

Town of Canosia Newsletter

Volume 24 Issue 65

Spring 2018

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2018 TOWNSHIP DAY

On the second Tuesday in March each year, Canosia Township holds its town board election and Annual Meeting. This year’s “Township Day” will take place on Tuesday, March 13.

Election

Our town board is comprised of three supervisors serving three-year terms. Every March one town board supervisor seat is up for election. This year there will be two candidates on the ballot: Kurt Brooks and Jim Gilmore.

On Election Day, the polls will be open from NOON to 8 p.m. at the town hall (4896 Midway Rd.). Residents are also welcome to vote absentee ahead of time if they prefer. To do so, please contact the clerk at 590-6746 or canosiatownship@yahoo.com for an absentee ballot application. The town clerk’s office will also be open on Saturday, March 10 from 10 a.m. to noon for absentee voting.

Annual Meeting

Election results will be announced during the Annual Meeting which begins at 8:30 p.m. The Canosia residents in attendance will determine the 2019 levy amounts for the three major township funds: General, Fire Department, and Road & Bridge.

The town board, in partnership with the Fire Department, is recommending the following levy for the residents to consider:

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

The Fire Department has agreed to accept a temporarily reduced levy amount for two years to allow the township to cover the costs of some upcoming road improvement projects and balance the reserve levels in each of the funds. To clarify, the Fire Department’s *budget* would be the same even though their levy amounts would go down. At the January Budget Meeting, the supervisors thanked the Fire Chief for his cooperation in making sure all township needs are met.

The township property tax levy has not gone up since 2009 and actually decreased in 2011 to the current \$297,200 level. As you may know, the residents determine the levy amounts for the three major funds listed above, but the decisions on how to spend the money within those funds is then the responsibility of the township board.

The Annual Meeting is also a good opportunity to get updates from all departments and hear about upcoming events and initiatives. We hope to see you there on Tuesday, March 13 at 8:30 p.m. In the case of extremely bad weather, Township Day will be postponed until the following Tuesday, March 20.

NEW WEBSITE!

Our new website is up and running:

www.canosiatownship.org

On the site you can find township contact information, the P&Z ordinance, permit applications, meeting minutes, newsletters and information about upcoming events and meetings.

We are very pleased with how it turned out and hope you feel the same!

NEW WEBSITE: WWW.CANOSIATOWNSHIP.ORG

ROAD REPORT

I am hopeful that when you read this our cold 2017-2018 winter has decided to move on! It has been one of the coldest winters I can recall in several years.

I am pleased to report that our roads are in good winter driving condition. As we move into the 2018 road construction season, Canosia will continue with the road upgrades, scheduled as part of our ongoing road improvement program.

This year the following roads are scheduled to be “Scrub Sealed”, the process which improves the asphalt driving surface and adds 5-7 years of improved condition and life to the driving surface. This same process is being used throughout St Louis County, as part of their road improvement program.

The roads scheduled this year are Birchway Drive, Daniels Road, Lockwood Lane, Wilderness Trail, and South Pike Lake. Some adjustments may be made depending on pricing in 2018. We will attempt to provide info on the timeline of these projects on the new website www.Canosiatownship.org.

Canosia has contracted Asphalt of Duluth for snowplowing and sanding needs this past winter. They are currently responsible for the plowing and sanding on township roads which St Louis County will no longer plow. As of today, it appears that they are doing a great job, and we have not heard of any complaints with the work they are doing. The roads they are plowing are Pike Lane, Birchway Drive, Holly Lane, and a portion of Kehtel Road, west of Shady Lane.

In the future, additional Township Roads may be plowed by private contractors. St Louis County is moving ahead with new, larger snow plowing equipment, which may cause Canosia to seek alternatives for additional snow plowing and sanding.

As summer approaches, watch for signs on the roads mentioned above. Take care in slowing down, and watch for workers.

If anyone has any questions, feel free to contact me at 218 590-6473 or e-mail me at connick@msn.com.

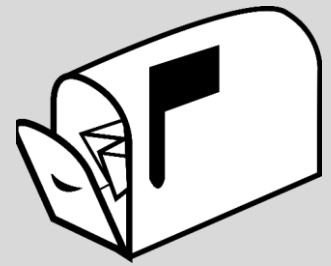
Thank You,

Kevin L. Connick, Canosia Road Supervisor

FYI: MAILBOX POLICY

If your mailbox is damaged by a St. Louis County snowplow, the county will replace only the support posts that were in compliance with their policy; they will not replace any mailboxes.

To avoid any potential issues, we recommend making sure your box and support meet their rules. In brief, the bottom of the box must be located 42 to 48 inches above the roadway surface. The roadside face of the mailbox should also be placed 8 – 12 inches outside of the paved or aggregate shoulder. The entire policy can also be found on our website www.canosiatownship.org.



TRAIL PLAN UPDATE

The Township Trails Steering Committee is continuing to develop a long-term hiking and biking trails plan. Right now, our Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC) planner is editing the draft plan to incorporate feedback we have gotten from residents, surrounding communities, the county and the DNR. In the coming months, the updated draft will be available on our website.

