

February 2018

The Supervisor Speaks

Wow! January just flew by and I'm not even certain that I had a chance to wave at it! Most of us have already broken our New Year's resolutions and are back in the old ruts slugging away through the rest of winter. We haven't had much warm weather and if the weather forecast holds true, the first half of February is going to be cold. This bodes well for many of our local businesses that cater to snowmobiles, skiers, and ice fishermen. Although it's not something I like personally, the long winter will help our locals survive after two short winters and wet summers. I remember only two days below zero last year. There may have been more but this year our below zero days have been numerous. We don't seem to be getting as much lake effect snow as usual lately either. Our weather has changed from cold, snowy winters and warmer, drier summers to warmer winters and cooler wetter summers. If the trend continues, our businesses will need to adapt to remain competitive.

We had our grand opening for our trailhead pavilion on January 22nd with Mr. John Matonich as our ribbon cutting guest. It was snowy and cold, but the turnout was good and we thank Mr. Matonich for his assistance in making the pavilion possible. During his time on the Michigan Natural Resources Commission, the past four years as chairman, he was instrumental in our reception of the grant by his recommendation and by helping make more funds available for grants in 2015. Our 375 points would not have been enough to receive funds if more money had not been made available by the commission to fund our project. The cutoff the year before was 380 points, and we were denied funding. It would have been impossible for us to get any more points than 375 so we were stuck unless more funds were made available during the 2015 funding year. This happened. Thank you, Mr. Matonich, for helping make it possible. If you're wondering how the DNR Trust Fund is funded, it has to do with interest from oil money. You're welcome to check on the internet for more details. I don't have room in this article.

Hallelujah! Work has started to install equipment at the water plant. They've been waiting for months to get the proper design for their bottling equipment and it appears to have finally happened. As I write this, Howard Brothers is working there to install piping. Hopefully, things will be moving along rapidly from now on! Now that Ojibway remained open, more good jobs will be available in the Township. Things are looking up. I wish that more good housing were available for new people, but our available buildings are rapidly being purchased by part time residents who find it less expensive to buy a house here than to pay for lodging in the area during their visits here to recreate. We're losing residents and gaining tourists, a process which reduces school populations and middle class community members. The trend can be reversed by better jobs with more expensive houses being built.

Donna Kenney has organized a skating party for Saturday, February 3rd from 4-6 PM at the new pavilion. It's for the youngsters, but I'm certain that older people are welcome to watch the kids or to skate themselves. When I moved here in 1968, the skating rink was a popular place for everyone to gather. If anyone has any pictures of the rink, could you bring them to the Township Hall? I didn't have skates when I moved here because they were expensive. I had to quit playing hockey in Minnesota when I outgrew the community skate pile at our skating rinks in Grand Rapids and my father's skates got too small. Skates and hockey equipment were as expensive then as they are now. By that I mean they cost the same, but wages were lower. My father had to work for almost two days to buy me a twenty dollar pair of kneepads for hockey and skates were much more. There is a skate pile at the pavilion for people who don't own skates, by the way. Check them out. I won't be there for the party. Cheryl and I are going south for a week.

February is the shortest month but it has two holidays – Valentine's Day and Presidents' Day. Township offices will be closed on Presidents' Day but remember that garbage pickup will occur every Monday regardless of holidays. The way time has been flying by, the month will be over before I finish this article. One of my classmates wrote that life is like a roll of toilet paper. Everything speeds up toward the end of the roll. That might be happening to me. Enjoy the winter and watch slippery spots.

See you next month.

**Marenisco Township Board
Regular Meeting
December 18, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Marenisco Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Bouvette on Monday, December 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Township Hall.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

Present: Richard Bouvette, Supervisor; Donna Kenney, Clerk; Diane Dean, Treasurer; Kelly Dunbar, Trustee; Dave Hagen, Trustee

Absent: None

Visitors: Anna Lovelace-Coleman Engineering, Bruce Mahler, Dean Hand

Agenda: Motion by Dave Hagen, supported by Kelly Dunbar to approve the agenda as amended, add #6 under new business and trail grooming as part of #2 under new business. All ayes, motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Township Minutes- November 20, 2017
2. Police Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Fire Department Minutes
5. LGASA Report

Motion by Diane Dean, supported by Donna Kenney to approve the Consent Agenda. Roll call vote: Kelly Dunbar-aye, Diane Dean-aye, Richard Bouvette-aye, Dave Hagen-aye, Donna Kenney-aye. All ayes, motion carried.

