

SPRINGVALE TOWNSHIP

ISANTI COUNTY

2021 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

At **6:30 PM on Tuesday, March 9th, 2021** the residents of Springvale Township will have the opportunity to participate in the most direct form of government: the **Annual Town Meeting**. This is the people’s meeting and it’s as local as it gets. Springvale residents will select a moderator to lead those present in proposing the 2022 Property Tax Levy.

The Town Board met on January 20th, 2021 to audit all receipts and distributions for 2020. Budget discussions were held at a Reorganizational meeting the same night. The Board voted unanimously to recommend that town residents vote to keep the Township Levy at \$400,000.00 — the same as last year (no increase). This levy will be reflected on your 2022 property taxes.

In case you were wondering, that figure is actually slightly less than what was adopted in 2019. Isn’t it wonderful to live in Springvale where LOCAL taxes are DECREASING? Is it any wonder why Springvale is known far and wide as **The Best Township Ever?**

Common Town Board Duties:

- Award contracts, budget & financial affairs
- Adopt ordinances & resolutions
- Planning & Zoning, Development
- Roads, bridges, culverts: inspections, maintenance, improvements, construction, snow removal, right of way, driveways, swing-away mailbox posts
- Local property taxes & valuation
- Elections
- Noxious weeds
- Fire and emergency response

WANTED

Dead (Not Alive)

**2021
GOPHER
BOUNTY**

\$ 2 . 5 0
per front pair feet

Must be township resident.

Jake Gillard	Chairman	612-567-0059	springvalejake@gmail.com
Steve Lindgren	Supervisor	320-496-5870	slind55008@gmail.com
Bill Friedland	Supervisor	763-221-1644	wsfriedland@msn.com
Michelle Kleven	Clerk	763-689-4207	michellekleven@msn.com
Kurt Koester	Treasurer	763-639-0489	kkoester14@gmail.com

Steve Lindgren

Supervisor Seat A
Term ends Jan 2023

Hello again fellow Springvale Township residents. After a long absence we have resurrected the lost means of communication via the format of The Township Letter! First of all, My name is Steve Lindgren, I am one of 3 elected Township Supervisors and I have served as Supervisor for 10 years.

I would like to welcome the many new residents of Springvale Township to our Township and invite you all to attend our monthly meetings as well as attend the Annual Meeting to be held March 9th.

It is our hope you will find this scribe informative and useful to help find phone #'s and addresses of your Township elected officials as well as links to Township, State, and County information.

My focus for this column will be on accessibility to the Board, Clerk, and Treasurer. I'll also include bits of other information you might be interested in.

The number one way to get in touch with any one of your elected officials is to refer to the Town's website springvaletownship.com which will have listed our phone #'s and email addresses. Once you are on our website you can navigate through it and find a plethora of information regarding things such as; snowplowing regulations, mailbox regulations, driveway permits, etc.

We have monthly business meetings (usually the 1st Wednesday of every month) at which time we take care of the Town's business and hear from our constituents as well as contractors and anyone who wishes to speak before the Board. All are welcome to attend so please come. If you have questions or business to discuss and would like to be added to the agenda of an upcoming meeting please contact the Clerk's office.

Our most important meeting of the Year is the Annual Township Meeting which is held on the 2nd Tuesday of March (also called Township Day). At this meeting the Towns' people (YOU)



run the meeting with the help of the Clerk and an elected moderator, to set the tax levy for the next year for YOUR township. Your elected officials have prepared and the moderator will present a proposed tax amount for each levy based on the proposed costs to efficiently operate and maintain the Township — and any proposed projects, if any. It is at this meeting that the amount for each levy is discussed and approved. Like I said, it's an important meeting!

The aforementioned are a few ways to reach your elected officials and hopefully get your questions answered. Some questions take more time than others to answer as occasionally we will have to get professional advice from either our Township Attorney or our Township Engineer to answer certain legal questions but, we will do our best to answer your requests.