Once approved by the town board, the plan will act as a tool for helping plan potential trail developments and improvements, in both the short-term and long-term. Actual implementation of any ideas will depend on many factors including grant availability, community participation and the cooperation of various land-owning entities like the School District and DNR.

GROUNDWATER SAMPLING ADJACENT TO AIRPORT

The Minnesota Department of Environmental Health (MDH) in coordination with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has conducted another round of ground water sampling at properties near the Airport. These samples were collected to evaluate potential risk of contamination from firefighting chemicals (perfluorochemicals in Aqueous Fire Fighting Foam) that were historically used at the Duluth Air National Guard for fire training.

Although most results were below detectable level and three had only a trace amount, one property on the west of the airport had a result that exceeded MDH guidance value. The MDH has notified the owner of results and advised action to take.

The Air National Guard is continuing to monitor and remediate the former firefighting site. Supervisor Golen is coordinating with the 148thANG Bioenvironmental Engineer and MDH to keep informed. Further information on perfluorochemicals is available at the 148th ANG website (<http://www.148fw.ang.af.mil/>) in the environmental link.

PLAWCS REPORT

As we enter 2018, I am pleased to report that the Pike Lake Area Wastewater Collection System (PLAWCS) is continuing to run efficiently and the users are not going to see a rate increase for 2018.

In meeting with the WLSSD in January, discussions were held regarding two development projects being considered within the PLAWCS District.

First is the proposed AAA Recreation project. This project is expected to begin this spring and will be ongoing for two or more years. It will consist of a possible change in the layout of the golf course, along with the addition of many single-family homes, event center, and additional improvements in the future. The AAA club's new owner is confident that the golf course and beach will remain open for public use.

The other project is the proposed addition of housing on the land currently owned by the Cast Iron Grill, which is adjacent to the current business.

The biggest concern facing PLAWCS with these projects was the amount of additional flow these projects would have on the current system. In our meeting with the WLSSD, it was determined that both projects can move forward at this time. Working with the owners of the properties, as well as MSA, the PLAWCS Engineering Firm, Peoples Service, the PLAWCS operations contractor, and the WLSSD, these projects will come to life.

PLAWCS will keep the public informed moving forward. We will continue to make needed upgrades to the System moving forward to insure the integrity of the system into the future. As stated in past articles, the PLAWCS debt is scheduled to be retired in August of 2020.

Kevin L. Cornick, PLAWCS

FIRE DEPARTMENT WINTER SAFETY REMINDERS

The CVFD is reminding residents to take these potentially life-saving steps:

1. Make sure furnace is in good working order
2. Smoke detectors should be less than 10 years old and in good working order
3. Make sure fire place chimneys are clean
4. Install carbon monoxide detector
5. Keep address sign visible for the FD to see in emergencies. Thank you!

The CVFD responded to 133 emergencies in 2017. 87 of those were medical emergencies for our residents. There were also 13 fire calls within Canosia and 20 fires in our mutual aid areas.

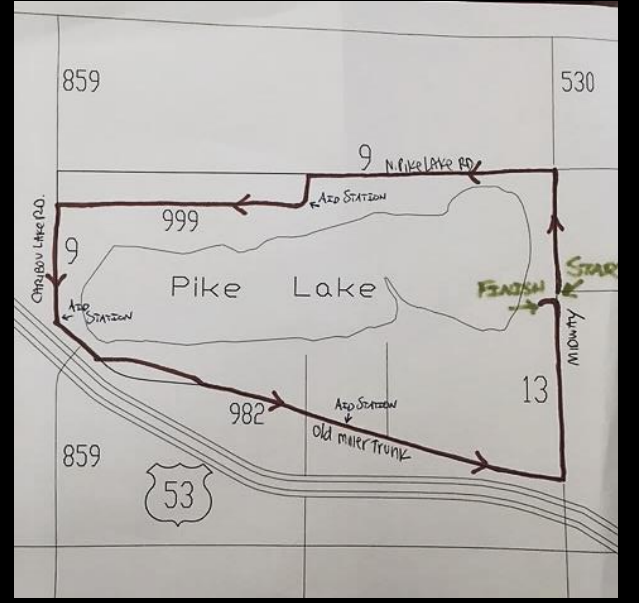
Thank you to our fire fighter volunteers for all they do to keep us safe!

PIKE LAKE 10K

Canosia Township will be home to a brand-new race this spring! The twilight Pike Lake 10k will take place on the evening of Saturday, May 19. The event is being organized by the experts at the Duluth Running Company; they also produce the Superior Triathlon and Gobble Gallop. Organizers are hoping this will be a great warm up race for Grandma’s Marathon runners and anyone else who is interested in taking part.

