



News From the Town Board

Caribou Lake Beach

Grand Lake Township has been blessed with a beautiful beach on the Birch Point Road, next to the DNR public boat landing. The beach is open to the public from Memorial Day through Labor Day from 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM. The Town Board has committed to improving the beach area and has recently acquired and installed two handicapped accessible toilets. The toilets are large enough to accommodate wheelchairs and, as an additional benefit, can serve as changing facilities for swimmers. Other enhancements include the addition of two fire rings and, as they are available, three concrete picnic tables. All those who use the beach must be aware that there will not be lifeguards on duty and all swimmers do so at their own risk. Parents are advised to supervise their children when they are in the water. Those who use the beach are asked to be considerate of others, pick up after themselves, restrain any pets (PLEASE – clean up after your pets) and take any garbage home with them. The Township will not be providing dumpster service due to the many abuses we've experienced in the past. Use of the picnic tables is on a first come, first served basis.



Community Center

The July 21, 2016 storm caused widespread damage within the Township. It also damaged the flagpole at the Community Center, leaving it leaning a bit. The Board intends to display our Nation's Flag at its best and decided that the old flag pole needed to go. The new flagpole was installed just prior to Memorial Day, just in time to be lowered to honor those who gave all for this country. The new pole now towers above the Community Center, proudly displaying Old Glory and is visible even from the Canosia Road.

Township Cemetery

Many Township residents have loved ones in the Township Cemetery. As time goes on, so does the fill used to cover the graves. The Board recently contracted to have all graves that had experienced settling leveled with black dirt and seeded. They were covered with a biodegradable erosion preventative material to protect them while the seed takes hold. We thank Frank DeLuca for the great job he does keeping all Township property mowed and looking beautiful.

News From the Board *continued...*

Township Meeting Dates

GRAND LAKE TOWN BOARD

Location: Town Hall

Regular Town Board Meeting

7:00 PM on 2nd Tuesday of the month

Annual Town Meeting

7:00 PM on 2nd Tuesday in March

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Location: Twig Fire Hall

Business Meeting

7:30 PM on 1st Tuesday of the month

Training Meeting

7:30 PM on 2nd & 3rd Thursdays after
1st Tuesday of the month



National Night Out

What is National Night Out?

The introduction of National Night Out, “America’s Night Out Against Crime”, in 1984 began an effort to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, neighborhood camaraderie and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. NATW’s National Night Out program culminates annually, on the first Tuesday of August.

Grand Lake Township National Night Out:

The first Grand Lake Township sponsored NNA was held in 2013 and was a huge success. Neighbors were reunited after years of not seeing each other; there was food and Deputies from the St. Louis County Sheriff’s Office including a K-9 that was a big hit with the kids! Each year we continue to have good attendance

Our 5th annual National Night Out event will be held on **Tuesday August 1st, 2017 from 5:30-7:30 pm** at the Grand Lake Township Community Center Pavilion. There will be food, Fire Department Open for tours, Sheriff’s Office Representatives and an opportunity for fellowship with your community neighbors.

Hope to see you there!

Please contact me with any questions!

Dewey Johnson 218-343-5760

Twig Recreation Facility

With the voter approval of the Proctor School District bonding for a new ice rink/multi-use facility in Proctor, funds were made available for recreation projects in the rural townships. Grand Lake is pursuing improvements to the Twig area recreation facility that will include an enhanced changing facility for hockey teams and the incorporation of a new tennis court. The present tennis court has exceeded its life and maintenance of the playing surface has become an on-going maintenance issue. Depending on MnDot plans for the area, the new tennis court may not be completed until 2018, however. Twig Area Hockey Association has stepped up to fund almost 50% of the cost of the enhanced changing facility.

News From the Board *continued...*

Bachelor Road Railroad Crossing

Gary Lucia, a bus driver from the Proctor School District, came to a monthly Board meeting to express concern about the difficulty he has getting a clear view of the CN railroad traffic from the West side of the Bachelor Road/CN crossing. Vic Lund, County Traffic Engineer, provided contact information that led to an inspection of the crossing with MnDot Rail Safety and Coordination Project Manager Paul DeLaRosa, Mr. Lucia and Proctor Director of Transportation Curt Benassi, St. Louis County Traffic Engineer Vic Lund and representatives of the CN.

