

News from Avon Township

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Poet Ogden Nash wrote, “Indoors or out, no one relaxes in March, that month of wind and taxes, the wind will presently disappear, the taxes last us all the year.” I wonder if he was thinking about the Township?

There’s no time to relax in March; it is our busiest month. There are all the usual meetings and activities. In addition, on the second Tuesday of March all Townships hold their annual Town Meeting and election. On March 13th, Avon Township residents will go the polls to elect one Supervisor for a three-year term, one Supervisor for a one-year term, and a Clerk for a two-year term. Avon Township residents vote in the Avon Town Hall, 16881 Queens Road (Avon). The polls will be open from 2:00 – 8:00 PM.

This will be an especially exciting election for us because we will be a test site for electronic rosters or pollbooks. This iPad-like device replaces the old-fashioned paper rosters books voters traditionally sign before voting. As an added incentive to vote, you can be part of an experimental test of new equipment that heralds the future of voting.

Following the election, at 8:30 PM, arguably the most important Town meeting of the year will occur – the Annual Meeting. There are lots of items on the agenda at this meeting, but perhaps the most important one is, as Ogden Nash might agree, taxes.

At their recent Board of Audit meeting, the Supervisors create a budget for 2019 and proposed a tax levy of \$424,100. This amount hasn’t changed in about 7 years. The majority of the funds will be used for road reconstruction and maintenance including snow plowing. The Annual Meeting gives Township residents the opportunity to discuss and vote on “the taxes [that will] last us all the year.”

The Town Meeting is also a great time to meet other residents of the Township and to present ideas to the Supervisors. The Town Meeting is local government at its best.

I will end on a sad note. Late last month, Gerry Kremers passed away. Gerry was a member of the Township Planning Commission. He had been appointed to the board by the Supervisors on April 5, 2006. He served the residents of the Town for nearly a dozen years and rarely missed a meeting. Ken Mergen, current planning board member who served with Gerry during his entire tenure on the Board says, “Gerry was a great addition to the Planning Commission. He was

especially concerned about the general welfare of all Township residents.” We will all miss Gerry.

I hope that you can relax enough to join us on the second Tuesday of windy March for the annual Town Election and Meeting. It won't be too taxing.