



# White Bear Township Report

## Township's Annual Meeting March 11

**W**hite Bear Township residents should mark their calendars to attend the Township's Annual Meeting in March.

The Annual Meeting will be held at 8 p.m., Tues., March 11, in Otter Lake Elementary School at Co. Rd. H-2 and Otter Lake Road.

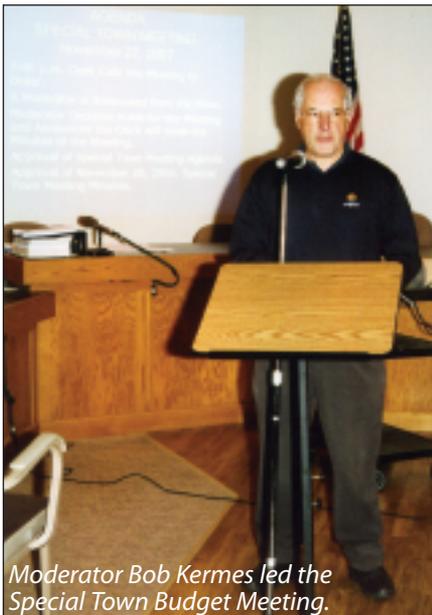
### Election

Prior to the Annual Meeting, residents will cast their votes for Town Board Supervisor.

Polls will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day (see opposite page for precinct locations). Election results will be announced during the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting is a gathering of the residents – not the Town Board – in which the Town's people have the power and responsibility to elect a moderator to run the meeting; discuss outstanding issues; announce Town Board election results; and vote on a preliminary levy for 2009.

Township officials, however, will attend the meeting in an unofficial capacity to answer questions residents may raise.



Moderator Bob Kermes led the Special Town Budget Meeting.

### Special Budget Meeting

White Bear Township resident, Bob Kermes, was chosen by Town residents to moderate the Special Budget Meeting on Nov. 27, with Township Finance Officer Jessie Hart presenting the budget.

Many of the Town's residents praised Hart during the meeting for her professional presentation of the Town's budget.

During the meeting, residents approved the Township's \$3,163,240 general fund budget (an increase of 5.11%) and \$2,696,601 property tax levy for 2008.

According to Hart, the Township's tax capacity increased 3.035% to \$14,282,766.

Based on that levy, the Township's 2008 tax rate would be 17.072%, the same as in 2007. White Bear Township continues to have the second lowest tax rate in Ramsey County.

The Town Board must certify the property tax levy to Ramsey County by December 28, 2007. That levy may not exceed the amount approved at the Special Town Budget Meeting

However, the median Township home value, which is set by Ramsey County, is now \$262,100 compared to \$260,000 in 2007.

This means that residents living in medium-priced homes will pay \$454 in Township property taxes in 2008.

### Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

For the 11th year in a row, the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to White Bear Township for its annual budget.

To receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as an operations guide, as a financial plan and as a communication device.



Finance Officer Jessie Hart presented the Township's budget on Nov. 27.



## Town Board Election

**T**own Board Supervisor Bill Mample will seek re-election on Tues., March 11.

*[Editor's note: As this issue goes to press, two other contestants have thrown their hats into the ring, as well: Fred Driver and Ron Marquardt.]*

Mample, who has served two terms on the Town Board, is a lifelong Township resident, past commander of the VFW and retired small business owner.

He serves as Town Board liaison to the Park Board and Utility Commission as well as the Town's VLAWMO Representative.

For more information about the upcoming election, contact Judy Moll at (651) 747-2759.

# Winter Regulations

## Polling Places

Polls will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tues., March 11th.

**Precinct I: Otter Lake Elementary School, 1401 Co. Rd. H-2.**

**Precinct II: Eagle Brook Church, 2401 Buffalo Street.**

**Precinct III: South Shore Lutheran Church, 2480 South Shore Blvd.**

**Precinct IV: Town Hall, 4151 Hoffman Road (southwest of Hwy. 61 and White Bear Ave.).**

**W**hite Bear Township's Winter Regulations are in effect until April 1.

### Safety

Keep children out of snow piles and forts near the road to prevent injury from snowplows.

Do not put anything in the road right-of-way including plants, shrubs, rocks, etc.

### Parking

Motorists cannot park vehicles on the street for more than 24 consecutive hours.

Motorists cannot park on a Township street, boulevard, highway or alley after a snowfall of one inch or more until the road is cleared curb to curb. Those violating this regulation will receive a \$30 fine.

Vehicles should be parked in driveways at least two feet from the edge of the road.

### Snowplow Safety

When driving, it is important to stay back, slow down and be patient. Give snowplow operators room to work in. Don't pass snowplows. Be alert ... maintenance vehicles fre-



quently back up.

### Driving

Never drive into a snow cloud.

Monitor weather and road conditions before driving.

### Snow Removal

Perform snow removal and ice control tasks in a timely manner. Keep fire hydrants, gutters and catch basins free of ice and snow.

Store shoveled snow "downstream" of driveways (in your yard) to reduce the chance of having your driveway filled with snow as snowplows pass. Check the condition of your mailbox post and make any necessary repairs.

## Other Township News

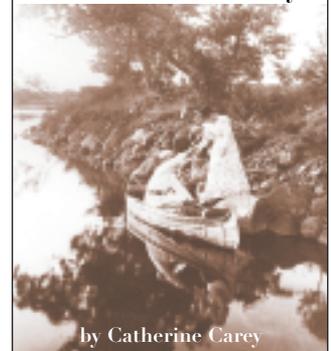
- **History Book.** White Bear: A History, which will be released this spring, was researched, written and graphically designed by Catherine Carey; published by White Bear Township; and edited for historical accuracy by Sara Hanson, Executive Director of White Bear Lake Area Historical Society.

The 248 page "coffee table" book is filled with hundreds of never-before-seen duotone photographs; colorful historic maps; newly discovered facts; and stories of people's lives. It covers the early history of the communities that once made up White Bear: White Bear Township; White Bear Lake; Vadnais Heights; Gem Lake; and a portion of North Oaks.

- **Identity Theft.** Now that the holidays are over, and credit card bills are rolling in, it is important to guard against identity theft. Run a credit report on yourself to see if there are any unknown credit inquiries or unauthorized accounts. Obtain copies of your credit report periodically to see if there are any unknown credit lines in your name. Credit reports costs less than \$10. All three major credit reporting agencies in the United States have toll free telephone numbers: Equifax (888) 532•0179; Experian (800) 311•4769; and Trans Union (800) 680•7289.

- **Snowmobiles.** White Bear Township requires snowmobilers to stay on public trails, waterways, highways and streets specifically designated for snowmobile use. No person shall operate a snowmobile on lands not his own, except where otherwise allowed by law, without the written permission of the owner, occupant or lessee of such lands. Further, no person shall operate a snowmobile in such a manner as to create a public nuisance, as defined by the Township's Ordinance No. 16.

White Bear: A History



by Catherine Carey