

SAN FRANCISCO TOWNSHIP NEWS



January 2023

Township Supervisors Re-elected

Andy Olson and Scott Selken were elected as supervisors for the San Francisco Township board for a four year term. It was a busy day at the polls as 477 out of 620 registered voters came to the town hall to cast their votes in person. This is the highest number of voters that have turned out for midterm general elections. The elections were staffed by eight elections judges. Thanks to all for making our election run smoothly.

TOWNSHIP HALL UPDATE

Many people commented on the the sunlight coming through the window when voting at the Town Hall. Everything looked so bright. That is one example of what has been accomplished. Other improvements are not as easily seen by the naked eye. For example, reinforcements in the basement area with sand fill to stabilize the foundation along with the rebuilding of the crumbling northeast corner of the building, other foundation repairs, chimney repair, repair and tuck pointing the bricks to name a few. A few things were not finished due to supply issues. One window in storage area was too damaged to repair and needed to be rebuilt and a new back exit door was also needed. They were delivered this fall but Minnesota winter weather made it impossible to get them installed. These repairs will be done in the spring. In addition, the CAC committee is getting information for replacing the ramp with a lift or a new ramp. They are also researching the cost and funding for putting in an ADA bathroom. Ideas or comments concerning our Town Hall are always welcome. Email to Heidi Schmidt at HeidiSFT@gmail.com.

LOU'S CORNER

Looking for an unusual adventure? Try to find the elusive Carver Rapids in Carver County. Start your search at the Rapids Lakes Visitor Center which is about a mile due east of the intersection of Co Rd 50 and Co Rd 11 on the north edge of San Francisco Township. The Visitor Center may or may not be open during during cold winter days, but it is a good starting place for a hike along the Rapids Lake Trail that heads north along the Minnesota River and takes you right to the Carver Rapids. You can only see the rapids when the river is extremely low, such as this past year's drought. Most years the Rapids are not visible because the river water level is high enough completely hide this site. I have lived the Township for over 50 years and during that time I have only seen the actual Rapids a few times. The sandstone river bottom is quite a treat to see. There are some parallel grooves in the sandstone which could possible be from wagons crossing the Minnesota River during low water levels 150 years ago. Is it possible our early Minnesota ancestors left the marks with wagon wheels scratching the soft sandstone river bottom? That's simply my opinion how those grooves were made. Right now you can hike with a pair of boots or cross-country ski on the trail. If you wait until warm weather for this hike, then you probably won't see the Rapids as rising waters in the springtime will again hide them under deep water. This Rapids Lake Trail doesn't get a lot of winter use but it is rewarding when you can witness the Rapids. While down by the river, also check out the historical 1880's Gehl-Mittelsted Farmstead. It is on the trails between the Visitor Center and the Rapids. This historical house and farm site is on the endangered list because the Minnesota River during past floods has been right to the house and could destroy it in the future. It is just one more surprise within San Francisco Township. Happy Trails to you from Lou Longhenry.



Town Hall Survey Results

Surveys about the Town Hall were available to fill out at the election in order to get feedback concerning present and future plans. Ninety six surveys were filled (or partially filled) out at that time. The results are as follows:

1. **Is the Town Hall an asset to the township:**

	Yes: 96	No: 0	100%
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2. **Rate the improvements all ready made:**

Deficient / not needed	1	1.04%
Okay	6	6.25%
Good	46	47.90%
Excellent	42	43.80%
No response	1	1.04%
3. **Should additional improvements be made to interior?**

Yes:	75	78.10%
Not sure:	2	2.10%
No:	10	10.04%
No response:	9	9.04%
4. **As a public building, what improvements should be done to interior?** Please note that these may qualify for ARPA Funding (i.e. Covid funding) so would be at minimal cost to taxpayers. Circle all you might be interested in.

Painting and interior fix up	63 (33)	65.60%
Indoor bathroom	59 (37)	61.56%
Office space	32 (64)	33.33%
kitchenette	29 (67)	30.20%
Audio Visual	35 (61)	36.50%

Numbers in () denotes "no response" to that question

5. Other suggestions:

Keep original woodwork! Great use of public funds! Landscape and parking needed. Use Covid funds. Save original look and feel. Refinish wood floor. Finish plaster walls/repaint if not taxpayers expense. Restore like old building not new design. Ramp. Keep character. Fix damage. Picnic shelters. Event center. Retain original feel. Anything needed should be historical. Clean out wooded area. Fix up interior. Storage building. Thanks to all who took time to fill out the survey. If you did not get a chance to fill out the survey, you may do so by going to sanfranciscotownship.com and finding it under Hall Restoration.

DO NOT PLOW SNOW ACROSS A TOWNSHIP ROAD INTO THE DITCH.

THIS CREATES HAZARDS FOR BOTH MOTORIST AND SNOWPLOWS.

Minnesota Statute 160.2715 prohibits the plowing, blowing, shoveling or otherwise placing of snow from sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots onto or across public roads into the right-of-way (in general 33 feet from the center of the road).

Please find a spot on your property to pile snow and keep it off Township roads.

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING OUR ROADS AND PLOW DRIVERS SAFE.



Happy New Year!!!



CARVER COUNTY HIGHWAY 40 ROAD CONSTRUCTION

PREPARE FOR ROAD WORK IN 2023 FROM HIGHWAY 25 TO HIGHWAY 52 IN SAN FRANCISCO TOWNSHIP

Highway 40 corridor has been identified in the County's Roadway Safety Plan as a "High Priority Segment" due to the high frequency of crashes, narrow substandard gravel shoulders, and abundant curvature. This project is in the preliminary design stages for Highway 40 north of the Minnesota River at the Highway 25 intersection, heading northeast to the southern intersection of Highway 40 and Highway 11 intersection. The project is in the final design stages for approximately 4.1 miles of Highway 40 north of the Minnesota River at the the intersection of Highway 25 heading north east to the intersection of Highway 52.

This will include:

- *Widening of the shoulders
- *Flattening slopes
- *Correcting drainage issues
- *Implementing safety improvements
- *Rehabilitating the pavement surface

CONSTRUCTION TO OCCUR IN 2023

For more information go to Carver County Website,

<https://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/public-works/projects-studies/highway-40-project>

DEADLINE for items for the **BOARD AGENDA** must be received **by NOON MONDAY, one week prior to regular scheduled board meetings**. This deadline will usually be noon on the **SECOND MONDAY** of the month. In Jan. & Feb. it will be the 1st Monday.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Monthly Board Meeting: 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

(Except January and February due to Monday holidays meetings are on the 2nd Monday)

- DECEMBER Monthly Board Meeting: Dec. 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**
- JANUARY Monthly Board Meeting: Jan. 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**
- FEBRUARY Monthly Board Meeting: Feb. 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**

ANNUAL MEETING IS ON TUESDAY MARCH 7, 2023 AT 7:00 PM

ALL MEETING HELD AT SAN FRANCISCO TOWN HALL

Website: sanfranciscotownship.com

Board Chair: Larry Schmidt (larry@robbselectric.com)

Supervisors: Scott Selken (sselken.sftownship@gmail.com) Andy Olson (andyolsonhay@gmail.com)

Clerk: Heidi Schmidt (HeidiSFT@gmail.com)

Deputy Clerk: Jeanne Aufderheide (JAufderheide.SFT@gmail.com)

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**San Francisco Township Annual Meeting
Tuesday, March 7, 2023 7:00 PM Town Hall**

**Please attend this meeting.
Your input into our
Township government is important!**