

# **Canosia Township**

Annual Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2018

The 2018 Canosia Township Annual Meeting was held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, March 13. Eighteen people were in attendance. Clerk Susan Krasaway called the meeting to order at 8:30 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

The clerk announced the election results: Kurt Brooks was re-elected to the office of Supervisor (3-year term). 138 total votes: 107 for Brooks, 16 for Jim Gilmore, 13 write-in votes for Chris Verhel and 2 write-in votes for Hillary Creurer.

Dan Jeziarski nominated Kurt Brooks as moderator for the meeting. Edna Blanchard seconded the nomination. After three calls, there were no additional nominations and Brooks was unanimously elected.

## **AGENDA, MINUTES & FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**Agenda:** Motion by Clyde Mortinsen, seconded by Kevin Comnick, to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**2017 Minutes:** Motion by Comnick, seconded by Brian Macallister, to approve the 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports:** The clerk read the annual Board of Audit Report prepared by Treasurer Cheryl Borndal. Brooks pointed out that the considerable difference in the 2017 starting balance (\$540,000) and ending balance (\$376,000) was due to the purchase of the mini-pumper fire truck; since the township sets aside money each year in the Truck Replacement account, we were able to buy the vehicle outright without any loans.

## **ANNUAL REPORTS**

All reports are attached to the official meeting minutes.

**Canosia Volunteer Fire Department:** Assistant Fire Chief Clyde Mortinsen read the annual report prepared by Chief Gene Stevens. In 2017 the FD responded to 133 calls; 87 were township medical emergencies and 13 were fire calls within Canosia. There are currently 20 dedicated FD members, all of whom volunteer a lot of time and energy to training, emergencies and community events. Mortinsen also acknowledged the recent retirement of Laird Erikson who served on the CVFD for 42 years.

During Public Input, resident Mary LePage sincerely thanked the entire CVFD: on more than one occasion, our township volunteers made the difference between life and death for her and her husband. All those in attendance echoed their gratitude to our volunteer fire fighters.

**Roads:** Town Board Road Supervisor Comnick explained the township's five-year Road Improvement Plan (details in attached report) and encouraged residents to call him with any road questions or concerns.

**Planning & Zoning:** P&Z Commission Chair Brooks summarized the annual zoning report. There were 30 permits issued in 2017; the resulting improvements added an estimated \$4,000,000 to the township's value base. This was the largest annual value increase since 2003.

**Recreation Area:** Rec Director Mike Ellingson reviewed recent and upcoming rec area projects, including the likely addition of baseball scoreboards this spring. Comnick reiterated that many past and upcoming recreation projects are made possible by the \$50,000 of Proctor ISD referendum money allocated for Canosia.

Historical Society: Wilson Spence III summarized the group's annual report. Recently, they've partnered with the collections manager at Glensheen who will be teaching them how to properly preserve artifacts. Spence also asked the township to pass along any historical items or family stories related to the 1918 fire; they will be working with other local societies to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this October. The historical society has six core members; Brooks expressed his appreciation for all their volunteer efforts.

### GENERAL DISCUSSION

Proctor School District: Proctor School Board Chair Joe Ward gave an update on district projects, including the new hockey arena/event center which will be complete this summer. He also hopes the district and township can continue their good working relationship.

Public Input: Jezierski expressed his opinion that the town board has too many special meetings. Town Board Supervisor Connick took offense to this; he stated that special meetings are called only infrequently and the board is obligated to call them for highly important or time-sensitive issues that cannot wait until the regular board meeting.

### COMMUNITY EXPENDITURES

Motion by Connick, seconded by Mortinsen, recommending a \$300 donation to both Proctor and Hermantown's Chemical-Free Graduation Parties in 2019. Discussion: Jezierski asked to increase the amounts to \$350, but there was no additional support for this idea. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mortinsen, seconded by Connick, to once again set up an account of \$1,000 within the General Fund for Community Recognition Expenditures. Discussion: This would not change the levy and would only be used if needed. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Macallister, seconded by Mortinsen, to once again create a \$1,000 account within the Fire Department Fund to be used for volunteer firefighter recruitment/retention (e.g. awards dinner, special recognition, etc.). Discussion: This would not change the levy and would only be used if needed. Motion carried unanimously.

