
◆Town of Canosia Newsletter◆

Volume 6 Issue 20

December, 2000

Canosia Applies for Planning Grant From Lake Superior Coastal Zone Program

The Canosia Town Board passed Resolution Number 2000-2 indicating a desire for financial assistance under the Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program. Canosia is working with Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC) to put the application together. The grant would provide federal funds covering 60% of the cost of the project through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The purpose of Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program (MLSCP) is to preserve, protect, develop and, where possible, restore and enhance coastal resources for present and future generations. The 2001 funding cycle focus area is: Community Planning/Land Use Planning, Public Access and Recreation, Education and Outreach, and Protection and Enhancement of Natural Resources. The grant, if approved, would be available in July 2001. Canosia's project will feature updating the 1995 Comprehensive Plan by featuring a citizen task force and a complete survey of residents. Other aspects of the project would be to develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) that would allow computer displays and associations of many features of Canosia such as accurate visual depiction of land parcels, roadways, utilities, land uses, zoning districts, soils' type and wetlands as well as 2000 census data.

With all of these tools, the township will be in a great position to be able to come up with a Comprehensive Plan that address issues such as Commercial and Industrial Areas, the need to expand the public sewer lines or determining the possible need to add public water. In addition, the citizen task force and survey will allow for, and will provide for, every Canosia resident to have input into the future of Canosia Township.

Recreation Commission Reports on Facility Upgrades & Improvements

The Canosia Township Recreation Facility had a number of improvements this year. We had fencing installed around the two soccer fields, the back baseball field, the playground, and part of the basketball court. We built an addition to the playground, which was a great improvement to the existing site. There was a batting cage built next to the third base line of the front baseball field. We also added a few bricks from donors and contributors to the pavilion.

The fencing was probably the most expensive improvement this year but also the least labor intensive. We showed the contractor where the fencing was needed, with the necessary specifications, and watched them install the fence. In a matter of a month, the fencing was installed. This seemed to add some finality to the project with the permanent fence being installed. It also improved the overall looks of the facility.

The fencing for the soccer fields and the basketball court was needed to control the ball going out of bounds and possibly in front of cars or into some wetlands. The baseball field fencing was needed to make it conform to an official size field. The fencing around the playground was needed to prevent children from running in front

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Town Board News

Kehtel Road & Shady Lane: The Town Board approved the St. Louis County Public Work De-

partment's construction plan for Kehtel Road and Shady Lane. The engineer's estimate for culverts, aggregate base, plant mixed bituminous base & surface, shouldering, striping and sodding plus design and inspection is approximately \$165,600. The project will be offered for bid along with other St. Louis County road projects in early 2001.

Canosia Bike Trail Midway Road Enhancement Project — Phase 1: Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC) announce on November 7, 2000 that our proposal is eligible for federal funding. The project cost is estimated at \$354,000. The federal fund would provide \$283,100. St. Louis County Public Work would provide \$71,000 worth of engineering and \$10,000 worth of Granular Borrow from a local gravel pit. Canosia's share is \$36,600. This project funding, if approved, would be available July, 2004. This improvement is much needed to ensure the safety of Canosia residents. Your support of this project should be expressed to your county and federal officials.

Road & Bridge Fund: The Town Board is making a very concerted effort to improve roads within the township. This task is done by leveraging many assets available from local contractors, county engineering services and coordination with the sewer project. In order to continue improving our roads, residents will need to consider increasing funding at the annual town meeting in March 2001. The levy has been \$85,000 each year since 1991.

Police Protection Report: St. Louis County Sheriff has been hired to do extra patrolling. September, there were 98 stops resulting in 109 warnings; 20 citations were issued. In October, there were 107 stops resulting in 109 warnings; 14 citations were issued. In November, there were 87 stops resulting in 77 warnings and 28 citations. There was one arrest.

Police Protection Options Meeting: Attorney Larry Nord outlined some advantages/disadvantages to Canosia having its own police department and contracting with a neighboring police department. With our own department the Township would be in control, however

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Learning and Teaching

In September Canosia historians attended a Government Records Workshop presented by The State Archives Department of the Minnesota Historical Society to learn more about preservation of old government records, including township lodgers.