A plan has been developed to realign the approach to the crossing from the West to allow traffic to approach the crossing perpendicular to the tracks with a level area of sufficient size to accommodate school busses and trucks. The expectation is that, with the realignment, bus drivers will have a clear view of the railroad in both directions, providing a safer situation.

There are five railroad/highway crossings in Grand Lake Township. Following is an excerpt from the *Ask a Trooper* column Sgt. Neil Dickenson, Minnesota State Patrol:

Collisions with trains are mostly preventable. In Minnesota, failure to yield the right of way, disregard of a traffic control device, improper turn and inattention and impatience are cited as the most common factors contributing to motor vehicle/train crashes.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation has worked to share the following rail safety tips:

1. *Yield the right-of-way to trains at highway-rail crossings. It's the law.*
2. *Never drive around lowering gates, it's illegal and deadly.*
3. *Never race a train to the crossing; even if it is a tie, you lose.*
4. *Expect a train on the track at any time, trains do not follow set schedules.*
5. *Look out for the second train when crossing multiple tracks.*
6. *Immediately get out of your vehicle if it stalls on the crossing, get clear of the tracks and call 911.*
7. *Always stop your vehicle, behind the white line when crossing gates are down or lights are flashing. Wait for the crossing gates to rise and lights to stop flashing and look both ways, listen and proceed with caution.*

Bicyclists and pedestrians should always look both ways before crossing railroad tracks, cross only in designated areas and avoid crossing when gates are down. They should be aware that trains may operate any time throughout the day and night in either direction, and please know that walking on the railroad tracks is illegal.

At 50 mph, it takes a fully-loaded freight train 1.5 miles to come to a full-stop. By the time the train engineer sees a vehicle or pedestrian on the tracks, it is often too late.

The chance of death or serious injury from a motor vehicle/train crash is 11 times greater than for other highway collisions.

Because of their size, approaching trains appear to be traveling at a slower speed.

Railroad tracks and property close to the tracks (railroad "right-of-way") belong to the railroad. People who don't have permission to be on railroad property are trespassing. Even if there isn't a "No Trespassing" sign, it's still illegal and dangerous to be on the property.

News From the Board *continued...*

New Lacrosse Program

Thanks to the efforts of dedicated volunteers, the Lacrosse program has grown to over 175 participants. The Township is pleased to see the extent of the program that was facilitated with the availability of the Earl Hanson field. Plans are being pursued to improve the area to save the early spring wear and tear on the fields and continue to accommodate the program. Thanks to all who helped make this program available to so many of our kids.



Volunteer Corner—Garden Club

The Township is a nicer place thanks to the volunteering of a group of ladies who grabbed their garden tools and got busy. They planted a garden at the Town property near the fire hall and also at the Township Cemetery. As life goes, they are not as able to maintain the gardens and the Town is asking for volunteers who enjoy gardening to step up and join in the effort to keep the gardens beautiful. If you are interested, please contact the Town Clerk at grandlakeclerk@hotmail.com.

The group of volunteers will be meeting on Tuesday July 18th from 6-9pm to work in the gardens. In the event of inclement weather the group will meet on Wednesday July 19th from 6-9pm.

Thank you in advance to all the volunteers that continue to make our Township beautiful.

Town Hall/Community Center Rental

Town Hall/Community Center Rental

For rental or questions, contact Frank DeLuca at 729-7941 or frankbdeluca@yahoo.com
View the Schedule, Rates and Download PDF files for the application and policy on the township
website: www.grandlaketownship.org

PLEASE NOTE: Tables and Chairs MUST NOT leave the building. *Thank you*

Holiday Reservation Lottery Policy (January 2017)

Due to the popularity of the Grand Lake Town Hall/Community Center, reservation requests for Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, reservations will be granted via a lottery entry form and requests are accepted six (6) months prior to the requested date. Lottery/Reservation forms must be received between the 1st and 15th day of the submittal month. Potential reservations are chosen in a "random lottery drawing" at a regularly scheduled board meeting.

Thanksgiving Day request forms are to be submitted in May.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day request forms are to be submitted in June.