### 2019 LEVY RECOMMENDATION

The Canosia Town Board recommended the following for the 2019 levy:

Fund	2018 Actual Levy	2019 Recommended Levy
General	\$117,200	\$117,200
Fire Department	\$100,00	\$82,000
Road & Bridge	\$80,000	\$98,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$297,200</b>	<b>\$297,200</b>

Brooks explained the town board's reasoning for recommending a temporary (two-year) \$18,000 reduction to the FD levy total and increase to the Road & Bridge total: the township is trying to even out the reserve amounts in each fund and cover the cost of some upcoming road improvement projects; the FD budget would stay the same even with the reduced levy. The supervisors believe this would allow them to accomplish all township goals without sacrificing any services, and they were grateful for the FD's willingness to compromise. Supervisor Connick went on the record stating that he will stand by his promise to increase the FD levy back to the original amount in two years.

**2019 LEVY VOTES**

General Fund Levy: Motion by Connick, seconded by Mortinsen, to set the General Fund levy at \$117,200 in 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Department Levy: Motion by Macallister, seconded by Jerry Lundgren, to set the Fire Department levy at \$82,000 in 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Road & Bridge Levy: Motion by Mortinsen, seconded by Connick, to set the Road & Bridge Fund levy at \$98,000 in 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Total 2019 Levy Amount = \$297,200. The levy has been at this amount since 2011. Brooks noted that residents may actually see their township property taxes decrease since the total levy will be spread out over an increased value base.

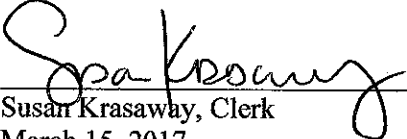
**2019 ANNUAL MEETING/ELECTION**

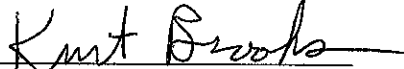
Motion by Gary Oswell, seconded by Lundgren, to hold the 2019 Election and Annual Meeting at the Canosia Town Hall on the second Tuesday in March. Voting will be from 12:00 noon to 8 p.m. with the Annual Meeting to follow at 8:30 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the Election and Annual Meeting will be held on the third Tuesday in March. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mortinsen, seconded by Macallister, to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Susan Krasaway, Clerk  
March 15, 2017

  
Kurt Brooks, Moderator  
March 15, 2017

# *Canosia Township*

4896 Midway Road  
Duluth, Minnesota 55811  
Voice/Fax 218-729-9833

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## **ANNUAL REPORTS**

- Roads
- Planning & Zoning
- Recreation Area
- Historical Society
- FD

**March 13, 2018**

## Canosia Township Road Report

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2017

During 2017, Canosia Township continued with the five year Road Improvement Plan. We were able to "Scrub Seal" the Vaux Road, Dunaisky Road & Pike Lake Place. This process will add 5-7 years to the road surface.

Canosia was also able to continue maintaining all of the Township Gravel Roads. Our roads are in good driving condition and we will continue with this program moving forward.

2018 will see us improving the following asphalt roads. The roads we are planning on upgrading are Birchway, Daniels, Lockwood, and Wilderness Trail. Canosia will be working with St. Louis County on these projects.

We will attempt to keep the public notified as to the anticipated dates for these projects. Visit the new Canosia website@ [Canosiatownship.org](http://Canosiatownship.org) to find out details as we move closer to construction season.

2017 also saw Canosia Township adopt a Road Traffic Sign Policy. This was completed to be compliant with the State of Minnesota.

