

Town of Canosia Newsletter

Volume 26 Issue 69

Spring 2020

TOWNSHIP TAX LEVY: IT'S UP TO YOU!

2021 Recommended Tax Levy

General Fund	\$117,200
Road & Bridge	\$78,000
Fire Department	\$102,000
(Total)	(\$297,200)

The Canosia Town Board is once again recommending **NO INCREASE** to the township tax levy.

The Canosia levy has held steady at \$297,200 for over a decade, meaning the township portion of your property taxes has held steady as well. The town board, in partnership with the Canosia Volunteer Fire Department, believes the recommended break down (on the left) will best serve the township's needs in 2021.

However, the final levy amounts will be determined by the residents attending the **Annual Meeting on March 10 at 8:30 p.m.** at the Canosia Town Hall.

Also on the agenda that night: Township year-end reports, financial summaries and town board election results. We hope to see you there! If there is severe inclement weather: the Annual Meeting and town board election will be rescheduled for March 17.

Two Elections in March

PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING PRIMARY

- Tuesday, March 3
- Polls Open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- This is a new election and process for Minnesota voters. Please read the important information on the next page!
- Absentee voting for this election available by contacting the St. Louis County Auditor (726-2385) or at mnvotes.org

CANOSIA TOWN BOARD ELECTION

- Tuesday, March 10
- Polls Open **NOON** to 8 p.m.
- On the ballot: Town Board member Kevin Cornick is running for re-election unopposed. Write-in votes are possible.
- Absentee voting for this election avail. March 7 (10 a.m. to 12 p.m.) and March 9 (4 p.m. to 5 p.m.) at the town hall or by contacting the town clerk (590-6746)

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Presidential Nominating Primary: March 3, 2020

A message from the St. Louis County Auditor

“As you may or may not be aware, the process for voting in Minnesota for which candidate you want to be your party’s nominee for president has changed this year. On March 3, you will have the opportunity to vote in the first Presidential Nomination Primary held in Minnesota since 1992.

Since 1992, the vote was taken as part of party caucus events. In 2016, legislation was passed establishing a Presidential Nomination Primary (PNP). This primary is an additional statewide election that will be held in years in which a president and vice president are to be nominated and elected (every four years). The Presidential Nomination Primary has requirements and procedures that differ from state primary elections. Here’s what you should know:

Only presidential candidates from a major party will appear on the Presidential Primary ballot; all other offices with a primary will be on the Primary ballot in August. Both the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party and the Republican Party will be participating in this primary.

Instead of one ballot that contains all of the offices and candidates, each party participating in the Presidential Nominating Primary will have a ballot specific to their party. Because of this, voters must declare their party preference prior to receiving a ballot. A voter’s choice of party ballot will be recorded and is private data. However, be aware that a list of who voted in a presidential nomination primary and the political party each voter selected will be provided to the chair of each major political party by the Minnesota Secretary of State, as required by Minnesota Statute 201.091, Subdivision 4a. How a voter voted on their ballot will be secret. **If a voter refuses to select a party, they will not be able to vote in the Presidential Nomination Primary.**

Registered voters will be able to vote at their polling place on presidential primary day or by absentee ballot starting on January 17, 2020. If you are an unregistered voter, you can still register at your polling place on election day.

The Democratic Farmer Labor Party will have an “uncommitted” option on their ballot. If you select this option, you are telling the party that they wish for the delegates to be sent to their national nominating convention without being “bound” to cast their vote(s) for any one of their party’s candidates. If you would like further information about your party’s choosing of delegates and/or their national nominating convention, please speak with your party’s representatives.

The Minnesota Secretary of State’s Office estimates that it will cost approximately \$11.9 million to administer the Presidential Nomination Primary statewide. Costs associated with the election are reimbursed to counties and municipalities. Current election law specific to the Presidential Nominating Primary can be found in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 207A and Minnesota Rules Chapter 8215.

One final and important note – while the Presidential Nomination Primary replaces preferential polls that previously were conducted at precinct caucus meetings, precinct caucus meetings will still be held on February 25, 2020.”

Important Reminders about the Primary Election!



- In order to receive a ballot you will have to check a box indicating which political party ballot you would like. If you choose not to pick a party, you will not be able to vote.
- Remember: Our township election judges do not make the election laws and they cannot make exceptions to these rules even if you disagree with the process.
- If you disagree with this Primary voting process we encourage you to contact the Secretary of State’s office, our state lawmakers, or political party officials to voice your concerns.
- Polls Open March 3, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- To register on Election Day, please bring a photo ID and proof of Canosia residence (details on our website)
- Options on Republican Party Ballot:
 - Donald J. Trump
 - Write-in, if any
- Options on DFL Party Ballot:
 - Michael Bennet
 - Joseph Biden
 - Michael R. Bloomberg
 - Corey Booker
 - Pete Buttigieg
 - Julian Castro
 - John K. Delaney
 - Tulsi Gabbard
 - Amy Klobuchar
 - Deval Patrick
 - Bernie Sanders
 - Tom Steyer
 - Elizabeth Warren
 - Marianne Williamson
 - Andrew Yang
 - Uncommitted

Sample Ballots available on our website
canosiatownship.org

ROAD WORK AHEAD

2020 Road Projects

Scrub Seal • Kehtel Rd.

