



Fredenberg

Township News



A pleasant blend of progress and tradition

Issue 1

VOL XXIII

January 2016

FREDENBERG TOWNSHIP NEWS

A monthly newsletter published
by the

Fredenberg Town Board
Editor Sherri Armstrong

This is not an official document and does not replace the requirements for the Board to post notices in posting. Minutes are not official until approved by the board at their meeting. All ordinances, policies and resolutions quoted herein are available for review in the Town Clerk's office. Anyone wishing to review them can leave a message and a time can be arranged for viewing. Copies can be obtained for the standard price as stated in the administrative policy.

TOWN BOARD

Elizabeth Blix, Supervisor	721-3194
Jeff Blix, Chairman	721-3194
Clay Cich, Supervisor	590-5005
Walter Rapp, Supervisor	721-3761
Mark Toms, Vice Chair	393-4531
Bill O'Brien, Treasurer	721-3864
James Ray, Road Foreman	721-5201
Sherri Armstrong, Clerk	721-3991

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Keith Nelson (218)749-7108
300 S 5th Ave
Virginia, MN 55729
Nelsonk@co.st.louis.mn.us

DEPARTMENTS

Fire Chief, Linda Bergstrand	349-2668
Recycling Center	721-3991
Assessor, County	726-2304
Town Hall	721-3991
FAX	721-3991
email	Fredenbergtpw@aol.com

(email is slow and NOT recommended)

TOWN BOARD ACTIONS

The January meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by Chairman Jeff Blix - 6 individuals joined the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes were approved with one type correction. The correspondence was reviewed and bills paid in the amount of \$105,653.11. Reports were made by the various department heads.

The clerk was playing catch-up and was busy with all the end of year, end of quarter reporting due.

The treasurer reported we were done with the CPA's review and correspondence from the State Auditor reflected the steps that are being implemented for tighter control over the process. He also reported that looking at Schedule 1 would give a false look at the state of the finances if you took it line by line for the funds. You need to look at the bottom Total line to get a true picture. Total funds available as of 10 December are \$427,813.77.

The Road Foreman is currently away on vacation but overall the county is doing a fair job of plowing the roads. Randy Decouer asked if it was possible to have the plow deposit the snow in a more convenient spot when doing the E. Birch Acres Rd. This has been addressed with the county, so we will have to wait and see how it turns out after the next snowfall. The slowness in getting the roads done was attributed to new drivers this year.

Fire Department - had a relatively quiet month and responded to one mutual aid structure fire, 2 calls in-

volving down or sparking power lines and one medical call. Several training opportunities were done and they hosted a responder safety class. They completed an initial flood of the rink.

Nothing from Law Enforcement.

Cemetery - the gates have been locked for the winter.

Parks & Rec - the rink attendant and the Fire Department are trying to get the rink up and running, but the weather is playing fast and loose with the process. The clerk reported that the donated tennis net is currently in storage downstairs.

Community Center - the custodians submitted a proposal to replace the outdated light fixtures in the building. This is something they can do themselves and it would result in better and more efficient lighting. It was suggested that there could be some rebate programs that would go along with this.

Recycling Center - reflectors have been installed at the entrances to the driveways for ease in locating. We are also proposing to WLSSD that we install a window in the building to help the attendants know when someone is there—especially in inclement weather—and to look at installing a light pole at the entrance for ease in locating. They are being submitted to WLSSD as part of a improvement grant.

Other Meetings - Supervisors Cich and Toms attended the WLSSD meeting and Supervisors Jeff Blix and Cich met with the

attorney.

Under Old Business: - Park land on Datka Road - the board made a motion to send out letters to the Commissioner of Revenue and the County Planning and Community Development Department with various attachments that were drafted by the attorney. The board is looking to the DNR to define the rules for the snowmobile trails in regard to the park. Ed Proetz mentioned that during the Beargrease the dogsleds utilized the snowmobile trails. Mark Toms pointed out that different stretches of trails are rated for different uses throughout the state and they depend upon the easement granted for that particular trail. The board was also made aware that there is a formal complaint form that must be utilized for the county for these issues. Jeff Blix stated he is working with other townships to see how they handle the issue.