In other news, you may have noticed that the sidewalk has been extended to the rear of the Town Hall on the East side of the building and better lighting to the North and East of the exterior of the building. This was installed to better accommodate constituents "physical distancing" while voting due to the pandemic and

it makes for a more safe and brighter path back to the front of the building.

We also finally finished the initial installation of the “blue address signs” which has only your address numbers on it for privacy reasons. We have had great positive feedback concerning these signs from so many people whether it be from the fire departments, law enforcement, UPS, FEDEX, SCHOOLBUS DRIVERS, as well as others; these have been a great success. Please keep your signs straight and upright for all to see, thanks.

Another major improvement made to the Town Hall was the installation of High Speed internet. Anyone that would like to have free access to the internet via the Springvale Town Hall may do so by logging in the password: besttownshipever

If you know of any students that are having trouble accessing the internet for their school work please tell them about internet access at Springvale Town Hall parking lot.

Thank you for the privilege of serving you and for the trust you have extended to me for the past 10 years!

I will continue to work hard for Our Township and You! Last but not least, it has been an honor to serve with my fellow Board members, Bill, Jake, Michelle, and Kurt for the past 10 years and I look forward with excitement to many more years if allowed to do so.

Welcome to the Board Jake as an elected Official. I hope to serve with You for many more years.

Bill Friedland

**Supervisor Seat C
Term ends Jan 2025**

2020 was a busy year for Springvale Township. The Maywood Estates Project, which included black topping, traffic signs, 911 signs, mailboxes, dirt work and grass seeding, were all completed before winter. With the cooperation of all of the Maywood residents, everything seemed to go smoothly. In the future as new homes are built in the Springvale area, additional road paving will be done.



To say the least, 2020 was also a very unusual year. As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic during the elections, the Township Hall received some physical upgrades and improvements at no cost to our residents. This included a back stairway renovation, a new exit light, a new sidewalk from the rear of the Town Hall to the front, and additional outside lighting. A new furnace and security system were also installed during the year.

As a Township Supervisor beginning my 12th term, I have seen many changes in life and technology. We have all had to adapt to a rapidly changing world.

I would like to thank all of the Springvale residents who have been aware, patient, and helpful in enabling us to do a great deal of important township work in the past year. Best wishes to you all in 2021!

Michelle Kleven, Clerk

Term ends Jan 2025



I would like to thank you for re-electing me as Clerk of your township. I always try to do my best to serve the tax payers of Springvale Township. As Clerk, I receive phone calls and questions regarding

different subjects pertaining to our township. I would like to share some of the most common.

Does our township provide mosquito control?

The answer to this is no because of the high cost to hire a company to do so. There are private mosquito control companies that can be hired if a resident chooses to do so with no permit required by the township.

How do I turn in my gopher feet for payment?

If you are a tax payer in Springvale Township, you can bring your gopher feet to a regular meeting (normally the 1st Wednesday of the month) at the town hall starting at 6:30PM to receive payment. Please bring in a sealed zip lock bag or container. The 2021 Gopher Bounty price is \$2.50 per each front pair of pocket gophers.

I'm interested in becoming a town officer, what is the process? Springvale Town Officers (Supervisors, Clerk, & Treasurer) are elected to four year terms. If you are interested in becoming a town officer, you can file an affidavit of candidacy with the Town Clerk. Springvale Township holds Town Elections in even years in November along with the General Election. Candidate Filing period opens 98 days before the election and closes 84 days before the election. In 2020, the filing period was July 28-August 11 for the November 3 election. This information is also posted at our town hall, on our website, and in the County News Review public notice section.

When is Springvale Township Recycling Day?

Annually, Springvale Township usually has a recycling day the first Saturday in May. In 2020, we had to reschedule the recycling due to COVID-19. Watch springvaletownship.com and the County News Review for the recycling day notice and price list. Recycling day is for Springvale Township residents.

How are my township property taxes decided each year?