Some folks may have noticed that we have a reduced number of traffic signs throughout the township.

We worked with Vic Lund, St Louis County Traffic Engineer, to determine what traffic signs were needed, and what traffic signs were not needed.

Based on these discussions, Canosia saw a marked decrease in the number of traffic signs needed.

Once the decision was made to adopt the sign program, Canosia replaced all of the remaining traffic signs with new signs that have the new reflectivity standards. By installing the new signs now, they meet the standards for reflectivity required by statute. They will not have to be replaced for ten years.

2018 will be another busy year for road work in Canosia. It is work that will continue to pay dividends in the future. We are pleased that we are able to complete these projects without increasing the levy.

We were able to work with the Fire Department and shift some funds to the road and bridge for the next two years to finish the upgrades to the asphalt roads.

By working together, Canosia is meeting the issues that we face, and doing it in a manner that allows the tax levy to remain the same as it has been for the last ten years.

Thank You,

Kevin L. Cornick

Canosia Road Supervisor

**PLANNING & ZONING / BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT ANNUAL REPORT**

**January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017**

**P&Z Comm:** Kurt Brooks, Chair  
Kyle Anderson  
Mark Lochart  
Tom Collard  
Mike Podgornik

**Bd of Adj:** Jeri Georges, Chair  
Gary Oswell  
Kyle Anderson  
Beverly Beaudette  
Dianne Ahlers (July '14 to current)

**Planning Director:** Tim Walburg

**Secretary:** Joe Marie Wass (Nov. '15 to May '17) Amber Madoll (June '17 to present)

**Public Hearings:** 4

<b>Building Permits:</b>	<b>Total #: 30</b>	<b>Estimated \$ Value</b>
Single Family Dwellings	11	\$4,009,500
Garages	17	\$115,500
Additions to SFD	1	\$150,000
Storage Bldgs &/or Additions	5	\$123,800
Decks	1	\$2,000
Commercial Sign	1	\$100.00
Gov't/Commercial Bldg	0	\$0

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**Estimated Total Value Added (per land use permit):** **\$4,400,900.00**

\*Number of permits issued may not add up to structures built on account of multiple structures on one permit.

<b>Fees Collected:</b>	Land Use Permits	30	\$6,275
	Variances	0	\$0
	Conditional Use	4	\$2,400
	Zoning Change (subdivision)	0	\$0

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**Total Fees Collected:** **\$8,675.00**

1999 - 44 permits - \$1,741,813	2000 - 58 permits - \$2,876,016	2001 - 67 permits - \$9,268,320
2002 - 56 permits - \$4,448,520	2003 - 74 permits - \$5,669,560	2004 - 57 permits - \$3,635,100
2005 - 47 permits - \$2,879,600	2006 - 39 permits - \$1,871,500	2007 - 45 permits - \$2,496,700
2008 - 33 permits - \$2,642,400	2009 - 29 permits - \$1,095,900	2010 - 27 permits - \$2,990,830
2011 - 26 permits - \$1,056,907	2012 - 27 permits - \$1,406,200	2013 - 25 permits - \$ 616,983
2014 - 28 permits - \$2,271,430	2015 - 30 permits - \$2,975,400	2016 - 32 permits - \$3,172,962
2017- 30 permits - \$4,400,900		

## Canosia Township Recreation Area Annual Report

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2017

The Canosia Township Recreational Area had a good year. We are currently looking at replacing the main dugout which is currently torn down along with leveling the other dugout on the front field. This is primarily being done by Roger Anderson of Harbor City Masonry. Hopefully, it will be done by the time baseball is running in the May time frame. The toy digger in the playground area was fixed and replaced with a new base.

The baseball fields saw a lot of action. The back field where the bases are 75 feet apart was used a lot throughout the year. The front field also had some regular use. The fields were scheduled more than what they have been used in recent years. There has been some action as far as getting a score board for both fields. Hopefully, we will hear more about that this spring.