Ordinance - Mark Toms hopes to have a draft to the rest of the board this week. Once it is looked at and ready, we will schedule a new Public Hearing on it.

Under New Business:

Shredding Day - Mary Pat Skafte asked if the board would do something like this for the township, we will research it and let people know.

Fire Contract - the board approved the contract for 2016.

With no further business, this meeting adjourned at 7:50pm

The board then reconvened their budget and salary meeting from last month, which was recessed due to the absence of the clerk and treasurer. Budget figures for 2017 were worked on. The levy which will be resented at the Annual Meeting has yet to be decided.

After that meeting was ended the board met to hold the Reorganization meeting. The banks, official posting places, meeting schedule (except for the Board of Appeals which is scheduled by the County), areas of responsibility were set. Research on website and facility rental will be done.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following items were received and reviewed at the January meeting. Anyone wishing to read this correspondence, or seeking more information, may do so by calling the clerk at 721-3991.

1. From MN DNR – Signed copy of the FY 2016 Grant-in-Aid Agreement for Reservoir Riders
2. From Gnesen Township – Newspaper
3. From KSG – Christmas Card
4. From Minnesota LTAP – Flier on Roadway Maintenance Seminars
5. From the City of Rice Lake – Newspaper
6. From Rinke Noonan – Flier on Drainage and Wetland Conference
7. From SLTACO – Minutes of the December 2, 2015 meeting
8. From St. Louis County, Planning and Community Development – Public Hearing on variance application for Kelly Powell and Kelly Wheeler, 6514 Fredenberg Lake Rd for an after-the-fact variance for a reduced property line setback
9. From St. Louis County, Planning and Community Development – Public Hearing on variance application for Adam and Lori Swor at 6858 2nd Ave to allow a principal structure at a reduced shoreline setback.
10. From WLSSD – Newsletter
11. From State Auditor's Office – Findings on concerns received about financial practices.

Email

1. From Hobart Finn – Expressing his profound disappointment over the Letter to the Editor about Positive Energy,

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED CLASSES HELD AT THE FREDENBERG COMMUNITY CENTER

CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
Exercise classes - wear comfortable clothes and bring a mat. Pay per class or purchase a punch card. The card will be kept at the Community Center.

For more info call Anita at 729-0450 more info.

PAY AT THE DOOR YOGA AT RESERVOIR RIDERS .Wednesdays -

Yoga 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Incorporate breath work and postures to increase the body's alignment, strength and flexibility. Emphasis on the inner core building awareness and finding ease in the body.

Instructor: Anita Anderson
\$5 per class.

CARDIO TONE –
A combination of cardio exercise and light weight lifting. Total body workout for all levels.

Saturdays 9:00 - 10:00 am
Instructor: Tania McVean

CARDIO BLAST
A bodyweight (equipment free) high calorie burn class to improve your cardiovascular system, overall health and fitness level.

Thursdays 6:15 - 7:00 pm
Instructor: Tania McVean

**TOTAL CONDITION
(FORMERLY Pilates Class)
Tuesdays 7:00 - 8:00 am**
Instructor: Ann Robertson

GROUP EXERCISE
Come work out with other motivated community members.
Tues/Thursdays 7:00 - 8:00 am





TRAILS WERE GROOMED FRIDAY NIGHT (January 8th)

**New Snow – Fresh Tracks
Biskey is calling your name!**

for up-to-date info check us out on:
<https://biskeypondskitrails.wordpress.com/>



Arrowhead Bookmobile

Stops at the Fredenberg Community Center from
1:15 - 1:45

Jan 25 Mar 7

No February date on calendar
call 218-741-3840
or 1-800-257-1442



**Curl up with a good
book today!**

We are working to
get the rink into
good skating con-
dition, so please
bear with us.
Once done, the at-
tendant will post
his schedule for
open skate.

WINTER SAFETY

Winter is making itself known in the Northland once again, and as hardy Minnesotans we love our outdoors (otherwise we would have already become a snowbird) so we want to remind you to be safe out there.