Note: Along with your entry form you must submit a check for \$25 for the entry fee. Should you be picked for the holiday date requested your \$25 will be applied towards your \$100 refundable deposit. All entry forms and fees that aren't picked will be returned. If you are picked for the holiday date you will be contacted to make arrangements for the deposit. Should you cancel prior to the holiday your deposit will not be refunded. All refundable deposits will be returned following the holiday.

This policy will be in effect for the holidays listed above starting in 2018.

Note: Residents of Grand Lake Township only are to be considered for these holidays.

Please mail entry forms to: Grand Lake Clerk, PO Box 1023 Twig, MN 55791

GRAND LAKE TOWNSHIP

LOTTERY ENTRY APPLICATION for TOWN HALL

Date of the Event: _____

Applicant Information

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Residency Is the applicant a resident of the Town? ____ Yes ____ No

Community Information

Grand Lake Township is scheduled for reappraisal for assessment year 2018, for taxes payable in 2019. A real estate appraiser from the St. Louis County Assessor's Office will be visiting your property over the next several months. The appraiser will request permission to view the interior of your property. If you are not at home, a door hanger with the appraiser's business card attached will be left on the door indicating that the appraiser has viewed the exterior of your property. If you wish to have an interior inspection, you may call one of the numbers listed below to set up an appointment. This reappraisal is required by state law. It will ensure that our property data is accurate and will assist us in estimating a fair and equitable market value of your property for tax purposes.

Notices of valuation and classification will be mailed to you in the spring of 2018. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 218-726-2304.

How does the Assessor determine market value?

State law requires that the value and classification of real estate property be established as of January 2 each year. The Assessor's Office works throughout the year to estimate the market value of each property for the following January 2.

Views Property

Minnesota Statute 273.08 requires that the Assessor is responsible to review every parcel under his/her jurisdiction at least once every five years to make sure that the information used to establish market values is accurate and up to date. The appraisal interval may be shorter due to review appraisals requested by the homeowner, ongoing new construction, or if the appraiser feels there may be an error in the property information for a particular property. All new construction, alterations or improvements will be viewed in the current year.

Gathers Information

The appraiser gathers information on all characteristics of the property that affect market value, such as size, age, quality, condition, basement finish and extra features, such as fireplaces, extra baths, walkouts, etc.

Estimates value

The property characteristics are entered into a computerized system. The computer aids the Assessor in estimating the property value. Information from actual sales is used to update your market value. The market value estimated by the Assessor should be at, or very close to, the amount the property would sell for if placed on the open market. The State Board of Equalization requires the overall level of assessment to be between 90% and 105% of market value.

Analyze Sales

Each year the Assessor analyzes actual sales of property in each community. Preceding the January 2nd assessment date, sales in a 12 month time period (October 1st to September 30th) are reviewed to determine what properties have sold for on the open market. These sales are used as a guide to help determine "what similar properties would likely sell for" if they were placed on the market.

Notification

A Value Notice is mailed around mid-March each year to each property owner. The assessment on January 2 forms the basis for the following year's tax. That is, the value and classification on January 2, of the current year is used to calculate the next year's taxes.

Community Information cont.

Twig J-Turn — US-53 and CSAH 7/CR 885

Article submitted and published by Vic Lund—Traffic Engineer, St. Louis County, MN

Traffic crashes affect all of us – our family, our friends, our coworkers, and our neighbors. St. Louis County and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) have adopted a Toward Zero Deaths vision for our highway system. This vision is based on the belief that even one traffic related death on our roads is unacceptable.

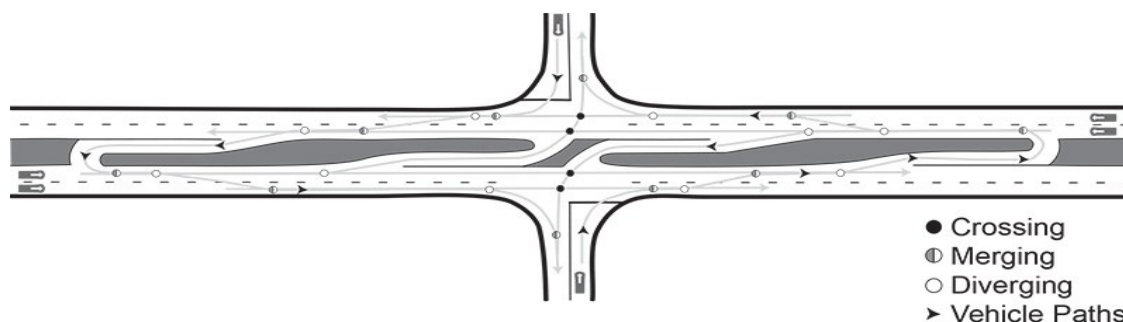
A review of serious crashes only (fatal or major injury) that occurred within St. Louis County for the five year time period of 2011 through 2015 finds that 68 percent of these crashes consist of just three crash types. They are single vehicle run-off-the-road crashes (31%), right angle or T-bone crashes (21%) and head-on crashes (15%). Looking deeper, 36% of the serious right angle crashes occur at divided highways such as US-53.