Route & Seal,
Crack Repair Special • Carmen's Way

Crack Repair Special • S. Pike Lake Rd.
• Shady Lane
• Spruce Lane

Canosia again has partnered with St. Louis County to perform our upcoming road projects.

The 2020 projects (on the left) are part of the next three-year Road Project Program we have decided on, with the assistance of the St. Louis County Public Works Department. Working with St. Louis County has been extremely beneficial to Canosia in keeping our costs lower, as well as working within our budgets. In addition, we will continue our ongoing Gravel Road Maintenance Program.

In response to complaints about snow plowing, Canosia contracts with St. Louis County on the vast majority of Township Roads. Canosia contracts with Asphalt of Duluth for Holly Lane, Birchway Road, Pike Lane, and a portion of Kehtel Road. These are roads the County no longer plows. The County has assured me that they plow our roads in accordance with the procedures outlined by them. The procedure is one that maximizes equipment, manpower, and determined needs. If anyone has a concern, they can contact a County Road Superintendent and they will be happy to review their procedures.

We will be seal coating the Town Hall Parking Lot, along with the Fire Department Entry this summer as well. We will be painting Handicapped Parking Spots in Front of Town Hall Side Entrance. We have also scheduled the Basketball Court to be Seal Coated and new lines put down. I look forward to seeing these upgrades take place this summer and we will keep our residents posted as we are notified of potential time lines.

Kevin L. Cornick; Canosia Town Board Chairman

Fire Department News

2019 FD Stats

- ⇒ 189 Total Calls
- ⇒ 149 Medical calls within Canosia
- ⇒ 8 Medical mutual aid calls
- ⇒ 12 Canosia Fire Calls
- ⇒ 16 Mutual Aid fire calls
- ⇒ 4 Service Calls



Thanks to RJ's Sport & Cycle and their Law Loan Program, our volunteer firefighters have a new rescue vehicle at their disposal: a 2020 Yamaha Viking side-by-side.

The FD uses side-by-sides for rescues and medical emergencies in hard to access places including the woods and out on our frozen lakes. They have recently added treads and a stretcher to the Viking as well to ensure that no terrain is off limits as they help Canosia residents.

Thank you to all our
volunteer firefighters!

RECREATION AREA: WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

Contact Info

canosiatownship@yahoo.com or 590-6746

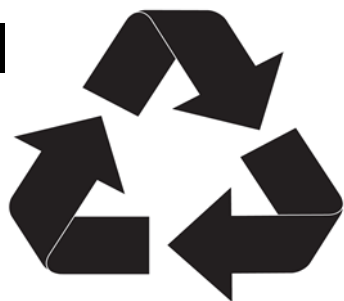
The recreation area has been maintained in great condition, but we are looking for ways to improve what we offer to our residents. We have funding left from the Proctor Schools Referendum and from a private donation to be used for recreation projects in the township. We are asking Canosia residents to participate with ideas the Town Board can consider for further development. While there is some space available to the north (about four acres behind the ball fields), there is limited room for any additions without changing the existing layout, but some changes can be made with that in mind. Some limitations and opportunities for the recreation area are discussed below.

Due to cost and difficulty maintaining ice for the skating rink without a water source for sufficient ice, the board chose not to operate it this winter. We need to decide whether to improve the rink to be more functional or to repurpose the location and warming building to meet other beneficial use.

To be eligible for improvement grants, the electrical service at the recreation area would need attention. Overhead lines must be buried but the costs could be included as part of the grant application and funding request. The extent of electrical upgrade would be determined by existing and future needs at the site.

Rainwater drainage in the area is limited, so any changes would need to consider the impact on runoff and low-lying areas.

We want feedback and project ideas from our community. Please provide your suggestions! If you are interested in having more direct input, we will be creating an ad-hoc advisory team in the next few weeks made up of community members to help assess ideas, determine feasibility, estimate costs, and prioritize potential projects for the Town Board to consider in March and April. Please indicate your interest in being on the team!



Township Recycling Hours

Tuesday & Thursday

5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A lot less sorting now required!

- Plastics, aluminum, glass and mixed paper can now be mixed together

What should be kept separate?

