

PERCH LAKE RECYCLING CENTER

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 Wednesday – Friday from 2:00-6:00 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. This is a free service to all Perch Lake Township residents.



Perch Lake
Township
News

2779 Big Lake Road, Cloquet, MN 55720 Spring 2021-01

PERCH LAKE TOWNSHIP MOVES MEETINGS TO VIRTUAL

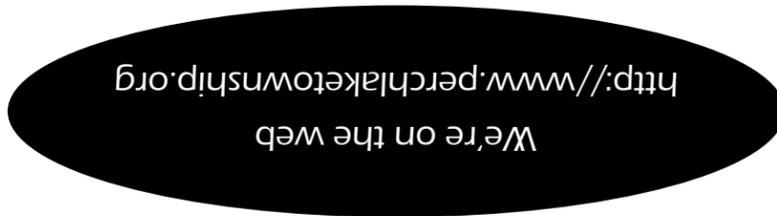
Due to COVID 19, Perch Lake Township has moved all of its meetings to virtual on-line meetings. For the near future The Town Board has closed their meetings to all

in-person visitors and will conduct all public meetings virtually on the ZOOM platform. All residents and interested parties are encouraged to attend our meetings by

signing into the Zoom meetings. All meetings and sign-in information will be posted in the calendar located on the township website at www.perchlaketownship.org.

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ATTENDING A VIRTUAL MEETING

With all of the changes due to COVID, many of us have had to change the way we do business; and, Perch Lake Township is no exception. Effective with the November meeting, we have moved all of our meetings to a virtual on-line format. We understand that this is a big change for many of our residents, and it can be a bit confusing, if not intimidating, so, we will do our best to make it as easy as possible for everyone. So, what is involved with attending a virtual meeting of the Perch Lake Township?

There are two options for attending our meetings. VIDEO: The first way is to download the ZOOM application to your computer or smart phone by going to <https://zoom.us> and clicking on sign up. (The ZOOM Application for attending meetings is free to the user.) When you are ready to attend a meeting, you can go to the calendar located on the Perch Lake Township Website at www.perchlaketownship.org and click on the date of the meeting followed by clicking on the join Zoom meeting

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Town Board meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

- February 8
- February 10 Special Watkins Spur meeting
- March 8
- March 9 Annual Meeting
- April 12
- May 10
- June 14

Town Board Members:

Chairman Gary Harms, (218) 451-1629
 Supervisor Steve Olson, (218) 591-1795
 Supervisor Keith Depre, (218) 348-4119
 Treasurer Cheri DeMenge, (218) 390-0636
 Clerk Lora Eames, (218) 391-9178

Email: perchlaketownship@gmail.com
leames@perchlaketownship.org

Perch Lake Township
 2779 Big Lake Rd
 Cloquet, MN 55720

ATTENDING A VIRTUAL MEETING

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link which will open the meeting. Once you are in the meeting, you will be muted until visitor comments are allowed. Should you have a question during the meeting, you can type a question into the chat function, and you will be called upon at an appropriate time. AUDIO: The second option is to join the meeting using a standard telephone. The dial-in numbers are posted on the meeting notice located on the calendar. If you join the meeting using a telephone, you will be muted until the visitor comments are

allowed. It is our hope that the virtual meeting option will increase participation in our grass roots township government. In fact, the plan is to continue our virtual presence after in-person visitors are allowed to return. This will allow greater participation from our snowbird and seasonal residents while they are away. If you haven't attended one of our meetings, we hope you will stop in and see what we are doing with your township tax dollars. Main topics in our meetings include reports on our roads and bridges, Cloquet Fire District, the status of the Big

Lake Sewer District, and financial expenditures within our township. The Perch Lake Town board also coordinates with Carlton County officials on a number of topics and projects that affect our community. If you have any questions regarding virtual meetings or any other topic concerning our township, you may contact our Town Clerk, Lora Eames, at 218-391-9178.

Township Purchases Video Conference System

The Perch Lake Township Board approved the purchase of video conferencing equipment during our October meeting. The equipment was purchased from CW Technology and paid for with funding from the Coronavirus CARES Act. The Video Conference system was installed in mid-November and all staff and township supervisors received training on its operation.

ROADS AND BRIDGES UPDATE

Hardwood Lake

This fall's road work started out by grinding pavement on the west 900 feet of Hardwood Lake Road. It was unfortunate we had to grind the pavement. The road was paved around 2005. The road held up well until the flood of 2012. The flood pushed up the old corduroy making speed bumps every 10 feet or less on the west 900 feet. No matter how slow one drove that west 900 feet you felt like a bobble head. This summer the township had the pavement ground (see picture). The blacktop in the ground pavement will help stabilize the surface while allowing the township to grade the surface. The township will do dust control on this section of Hardwood Lake Road like we



Hardwood Lake Road grinding and paving

do with most of the gravel roads in the township.

Brushing

The past few year have been very wet and made it difficult to brush the township roadsides and we

had received heavy snow before the ground froze. Those heavy snows bent the brush and trees over the road making it difficult for the county to plow the roads. This year we've been able to catch up on

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MEET THE CHIEF

Matt Ashmore hails from the Hibbing Fire Department where he served as Battalion Chief and EMS Director. He started his new position as our District Fire Chief on November 30th. His career started in firefighting when he was 19 years old in Eveleth where he started as a volunteer fireman and now brings 25 years of experience to our fire district. Matt is also an instructor at Mesabi Range Community College in Eveleth teaching paramedics. His experience as an EMS Director as well as teaching at the college gave him and his partner, the current Chief in Hibbing, the idea to start their own business. For the past 3-1/2 years, the Minnesota Public Safety Group has been working with clients such as area hospitals, local fire departments and EMS responders, as well as industries such as Hoyt Lakes

American Heart Association educating in regional EMS training.

During our conversation, he spoke of the short and long-term goals that he has for our township; they are the same as he has for the Area Fire District as a whole. A few of the goals include better recruitment, putting staff and facilities in just the right places to ensure that we get the best service possible, and having a career duty shift person onsite for 24-hour periods of time.

Matt brings with him a lot of experience, education, and knowledge to benefit Perch Lake Township and our Station #2. Please join us in welcoming him to our team. He would gladly give tours of the Station #1



firehall and speak to anyone about his plans to move us forward. Call the administration office at (218) 499-4258 or visit www.cloquetareafiredistrict.com.

Just a reminder to residents regarding clearing driveways or yards of snow, leaves, and debris:

It is *against the law* to push snow and ice onto a Township roadway.

It is *against the law* to dump leaves or other debris onto a Township roadway.

ROADS AND BRIDGES UPDATE

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the roadside brushing. First, our road contractor, Tom Delovey, outfitted his excavator with a hydraulic chainsaw allowing him to limb up roadside trees 14-16 feet above the road surface. Then with relatively low snow cover in late fall-early winter Tom has been able to brush the roadsides with a skid-steer and brush cutter. Brushing has been completed on Bergman Road, Reponen Road, Salmi Road, Kotiranta Road and portions of Jarvinen Road. Hopefully heavy snow will hold off long enough to brush

Lakeview Drive.

Enbridge Line 3

The Enbridge pipeline crosses several town roads. The roads impacted are Magney Road, Strand Road and Reponen Road. Enbridge will be trenching across these roads which will result in detours. Also, expect increasing traffic on these roads and others.

Roadside brushing

