

# Perch Lake Township

## Newsletter - May 2018

### **Town Office:**

2779 Big Lake Rd  
Cloquet, MN 55720

### **Town Board:**

Chair Gary Harms  
Supervisor Steve Olson  
Supervisor Tom DeLovely  
Treasurer Cheri DeMenge  
Clerk Lora Eames

### **Town Meetings**

Held the second Monday  
of each month at 7:00 p.m.

### **PLEASE CONTACT US AS FOLLOWS:**

#### **Town Board:**

Chair Harms: 218-879-5300  
Supervisor Olson: 218-591-1795  
Supervisor DeLovely: 218-390-8926 (Roads)  
Treasurer DeMenge: 218-390-0636  
Clerk Eames: 218-391-9178

#### **Other:**

Email: [perchlaketownship@gmail.com](mailto:perchlaketownship@gmail.com).  
Website: [perchlaketownship.org](http://perchlaketownship.org)  
Pat Anderson, rentals: 218-879-9720

To Perch Lake Township Resident:

The Perch Lake Township Board is embarking on a new way to better communicate with Perch Lake Township residents through the old fashioned newsletter. We realize that not all residents have access to computers, email, or internet, etc., either by lack of service or simply by choice. Therefore, we have highlighted some of what your township is doing and why:

1. The Board recommended a levy for 2019 in the amount of \$139,088, which is the same as the past nine years. The community's eligible voters at the Town's Annual Meeting, held on March 13, 2018, approved this request, as required by Minnesota Law. No one suggested a higher or lower amount.
2. Our Township was one of the original sponsors of the creation of the Cloquet Area Fire District (CAFD) in 2009, and remains a member along with Cloquet, Scanlon, and most recently, Brevator Township. Perch Lake is represented on the CAFD Board by our Township Supervisor/Chairman Gary Harms. We have witnessed, as a result of our membership, better equipment and more complete training of firefighters at a marginal increase in cost to residents.

3. We continue to monitor the condition of our Township's roads and bridges. As a result, we provide snowplowing in the winter and more recently, have identified a number of signs that need replacement. The replacements will take place this year, resulting in greater safety for all of us. Supervisor Tom DeLovely is the contact for any concerns you might have regarding roads, and he can be reached at 218-390-8926 or [thomasdelovely@hotmail.com](mailto:thomasdelovely@hotmail.com).

4. The Perch Lake Recycling Center, located adjacent to the Town Hall, continues to serve our residents at a high level and you are encouraged to bring your recyclables to us for further processing. We also collect cardboard, including cereal boxes and paper egg cartons. The hours of operation are:

Recycling Shed Hours:

Wednesday-Friday: 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

This is a free service to all.

5. Our Town Hall continues to be available for rentals. The rates are \$50.00 for Township residents and \$75.00 for non-residents. It is an excellent choice for birthdays, bridal showers, meetings, etc., as the rental includes a recently remodeled kitchen with all amenities. Contact Pat Anderson at 218-879-9720 for an application.

6. Recently, the Board of Supervisors began discussions of adopting a "nuisance ordinance" to deal with such issues as unleashed pets, animals that are prone to harm or threaten persons, and 24/7 open fire pit burning that poses health and environmental concerns to adjacent neighbors. This discussion also occurred at the recent Annual Meeting of Perch Lake residents. Before the supervisors can move ahead with this ordinance, the community must vote to support the effort, but not the ordinance itself. The community "tabled" the adoption, asking for more information on cost and enforcement of such an ordinance. The Board of Supervisors will now research this request and when results are available, will probably call for a "special meeting" of the community members to hear the results and act on the Board's request accordingly. No date has been set for this special meeting.

7. The Town Board is also considering how to remove fallen, abandoned buildings throughout the township, which pose a potential hazard to the community. While the Town Board does not need to pass an ordinance for the demolition of a building, it must proceed in the manner prescribed by state law. They will seek to do this in the most efficient and cost-effective manner, while ensuring that demolition costs are assessed back to those propertyowners who refuse to cooperate with the demolition.

8. The Town Clerk, Lora Eames, and Treasurer Cheri DeMenge both report that our finances are in great shape and that we are under budget in 2018 as of April 30. Both persons work very hard to ensure that the Township complies with all appropriate state statutes, including best practices recommended by the Minnesota Association of Townships.

9. This year's town elections will be held as follows:

Primary Election: Tuesday, August 14, 2018

General Election: Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Please contact either the Town Clerk or County Auditor for specific questions.

If you find this newsletter helpful, please let us know by contacting the Town Clerk at 218-391-9178, or [perchlaketownship@gmail.com](mailto:perchlaketownship@gmail.com). Suggestions are welcome to add anything to our next addition. Thank you and we encourage everyone to attend our monthly board meetings, held the second Monday of each month at the Town Hall.

The Cloquet Area Fire District is always looking for volunteers firefighters. These are on call positions, paid calls, paid training. Contact Darren at 218-499-4258.