

Bridgewater Township Newsletter

October 2019

Snow Removal

We would like to remind Bridgewater Township residents that it is unlawful to deposit snow onto public roadways or to push snow across public roadways per **Minnesota Statute 160.2715**. Snow deposited or pushed onto the road can create hazards to the public and future snow removal operations. Citizens that violate this statute could face misdemeanor and/or civil penalties if the snow creates a hazard that contributes to an accident. The Township snow removal/sanding trucks will be out as soon as possible following a 2" snow event. The Township is not responsible for any damage resulting from snow thrown in the road right-of-way.

Incorporation Study

In early August, several Board members had conversations with people who have been through the incorporation process. It became clear that we have considerably more work to do to submit an application for incorporation. At almost the same time, the City of Northfield proposed that the current annexation agreement be extended for 5 years and that Bridgewater agree to not petition for incorporation during those 5 years. During that time, we would work together to both develop a new annexation agreement and to jointly work to see if there are ways of working with the City and County to achieve our goals without incorporating.

The agreement we reached with Northfield, which has been formalized in a joint resolution, is essentially:

1. The Orderly Annexation Agreement will be extended for three years.
2. Bridgewater will not apply for incorporation for three years.
3. We will meet at least quarterly to develop a new annexation agreement and to see if there are other ways Northfield can assist us in meeting our long-term goals.
4. Northfield will not initiate litigation against the Township concerning incorporation during these three years.
5. If either Party is not satisfied with the progress in the joint meetings (item 3), they can exit the agreement which would then dissolve in 180 days.

There is no restriction on the Township's ability to continue developing an application for incorporation.

Board of Supervisors

John Holden will be moving out of the township this fall. His position will be filled by appointment by Kathleen Kopseng until the March 2020 Township Elections. If you are interested in running during the March election, please contact the Clerk. Candidates for Town Office can file between December 31, 2019, and January 14th, 2020.

The Board of Supervisors is also looking at expanding the Board to five Supervisors. In doing so, this allows the work load to be spread out and results in a reduced time commitment for individual Supervisors. Another benefit of additional Supervisors is when working on large projects, Supervisors could work as committee without calling a special meeting to discuss the project. This change will be presented on the March 2020 Township ballot.

Building Permits

Permits for remodeling and new building are required in the township. Permits are available online at our website: bridgewatertp.org. Building inspections are being handled by Inspectron. If you need an inspection for a current building project, please call 651-322-6626 to set up an inspection time.

Planning and Zoning: Jim Braun – 1-800-851-3383 (or bridgewaterpermits@gmail.com)

Septic: Darrel Gilmer – 651-775-6118 (or dgilmerexc@yahoo.com).

Election Judges

2020 is going to be a busy year for elections with the Presidential Primary and Township election in March, the Primary in August, and the General Election in November. If you are interested in becoming an election judge please contact Frances Boehning at clerk@bridgewatertp.org or 507-645-1656.

Meetings

The Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors meets on the second Wednesday monthly at 7:00 pm in the Bridgewater Town Hall at 500 Railway Street, Dundas. The Bridgewater Planning and Zoning Commission meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Bridgewater Town Hall. These meetings are open to the public. Any additional meetings will be posted on the bulletin board at the town hall.

Bridgewater Township Board – Contact Information

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