have served the Township for 10 years thus far on the Planning Commission (including four years as Chair), the Town Board and several task forces. The task forces include Transfer of Building Rights, Border Protection, two Comprehensive Plan updates, the Commercial/Industrial study that took place with valuable guidance from Sherri Buss, Senior Planner at TKDA. I attend most meetings of all types as I find hearing the actual discussion and decision-making firsthand is the most informative. Because of this attendance, I believe I have a knowledge of the history and a sense of continuity that I see as valuable in moving forward.

It is important to me as Supervisor to:

- * Account for taxpayer money wisely and prudently,
- * Listen respectfully to each citizen and treat people fairly,
- * Respect the Ordinances as the laws we have enacted together through proper process,
- * Deliver decisive action to correct any verified Ordinance violations that are submitted through our complaint-based process of enforcement, and
- * Maintain a positive relationship with surrounding communities and agencies we interact with.

I would appreciate your vote on March 9th, 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. at Town Hall. Thank you!