Approval of Bills: Motion by Kelly Dunbar, supported by Diane Dean to approve the following bills for payment as funds become available: Check #'s 22604 – 22625 from the General Fund; #'s 2079 - 2082 from the Sewer Fund, #'s 3602 – 3607 from the Water Fund and #'s 1156-1158 from the Library Fund. Roll call vote: Kelly Dunbar-aye, Diane Dean-aye, Richard Bouvette-aye, Dave Hagen-aye, Donna Kenney-aye. All ayes, motion carried.

Guest: Coleman Engineering:

Anna Lovelace gave an update on the pavilion progress, a walk through will be scheduled this week. Payment #5 for Luppino was presented. Motion by Kelly Dunbar, supported by Diane Dean to approve the request for payment #5 to Angelo Luppino for \$67,075.07 as funds become available. Roll call vote: Kelly Dunbar-aye, Diane Dean-aye, Richard Bouvette-aye, Dave Hagen-aye, Donna Kenney-aye. All ayes, motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Cemetery Ordinance: The Board discussed the cemetery ordinance, no action was taken.
2. Zoning Maps: Gary Hoglund from Coleman Engineering will re-do our zoning maps; after this is done our Zoning Ordinance can be published.

New Business:

1. Audit & Deficit Elimination Plan: Motion by Diane Dean, supported by Kelly Dunbar to approve the Deficit Elimination Plan for the water and wastewater funds. All ayes, motion carried.
2. Snowmobile Grant & Trails: Motion by Donna Kenney, supported by Kelly Dunbar to accept the \$4000.00 snowmobile grant from the D.N.R. All ayes, motion carried. Officer Mahler discussed the issues/dangers with the snowmobile trails not being cleared or groomed.
3. Ceremony for Trailhead Opening: Discussion, no action taken.
4. Christmas Lights: Dave Hagen and Kelly Dunbar will look into prices for 5 Christmas decorations.
5. GCRC Building Plans: Supervisor Bouvette will send letters opposing the building site.
6. Voting System Grant: Motion by Diane Dean, supported by Kelly Dunbar to have Supervisor Bouvette sign the grant agreement for the new voting system. All ayes, motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Donna Kenney, supported by Kelly Dunbar to adjourn. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.



**BREAK IN THE NEW
RINK PARTY!!!**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd

4:00 - 6:00 PM

MARENISCO TRAILHEAD/PAVILION

**HOTDOGS, CHIPS, HOT COCOA,
MARSHMALLOWS & COOKIES**

KIDS AGED 0 – 105 WELCOME

COME & SKATE UNDER THE LIGHTS!



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SPAGHETTI BENEFIT DINNER

FOR STAN & LINDA COLE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

MARENISCO TOWN HALL

\$8.00/PLATE - KIDS 10 & UNDER-FREE

BAKE SALE

BASKET RAFFLES

SILENT PIE AUCTION

50/50 RAFFLE

**JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF GOOD FOOD, FUN & PRIZES
THAT WILL HELP STAN & LINDA WITH THEIR MEDICAL
EXPENSES.**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE BENEFIT
DINNER, PLEASE CONTACT**

DONNA KENNEY AT THE TOWNSHIP HALL – 906 787-2463

OR LORI RYSKEY AT 989 289-0641

TAKE OUTS AVAILABLE!!!

News from Your Library

Promotions for December and January, “Read a book, win a free hat” and “Read five books, and win a free burger from Burger King” will be extended through February. We have lots of hats and burger coupons still available. Also, on Saturday, February 10th, at 10:30, the kids are invited to stop in at the Library and decorate and eat Valentine cookies. Kathe Balcom is donating the cookies (and we all know how tasty those are!) and the decorating supplies. Pass the word!

Kid’s Books: “The Song of the Whango-whee” by John F. Smith; “Night of the Moon Jellies” by Mark Shasha” and “Stranger in the Woods” by Carl R. Sams and Jean Stoick. Imagine what the wild animals think when they see a snowman in their woods!

Teens and Young Adults: “The Red Pencil” by Andrea Davis Pinkney. Powerful poetic verse and poignant illustrations combine to tell the story of Amira. Amira is twelve and dreams of learning to read and write. But girls like Amira don’t go to school—their purpose is to work and become good wives and mothers. When the Janjaweed militia storms her small village, the life Amira knows is shattered. So, begins her long journey to a new life in a refugee camp. Amira feels her spirit slipping away, until the simple gift of a single red pencil open her mind—and all kinds of possibilities.