On the second Tuesday in March each year, the township residents set their property tax levies. Please mark your calendar to attend the March 9, 2021 Annual Town Meeting starting at 6:30 PM at the town hall. You will be approving your 2022 property tax levy. This includes monies for all road maintenance including blacktop, fire department protection, gopher bounty, and general costs of the township. Hope to see you there!

Why doesn't Springvale Township have its own road maintenance equipment, including graders and snow plow trucks?

Springvale Township currently contracts all road maintenance, Rights-of-way maintenance, and snow removal. The cost to build a building to store equipment, purchase road maintenance equipment, hire road maintenance and repair employees, and have the added liability and insurance costs is not budgeted in the township levy.

Does Springvale Township handle trespassing complaints, hunting and shooting violations, and property zoning violations?

Springvale Township does not have its own police department. The Isanti County Sheriff's office and the Department of Natural Resources Conservation officers have jurisdiction over Springvale Township for unlawful actions. As for property zoning questions, please call the Isanti County Zoning office at 763-689-5165.

If you ever have a township question, feel free to give me a call or send me an email. Hoping you all have a nice year ahead!

Joe Pelawa Town Engineer



I have served as your Town Engineer since 2015. Our company, Bolton & Menk, provides engineering services to the Township

on matters associated with road improvements, land platting, developments, and permits. My team is a technical resource for your community as you improve and maintain the roads we all rely upon. I take great pride in these tasks as I working with the Town Board and the residents of Springvale Township.

Over the past few years, the Township has completed some residential road paving projects. These improvements were completed as residential assessment projects. This means that the residents directly benefitting from the improvement pay a portion of the project costs. All residents of the township realize a benefit from these paving projects in the form of: higher quality roads, less dust, reduced gravel surfacing and maintenance costs.

If a resident has a road concern, I strongly suggest they contact a Township Board member. I will work with the Board to provide options and solutions which achieve results for the entire community.

Joe Pelawa, P.E.
Senior Engineer
Bolton & Menk, Inc.
Bolton-Menk.com

Jake Gillard Supervisor Seat C Term ends Jan 2023

It happens. Refuse dumped on the side of the road. I don't think everyone realizes the ramifications.



If junk is dumped on a state highway, the state goes out and cleans it up. If it's a county road, the country road crew gets involved. You get the idea.

When trash is dumped on one of our township roads a supervisor is paid an hourly wage and mileage to collect, haul, and dispose. (This is far cheaper than hiring a contractor.)

The point is this: when you dump someone ends up paying for it...and that someone — if you dump in your own jurisdiction — is you! Talk about cutting off your nose to spite your face. You're making your own taxes go up — or your neighbor's taxes go up.

This is a teachable moment and the lesson is one about selfishness. Do you want to be the kind of person who makes other people deal with your mess?

We've got a great township — some even say the best! Let's keep it neat and clean. If you are a dumper or if someone you know or love is a dumper you might want to change the way you think and act.

Spring Clean Up Day

It's right around the corner.
Feel good and do the right
thing for you, your neighbor,
and your pocketbook.

**SPRINGVALE TOWNSHIP
ISANTI COUNTY**

**P.O. BOX 289
CAMBRIDGE, MN 55008**

Township News for residents & property owners.

Directions to Your Springvale Town Hall: From State Highway 95 go North on Isanti County Road 1 for one-half of a mile to 341st, or County 65. There is no office at the Town Hall. Postal mail is accepted at P.O. Box 289 Cambridge, MN 55008.

Board members work from their homes and meet at the Town Hall for posted meetings. Meeting notices and special events are posted on the bulletin board in front of the town hall and/or in the *County News Review*. **Monthly board meetings** are **usually** the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

Annual clean up day is scheduled for Saturday, May 1st at the Town Hall. Watch our town website or the *County News Review* for an updated price list and an alternate date, if necessary.

Spring landscaping is right around the corner. Pro Tip: DO NOT landscape in the right of way (33 feet from the center line of a **township** road).

springvaletownship.com has a plethora of information available at any hour of the day.

Local government — still the real thing!

