

Bridgewater Township Newsletter

March 2023

Annual Meeting and Election Notice

Notice is hereby given that the Election of Township Officers and Annual Meeting of Bridgewater Township will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 8:15pm. Officers up for election as follows:

-One Supervisor "C" – 3-year term

-One Supervisor "E" – 3-year term

-One Treasurer – 2-year term

Candidates running for office are:

-Kathleen Kopseng – Supervisor "C"

-Thomas Hart – Supervisor "E"

-Derek Kruse – Supervisor "E"

-Emily Fulton-Foley – Supervisor "E"

Voting hours will be from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm. Canvass of votes will take place following the annual meeting.

Annual Meeting will convene at 8:15 pm to conduct all business necessary as prescribed by law.

In the case of inclement weather, the Annual Meeting and Election will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at:

Bridgewater Town Hall
500 Railway Street
Dundas, MN 55019

Any persons wishing to vote by absentee ballot may do so by contacting the Rice County Auditor's Office in Faribault, MN up until March 14, 2023 at 3:00pm.

Dust Control

In July 2022 the Town Board passed a resolution limiting the amount of dust control to specific high traffic areas only. The reason for the change from the past practice is that dust control has become too expensive to do the Township's entire roads on a regular basis. Starting this Spring, Township residents living on Township roads will be able to purchase dust control through the Township. Interested residents will submit a completed application and payment in early spring and the Township will coordinate the dust control application. Township residents also have the option to hire their own dust control company for application. It is recommended that residents hiring their own application coordinate with the Road Superintendent to avoid having the road graded after application. The dust control application and cost schedule will be made available in the coming month on the Township's website as well as at the Town Hall. Please contact the Clerk at 507-645-1656 for any additional questions or concerns.

Bridgewater Township Levy

The Board is recommending increasing the levy by 7%. The levy for 2023 is \$372,442. An increase of 7% would bring the 2024 levy to \$398,513. Over the last decade the levy increase has been between 3% and 4% per year. Increasing costs for basic items over the last year is the reason for the larger increase for 2024. For example, the average expenditure for truck and grader fuel over the 3 years 2019 – 2021 was \$6,183. In 2022 it jumped to \$12,116. The levy supplies about half of the Township's revenue. The levy must be approved by the voters attending the annual meeting on March 14.

Industrial District

In 2022 the Township, working with landowners, created a 340-acre Rural Industrial District. It is along the east side of the Union Pacific tracks and spans 140th Street. A company is considering locating a cold storage facility there. If they do settle on this location, construction for phase 1 would begin late summer of 2023 with operations starting in December 2024. Phases 2, 3 and 4 are planned through 2030. The Township would be improving 140th Street, providing sewer, water and a fiber optic connection, and be involved in the construction of a rail siding.

Bridgewater Township Septic Inspector

Bridgewater Township's Septic Inspector, Darrel Gilmer, has expressed interest in retiring in the near future. After careful consideration, the Board has made a decision beginning April 1st, 2023 to utilize Inspectron as its new Septic Inspector. The Board wishes to thank Darrel for his continued service and sends best wishes in his retirement.

Bridgewater Town Hall Office Hours

Monday: 8:30am – 12:30pm

Tuesday: 8:30am – 12:30pm

Wednesday: 8:30am – 12:30pm

Thursday: 1:00pm – 4:30pm

Friday – Closed

Bridgewater Contact Information

Email: board@bridgewatertp.org

Email: clerk@bridgewatertp.org

Township Website: www.bridgewatertp.org

Phone: 507-645-1656