

## Fall 2017

### Hours:

Mon. & Weds. 8:30 – 3:00

Tues & Thurs 7 – 4:30



3385 197<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Farmington, MN 55024  
 Phone: 651-463-4494  
 Fax: 651-463-4620  
 Email: [info@township.empire.mn.us](mailto:info@township.empire.mn.us)  
 Web: [empiretownship.govoffice.com](http://empiretownship.govoffice.com)

### Board of

#### Supervisors

Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Tuesdays 8:00 p.m.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
 Terry Holmes, Chair  
 651-463-3091  
 Edward Gerten  
 651-463-4433  
 Jamie Elvestad  
 651-463-4748

### Planning

#### Commission

Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Tuesdays 8:00 p.m.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
 Trent Larson  
 651-460-6404  
 Tom Kaldunski  
 651-460-6912  
 Jared Sachs  
 651-463-3169  
 Corey Schweich  
 612-501-3890  
 Jim Hagerty  
 651-428-4726

### Park & Rec

Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Mondays 7:00 p.m.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
 Joy Bester, Chair  
 651-463-0014  
 Jessica Boelman  
 651-295-5550  
 Duane Snesrud  
 651-463-3198  
 Jill Parkins  
 612-210-0188  
 Mike Carey  
 651-208-7547  
 Josh Lindgren  
 612-210-3652

### Township Contacts

651-463-4494  
 Kathy Krippner  
 Clerk-Treasurer  
 Denise Williamson  
 Deputy Clerk-  
 Treasurer

### Maintenance

Jeff Hince  
 651-470-5056  
 Luke Fischer  
 651-248-6731



### *An Autumn Day*

*Pumpkins in the cornfields,  
 Gold among the brown,  
 Leaves of rust and scarlet  
 Trembling slowly down;  
 Birds that travel southward,  
 Lovely time to play;  
 Nothing is as pleasant  
 As an autumn day!*

~~~Carmen Lagos Signes

Empire Township would like to welcome Jerod Waltman to our maintenance department. Jerod will be replacing Paul Henry who is now retired.

**Right-of-Ways** – In the mixed residential along the streets and in Empire’s Ag District along the roadways are right-of ways. A right-of-way is property dedicated for public and/or certain private uses that is used or planned to be used for roadways, sidewalks, railroads, pedestrian/bicycle trails, pond access, utility lines, electrical lines, oil or gas pipelines or other similar uses. Sprinkler systems, dog fences, any construction of any type, etc. should not be in a right-of-way. For any structure, you need to follow the setbacks which are stated in our Zoning Ordinance No. 400 out on our website. If you don’t follow the setbacks, your structure will have to be removed. Our Right-of-Way Ordinance No. 375 is also out on our website. Before digging, you need to call Gopher State One Call at 651-454-0002.

**Solar Gardens** - Empire Township has approved 3- one megawatt solar gardens in our Ag District. Solar power has been in use for over 50 years. As the solar panels generate DC electricity from the sun, that energy will flow into an inverter where it will be conditioned into AC electricity. Solar modules carry a standard 25-30 year production warranty and a solar electric system that is designed, installed, and maintained properly can last more than 40 years.

**Keep America Beautiful** – Over the last few years, Empire has noticed an increase in litter along our roads. Litter is more than just blight on our landscape. Litter is costly to clean up, impacts our quality of life and economic development, and eventually ends up in our waterways and oceans. Litter near storm drains, can contaminate waterways. Because storm drains lead to waterways, litter can pose a potential hazard to marine life should these materials end up in our nation’s water system.

Do not litter along the roads or in the ditches! If you see someone dumping garbage, call 911 and report it. Bag your garbage so that it does not fly out of the garbage trucks. Let’s keep America Beautiful and save tax dollars.

*Autumn is an artist who uses an oak leaf on which to paint a masterpiece.*

~~~William Allen Ward



### **Rake them up, not out!**

Keep your leaves and grass clippings off the streets. When it rains, leaves are washed into storm drains and directly into our storm ponds. Once they get into the water and begin to decay, the leaves release nutrients that cause the green algae in our ponds. Compost leaves for a nutrient-rich fertilizer for your gardens. Or, use a mower to chop leaves into small particles and apply directly to your lawn to enrich it. Or use chopped leaves as winter mulch for your flower gardens.

Or, stop in at Empire Town Hall for a **free compost permit** to drop off your leaves/compost at SET/RRT, 16454 Blaine Ave.. This is a great benefit for Empire Township residents.

**Snow removal and parking:** As much as some people hate the thought of winter, it is coming. We would like to remind you that any vehicle left unattended upon any street, parking lot or public area, which constitutes an obstruction to traffic or to removal of snow, may be removed at the vehicle's owner's expense per Ordinance No. 240.

Pushing, blowing, shovelling or storing snow onto or across public roadways is also a violation of the Minnesota State Statutes Section 169.42, subd.1 and Section 412.221, Subd. 6. Residents are encouraged to contact the Township if this type of activity is occurring and to remind any private contractors of the snow obstruction restrictions.

On garbage collection day, place your garbage can four feet off the road so that the plows do not hit them, damage them and drag them down the road. Plowed snow will knock over the garbage can and garbage will be all over the place.

Cul-de-sacs – When plowing snow in cul-de-sacs, the plows will go through once to allow people to get out. At a later time, they will come back and clean it up. Empire cul-de-sacs are designed with enough right-of-way for the snow to be deposited along the edge of the cul-de-sac.

It is important to keep fire hydrants shoveled in case we might need them!

**Hydrant Flushing:** The scheduled date to start hydrant flushing is the week of October 16. When the hydrants are being flushed, you may notice a change in water pressure and clarity. Do not run hot water until the water is clear. This change should only occur during the flushing cycle. While flushing this time, the guys are doing a pressure test on the hydrants, so flushing may take a little extra time.

### *Mark your calendars!*

**Empire Township's Holiday Party** is December 9, 2017 at the public works building from 10 – Noon. Free admission. See the enclosed red flyer.

**Dakota Heritage Village**, 4008 220<sup>th</sup> Street W, Farmington, MN - Autumn Harvest in the Village, October 20 & 21, 2017 Noon – 6:00 p.m. - Join in on the fun creating a carved pumpkin for the Pumpkin Carving Contest, build a scarecrow, guess the \$ amount in the piggy bank, shell corn, grind corn into flour, use an old fashioned hand pump, play games and create activities from autumn items. The popular Dakota City Medallion Hunt will be held again with the prize of \$100 being awarded to the finder.

*Come little leaves said the wind one day. Come to the meadows with me and play. Put on your dresses of red and gold for summer is past and the days grow cold. ~George Cooper*