

Spring 2020

Hours:

Mon. - Thur. 8AM - 4:30PM

Fri. 8AM - 11:00AM



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.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
Trent Larson
651-460-6404
Tom Kaldunski
651-460-6912
Jared Sachs
651-463-3169
Bob Bjerke
651-357-8273
Chris Williamson
651-357-8273

Park & Rec

Meetings 2nd & 4th
Mondays 7:00 p.m.

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Mike Carey, Chair
651-208-7547
Jessica Boelman
651-295-5550
Duane Snesrud
651-463-3198
Jill Parkins
612-210-0188
Josh Lindgren
612-210-3652
Nicole Bower
651-354-9283

Township Contacts

651-463-4494
Charles Seipel
Clerk-Treasurer
Denise Williamson
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Maintenance

Jeff Hince
651-470-5056
Luke Fischer
Jerod Waltman



Spring

by: Unknown

I love the spring.
For every day
There's something new
That's come to stay.
Another bud
Another bird
Another blade
The sun has stirred.

Congratulations to Terry Holmes and Jamie Elvestad for being re-elected for Town Board Supervisor. Thank you to all who came and voted in the Presidential Primary and Township Elections. We had a great turnout.

COVID-19 NOTICE: (As of the Publication of this Newsletter) Due to the virus all Empire Township buildings are closed to the public until further notice. We ask that you call the office if you should need anything. All Planning Commission and Park & Rec meetings have been cancelled until further notice. Our trails and parks remain open; However, all Playground Equipment and Public Restrooms are closed. Park & Rec summer programs through the month of June have been cancelled. Empire Township is not currently taking rentals for the Public Works Building. Watch our website for updates and cancelations. Please stay healthy and safe!

Reminder: Our Town Board meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 8:00 pm, Planning Commission meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 8:00 pm and, Park & Rec commission meets the 2nd and 4th Monday at 7:00 pm. All meetings are open meetings at the Town Hall meeting room. We get a lot of good ideas from residents and greatly value your input.

Drive Carefully Around Road Equipment

Township Maintenance Staff are busy grading roads and filling potholes this spring. Please be mindful and drive carefully near the operators and their road equipment when you are traveling on Township streets and roads this spring!

Empire Township Nuisance Ordinance (No. 280)

Reminder: The Empire Township Nuisance Ordinance is currently in effect. Among other items, the ordinance covers noise and prohibits the following:

“Any distinctly and loudly audible noise, except noise generated from normal farm practices, that unreasonably annoys, disturbs, or endangers the comfort, peace, or welfare of any person, or precludes their enjoyment of property.”

Please be courteous to your neighbors. The whole Ordinance can be found on Empire Township's website, under the “Ordinances” tab.

SAVE WATER... SAVE \$\$\$\$

Township Watering Ban - If your house number ends in an even number, water on even calendar days. If it ends in an odd number, water on odd number calendar days. There will be no watering of yards/gardens between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on any day. Citations will be given. The first offense is \$25 and \$50 every time after that. If there is a power outage, please check your irrigation system to make sure the clock is set right. Please plan ahead. **With watering lawns come higher water bills!**

ALERTS

Empire Township uses Swift Reach to alert residents of issues in the township. This program sends out an alert using your telephone number. If you have not been receiving alerts via your phone you may sign up on our web site by clicking on the Swift Reach logo on the home page.

Want to be informed of happenings in Empire? You can sign up for emails at <https://www.township.empire.mn.us> and clicking on "Online Registration-submit email address" tab on the left-hand side of the home page.

Spring Reminders

Hydrant Flushing is expected to begin the first part of April (flushing may take up to two weeks). While the hydrants are being flushed, you may notice a change in water pressure and clarity. This change should only occur during the flushing cycle. Try not to do laundry during this time. But, if you should notice rusty water in your laundry, do not dry the clothes. If this happens, stop by the Town Hall and pick up some rust remover.

Dogs

Dogs running at Large is prohibited. Dogs must be on a leash and accompanied by a responsible person when in streets or on public land. Dogs must also be cleaned up after both on public and private property.