Check the ice before you go on it. We often see cars and trucks as well as snowmobiles and ATVs on the ice, but make sure it is thick enough first. Also be aware of the conditions out there. Some of our lakes have open spots year round and for a surprisingly large surface area, there can be a lot of traffic on the lakes..

Make sure you follow posted trails for your sport, whatever it may be. If a trail is posted for skiers, snowmobilers should not be using them or vice versa. Car drivers need to be aware of snowmobilers as they travel the trails as they often will use the roadways to cross.

Also make sure that the snow, when it comes, is being removed safely and in accordance with state statutes from your driveway. MN Statute 160.2715 states, “(a) Except for the actions of the road authorities, their agents, employees, contractors and utilities in carrying out their duties imposed by law or contract, and except as herein provided, it shall be unlawful to: (1) obstruct any highway or deposit snow or ice thereon and (b) any violation of this section is a misdemeanor.” In essence this means that when you plow your driveway you can’t push snow across the road—be it state, county or city - into the street and leave it there to get it out of your driveway. This includes the ditch and right-of-way. While this is considered a misdemeanor, if your actions can be proved to have caused a hazard (slippery area, frozen rut) that contributes to a motor vehicle or pedestrian crash, you could find yourself in a civil suit.

So dress warm, let people know your plans and route if riding, carry your cell phone and be careful while out enjoying the cold.



Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center

Looking for a fun winter activity this season? How about skiing Hawaiian Minnesota style? Break out your Hawaiian shirt and enjoy tiki-lit skiing or snowshoeing, and later gather for hot beverages and snacks around the fire. (Sorry no roast pig - couldn't fine enough banana leaves)

Join us on Saturday January 30th from 6-8pm. Cost is just \$10 per person. Bring your own skis or snowshoes. Headlamps are optional

This event is co-sponsored by Duluth Cross-Country Ski Club

Snow play isn't your thing? Already longing for the days of spring?
Check out this workshop....

A presentation describing Macro-Photography techniques as they apply to Wildflower Photography followed by hands-on photo shoot of sample flowers (inside) where participants will learn equipment alternatives and techniques that lead to successful photos of wildflowers.

Optional items to bring to class: DSLR, camera manual, macro lens, remote camera release, tripod, point-and-shoot camera (if it has a “macro” or “flower” setting).

Class will be on Wednesday, February 10th from 6-9pm, cost is \$20, but space is limited to the first 10 participants so hurry!

For more info or to register, email jdgeiss@d.umn.edu or call 721-3731; They are located at 7328 Boulder Dam Rd, Duluth, MN 55803

ADVERTISEMENTS

To help defray the costs of publishing and mailing this newsletter, we are offering advertising space to local businesses. If interested, please call the hall at 721-3991

5 Reasons you should visit EAGLE'S NEST RESORT

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See you soon **THANK YOU!**

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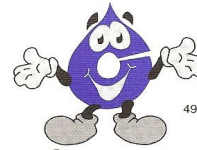
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A BIG Thank-You to Santa and all of the volunteers who helped with the breakfast on December 5: Rod Barber, Jim Armstrong, Roger & E.J. Dahl, Van Staagen Family, Walt & Erm Sandberg, Joe & Rachel Knutson, Scott & Shelly Anderson, Loren & Mary Larson, Tim Mosier, Steve Armstrong, John Snyder and Ted Schick.

Also a big Thank-You to our sponsors:

*Lakehead Trucking *Northern Lights Landscaping
*Mark R Anderson *Fish Lake Kennels *Calumet Specialty Products-Ralph Lockman *F&P Properties LLC
*Minno-ette *Airport Auto *US Foods-Tim Mosier
*Chesney Auto Salvage *Asphalt of Duluth *Richard & Claude Wennas *Minnesota Power *Blue Max

Thanks to the community for supporting this wonderful event. Please give our local businesses our support throughout the year! Santa's store was a big hit with the kids. If you have items you would like to donate for next year's store please contact Roger and EJ Dahl 218-393-2901.



See you next year!

**The next board
meeting will be**

**Wednesday
February 3**



7pm