

Bridgewater Township Newsletter

June 2024

Roads / Dust Control

The Township has about 30 miles of gravel and 5.5 miles of black top roads. The cost of dust control and repaving has risen significantly over the last several years. Dust control for most of the roads, which used to cost \$50,000, now costs about \$130,000. This summer the Township will start applying dust control on the 10 miles of road on which we are also putting down new gravel. This means each road will receive gravel and dust control once every three years. Dust control will also be applied annually on a few roads where businesses are located.

Roads that will be receiving dust control in 2024 are, Baldwin Ave from Hwy 3 to Co Rd 59, Decker Ave from Co Rd 59 to Dundas City Limits, 100th St E from Cates Ave to Decker Ave, 115th St, Dahle Ave from Hwy 3 to 135th St and 135th St. Residents who live on a gravel road that is not receiving dust control in said year and would like it applied may contact the supplier directly. The Township supplier is SW Dust Treatment, 507-220-8699 or 507-220-4494. The Township is looking into an alternative to dust control and gravel which is a type of emulsion on the current gravel on the roads. This would eliminate dust and the need for continued new gravel on the roads.

Most of the paved roads are due for reconstruction. The cost of this is about \$350,000 per mile meaning the total cost would be around \$2,000,000. The Township is in the process of planning the financing and the timing of the work. This will probably begin in 2025.

Northfield School Referendum - Superintendent Hillmann

The Northfield Public School District has been seeking the right pathway to address the facility problems at Northfield High School since 2017. On March 11th, 2024, the Northfield Board of Education directed district administration to prepare a three-question bond referendum to be held in conjunction with the general election on November 5th, 2024. This referendum will address these problems which include safety, academic and music learning spaces, athletic programs and spaces, and antiquated equipment and building systems. Superintendent Dr. Matt Hillmann will recap the board's process, explain how the bond referendum can solve these problems, and provide an opportunity to ask questions at the next Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisor's Meeting held on Wednesday, July 10th at 4pm.

Voting in Upcoming Elections

A Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, for the purpose of nominating Candidates for the following offices, which are to be voted for at the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024. Polling Place for Bridgewater Township residents is the Bridgewater Town Hall, 500 Railway St. S, Dundas MN 55019. Polling Hours are 7:00am 0 8:00pm.

- One U.S. Senator
- One U.S. Representative District 1
- One U.S. Representative District 2

Core X Partners Project Status / Comus Industrial District

The Township, with help from Rice County and the agreement of landowners, created the Comus Industrial Park in 2022. It is 340 acres on the east side of the railroad tracks and straddling 140th Street. The company, CORE X Partners, has a purchase agreement for 80 acres. They intend to build a cold storage facility which will handle frozen food products packaged for the grocery store. They operate 9 facilities around the United States currently. CORE X Partners intends to start construction of Phase 1, a 200,00 sq ft facility, this year and be operational in mid-2025. There are two additions planned for this initial building. The first phase includes paving 140th Street to a 10-ton capacity road and building a rail siding. The Township could see the initial taxes from this project in 2026, estimated at \$20,000, growing to \$110,000 in 2029. Northland Securities is working with the Township on financing options and providing an independent assessment of the overall financial effect on the Township. The long-term goal is to have tax revenue from the Industrial Park replace the \$150,000 per year the Township receives from the landfill host fee. The landfill is projected to close around 2040.

Bridgewater Contact Information

Email: board@bridgewaterwp.org

Email: clerk@bridgewaterwp.org

Township Website: www.bridgewaterwp.org

Phone: 507-645-1656