

## **News from Avon Township**

Stephen Saupe, Clerk  
*Avon Township*  
*16881 Queens Road*  
*Avon, MN 56310; (320) 248 – 8036; clerk@avontownship.org*

### ***Contribution submitted for News from Avon Township – December 19, 2018***

According to the old joke, there are four seasons in Minnesota: Almost Winter, Winter, Still Winter, and Road Repair.

I'm not sure which season we are currently in. Almost Winter? Winter? It doesn't really matter because both of these seasons are associated with cold and snow, of which we've had too much lately.

From the Township perspective, the first three seasons might be better called Winter Prep, Snowplowing, and More Snowplowing.

During the Winter Prep season, we are busy getting ready for the upcoming winter season. In August we usually order the salt/sand mix that will be spread on our roads. If we wait too long, the prices go up significantly. Also, we want to be sure to load the mix into the salt shed early enough to be sure that it is dry. Frozen salt/sand particles don't spread too well. One year we learned this lesson the hard way.

In addition to filling up our salt shed, during Winter Prep season the snowplows must also be serviced and ready to tackle the tough job of clearing our roads. Our maintenance man, Joe, is a mechanical genius and he spends hours working on the trucks making sure that they are roadworthy and can pass state inspection.

We also need to hire drivers during Winter Prep season. Drivers have a tough job. They have to be ready at a moment's notice to clear our roads. They usually work while the rest of us are warm and snug in bed. Perhaps worst of all, they don't even get to take a vacation and escape from Almost Winter, Winter, or Still Winter because their services might be desperately needed.

We've already plowed and salted/sanded a couple of times this year. There will likely be many more times. We've noticed that some residents have plowed their own snow across a Township road. Please be aware that this is illegal. It also presents a hazard to other motorists and pedestrians. Less obvious, plowing across the road can leave ridges of frozen snow that can catch on the Township plow blade. In short, please do not plow across a road. Snow must be pushed somewhere on your own property.

To close, have you seen Sasquatch lately? Not only did Sasquatch join 1000 other residents at the Town Hall on Election Day, but Sasquatch has been busy preparing for the holidays. Most recently I saw him hauling a Christmas tree home for the holidays.

Speaking of which, I wish everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and hope that you have a joyous Snowplow Season.