In October, the Pike Lake third grade students chose to attend another local history class in the Town Hall. Mershen Berry taught this session and focused mainly on early country schools. She also read a letter from Leona (Kolodjeski) Malinoski who described her early years in Canosia's first school, where one teacher taught all eight grades. In those days, a student who lived nearby would be chosen to clean the school on Saturdays, for \$10 a month wages. Leona described the chores: scrub the wood floors, clap erasers, fill the large water cooler, wash the blackboards and haul in cordwood for the stove.

All the Pike Lake third grade students attending the history class were provided several descriptive pages that included photographs of most of Canosia's oldest township schools.

Kathryn Adams and the Canosia Historical Society



PLAWCS News Corner

STATUS - The sewer line is completed and two hundred ninety two connections were completed by November 30th. PLAWCS will be serving a total of 416 customers when all connections are completed to the existing dwellings or business properties, several of which have multiple families or businesses. If you are unable to complete your connection this year and have applied and paid for a permit, no penalties for connecting late will be assessed. At this date neither Kenko or Barbarosa are in the area, but both contractors will return in the spring with clean up crews to complete any work that is required, including driveways, sodding, and placing the final surface coat on many of the roads. All residents and businesses have been asked to let us know of any clean up work that they believe is still required and, if it is justified, that work will be completed before June 30th when the contractors leave for good and receive their final payments.

SEASONAL RESIDENTS - We now have a total of 24 residential properties that have requested and been granted seasonal status (qualifying for a reduced monthly rate). In a few cases, this involves more than one connection. Please remember that seasonal status is only granted for one season at a time. The requested must be in writing and state that the property will **not** be lived in for a continuous period of six months. All requests are sent to the Board of Directors for approval. For planning purposes requests for next year should be received no later than October 31st.

MAINTENANCE REMINDER - Home owners who have individual pump stations should remove the key from their control box, never remove the cover of the pump chamber or open the control box. The box and pump should be opened only by service personnel. We suggest the key be taped or attached to the owners control box. The individual pump stations are the property of PLAWCS, as are the control boxes, and the property owner is responsible to ensure they are not opened or tampered with. Each owner should have received instructions about who to call if a problem occurs; if you have not, please called the PLAWCS office. If your red light and buzzer activates, you may turn off the buzzer by the switch underneath the box. The light indicates that the chamber under the pump has more than its normal amount of wastewater to remove, but do not worry about it unless it remains on for more than 30 minutes.

CONNECTIONS - If you are still waiting for a contractor to make your connections, we have new local contractors who have time available to install services. Call the office (727-9007) to get an update of contractors who are licensed to work on the PLAWCS system and currently available.

FINANCES - Our last report indicated PLAWCS may be required to borrow funds to help pay for easement expenses. PLAWCS recently asked their funding source, the Minnesota Public Facility Authority (PFA), to reconsider their definition of "easement related costs", and fund the engineering and legal expenses we incurred during the normal process of engineering and describing the project. The PFA made a request to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which provides PFA's loan funds, to clarify its definition of "easement costs". The EPA changed their definition, resulting in \$80,000 not having to come out of PLAWCS's operating funds. Our previous financial review indicated that we could be over \$100,000 short. This should eliminate the need for PLAWCS to borrow money this year. We will re-examine our finances at the end of the year to determine if any additional borrowing is required.

Volunteers, Big Part of Recreation Area

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of cars passing through the area. When we have a number of events going on at the same time, there is a lot of congestion in the area.

The playground work would have been equally expensive if it was not for the contributions we received from local contractors. They provided us with their equipment, making an insurmountable task a manageable project. This is where the many volunteers of the community came through again. In a matter of a month, we had the playground standing, only needing some pea gravel. The lack of pea gravel did not prevent the children from trying out the new equipment, though. The gravel arrived a little later.

The batting cage was installed as part of the fencing. This will be a great improvement to the facility as children will be able take batting practice while a game is taking place on the adjacent field.

We added a dozen bricks to the pavilion. This was done as additional donors recognized how attractive the bricks looked in the pavilion floor. It was also done to recognize the additional contributors that we have had to the project.

The improvements to the facility were supposed to be done by the end of this year but, with an early snowfall, it will probably extend until next spring. We still plan on siding the warming shed this year for all the ice skaters taking advantage of an early sheet of ice. We received a grant from Allete for light poles, lights, and wire for security lighting. If the weather cooperates the lights will also be installed this year.

Next year, the back baseball field will be reshaped. A handicap accessible bridge to the back soccer field will be added along with some accessibility to the playground equipment. An additional picnic table will be built next year and parking signs will be installed for the handicapped.