“Up Over and Down Under” by Micol Ostow and Noah Harlan. Eliza Ritter is an exchange student. She has high expectations for her semester in Melbourne, Australia. She is participating in an environmental program, but she really is hoping to meet some cute boys. Aussie Billie Echols actually does have an interest in the environmental program she’s signed up for in Washington, D.C. But the States are nothing like she expected, and soon Billie is caught in the middle of controversy. Enjoy the fun as Eliza and Billie swap places!

Adults: “Paranoia” by Joseph Finder, now a major motion picture. In a war between kings, even a pawn can change the game. It is only a prank: diverting cash from the executive slush fund to throw a retirement bash for a member of the loading dock crew. But when corporate security catches up with Adam Cassidy, a junior staffer, they call it something else: embezzlement. Ruthless CEO Nick Wyatt impressed by Adam’s scheming offers him away out of certain prison time—infiltrate Wyatt’s rival company, Trion Systems. Adam is about to learn a very hard lesson—that nothing is what it seems and that it isn’t paranoia when everyone really is out to get you.



Santa's Headquarters Committee

To: All that helped to support Santa's Headquarters

From: Santa's Headquarters Committee

With the Holidays over and moving closer to spring, we would like to take the time to recognize all of those who supported Santa's Headquarters in 2017 to make it a huge success. On December 6th and 7th 2017 your generous donations allowed us to help with Christmas for 398 children from 182 families in need across the Range. This year families received: A \$50 gift card for groceries, movie tickets, 1 large toy for each child, 1 blanket or jacket per family, 1 board game per family, stocking stuffers, toiletry items, toothbrush & toothpaste, books, and hat and mittens for each child. In many ways these are hard times for families and we want you to know that each toy you provided, each quilt you made, each mitten and hat you knit, each dollar you gave and each hour you donated was needed and greatly appreciated!

The true meaning of Christmas is alive and well – both across the Northland and in your hearts!

Thank you again for your kind and generous support! We look forward to working with all of you again next year!

Sincerely,

Santa's Headquarters Committee:

Erin Ross

Pat Nicksich

Jim Mildren

Marie Kinnunen

Robert D'Alberto

Ashley Dennis

Megan Martell

Senior Meals Menu for February

Menus are subject to change

Wednesday 7th

❖ Pork Chops-Potato-Vegetable-Dessert

Wednesday 14th

❖ Cheddar Cheese Casserole-Salad-Dessert

Wednesday 21st

❖ Roast Beef-Mashed Potatoes-Vegetable-Salad-Dessert

Wednesday 28th

❖ Hamburger Stroganoff-Vegetable-Salad-Dessert

F.Y.I.

Township Offices will be closed on February 19th for President's Day

Saturday, February 3rd – Break in the Rink Party for all ages! Hot dogs, hot chocolate, chips & cookies

The Fundraising Committee will have a spaghetti benefit dinner for Stan & Linda Cole on February 11th at the Town Hall from 1:00-5:00 pm.

There will be garbage pickup as usual on President's Day-Monday February 19th.

Happy Valentines Day!!!!

FEBRUARY 2018

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|--|-----------|---|--|
| | | | | 1 | 2 Library Open 12:00-4:00 | 3 Break in the Rink Party 4:00-6:00 |
| 4 | 5 Library Open 4:00-7:00 | 6 Library Open 12:00-4:00 | 7 Library Open 12:00-4:00 Senior Meals | 8 | 9 Library Open 12:00-4:00 | 10 |
| 11 Spaghetti Benefit for Stan & Linda Cole 1:00-5:00 | 12 Library Open 4:00-7:00 Friends of the Library 5:00 | 13 Library Open 12:00-4:00 | 14 Library Open 12:00-4:00 Senior Meals Library Board Meeting 3:30 | 15 | 16 Library Open 12:00-4:00 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 Library Open 4:00-7:00 Board Meeting 6:00 | 20 Library Open 12:00-4:00 | 21 Library Open 12:00-4:00 Senior Meals | 22 | 23 Library Open 12:00-4:00 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 Library Open 4:00-7:00 | 27 Library Open 12:00-4:00 | 28 Library Open 12:00-4:00 Senior Meals | | | |

Marenisco Township
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