- **Corrugated Cardboard**
⇒ Cardboard with wavy layer between two pieces of thick paper
- **Film Plastics**
⇒ Clean & dry grocery and retail bags, newspaper bags, bread/produce bags, ziplock bags with zippers removed
⇒ No black plastic bags

"Thank you to the Canosia residents for your continued recycling efforts as well as your kindness and friendship!"

- Frank, Recycling Attendant

Our plastic film recycling efforts are making a difference! Canosia residents recycle an average of nearly 3 yards of plastic film each month. According to WLSSD: added all together, we are recycling the equivalent of tens of thousands of plastic bags each year!

Questions about recycling?

Contact WLSSD

218-722-0761 or wlssd.com

TRAIL OPENS ON INDUSTRIAL ROAD

Bring your snowshoes or cross country skis to the new trailhead located at 5594 Industrial Road (about ½ mile east of the Midway Road) and give the one mile loop trail a try.

The Canosia Hiking and Biking Trail is a result of community input and involvement looking to increase recreation opportunities in our township. This trail which was developed in cooperation with the St. Louis County Land and Minerals Department and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, utilizes Canosia Township land and tax forfeit land for the trail system. It was roughed in and signed in late fall 2019 with help from volunteers and Waste Wood Recyclers and funding from a Proctor School District Recreation Grant.

The trail is now open for use and there have been a few snowshoers who have already found the trail and started using it. In the summer, the trail can be used for hiking and biking. In the winter snowshoes, skis or fat tire bikes will probably be needed to enjoy the trail. An additional trail connecting the trailhead to the Canosia Wildlife Management Area trail system will be signed in the spring to provide access to even more existing trails in the CWMA.

The town board plans to continue work this summer on the trailhead parking area and trail system improvements will continue over time. So if you are looking for a chance to venture out into the woods or are just looking for an opportunity for a little exercise, stop by the Canosia Hiking and Biking Trail and check it out.

Submitted by Kurt Brooks, Town Supervisor



Free Community
Event!

FREE DOCUMENT SHREDDING EVENT THIS SPRING

The J.S. Realty Community Shred Event is scheduled for

May 30th from 11 am to 2 p.m. in the Canosia Town Hall parking lot.

Bring all your documents and watch while they're shredded! For free!! Paper clips and staples are fine, large binder clips must be removed.

Enjoy some refreshments while you wait!



Canosia Approved for a Well Grant

The Canosia Town Hall will be getting a new well in 2020. Over the past two years, we have repeatedly needed to treat and flush the existing dug well system to clear up contaminated water problems. The town board found that the likely entry point for the contaminants was the dug well itself and decided it was time to find a new, safe and reliable source of clean water for the town hall and fire hall. The new well will be installed this spring/summer and is made possible through a \$10,000 matching grant awarded by the Minnesota Department of Health, with funding from the Clean Water Fund.

PLAWCS NEWS

2020 is a big year for PLAWCS. As many of you know, this is the year the original sewer system construction loans are paid off and the 20th anniversary of the system's completion. There have been bumps in the road, as there always are and will be, but the system has served our residents well and hopefully will continue to in the future.

Our system does not routinely show evidence of inflow or infiltration and our rates have remained reasonable when compared to other local sanitary districts. Most of all, I think we all have seen improvement in Pike Lake, which meets the original goal of the system. Overall, the system has performed well and its contract partners have been serving us to ensure the system keeps ahead of those major expenses.

Looking back at the last year, the system did encounter some issues that were resolved. At our main lift stations, we replaced the radio communication from the five sewage pump stations to a new cellular-based system. While a capital expense, it is one that we were planning for in our long-term budgeting and when an issue arose, we were able to solve a problem as an opportunity. Ultimately, good fiscal management allowed us to take advantage of scale pricing to address a small problem at one station and address what would have been a long-term fix today.

We have had to increase the monthly rate by \$1/month this year, entirely due to a new ordinance mandated by WLSSD that requires inflow/infiltration inspections. This has been the first increase in some time. The PLAWCS board continues to strive to keep sewer rates as low as practical while still saving for long-term capital projects.

Finally, since 2020 is the end of the original construction loan, it will be the end of the annual assessment on most of our customer's properties. Realizing that we've done a reasonable job managing our fiscal responsibilities allows the Board to retire that debt. It's also positive looking forward, seeing new customers like St. Germain's cabinets, several new residential customers and some excitement around potential development at the AAA property. Those things look to be good for PLAWCS long term and will hopefully help the Board continue to deliver sewer service to the residents around the lake in a fiscally responsible manner.

CENSUS: COMING SOON!