We need to thank the numerous people that volunteered their time and efforts with this facility. If it was not for the volunteers and the contractors, this project would not have been possible. The contractors named in the floor of the pavilion have shared a great deal of their time and equipment to the improvement of the facility.

Mike Ellingson, Board Member

Gordon H. Butler, System Manager

Calendar of Events

(Canosia Town Hall unless noted)
 (* = change from regular schedule)

December 2000:

18th* PLAWCS Board Mtg 7:30 PM

January 2001:

3rd Regular Town Meeting 7:00 PM

8th City, Townships Schools 7:00 PM
 (ACTS) Proctor Community Ctr.

10th Planning and Zoning 7:00 PM

17th SLC Township Officers 7:30 PM
 Cotton Town Hall

21st Canosia After Holiday 5:00PM
 Dinner @ LeGrand Supper Club

22th PLAWCS Board Mtg 7:30 PM

24th Innovations² in Local Gov't 8:00 AM
 Ed Conf, St. Paul MN

25th MnAssocTwp-Legal Seminar 8:00 AM

26th St. Paul MN 8:00 AM

February 2001:

1st Airport Zoning Meeting 3:00 PM
 Duluth International Apt.

7th Regular Town Meeting 7:00PM

14th Planning and Zoning 7:00 PM

15th Duluth Area Townships 7:30 PM
 Rice Lake Town Hall

26th PLAWCS Board Mtg 7:30 PM

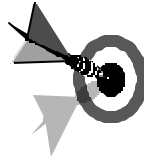
March 2001:

7th Regular Town Meeting 7:00 PM

13th Township Elections NOON -
 Annual Town Meeting 8:00 PM

14th Planning and Zoning 7:00 PM

26th PLAWCS Board Mtg 7:30 PM



*Did you Know? *Good Things To Know!!

⇒ **Cable System Services (CS²)** is preparing maps and engineering drawing to substantially upgrade our cable TV system. The upgrade will be to a 750 Hhz system including internet capability. Time table has construction occurring next year with completion date of May 31, 2001. Call CS² if you are interested in cable internet service at: **800-247-1566**

⇒ **General Election** at Canosia Town Hall had 1127 voters (192 new registrations). The '96 general election had 963 voters. **Your vote counts.**

⇒ **Kids Voting Program** sponsored by Hermantown Community Schools, had 122 kids voting at Canosia. Results: George Bush, 64; Al Gore, 58.

⇒ **Canosia Fire Department** is hosting a "Fireman's Training Class" through January 2001.

⇒ **CDBG Project** has been granted an extension to plant the landscaping trees next spring. The added parking helped during the general election!

⇒ **Dog Owners** - Canosia's Animal Control Ordinance requires a registration tag for your dog. The tags are available from the Town Clerk at a cost of \$2.00. This provides identification in case the dog is involved in an accident or incident.

⇒ **Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT)** presented the 'Town of Canosia Newsletter' with a certificate in appreciation for its contribution to grassroots government through publishing in your community. Thank You.

⇒ **Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD)** will present its report at the January Board Meeting.

⇒ **Metropolitan Interstate Committee (MIC)** will present its report on the Midway Road Corridor Study at the February Board Meeting.

⇒ **The Grand Lake-Canosia Joint Powers Project** which created the Pike Lake Area Wastewater Collection System will be presented at Innovations² Conference sponsored by Assoc of MN Counties, Bd. of Gov't Innovations & Cooperation, Gov't Training Service, Hamline University, Hubert Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, League of MN Cities, MN Legislature, MAT, MN School Bds Assoc and MN Service Coop.

