

**CLIP AND SAVE CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Munson Township Supervisors:**

Dan Holthaus 597-2309  
 Jack Stang 250-5756  
 Joe Willenbring 597-3649

**Clerk:**

Michelle Hemmesch 597-6014

**Treasurer:**

Richard Behnen 597-3068

**Munson Planning and Zoning Board:**

Larry Massmann 597-3156  
 Matt Burg 597-3335  
 Orville Willenbring 597-2159  
 Mike Behnen 597-3252  
 Dave Thielen 597-3465

**Zoning Administrator:**

Lynn Burg 597-3335

**Building Inspector:**

Elroy Theis 685-3801

**Munson Township e-mail:**

[munson@netlinkcom.com](mailto:munson@netlinkcom.com)

# Munson Township News

## Meet Your Chain of Lakes Fire & Resque Squad



*Not pictured: Jenny Hoppe, Matt Burg, Steve Hansmann, Donna Gothier*

Work continues in earnest as the Chain of Lakes Fire & Rescue District gears up for full operations. Many meetings and training sessions have been held at the new Fire Hall, and it is clear now that the facility will suit the needs of the Department well.

A resolution has been passed by District and presented to Stearns County notifying them that the official start of operations will be at 12:00 am on December 30, 2011. Many people have contributed a great deal to get to this point, but a great deal of credit goes to the Fire Chief for the Fire Department, Jerry Vossen. Jerry's 26 years of experience are evident in all that he does. Jerry is building a department that Township residents will be proud of.

There are two major training requirements that each member of the fire department must satisfy; a "first responder" course focusing on medical emergencies, and the "Firefighter I" course that focus specifically on fire emergencies. Together these courses are 150 hours long. In addition, our Firefighters have been contributing a great deal of time on in-house specialized training and getting the Fire

Hall situated. The passion and dedication that these members have shown is admirable. Even though there are 23 members on the Department's roster, the Board continues its search for a few additional members.

As expected, the District is now proceeding with the second debt issue necessary to get the Department created and through its first year of operation. The feasibility report done in November 2009 by an independent financial advisor estimated that the cost to create the Fire Department would be \$1,266,900, but the Board set out to keep the cost to about \$1,000,000. The total net debt of the two debt issues is estimated to be \$1,026,650; which includes approximately \$34,056 in "contingency".

One of the keys to keeping the cost of creating the Fire Department low is the pursuit of grants. The District has received two modest grants, and has grants pending totaling \$447,310. If the District is successful in securing one or more of these grants it will provide reimbursement of expenses already incurred in equipping the Fire Hall, trucks and

**Fire Dept...continued on page 2**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**MUNSON TOWNSHIP  
 PO Box 505  
 Richmond, MN 56368-0505**

STD MAIL  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 PERMIT NO. 52  
 PAYNESVILLE, MN  
 56362

**Fire Dept...continued from page 1**

Firefighters, as well as the cost of training the Department. So in that case the cost of creating the Department will be considerably below the Board's objective of \$1,000,000.

The construction of the Chain of Lakes fire and rescue did come in \$230,000.00 under budget. Mutual aid agreements have been signed with the neighboring towns: Paynesville, St. Martin, and Watkins, Pending agreements waiting on council approval have been made with Cold Spring, Eden Valley, and Albany.

The C.O.L. Fire and Rescue would like any residents having special needs or needing special services to please call

320-597-2032 in no answer please leave a message. The C.O.L. Fire and Rescue would also like the residents to know that DNR (do not resuscitate) forms should be hung on refrigerators or available for the rescue squad. These forms can be explained by calling the fire hall at 320-597-2032 or by attending the monthly meetings held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. The Chain of Lakes squad is staffed by 3-LPN's, 2-RN's, 3-EMT Paramedics, and I-CNA. This squad is very lucky to have all the medical background for your protection along with the great skill every member of this squad brings to protect you the residents.

## Are You Thinking of Burning?

State law requires that burning permits are necessary if you plan to do any burning. (Permits are not required when there is at least 3" of snow on the ground.) Permits are free and are issued for a period of three days. Burning can be done from 6 p.m. until 8 a.m. after obtaining a burning permit. Fire permits are not required for recreational fires, which are three feet across by three feet high and contained in a fire ring. Permits can be obtained from Super America, 320-685-4481, located in Cold Spring.

## Upcoming Township Election

A notice will be posted shortly to notify residents of the 2012 Township Election and Annual Meeting. The election in 2012 will take place on Tuesday, March 13, 2012. You will have the opportunity to vote for one (1) Supervisor for a 3 year term as well as one (1) Clerk for a 2 year term. The polls will be open from 12 Noon - 8:00 p.m. The annual meeting will start after the polls close at 8:15 p.m., at which time, we will have updates regarding police and fire protection, decide the annual levy amounts, and conduct all the necessary business prescribed by law. Please watch for future posted and published notices regarding the election and annual meeting.

## Township Snow Removal

It has been brought to the attention of the Munson Township Supervisors that a lot of residents have been pushing their snow across the Township roads and piling it in the ditches, the Township has a policy that nothing, including snow, can be placed in the Township Right of Way. If any residents are doing this please stop and remove the snow. It is a liability to the Township! With all this snow please keep mailboxes free of snow for the Postal deliverers as well as the plow truck operators. If the boxes are damaged it is the residents responsibility to replace it not the Townships.



# You Asked For It Now You Have It!

At last years annual meeting it was brought to the Townships attention that a number residents would like to see the Township have its own web page to obtain meeting times, minutes, special information from Stearns County, and general information such as phone numbers and names of board members.

Well after a lengthy process we are now up and running. It was quite a learning process and very educational to say the least. I am finding that there are a lot of steps involved to keeping a web page current and running. Please bare with me as I learn how to get minutes posted and new information posted that is helpful for the residents. Below is the web address to your Township Web Page. Take a minute to look around and see what you think.



# Munsontownship.org

**Visit often to be informed!**