TIMELINE: Starting in March, you will receive notice via mail of how/when to fill out your census forms. For the first time ever, you will be able to fill out the forms online, but they can also be done via phone or by mail. If they haven't heard back from you by early April, you will be sent a paper questionnaire to fill out. And finally, by late April, Census takers will go door to door to talk with those who have still not responded.

AVOIDING SCAMS: While you are required by law to participate, the Census Bureau is also required by law to protect your answers. Your responses are used only to produce statistics. The Census Bureau does not disclose any personal information.

It is important to know that the Census Bureau will not send unsolicited emails to request your participation in the 2020 Census. Further, during the 2020 Census, **the Census Bureau will never ask for your social security number, your bank account or credit card numbers, or money or donations!**

WHY THE CENSUS MATTERS: Canosia Township encourages all our resident households to respond promptly to the 2020 Census. The data collected will shape political representation numbers in, funding of government programs, the flow of business and commerce, and the planning and delivery of services to local communities. According to the MN State Demographic Center, Census data guides approximately \$589 billion in federal spending allocated to local communities each year, including more than \$15 billion distributed to Minnesota communities; every one person missed could mean forfeiting \$28,000 in funding for the next ten years.

There are well-paying, temporary CENSUS JOBS still available, including Census takers and office positions. According to the Census website, the rate of pay is between \$21—\$24/hour in St. Louis County. Visit [2020Census.gov](https://2020census.gov) for more information.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Canosia Township Historical Society has submitted the following article.

It was originally published in the *Duluth News Tribune* in February of 1909.

AUTOS ARE USED HERE ALL WINTER

**This Winter Has Demonstrated
That Cars May Be Run Despite
Snow.**

The pleasant weather during the past few days, has done a great deal to revive the motor microbe which at this season of the year works overtime in building up the motor mania. This winter has clearly demonstrated to the citizens of Duluth that the automobile of today is a practical vehicle for both winter as well as for summer use.

The impression has been heretofore, that Duluth being so much further north than any other city in the United States with the great amount of snow which Duluth always has, as expressed by all non-residents of the city, has done a great deal to build up and spread abroad this false impression. The records show that the Twin Cities, and the southern part of the state, as also Iowa, each winter has just as

much snow as Duluth, and still the automobile owners in these southern state cities use their automobiles the year around.

Duluth is becoming equally as well known as the Twin Cities in its ability to permit automobilists to use their cars throughout the winter, the same as the summer months. Very few cars have laid up owing to the imaginary heavy severe cold as also imaginary heavy snow falls which we are reputed as having. Owing to this one fact, the automobile market has more than doubled, which should give Duluth a very metropolitan air during the coming summer season.

Pike Lake seems to be the favorite summer resort at the present time, owing to the fact that is back enough over the hill so that the automobilists may be away from the chilly lake breezes which oft times spring up so suddenly. Property at Eagle, Caribou and Pike Lake is being bought for this practical purpose.

Reproduced from an February 1909 *Duluth News Tribune* article*

*Note: this article was retyped from a copy of the original publication for easier reading

Our township is grateful to have such a knowledgeable and active historical society, with members who are dedicated to maintaining Canosia's historical artifacts and records. If you are interested in joining the society, please contact Wilson Spence at 729- 7746. They are always looking for new members.

Canosia Township Newsletter

4896 Midway Rd.
Duluth, MN
55811

CONTACT INFORMATION

TOWN HALL

4896 Midway Rd, Duluth MN 55811

Phone/Fax: 218-729-9833 or 590-6746 (Clerk)

Website: canosiatownship.org

Email: canosiatownship@yahoo.com

Official Posting Places

Town Hall and the Intersection of Lavaque & Martin Rds.

PLANNING & ZONING

Administered by St. Louis County

Phone: 725-5000

Email: landuseinfo@stlouiscountymn.gov

Website: www.stlouiscountymn.gov

FIRE DEPARTMENT& BURNING PERMITS

Emergencies: 911

Gene Stevens, Chief: 729-6211

Burning Permits: Tom Amendola 393-5533

TOWN BOARD

Regular Meeting: 1st Wed. of each month at 7 p.m.

Kevin Cornick, Chair: 590-6473

Kurt Brooks, Supervisor: 393-0304

Dan Golen, Supervisor: 464-2365

Susan Krasaway, Clerk: 590-6746

Cheryl Borndal, Treasurer: 729-9833

VARIOUS

Rec Area: Director Mike Ellingson 260-5599

Recycling: Tues/Thu 5-8 p.m., Sat 9 a.m. – 5p.m

Historical Society: Wilson Spence 729-7746

PLAWCS

Phone: 451-3310 (general questions)

590-5911 (system emergencies or operating concerns)

Email: plawcsclerk@gmail.com **Website:** PLAWCS.com