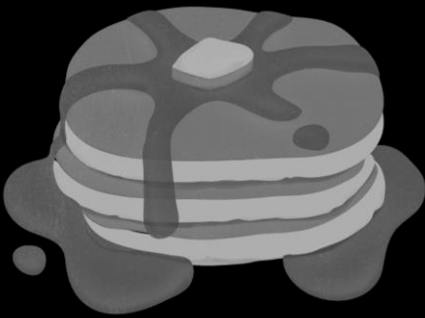
The tentative course will have runners start by the town hall, head down Midway to North Pike Lake Rd. They will then loop around the lake to Old Miller Trunk Hwy and back down Midway to the finish line. The plan is to have food and fun for the whole community after the race.

The organizers are developing a website (www.pikelake10k.com) where you can find details about registration, costs, logistics, etc. The website should be up and running around March 1.



As part of the Race Day festivities, Pike Lake Elementary is inviting the community to a pancake breakfast in the cafeteria. Proceeds will go towards the school’s “environmental programming” experiences. For example, the fifth graders are planning a three-day trip to the Audubon Center. The environmental program is also trying to raise money to add elements/stations in the school forest as well as continue Pike Lake’s participation in Hartley Nature Center education programs.

The pancake breakfast will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on May 19. The cost is \$6.00/person. If you have questions or would like to donate items to support the Pancake breakfast, please call Principal Mark Hughes at 729-8214 x2751



WISH-CYCLING

Many recyclers with good intentions may be guilty of “wish-cycling”: putting items in the recycling bin that you really, really hope will somehow be recycled with your bottles and cans.

Wish-cycling items often include Styrofoam, batteries, plastic cups/plates/bowls/utensils, deli containers, plastic packaging and (most commonly) plastic bags. WLSSD says bags thrown in with recyclables wreak havoc on the machinery at sorting facilities, and workers often spend hours each week unclogging machines. Fortunately, there are tentative plans in the works to offer a plastic film/bag recycling option at the township shed in the future. Bags can also be recycled at some local retail stores.

In the meantime, our shed will happily accept your glass and plastic bottles, tubs, jugs and jars, as well as paper and cardboard. Details can be found on our website recycling page.

The township recycling center is open Tuesday & Thursday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

HISTORICAL NOTES:

Contributed by the Canosia Township Historical Society

The following is a reproduction of an article that ran in the Duluth News Tribune on August 1, 1922.

Flier Advocates Municipal Landing

A municipal airplane landing field in close proximity to the city to facilitate the receipt of airplane supplies, was urged by Major R. S. Miller, yesterday, prior to his flight to the Twin Cities with four members of his party and two Curtiss H. type planes. Major Miller with three air lieutenants and E. H. Ostrom of the United States Department of Agriculture conducted a survey of air currents to obtain data to be used in a study of black rust elimination.

The two machines landed on Anderson's field near Pike Lake and this field is declared by Major Miller to be the only available field in this section of the state.

Use of this field is sanctioned by Mr. Anderson, who said that it is available for air pilots anytime after July 15, when

the hay crop will have been removed each year.

"It is a question of only a short time when towns and cities will be back numbers unless they establish suitable landing fields for airplanes," said Major Miller.

"If this section of the state wants to derive benefits from the Minnesota aero squadron it will be necessary to provide a landing field."

"This field here," said Major Miller pointing over the stubble in Anderson's field where the planes were anchored to stakes, "is the only possible site for a landing field in this section of the state adjacent to Duluth. Yet this site is too far from Duluth and a long way from supplies. There should be one closer to the city.

"In the winter, the inland lakes afford good landing sites, but this time of the year they are useless for

anything but hydroplanes."

"A permanent forest patrol in this section of the country also is needed during the forest fire danger period. Establishment of this patrol would necessitate a suitable city-owned landing field. This would save thousands of dollars in property in this part of the state. Millions of dollars in property is saved by similar patrol in California."

Duluth New-Tribune
August 1, 1922



If you need a good book, please stop by our Little Free Library located on the side of the town hall.

I just restocked it with a fresh batch of books for kids and adults!

Canosia Township Newsletter

Canosia Town Hall
4896 Midway Road
Duluth, MN 55811

TOWN HALL

4896 Midway Road, Duluth MN 55811
Phone/Fax: 218-729-9833

Email: canosiatownship@yahoo.com

Official Posting Places:
Town Hall and Intersection of Lavaque & Martin Roads

TOWN BOARD

Regular meeting: first Wed. of each month at 7 pm

Kurt Brooks, Chair: 393-0304
Kevin Comnick, Supervisor: 590-6473
Dan Golen, Supervisor: 464-2365
Susan Krasaway, Clerk: 590-6746
Cheryl Borndal, Treasurer: 729-9833

PLANNING & ZONING

Regular Meeting: 2nd Wed. of each month at 7 pm

Tim Walburg, Director: 340-5924
Call for building permits or P&Z questions
canosiapz@gmail.com

PLAWCS

Phone: 729-9007 Fax: 729-9447
Email: plawcsclerk@gmail.com
Website: www.PLAWCS.com

FIRE DEPARTMENT & BURNING PERMITS

Gene Stevens, Chief: 729-6211
Emergencies: 911
Burning Permits: Tom Amendola 393-5533

OTHER

Rec Area: Director Mike Ellingson: 260-5599

Historical Society: 729-9833, Regular meeting on the
fourth Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

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