St. Louis County and MnDOT plan to construct a J-Turn in 2019 at the intersection of US-53 and Industrial Road (County Highway 7/885) in the community of Twig. The reason for this project is clear; it is to substantially improve the safety of this intersection. For the five year period of 2011 through 2015, this intersection ranks number one for total crashes and serious crashes on the US-53 corridor from Pike Lake to Eveleth. All of the injury crashes at this intersection were attributed to right angle crashes. The Minnesota experience with J-Turns is impressive. There have been a total of 13 J-Turns installed in Minnesota as of fall of 2016. At every one of these locations, there has been a complete elimination of serious crashes (fatal or major injury).

The J-Turn operation is simple. Traffic on US-53 will still have the ability to turn left or right onto Industrial Road as it does today. The only traffic that is directly affected by the J-Turn are vehicles on Industrial Road that want to make a left turn or through movement. Under the J-Turn design, this traffic will need to turn right onto US-53, proceed to the U-turn and come back to the intersection to complete their intentional movement. Based upon a traffic count of this intersection, the J-Turn is expected to directly affect the turning movements of only 7% of all the traffic that enters the intersection.

A schematic of a J-Turn is shown below. The arrows illustrate the paths of vehicles on the side street that want to make a left turn or through movement.

Representatives from St. Louis County and MnDOT will be present at the Grand Lake Town Board meeting on Tuesday, July 11 at 7:00 pm. The public is invited to attend this meeting to see the proposed J-Turn layout for Twig as well as ask questions about this project. Questions may be directed to Victor Lund, St. Louis County Traffic Engineer, at 218-625-3873 or Jim Miles, MnDOT Traffic Engineer, at 218-725-2789.



“Picture Source:
FHWA”

In the Community

Grand Lake Township Recycling Center

Our recycling center is funded by a grant from WLSSD. Currently we accept household glass, aluminum, and plastic containers, along with cardboard and mixed paper.

Details can be found at wlssd.com. This year WLSSD is also planning to add plastic film (i.e. grocery bags) recycling options at the township recycling center. More information to come this summer. Thank you for recycling!



Grand Lake Township
Recycling Center
5281 Canosia Road
729-9590

Year Round Hours
Tuesday 7:00am - 12:00pm
Wednesday 2:00pm - 7:00pm
Saturday 7:00am - 3:00pm

Reminder: Button and rechargeable batteries recycled at our facility.

Recycle

Stop Telemarketers from Calling You

The National Do Not Call Registry gives you the choice about whether to receive telemarketing calls at your home or your cell phone. Scammers have been making phone calls claiming to represent the National Do Not Call Registry. They claim to provide an opportunity to sign up for the registry. Do not respond to these calls. The Do Not Call Registry accepts registrations from both cell phones and land lines.

1-888-382-1222. You Must call from the phone number that you want to register. You can register online at donotcall.gov. Telemarketers should not call your number once it's been on the registry for 31 days. If they do call, you can file a complaint at: www.telemarketing.donotcall.gov.

Beware of Scams

Listed below are some common scams reported by the Sheriff that are common in our area.

- * Sweepstakes-Lottery: you won big money but need to send money to them first to cover money transfer expenses.
- * Overpayment-checks: you are due a rebate for an overpayment but the check was made out for to large an amount. You need to send the difference before they'll release the rebate check.
- * Grandparents-emergency: supposed relative in emergency, car broke down, stranded, etc. please send money
- * IRS phone calls: the IRS never initially calls you. If you have a problem they'll notify you by mail.
- * Computer repair: you get a notice your computer has a virus. They ask for passwords so they can "fix it". They get personal information off the computer. They may set up future breakdowns that you would need to pay again to fix.

