



White Bear Township Report

Township to hold Annual Meeting March 9



(l to r) Terri Heaton, of Springsted, Inc., presented former Town Board Supervisor Linda Ford; Finance Officer Tom Kelly; Supervisors Dick Sand, Bob Weisenburger and Bill Mample; and Town Clerk-Treasurer Bill Short with an award for achieving the more favorable bond rating of A1. An A1 bond rating will allow the Township to borrow money in the future at a lower interest rate.

Township Facts

- There are 1,790 townships in Minnesota.
- More than 901,000 people reside in Minnesota townships.
- White Bear Township is the most populated township in the State with approximately 12,200 residents.
- The newest township is Crane Lake Township in St. Louis County (formed 6/18/02).

White Bear Township will continue its tradition of being a government “of, by and for the people” during its upcoming Annual Meeting

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.

The Annual Meeting will be held at 8 p.m., March 9, in Otter Lake Elementary School. All residents are invited to attend.

The Township’s Annual Meeting is a gathering of the residents – not of 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 2005

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

“Townships are a grass-roots form of government which rely on the people to take an active role,” said Clerk-Treasurer Bill Short

Financial Forecast

While many communities have cut services in response to the reduction in State Aid, the Township has kept on an even keel.

“After the second year of state cuts, we will have received \$100,000 less in Market Value Homestead Credit,” said Short. “This amount, however, represents a relatively small portion of our budget. We’ve made up for the loss by postponing part-time secretary and deputy positions, reducing expenditures and increasing revenue.”

“Further, our tax capacity has grown, which has added to our overall financial security and helped us secure the more favorable bond rating of A1.”

TOWN ANNUAL MEETING

Time: 8 p.m.
Date: March 9th
Place: Otter Lake School

Purpose: A meeting of the people to announce the election of a Town Board Supervisor for a 3 year term; Present Citizen Recognition Awards; Set 2005 Preliminary Tax Levy; Schedule Special Town Budget Meeting; and Attend to other Town business.

TOWN BOARD ELECTION

Polls will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on March 9th.

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

Precinct II: Eagle Brook Church, 2401 Buffalo Street.

Precinct III: Bellaire School, 2540 E. Co. Rd. F.

Precinct IV: Town Hall, Old Hoffman Road at Goose Lake.

White Bear Township's Election



Supervisor Dick Sand

White Bear Township residents are encouraged to mark their calendars and vote for Town Board Supervisor on Tues., March 9.

People are invited to then attend the Township's Annual Meeting at 8 p.m. in Otter Lake Elementary School.

Town Board Supervisor Dick Sand is intending to seek reelection for the three-year office.

Sand is a St. Paul attorney in private practice. He and his wife, Mary, have four children.

In addition to being a Town Supervisor, he serves as the Town Board liaison to the Township

Planning Commission and Economic Development Advisory Board.

Recent accomplishments include the development of Community Park without an increase in taxes. And, along with Supervisors Bob Weisenburger, Bill Mample and Town staff, he's worked to obtain the more favorable bond rating of A1 from Moody's Investor Services.

"Our Community Park is something people will be able to enjoy for many years to come," he said. "We've created a solid, diverse tax base for the people of the Township. We'll continue to see the benefits of this in the future."

Other Township News

• Township Winter Regulations (Nov. 1–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 planters, rocks, yard lights, 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. Automobiles should be parked in driveways more than two feet from the edge of the road. **Snowplows:** Don't pass snowplows. Stay back, slow down and be patient. Give snowplow operators room to work in. Be aware that snowplows occasionally back up. **Driving:** Never drive into a snow cloud. Monitor weather and road conditions. **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 again with snow as snowplows pass. Check the condition of your mailbox post and make any necessary repairs prior to winter. **Snowmobiles:** Snowmobiles are prohibited on Town roads, streets and rights-of-way, unless specifically designated by the Town Board.

• Christmas Tree Disposal. BFI will pick up Christmas trees on normal collection days January 5 – 16. Trees should be bare, free of tinsel, lights and stands and placed at the curb across from trash prior to 6:30 a.m. Wrapping paper and packing materials are not recyclable and should be thrown away with regular trash. For more information, call the Town's refuse and recycling contractor, BFI, at 651•455•8634.

• Township Flags. White Bear Township flags are now available for sale in the Town's Administrative Offices. Flags can be purchased in three sizes: 2'x3' flag for \$25 plus tax; 3'x5' flag for \$42.50 plus tax; and 4'x6' flag for \$52 plus tax.

• Citizen Recognition Awards. Township residents wishing to nominate a friend or neighbor in the community for being a good citizen should contact Jan Reagan in the Township Offices at 651•429•5827. Deadline for nominations is February 27.

• Town Life Magazine. Township residents are encouraged to submit story ideas and artwork for possible inclusion in this magazine. For more information, see page 13.