



from your Executive Director

By Bryan E. Smith

TOI Executive Director

Township Election – April 6, 2021



THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN. In a little more than a month, April 6 will be here and the election of township officials for the new term will have taken place.

April 6 is the date where I'm guessing somewhere between 20-25 percent brand-new township officials will be elected and they will begin, what I hope, will be a very successful tenure in township government. With caucuses and primaries and filing dates now all behind us, we are heading into the home stretch for the Consolidated Election. Campaign signs are starting to pop up as we get closer to April 6.

Here at TOI, we encounter a variety of things right after the township election every four years. With more than 11,000 members, you can imagine the amount of time it takes to update our mailing and magazine lists.

I have to admit that this period of time once every four years is

always hectic. It is also sometimes an emotional period. When you work with township officials like we do, you become friends. When township officials leave office, it's sometimes tough because in some cases, we simply never see or hear from them again after the election. While it's sad to see friends leave, it's always refreshing and exciting to have new officials coming on board too. Having served as a new township clerk and new township supervisor myself, I know there are a lot of questions when you first take office and I always enjoy talking to new officials and helping them with their questions.

With that in mind, we here at TOI have already started planning for the "newbies" and are planning two VIRTUAL Newly Elected Officials Training workshops. We feel it is important that these new officials get the best information and education as soon as they can after taking office. Our Newly Elected

Officials Training virtual workshops will be held August 12 and August 26. These virtual workshops will not only be geared for the new folks but returning "veterans" as well. Stay tuned for more information in future magazines.

Whether or not you are running again, THANK YOU for your past service in township government. You are to be commended for the service you have done for your township. Remember, the new four-year term of office begins on May 17, 2021 for all Supervisors, Clerks, Highway Commissioners and Trustees. Assessors, Multi-Township Assessors and Tax Collectors begin their new term of office on January 1, 2022.

This is my 36th year of being involved in Township Government, and my 10th Township (Consolidated) election. Good Luck to EVERYONE on April 6!