

## **Supervisor Comments**

**February 2021**

**simstownship.org**

**NEW LED LIGHTS IN THE TOWNSHIP HALL ...** We had an electrical contractor from Whittemore replace all our fluorescents with energy saving LED's under a state energy conversation program that saved us \$600.00. The total cost to replace 106 lamps was \$2516.00. What a difference it makes over what we had. It is so bright, we may have to remove some tubes should our office staff complain about the brightness. These were direct-wire tubes which means the ballasts had to be removed. We should see a significant savings as the ballasts create heat which translates to higher cost which means those old fluorescent lamps were quite inefficient but were more efficient than standard light bulbs! As it stands now, as far as lighting goes, we have the best of the best and we deserve it!

**NEW FURNACE FOR OUR COP SHOP ...** Sam Proulx, Mike Fil and myself installed a new garage furnace in Officer Issac's office. The old heater was beginning to cost a lot to repair and it had a manual pilot system which was a nuisance. Last year, we spent about \$600.00 in repairs. The new 80,000 BTU Mr. Heater unit has automatic pilot operation and the cost was \$525.00. We also purchased additional steel shelving units for the back room in an effort to keep everything better organized. We did get rid of a lot of junk, and with the new lighting, the area looks really good and well organized.

**PROJECTS COMPLETED IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS AND ONE IN PROCESS ...** We have completed several upgrades to the hall in the last four years which include 1) Re-surface the parking lot; 2) Back-up 17KW Honeywell-Generac Generator which was a Saganing Tribal Grant; 3) New windows this Fall from Wallside; 4) Digital sign which was another Saganing Tribal Grant; 5) Upgrade parking lot lighting to LED's which including installing soffit LED lighting; 6) New furnace and storage racks as discussed; 7) New hall interior LED lighting as discussed; 8) Upgrade the electrical and data lines for the office and conference room; 9) Spruce up the front yard by removing the bushes and trees at the Delano – US 23 corner which was a safety issue and remove the old

Sims signage and bushes on each end of that sign; 10) Power wash the exterior of the building; 11) Purchased a new zero turn Cub Cadet tractor for the cemetery which was a Saganing Tribal Grant; 12) Water meter purchases in collaboration with Whitney is on-going and that was made possible by a on-going four year Saganing Tribal Grant and to date we have received approximately \$12,000.00 which covered the cost of 36 new water meters; 13) Water meter replacement program for Sims township began in September 2020 and should be completed by June 2021. The last I knew, we have 304 meters remaining to be installed out of about 1100; 14) The Saganing Tribal Grant program also gives each township \$1000.00 twice a year, so that comes out to 8 visits and \$8000.00 which is in addition to what we may be awarded. All of that money has been used to help complete some of the projects listed; 15) I think that's it ...!

**LAWSUIT AGAINST WHITNEY WAS SETTLED 2/9/21 ...** That matter was about their 1) Refusal to pay their portion of the cemetery costs for two years and 2) Creation of a Quick Claim Deed 10 years ago where they claimed ownership of the cemetery was struck down by the court and in both matters, Sims Township prevailed.

**FINAL THOUGHT ...** Stress is our friend and without it we are dead, so embrace it and appreciate it and remember, either you run the day, or the day runs you ...