

News from Avon Township – April 19, 2017

by Stephen Saupe, Clerk

Greetings! Let me introduce myself. I am the Clerk for Avon Township. My responsibilities include taking minutes at meetings, organizing and filing Town records, and helping to audit Town finances. My newest role will be as a monthly columnist in this newspaper.

This is the first of what we anticipate will be a series of articles, published on the third Wednesday of each month. They are designed to keep Avon residents and others informed about what's going on in the Township. So, let's get started.

One of the primary roles of any Township is to maintain roads. Every April, the Supervisors inspect the Town's roads to determine what needs to be done during the coming year. This coming Saturday, April 22 at 9:00 AM, the Supervisors will squeeze into the Town truck and drive all 44 miles of roads looking for potholes, cracks, roads in need of resurfacing, obstacles in the right-of-way, and other hazards. I'll ride along shotgun to record their observations. These notes will be used to prioritize repairs for the coming year. If you know of any road problems that should be examined, let us know by Saturday so we can check it out. Members of the public are welcome to follow along in their vehicle.

No one likes taxes, but they are a necessary fact of life. It's the role of the Stearns County Assessor's office to insure that everyone pays his/her fair share. However, if you think that your tax assessment is too high, you can appeal. To do so, contact the Assessor's office (320-656-3923 and ask to be placed on the agenda for the upcoming Board of Appeals and Equalization meeting that will be held in the Town Hall on April 24 at 7:00 PM. At this meeting, you present your case to the Supervisors and they determine whether any changes to your assessment are necessary.

Finally, several months ago our Township website (www.avontownship.org) was hacked. We have no idea who did it or why. In any event, we needed to take the site offline. We are switching web providers and having the site rebuilt. We hope it will be up and running by the next time you read this column. Thanks for your patience and we'll see you next month.