

Town of Eileen Quarterly Newsletter

September, 2014

“A Great Place to Live and Work”

The Town held its second annual Town Picnic on Sunday, August 17. As you know, the picnic is scheduled for the third Sunday in August each year. The pot luck demonstrated the many fine recipes our residents are willing to share. And town resident John Augustine again roasted whole chickens over an open wood fire. Simply delicious. Barry Brehmer assisted John in the preparation and serving of the chicken. In addition, several of our town businesses contributed towards covering most of the expenses of the picnic. We thank John, Barry, our town businesses, and the many people who helped with the setup, the cleanup, and for all those small things which made our picnic special. Fifty -five people attended.

Superior Sauna and Steam is now open for business in the Town! This business is located on State Farm Road and can be seen from US Hwy 2. We encourage our town residents and friends to attend the grand opening celebration which is scheduled for Friday, October 10 from 2 – 7 PM. The ceremony and ribbon cutting will begin at 2:30 PM. Free sample sauna packs will be given away in addition to some significant discounts on saunas and hot tubs.

Speaking of town businesses, the Lake Superior Lodge and Explorers Point are under new management. And a new chef has been hired. Stop by and say hello. And Ashland Ford Chrysler is in the midst of a significant building expansion. We support our local town businesses.

Enclosed you will find the driveway snowplow contracts for 2014-2015. The signed contracts and fees must be received by the Town by October 31 to avoid a late fee. Contract copies can also be downloaded from the town’s website. Just google townofeileen and click on forms.

You may recall in the June Newsletter there was a discussion on the issues surrounding driveway snowplowing to town residents. The new contracts address some of these concerns. The fees this year were increased by \$75 to help ensure that the overhead costs incurred by the Town in providing this service are covered. At the end of the snowplow season, if the upfront fees do not cover the expenses, there will be a surcharge assessed to all contract holders to make up the difference. If the upfront fees are greater than expenses, the difference will be placed in a designated line item in the budget for driveway snowplowing equipment and repairs. Also, the town will not automatically plow any driveways under this contract after March 1, 2015 unless the resident phones a

supervisor and requests plowing. If you have questions regarding this new contract, please contact the town chair or one of the supervisors.

The town has replaced a number of culverts this year. The culvert on West Woodland still needs to be extended and the county will be installing 3 culvert inserts under Whipperfurth and Highland Roads.

The paving project on Colby Road is still scheduled to be completed this year. The delay revolves around the setting up of an asphalt plant in the area. Once functioning, we will see much asphalt being laid down in the region. The bids for wedging and 2 inches of hot asphalt bids came in at \$129,000 which was higher than anticipated. There will also be wedging done on West Woodland and some chip sealing, if weather permits, on sections of W. Woodland and S Highland.

The grass and brush cutting along our town roads has been delayed due to our tractor having mechanical problems. These problems are being addressed by the board and hopefully all roads will have 3-4 cuts before the snow flies.

The June newsletter announced that the town chair will not be running for another 2 year term next April. There may also be openings for a supervisor position and possibly for the town clerk position. Please contact the town chair or one of the supervisors if you have interest in running for any these positions. As you know, the town caucus is where people are nominated to run for a town office.

The process to address our fire/ambulance concerns continues. The 5 towns currently contracting with the City of Ashland for these services have been meeting regularly. A joint meeting has been scheduled with city officials in October. The current contracts expire December 31, 2015 with a possible 1 year extension. As you may recall, 47% of our levy goes for our fire and ambulance protection plus our residents are charged an additional \$800 to \$1200 for each ambulance run into our town.

Please review the attached advertisements by our town businesses and our town business people. You will note we have some new advertisers this year. We stress in each newsletter the importance of supporting these businesses. Give them a try. Or, at least, give them a chance to do business with you.