

# Bridgewater Township Newsletter

February 2025

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## **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 11, 2025 at 8:15pm. Officers up for election as follows:

**-One Supervisor "B" – 3-year term**

**-Treasurer – 2-year term**

**Candidates running for office are:**

**-Andrew Ebling – Supervisor "B"**

**-Debbie Salaba – Treasurer**

Voting hours will be from 2:00 pm 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 18, 2025 at 7:00pm at the 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 11, 2025 at 8:00pm.

We hope to see you at the annual meeting.

## **Comus Industrial Park**

In early January, the company CORE X Partners informed the Board that they had decided to not build a cold storage facility in the Bridgewater Township Comus Industrial Park. This was one of several capital projects and acquisition they have cancelled. Fortunately, the Township had not entered into contracts for building infrastructure. The \$1.6M grant the Township has received to rebuild 140<sup>th</sup> Street is FY 2027 Federal funds. The Township will keep the grant alive and try to attract other companies.

## **Roads**

Some of the 5.5 miles of paved roads in the Township need to be rebuilt. The Township is planning to do a substantial part of this work in 2026. Due to the cost of these projects, the Township will be bonding in late 2025 to pay for the work expected to be done in 2026. One of the requirements for the bond is that professional engineers assess the condition of the roads. At the February Board of Supervisors meeting the Board authorized the engineering firm Stantec to do the assessment by June 30<sup>th</sup> for an amount not to exceed \$3,200. Stantec engineers will be out and around this spring assessing the roads. The statute (MS 475.58) authorizing bonding for this type of maintenance requires that at minimum 20% of the cost be assessed to property owners. Early this summer the Board will decide which roads to repair and the terms of the assessment. The Township expects to advertise for bids early this fall.

## **Snow Removal and Mailboxes**

The Township snow removal/sanding trucks will be out as soon as possible following a 2" snow event. Following a wet snow, the weight of the snow being thrown into the ditch can exceed 500 lbs. Older wooden mailbox supports are not able to withstand this pressure and topple over easily. Mailboxes and mailbox supports are the property of the resident. The most important features of a mailbox installed according to MN DOT recommendations and placed on a rural roadway includes the following:

1. The post is located a minimum of three feet from the edge of the road shoulder
2. The front of the mailbox is located above the edge of the shoulder
3. The bottom of the box is between 42" and 48" above the shoulder
4. The installation can pivot or rotate in some fashion when the snow or snowplow blade hits the mailbox.

If, during plowing, a mailbox is tipped or knocked over by the weight of the snow, it is the resident's responsibility to enact repairs. If the mailbox is a properly installed standard swing away mailbox (see back of newsletter for MN DOT recommendations), and in compliance with MN State Statute 169.072 and MN Rule 8818.0100, and the vertical support is damaged by physical contact with township equipment it will be replaced with a Township approved mailbox at the Township's expense.

## **Bridgewater Contact Information**

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