

# SAN FRANCISCO TOWNSHIP NEWS



## **TOWNSHIP HALL NEARING APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR MNHS LEGACY GRANT**

July 23, 2021 is the deadline for the preliminary application for a grant to stabilize our Town Hall. Once submitted to the Minnesota Historical Society Grant Committee, the application will be reviewed and suggestions will be made to correct and supplement the application for the final version. When we get the feedback, the final application will be drafted and submitted. The final version is due in September. The Township has hired Todd Grove from MacDonald and Mack to do plans and specification for the Town Hall project along with a projected cost estimates. At this point, it looks like stabilizing the foundation, brickwork, windows and other exterior needs are the primary focus for our grant application. The application will be reviewed in November with monies allocated in January. We are hopeful that our project will be awarded the grant money that is needed to make our Township Hall a safe and vital part of our community.

## **MINING**

**Ron Olson Gravel Mine:**  
At the May 17th Township Board meeting the Board decided the EAW for the proposed Olson Gravel Mine was sufficient and an EIS was not needed. The review of the EAW is posted on the website with comment from Jeff Madejczyk, environmentalist with Stantec Services and Jason Hill of Kenned Graven, attorney, answering the questions submitted by township residents. The next step would be an application for an IUP. There will be a public meeting to address any questions and concerns when/if this application is received.



## **EXPLORE SAN FRANCISCO TOWNSHIP**

Have you been to the **Rapid Lakes Wildlife Refuge**? It is right in our back yard and a fun place to enjoy the outdoors. Recreational opportunities on the Rapids Lake Unit include hiking, wildlife observation, photography and interpretation via several trails. Try the hike to the bluff above Rapids Lake from the North Hunter Parking Lot along Jonathan Carver Parkway to see incredible views of the river valley or venture to one of the many refuge units dotted along the river. Trail maps and current conditions can be found on their website at [https://www.fws.gov/refuge/minnesota\\_valley/trail\\_report.html](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/minnesota_valley/trail_report.html) and click the link to Rapids Lake, Louisville Swamp, and Chaska. The refuge is also open to hunting during hunting season. There is an education and visitor center at the Rapids Lake Unit which includes environmental education classrooms, an exhibit area and public restrooms, including one exterior restroom accessible when the center is closed. Rapids Lake Visitor Center, located off Co. Roads 11 at Carver Highlands Drive, is open Fridays and Saturdays from 12-4 p.m and trails are open daily from sunrise to sunset.

## **MEET ANDY OLSON - OUR NEW TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR**

**Andy Olson, was appointed in May as San Francisco Township Supervisor replacing Doug Weber. He is 28 years old and works as the general manager at Christians Inc., an insurance restoration company located in Chanhassen. He has lived in the township his entire life and is the 3rd generation to serve on the board. He enjoys farming, woodworking, and spending time with his family.**

**Monthly Township Meeting:**

**3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm Township Hall....listen only Zoom if requested**

**Next meeting Monday, July 19, 2021 @ 7:00 pm**

**Board Chair: Larry Schmidt ([larry@robbselectricinc.com](mailto:larry@robbselectricinc.com)):)**

**Supervisors: Scott Selken ([scottselken73@gmail.co](mailto:scottselken73@gmail.co))**

**Andy Olson ([andyolsonhay@gmail.com](mailto:andyolsonhay@gmail.com))**

**Town Clerk: Heidi Schmidt ([HeidiSFT@gmail.com](mailto:HeidiSFT@gmail.com))**

**Treasurer: Denise Andersen ([Andersondjsaj@yahoo.com](mailto:Andersondjsaj@yahoo.com))**

**WILD PARSNIPS**

**If you see any wild parsnips please contact the Township immediately.** It contains furocoumarins which can make skin sensitive to light, a condition known as phytophotodermatitis, causing severe burns and blisters. Wild parsnip is most commonly found along road and rail rights-of-way. It is also found invading a variety of disturbed landscapes including trails, natural areas, pastures, forest and field margins, waste areas, unmaintained gravel pits, and idle lands. It can tolerate dry, moist, or wet soils, but does not grow in shaded areas.



**CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE is excited about the progress in the effort to fix up and preserve our Town Hall (Historic School School 22). It is vital that there is community input and support for this project. This factors in greatly in the procuring of grants for the rehabilitation. As things progress, we will need more input and support from our community. Our meetings are open to the public and are held the Thursday prior to the Board meeting. Please consider attending or joining CAC by notifying Town Clerk, Heidi Schmidt**