Neighborhood Watch

Nationally, many people are concerned about the threat of rising crime in their communities. Fortunately, there are ways to help protect your home and your neighborhood from crime. From simple steps like keeping your doors locked to starting a Neighborhood Watch program, there are plenty of things you can do to prevent crime.

Work with your neighbors to keep your neighborhood clean and orderly. Keep spare keys with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in the mailbox. Set timers on lights when you're away from home so it appears to be occupied. Illuminate or eliminate places an intruder might hide: the spaces between trees or shrubs, stairwells, alleys, hallways, and entry ways. With many law enforcement agencies cutting costs, it has never been more important for citizens to work together to prevent crime. If something seems suspicious, report it by calling 911. For more information, check out McGruff's advice at his website (National Crime Prevention Council) at: www.ncpc.org/topics/home-and-neighborhood-safety and "**Take a bite out of crime!**".

In the Community *continued...*

Community Education

- ♦ **Zumba®** program fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program.

\$41 for an 8 week session—join anytime
\$6 drop in—punch cards available in 2,5 or 10 class quantities

Wear relaxed clothes and tennis-shoes; bring a hand towel and water bottle.

Wednesday's 6:00pm - 7:00pm
(May 31 - Aug 23)

Instructor: Heidi Pedersen

Mon/Tues (June 5 - Aug. 1)
(Aug. 7 - 29)
9:15am-10:00am

Instructor:
Melinda Vandervieren

- ♦ **Soma Yoga Flex**
7 week session on Thursdays,
June 23 - Aug. 31
9:30am-10:45am

Instructor: Judy Anderson

Cost is \$36 for the 7 week session



Come and exercise at the
Community Center
thru Aug 31
Classes: Tues & Thurs
from 8:30-9:30am

Broadband Update

The Grand Lake Township Broadband Committee has been researching high speed internet services for our area and has asked us to share their findings with our residents. For years, many of us have used DSL connected to a land line to access the net. If service was available, we would often see speeds of 6-8 Mega Bytes down, and .5-.7MB up. This falls well short of the national standard of 25MB down and 3MB up. A newly upgraded option is now available to nearly all addresses on Sunny and Shady Lanes. Savage Communications Inc. (SCI) can now provide us with speeds as high as 200MB. Typically a connection of 30MB down and 3MB up, bundled with digital telephone service will cost the same as, or slightly less than, the current land line and DSL service that we now use. There are no contracts required and no installation costs in most cases. If you are a seasonal resident, disconnect at the end of the season is free. Reconnect next season is available for a very reasonable fee. For more information and current pricing, SCI can be reached at [800-222-9809](tel:800-222-9809).

If you have interest in joining this community led committee to keep this initiative going please email grandlakeclerk@hotmail.com

Arrowhead Bookmobile

Mondays—2017 July 3 & 24; Aug. 14; Sept. 25; Oct. 16; Nov. 6 & 27; Dec 18

Twig - Town Hall/Comm Ctr 9:30-10:00

Pike Lake - Dairy Queen 10:30-11:30

Hermantown BP Station 12:15-12:45

Fredenberg—Community Ctr 1:15-1:45

218-741-3840 / 800-257-1442

www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us



Grooming By Barb



Barb Peterson
Professional Pet Stylist

218-729-4527

6263 Seville Road
Saginaw, MN 55779
scwt.cwc@gmail.com

Pick up and delivery available

GRAND LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Remember!



Grant Gimpel-Fire Chief
218-349-9022

Dan Lysher-Asst. Chief
218-348-3346

Jerry Tanski-Asst. Chief
218-730-7074



Twig Fire Station
PO Box 1083
Twig MN, 55779
218-729-5902

Help Us Help You

Enhanced 9-1-1 provides for automatically displaying the telephone number and location from which a 9-1-1 call has been placed.

Properly displaying your red & white 9-1-1 address number sign assists emergency responders to quickly locate the incident reported. Posting your address sign correctly may reduce the response time.

SLC Ordinance #41 and the Rural Address Sign Placement guidelines set the standards by which all rural address numbers are assigned.