Empire Township Does Not Host a Spring Clean-Up Day; However Compost Permits are FREE for Empire Township Residents. Contact Empire Town Hall to get a permit. For the time that the Hall is closed to the public, you will need to call or e-mail your information for the permit. Permits are good for one year. The compost drop off site is located at SET, 16454 Blaine Ave. Do not burn the compost! It is illegal.



Street and Highway Construction – There will be several projects taking place on Highway 3 this summer, including the construction of a roundabout at 170th street and the installation of turn lanes at several intersections in Empire Township. These projects will result in detours and delays. Keep up to date on the latest by going to: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy3farmington-empiretwp/>

Story Walk Returns to Empire

Get out and walk while enjoying a wonderful children's book. Story Walk is meant to help children enjoy reading and the outdoors and includes pages from a children's book attached to signs along the park trail. Story Walk will start at the Empire Township Town Hall and follow the path around the pond to the Calgary Trail intersection. We are working on getting this up early so you can enjoy it with your kids during this time of social distancing. Be watching Facebook for times it will be up. It will also be up once Sunday entertainment starts.

THE PUPPET WAGON

A new and improved summer favorite is coming to a location near you! In addition to the show we will also feature mail and activities themed to the show. Mark your calendar with the five dates below and catch this magical show on the road. Puppet shows are free, and everyone is invited.

Schedule subject change based on COVID- 19 guidelines.

Dates - Fridays

June 12, 19, 26, July 10, 17,24,31, Aug 7 *no show July 3rd**

Location & Time

Sach's Park - Empire Township 9:00 a.m.



FACEBOOK: Did you know that Empire Park and Rec has a facebook page? You can like us at "Empire Township Park & Rec" to see what events are happening this summer in our parks.



BLOOD DRIVE: Empire Township will be having a blood drive on Wednesday, April 22 from 1:00pm to 7:00pm at the Public Works Bldg 2577 Vermillion River Trail. For Appt/Info call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org enter sponsor code: Empire. We are also looking for volunteers to help at the blood drive. If interested, please call the office at 651-463-4494.

SPA - Summer Park Adventures

SPA (Summer Park Adventures) offers an opportunity for children to participate in supervised activities throughout the afternoon. Summer Park Adventure staff provides quality recreational experiences that promote creativity, teamwork and healthy lifestyles. Activities include sports, arts and crafts, and games.

All participants will receive a t-shirt. Wear light colored clothes, comfortable shoes, and a hat. Shade maybe minimal at some sites. Don't forget your sunscreen and water bottle!

Days	Dates	Location	Time	Early Bird	After June 13	Activity #
T & Th	July 7- July 30	Sachs Park 200th St. W.	1 - 4 p.m.	\$100	\$125	37SA.02

Inclement Weather

City staff will make every attempt to meet in the park and if it is just passing sprinkles we will meet under the shelter. In case of inclement weather, SPA will be moved inside to the Rambling River Park Warming House (located behind Levi P. Dodge Middle School, 4200 208th Street West) and the Swim Bus will go to Dodge Middle School. Inclement weather is defined as an 80% chance of rain, already raining, or in the line of severe weather. Please call the hotline at 651-280-6870 for weather related updates.



FREE

2020 Summer Entertainment

Empire Townhall Park 7:00pm to 8:00pm

Bring your lawn chair or blanket and join us for a great evening of entertainment.

Due to the concerns about COVID-19 this schedule is subject to change. Please see our web site and Facebook page for updates.



July 12 Comedy Sportz

July 26 Benson Family Singers

August 6 Empire Celebration– Thursday 6:00pm to 8:00pm

August 23 Farmington High School Marching Band

**Celebrate Empire!
Community Celebration
Thursday, August 6th
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**



Join us as we celebrate the Township of Empire with food, fun and friends. ALL FREE!

- * Food & Drink
- * Face Painting
- * Balloon Artists
- * Petting Zoo
- * Fire Trucks
- * Inflatables
- * Music by Steve Macke
- * Schwans ice cream
- * Games
- * Pony Rides

Thank you to our past volunteers and donors: Bolton & Menk, Hyvee, Kwik Trip, Bourbon Butcher, Tiller Corporation, Ames Construction, Transition Reality

**Volunteers are always appreciated and needed!
Call 651-463-4494 or email: dclerk@township.empire.mn.us**