The soccer fields also saw a lot of use with the main play happening in the lower division which occurs in late summer to fall. The soccer fields are used throughout the year with the upper division happening in the spring of the year.

The tennis courts were resurfaced a few years ago and have seen quite a bit of use. Unfortunately, there are a few cracks in the surface material. We will need to look at this further as time goes on to figure out how we want to fix this.

The basketball court is working out fine and seeing some good use. We do need some new nets which will be put up this spring.

The winter skating rink has had some use this year. This is the first year where we have seen a fair amount of use. We would certainly like to thank the fire department for providing the ice on the rink.

The pavilion has seen some improvements this year. The boards along the perimeter of the building were replaced with treated boards. We also painted the ends of the pavilion which was needed.

We were also the beneficiary of a number of picnic tables being given to the recreational area. We had a number of additional picnic tables added to the recreational area along with the school forest. We certainly would like to thank the AAA for the donation of the picnic tables.

If anyone has a recommendation please feel free to call Mike E. at (218)260-5599.

## **Canosia Township Historical Society 2017 Annual Report**

- We participated in the Twin Ports Memories, the Early Years (1939 and prior) project spearheaded by the *Duluth News Tribune*, by providing several historical photos for submission.
- We visited the Hermantown Historical Society (HHS) Museum, and are collaborating with the HHS on the 1918 fire remembrance events scheduled for October 2018.
- We submitted various history articles that appeared in the 2017 Canosia Township newsletters.
- We submitted various history articles that appeared in the 2017 Pike Lake Association newsletters.
- We received donations of articles and artifacts from various individuals.
- We participated in Work Days held occasionally throughout the year to record, inventory, organize, label, and display historical items in the Town Hall. Work Days are the second Saturday of the month, from 9 a.m. to 12:00 noon, except not scheduled in November and December.
- Several books on the history of the Township were sold. We still have CDs of the books available for purchase.
- Historical Society members attended the Memorial Day Service by the Proctor American Legion at the Canosia Township Cemetery, which is always at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome!
- We meet at 7 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month, and new members are always welcomed.

NOTE: Please contact Wilson Spence at (218) 729-7746 before coming to a Work Day or Regular Meeting in case there is a cancellation. Wilson can also be contacted if you would like to purchase a CD of the Canosia Township and Pike Lake, an Illustrated History book.

/clr

02/14/2018



# Canosia Volunteer Fire Department

March 13, 2018

## TOTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES FOR 2017

Medical EMS Calls:	87
Medical MUA - EMS Calls	3
Fire Calls:	13
Fire Calls MUA:	20
Service Calls:	10

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Total calls this year:	133
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### Training for the year of 2017:

We are lucky to have a great dedicated group of 20 Volunteer Firefighter/EMS personal. Whenever the pager goes off we always have more guys than we need and this is always a blessing you never know when things can change for the worse.

I am very proud to work with this group of guys. Every time we need somebody to help out with something in the community these guys do it every time. From working at races, community picnics and during Fire Prevention week. There is always enough guys to help make it work. We had a retirement last year of a Member with 42 years. With this said we are still looking for new members to join it is a lot of new classes the first year or two. When all is said and done you will belong to of the finest Fire Depts. in the State of Minnesota. We have some of the best response times and all of us enjoy belonging to the Canosia Fire Dept.

Ok as for training each month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday we have a Business meeting at 7PM. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays we also have training one night is firefighting skills the other is medical skills. We put a lot of time into training both these nights anywhere from 2-3 hrs. a night. We work on many skills and along with testing of our equipment. We fix our own trucks to save money on the budget. We were able to buy a new Mini Pumper last year and this is partly do to our cost savings. We would like to Thank the Community for all the support they have always given us.

Submitted by:

Gene Stevens  
Chief  
Canosia Volunteer Fire Department  
5694 Martin Rd.  
Duluth MN. 55811