The ordinance and guidelines also provide for the color, size, and installation rules by which all address signs are to be posted.

The sign post shall be placed within 10' of driveway access and at least 10' from the edge of the road surface.

Driveway Clearances:

Remove trees along the driveway to make it 12' wide.

Prune branches overhanging the driveway to have 14' overhead clearance.

Shared driveways should have signs properly placed near road and at your homes driveway entrance.

References:

<http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/LANDPROPERTY/BuildingZoning/911Address.aspx>

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/firewise/50things.html>

Membership and Volunteer Updates

Jerry Tanski - Assistant Fire Chief, Paul Mayfield – Safety Officer & Brandon Solem – Public Education Officer.

Thank you to Glen Solem, Frank Haydon & Paul Mayfield for holding these positions previously.

We would like to welcome Bill MacDonald to the Fire Department as well. Bill has brought some experience to the township, Bill was a volunteer firefighter in the Town of Superior, WI previously.

For more information please contact one of the Grand Lake Fire Department members listed on the left for more information or call the station at 218-729-5902.

Please leave a message if nobody is available to answer.



Fire Department Events



St. Louis County/GLVFD 5k Heroes Race for Wellness

Date: August 26, 2017 (Saturday)

Annual: 7th annual event

City: Twig, MN

Distance: 5k

Time: 9:15 AM

Location: Grand Lake Volunteer Fire Department on Highway 53 and Canosia Road

Course: The course is a hilly out-and-back route.

Surface: Paved Road

Divisions: 0-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+

Awards: There are division awards for the 5k run. The top 3 male and female competitive walkers and teams also receive awards.

Notes: Honoring Steve O'Neil, Dave Fremling and all those who have served the public. The goal is to support and encourage the greater health and wellness of all employees, retirees, their families, friends, and neighbors.

Pre-register to guarantee yourself a t-shirt. Door prizes will be drawn. There is a free 1-mile kids' race for children 12 and under at 9am. There are also competitive walking and 5 person team divisions in the 5k.

Grand News

- **The next issue deadline—October 15, 2017** . Please submit articles, information, upcoming events or advertising anytime prior to the 15th.
- The GRAND NEWS is published tri-yearly (March, July and November) by Grand Lake Township. Contents of the newsletter are solely the opinion and responsibility of the identified contributors and not the responsibility of the Township.
- **Pre-Paid** advertising is available. \$20/issue for a business card size ad and \$50/issue for a 1/4 page ad. Ads will not be placed if pre-payment does not occur. To continue your ad or change current ad copy, please initiate contact with the editor.
- Send information to: grandlakeclerk@hotmail.com or Grand News, P.O. Box 1023, Twig, MN 55791
- Editor, LeeAnn Vanderscheuren, can be reached at 464-2392 or grandlakeclerk@hotmail.com

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
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PERMIT NO. 665

Contact Numbers:

Town Office (phone & fax)
729-8978 www.grandlaketownship.org

Town Board—Elected Officials

Duayne Anderson, Town Supervisor
729-9189 / duaynea1@msn.com
Dewey Johnson, Town Supervisor
590-7109 / deweyj27@aol.com
Steve Torgeson, Town Supervisor
729-8655/ torginaut@msn.com
LeeAnn Vanderscheuren, Town Clerk
464-2392/grandlakeclerk@hotmail.com
Amanda Radzak, Town Treasurer
590-4066/ grandlaketreasurer@hotmail.com

Contacts for Specific Questions

Town Hall Rental: Frank DeLuca 729-7941
Cemetery: Paul Bergquist 729-6462

Fire Wardens: (dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire)

Paul & Jane Bergquist 729-6462
Grant & Georgianna Gimpel 729-6561
Dan & Cheryl Larson 729-5411

Township Permits & Zoning

(St. Louis County Planning Dept—
www.stlouiscountymn.gov) 725-5000

Fire Department

Grant Gimpel, Fire Chief 349-9022
Dan Lysher, Asst. Chief 348-3346
Jerry Tanski, Asst. Chief 730-7074

Posting Locations: (*Public/Legal Notices*) Town Hall/Community Center, Twig Store & Recycling Center

Elections: Coordinated with the National/State Elections on even-numbered years in August (Primary) & November (General) at the Town Hall/Comm. Ctr.