

Town of Eileen Quarterly Newsletter

March, 2015

“A Great Place to Live and Work”

The Spring election will occur on Tuesday, April 7. Voting will once again be at the Town garage. The nominees include Marty Milanowski for town chair, Tony Johanik and Skip Radosevich for town supervisor, Carol Pufall for town treasurer, and Crystal Mattson for town clerk. We thank each of them for agreeing to run for public office and to serve the Town of Eileen residents. Each position is running unopposed which raises some concern. The end result is that the town caucus has nominated only one candidate per position and there is no competition or choices at election time (except for a write in candidate).

The newly elected town officials will be sworn in at the Town's annual meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, 7 PM, at the Northern Great Lakes Visitors Center. This is a Town elector meeting which means that after the year end town reports including the financial condition of the town, the electors can ask questions and discuss issues facing the town. The electors can provide the board with suggestions and voice concerns. Electors can make and pass motions. A qualified elector is a U.S. citizen at least 18 years old and a resident of the town for at least 28 consecutive days prior to the annual town meeting.

You have probably read and heard a lot of information regarding the proposed hog farm which may locate in the Town of Eileen. Representatives of the Reicksview Farm have been invited to attend the town board meeting on April 14. They have been asked to make a brief presentation and then to field questions from our town residents. This will be an informational session and is not a public hearing. The board will allot about ½ hour of meeting time for the question/answer session. You are invited to attend and to participate.

In December 2014, the Town of Eileen and 3 other towns gave notice to the City of Ashland to terminate the fire/ambulance contracts. We recently learned our contracts had a roll over clause. This means that at the end of our current contract (Dec 31, 2015), the contracts automatically roll over for another year unless a two - year advance notice to terminate was provided to the city. Therefore, our fire/ambulance contracts will now extend to December 31, 2016. The towns have already met with the City on two occasions and have begun the process to negotiate. We have met with MMC and we learned they are not interested in starting an ambulance service. We have also contacted some private ambulance providers and we are still looking at this option.

As the number of active volunteers for fire/ambulance have been dropping, both in this region and statewide, the future of how these required services will be provided needs to be addressed. Presentations have been made to both the Bayfield and Ashland County Boards suggesting that one alternative could be forming a county - wide ambulance service. Both county boards showed some interest in this concept and referred to subcommittees for further study.

In the meantime, the volunteer fire/ambulance services for both Mason and Washburn need additional volunteers. A handout is enclosed detailing the next training class for the Emergency Medical Technician at WITC. Please contact Joe Schick (715-765-4847) or Dan Clark (715-373-5883) for more information.

We again ask that you review the list of advertisers who, through the purchase of their ads, help defray the cost of publishing and printing this newsletter. Please consider utilizing these town businesses. In addition, please contact our town clerk if you are able to receive this newsletter via email. This helps reduce our overhead expenses.

And finally, we give thanks to the town board members, George and Terry, who have served these past 4 years and who have made a decision not to run. In addition, thanks to Jena, our town clerk, who has served these past 2 years. We wish her well as her family continues to grow.