

FROM THE SUPERVISOR CORNER
JULY 2022
SIMSTWP.ORG

AUGUST 2ND IS ELECTION DAY, BUT THERE'S MORE ... The Township office will be open Saturday, July 30th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to accept Absentee Ballots ... also, completed ballots can be placed in the secure drop box adjacent to the front door of the hall and remember to *sign the envelope*. The polls will open August 2nd at 7 a.m. and will close at 8 p.m.

TOWNSHIP HALL NEW OFFICES ... Last week saw our Staff getting new offices. For over 40 years, those working at the hall shared a large open space and when all staff members were on board and working, things were more than a little noisy due to multiple phone conversations going on at the same time and just typical office chatter. This noise, in and of itself, contributed to things being quite chaotic at times, but never hostile as everyone gets along great. The Board decided it was past time to act to lessen the decibel and distraction and chaos levels and create a more serene, efficient, and peaceful work environment, so approved the construction of individual offices for the Clerk, Treasurer, Water Clerk and Supervisor. The Staff worked with Mike Fil to design their own office spaces and Mike took their input and created an engineering drawing, and from that drawing created a materials list. His list was so well done, we had no surplus of 2x4's, drywall or glue. For instance, he ordered a case of the large glue-gun tubes, and we ended up with less than a half of a tube remaining! Painting begins the week of July 18 and the new laminate flooring for the entrance and conference area will begin being installed on July 20th. When the painting is completed, new 2' x 2' carpet squares will be added throughout the office area to further cut down on noise. The carpet currently installed, could be original to the building. After carpet, full length windowed doors and trim will be installed. Efficiency was improved as the 20 something file cabinets were placed permanently on sized furniture dollies and located within the offices, rather than being lumped together in an open area and could be described and may be looking like "Pre-Victorian Messy! The Receptionist's/Deputy's – Diane and Noreen – remain in the open area. The office construction took two 10-hour days and was done by our Clerk Suzanne's husband, Walter, who by the way, just retired the week before from his Electrician's job at a hospital in Sault Ste. Marie, so his retirement got off to a rough start! The other two "carpenters" were Mike Fil and yours truly.

RETIREMENT OF ERNIE KATA ... After 26 years, Ernie decided to step down on July 13th as the Zoning Administrator for Sims Township. Previously, he had held the same role in Whitney Township for many years and oversaw zoning for both townships simultaneously. Over the years, Ernie issued a lot of blight letters and a lot of citations, in addition to making court appearances where he prevailed in each one as his documentation was so complete and thorough. The overall appearance of Sims Township neighborhoods is what it is due to his efforts. Ernie had originally retired from GM several years ago. Ernie has made many friends in

the township over the years and possibly one or two un-friendly's, due to the nature of the business. When you see him out-and-about, give him a thumbs-up for his efforts in making Sims Township a great place to live!

FINAL THOUGHT ... Once upon a time a psychology professor walked around on a stage while teaching stress management principles to an auditorium filled with students. As she raised a glass of water, everyone expected they'd be asked the typical "glass half empty or glass half full" question. Instead, with a smile on her face, the professor asked, "How heavy is this glass of water I'm holding?" Students shouted out answers ranging from eight ounces to a couple pounds. She replied, "From my perspective, the absolute weight of this glass doesn't matter. It all depends on how long I hold it. If I hold it for a minute or two, it's fairly light. If I hold it for an hour straight, its weight might make my arm ache a little. If I hold it for a day straight, my arm will likely cramp up and feel completely numb and paralyzed, forcing me to drop the glass to the floor. In each case, the weight of the glass doesn't change, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it feels to me." As the class shook their heads in agreement, she continued, "Your stresses and worries in life are very much like this glass of water. Think about them for a while and nothing happens. Think about them a bit longer and you begin to ache a little. Think about them all day long, and you will feel completely numb and paralyzed – incapable of doing anything else until you drop them." **The moral:** It's important to remember to let go of your stresses and worries. No matter what happens during the day, as early in the evening as you can, put all your burdens down. Don't carry them through the night and into the next day with you. If you still feel the weight of yesterday's stress, it's a strong sign that it's time to put the glass down. MARC CHERNOFF