Town Board

Regular Scheduled Meeting: 7 PM
 First Wednesday of the Month

Louis Dubla, Chair 729-7453

Carmen Orman, Supervisor 729-7329
 E-mail: carmen@duluth.com

Russ Georgesen, Supervisor 729-8108
 E-mail: rgeorgesen@msn.com

Julie Sathers, Treasurer 729-7172
 E-mail: jsathers@uswest.net

Sue Brooks, Clerk 729-9828

Planning and Zoning

Regular scheduled Meeting: 7 PM
 Second Wednesday of the Month

Russ Georgesen, Chair 729-8108

Judy & Bill Harrison, Zoning Director
 Home: 729-7357 Office: 729-9833

Police Protection

Sheriff Dial 911

Fire Department

Percy Johnson, Chief Dial 911

Business Meeting: 7 PM

Second Tuesday of Month

Training Sessions: 7 PM

Third & Fourth Tuesday of the Month

Recreation Commission

Jeff Erikson, Chair 729-5570

Regular scheduled Meeting: 7 PM

Third Sunday of the Month

Town Hall

4896 Midway Road

729-6211 Voice/FAX: 729-9833

E-mail: canosia@computerpro.com

PLAWCS Office

4896 Midway Road (in Town Hall)

Gordon Butler, System Mgr: 729-9007

Fax: 729-9447

E-Mail: plawcs@cpinternet.com

Office Hours:

Monday: 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Thursday: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Sewer Service Hotline 1-800-961-9525

Cable TV (CS²)

1-800-247-1566

Official Posting Places for Canosia Township:

Town Hall
 Paulson's Super Value

Recycling Center Items

- ◇ Glass Bottles and Jars (Clean - Clear, Brown, and Green)
- ◇ Plastic Containers (Clean - Number 1 and 2)
- ◇ Food and Beverage Cans (Clean)
- ◇ Newspapers
- ◇ Magazines
- ◇ Junk Mail - Office Paper - Phone Books
- ◇ Corrugated Cardboard + Pop, Beer & Cereal Boxes (Test Project to Dec 31st)
- * **Legal Note: If the recycling center is closed, or no attendant is on duty... DO NOT leave your recycled materials.**
- ⇒ Aluminum cans and plastic bags can be recycled at Paulson's Super Value

Recycling Center

4896 Midway Road (near Town Hall)

Hours of Operation:

Tuesday and Thursday:

5:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Saturday: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

The Wetland Plan

St. Louis County's "Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan" was adopted March 1999. There has been in St. Louis County wetland regulations for several decades but, until 1992, those regulations were the sole responsibility of the Federal Government. This changed with the passage of the Wetland Conservation Act by the Minnesota Legislature in 1991 with counties and cities beginning local administration in 1992. It became apparent to the public and local governments that changes in the law were necessary in order to satisfy concerns raised by citizens and wetland program administrators. This need for amendments eventually resulted in allowing local units of government to develop its own wetland plans that would more truly reflect local concerns and issues. The St. Louis County board authorized such a planning effort in 1996 to be directed by the County Planning Department in cooperation with townships, cities, interested agencies and organizations, along with citizens. The County also contracted with RLK-Kuusisto to assist with plan development. The State of Minnesota through the Board of

Water and Soil Resources provided grant assistance for this effort.

The planning effort centered in four areas. Those areas are:

1. Background research on population trends and related demand on housing construction, mining activity, drainage ditches, forestry activity, peat lands, and inventory of County wetlands.

2. Examination of Wetland Functions within the County. Wetland Functions are those things that wetlands do for the environment and society. Wetland Functions include such things as flood control, filtering out pollution, recharge of ground water, wild life habitat, economic such as peat harvesting, shoreland erosion control, education, fisheries habitat, and aesthetics.

3. Examination of Wetland Values within the County. Wetland Values are what we believe are important about wetlands. For example: a wetland may have significant value for flood control but if the area is primarily under public ownership and little development exist, then the flood control issue becomes less important.

4. The development of policies, procedures, implementation strategies and regula-

tions that address the issues ascertained during the planning effort.

Actual maps, including wetlands, are available on St. Louis County Planning Department's GIS Maps web page:

http://www.co.st-louis.mn.us/planning/pp_page/pp_fpage.html

A related document is the **Water Plan**. A survey and draft policies are available at: <http://www.co.st-louis.mn.us/planning/Survey.htm>

Town Board News

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budget constraints could be a disadvantage. The hiring procedure is critical to avoid litigation. A joint powers agreement could be entered into with a neighboring governmental unit for sharing police protection, but the township should be careful with expectations and the budgetary division. Kevin Kivisto from the St. Louis County Sheriff's Department indicated the applicants must meet minimum standards and pass background check that take from 40 to 80 hours to complete. Thirty percent of the candidates that meet standards and pass the background check do not make it through field training.



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Check our web site at: WWW.cpinternet.com/~canosia

A Publication by the Canosia Town Board covering issues pertaining to Town Business. This is not an official document and does not replace official posted notices. Russ Georgesen, Editor