

Winter 2016

Hours:

Mon. & Weds. 8:30 – 4:00

Tues & Thurs 7 – 4:30



3385 197th Street
Farmington, MN 55024
Phone: 651-463-4494
Fax: 651-463-4620
Email: info@township.empire.mn.us
Web: empiretownship.govoffice.com

Board of Supervisors

Meetings 2nd & 4th
Tuesdays 8:00 p.m.
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Terry Holmes, Chair
651-463-3091
Edward Gerten
651-463-4433
Jamie Elvestad
651-463-4748

Planning Commission

Meetings 1st & 3rd
Tuesdays 8:00 p.m.
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Trent Larson
651-460-6404
Tom Kaldunski
651-460-6912
Jared Sachs
651-463-3169
Cheryl Jacobson
651-463-2131
Jim Hagerty
651-428-4726

Park & Rec

Meetings 2nd & 4th
Mondays 7:00 p.m.
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Joy Bester, Chair
651-463-0014
Kaye Mortimer
651-460-2737
Duane Snesrud
651-463-3198
Mike Carey
651-208-7547
Josh Lindgren
612-210-3652

Township Contacts

651-463-4494
Kathy Krippner
Clerk-Treasurer
Jill Parkins
Deputy Clerk-
Treasurer

Maintenance

Jeff Hince
651-470-5056
Paul Henry
651-759-4081



**Winter is the time for comfort,
for good food and warmth,
for the touch of a friendly hand and
for a talk beside the fire:
it is the time for home.
~Edith Sitwel**

2015 Review

Once again Empire Township was busy in 2015. Below are a few items that have kept the Town Board, Planning Commission, Park & Rec along with the personnel busy.

- ★ Township March election Ed Gerten was re-elected as Supervisor for a 3 year term.
- ★ Summer Glen 2nd Addition's plat was approved in February 2015.
- ★ MNDNR Maintenance and Use Monitoring Well Agreement with a well at Sachs park and one at the Town Hall was approved.
- ★ The School District 192 turned over to Empire the small section of land on the corner of 197th and Chippendale.
- ★ Street lights were installed at Chesterfield and 201st Street, 201st Street and Cascade and on the corner of Biscayne Ave. and 197th.
- ★ Empire approved a Joint Powers Agreement for South Metro Roadway Maintenance Services for better pricing.
- ★ Gravel was applied to 210th & Biscayne.
- ★ 170th Street to WhiteTail Woods Park was paved by the County.

Stelzel Fields

- Empire Township's maintenance crew built dugouts and installed bleachers that the Farmington Girls Fast Pitch Association donated \$6,000 towards.
- Jacob Leshner, with troop 118, for his Eagle Scout project, did a wonderful job of installing the Stelzel Field flag pole. Thank you Jacob!
- Tried to get a men's softball league but there was not enough interest.
- Dew Days Men's Softball Tournament was held.

Park and Rec

- Participated in Geocaching for Dew Days
- Hosted the Empire Celebration July 30th
- Tennis courts were refinished
- Hosted the Holiday Party December 12

Snowflakes are like kisses sent down from heaven.

Permits:

- ❖ Empire had 45 new home permits in 2015.
- ❖ MN Cambodian Buddhist Society CUP was renewed with the residence addition authorized. There was a traffic study done in April and October for their two celebrations.
- ❖ URSA Community Solar, LLC was approved for a solar panel garden on Nordseth's property off the minimum maintenance road.
- ❖ SunEdison's solar garden permit for Greg & Char Feely's property was approved.
- ❖ Toro Company CUP to conduct research and testing on equipment and vehicle product lines.
- ❖ SET, Inc./RRT LLC renewed their 5-year IUP for organic waste composting and solid waste transfer facility off of Blaine Ave..
- ❖ Hope Lutheran Church in Summer Glen 2nd Addition along Highway 3 CUP was approved.
- ❖ Fischer Sand & Aggregate 5-year IUP for mineral extraction and expansion of the mine was approved.
- ❖ Tiller Corp. IUP for the Brandtjen property was renewed.
- ❖ McNamara's 10-year IUP for operating a road construction business within the existing office and storage buildings, with additional equipment and employees on site was renewed.
- ❖ Dakota County Gun Club's permit was renewed

*Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.
~Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Park and Rec Opening: The Empire Township Park and Rec has an opening. The Park and Rec meet up to two Monday's of the month, the second and the fourth at 7:00 p.m.... They host the Empire Celebration the Thursday prior to the County Fair and the annual Holiday Party the 2nd Saturday in December. If you would like to be an active member of our Park and Rec Board, please fill out and turn in a Volunteer Position application which can be found on the front page of our website or from the Town Hall. The deadline for the applications is January 15, 2016.

Election: The annual Township election of officers will be held on March 8 from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. held at Empire Town Hall. Following the election will be the Township Annual Meeting. Filing for candidacy opens December 29, 2015 and closes January 12, 2016 at 5:00 p.m... If new to the area or haven't voted for a while, please pre-register or fill out the registration form and bring it with you. Pre-registration closes on February 16, 2016. Voter Registration applications are on the bottom of the front page of our website: EmpireTownship.govoffice.com.

Let this New Year be the one where all your dreams come true. So, with a joyful heart, put a start to this New Year. Here's wishing you a happy and prosperous 2016.

Tips for Surviving the Winter Plowing Season

A little patience and a cooperative attitude are essential ingredients for getting through the winter plowing season. When we as citizens, plowing contractors, and town crews work together, we can reduce frustrations that sometimes accompany winter snowstorms. When the snow and ice come, just follow the "Top Tips" for the winter plowing season:

- Observe Empire Township's winter parking regulations. Don't park your car on the street between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m., or after a two-inch snowfall. This not only ensures more effective plowing but also helps you avoid a citation.
- Residents may find it less frustrating to wait until the plow trucks have completed their street before cleaning the end of their driveway. The Township plow units are designed to discharge snow to the sides of the road and are not capable of skipping driveway areas.
- Snow from the bottom of the driveway should be shovelled to the right as you're facing the street. This will reduce the amount of snow being placed back into the driveway during the next plowing.
- Residents hiring contractors to plow their driveways should remind the contractor about state and local laws that prohibit pushing or placing snow back into or across the street. Doing so not only creates hazards for drivers, but also makes it difficult for the city to keep the streets clean.
- Residents should clear snow from the mailbox area after each plowing.
- **If trash/recycling pickup day coincides with plowing activities, make sure your trash can and recycling bin are well behind the curb or in the driveway so the plow will not hit them.**
- Don't allow children to build snow forts and tunnels in the snow banks adjacent to the curb, or to play near the curbs. It can be difficult for the plow operators to see children.



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