



Fredenberg Township News

A pleasant blend of progress and tradition



Issue 11

VOL XXXII

November 2020

FREDENBERG TOWNSHIP NEWS

A monthly newsletter published
by the Fredenberg Town Board
Editor Diane Palmstein & Mary Skafte

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 and **monthly correspondence** is 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 Hall Office 721-3991
Office Hours: Every Tuesday
2 pm to 5:30pm

TOWN BOARD

Clay Cich, Chair	590-5005
Debra Pawlowicz, Supervisor	428-4539
Walter Rapp, Supervisor	721-3761
James Ray, Vice Chair & Road Foreman	721-5201
Tim Wagner, Supervisor	428-9460
Pam Blekestad, Treasurer	721-3991
Diane Palmstein, clerk	721-3991
Mary Skafte, deputy clerk	721-3991

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Keith Nelson (218)749-7108
300 S 5th Ave
Virginia, MN 55729
Nelsonk@stlouiscountymn.gov

DEPARTMENTS

Chief, Linda Bergstrand	349-2668
Recycling Center	721-3991
Assessor, County	726-2304
Town Hall	721-3991
Email	Fredenbergtpw@gmail.com
Website	Fredenberg.org

NOVEMBER 10, 2020 TOWN BOARD ACTIONS

The monthly meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** at 7 pm by Chair Clay Cich. Also, present were: Deb Pawlowicz, Walter Rapp, Jim Ray, Tim Wagner. Mary Skafte & Diane Palmstein/clerks present, Pam Blekestad, Treasurer also present. 19 individuals were present and stood with the Board to recite the Pledge of the Allegiance. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Oct. 7, 2020 meeting minutes reviewed by the Board, Walter made motion to accept with 1 correction, under CARES change foggers to fogger, Jim Ray seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Oct. 21, 2020 meeting minutes were reviewed by the Board, Deb Pawlowicz made a motion to accept without corrections, Clay Cich seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** **TREASURER'S REPORT:** as of Oct. 13, 2020, reconciled checking account balance is \$332,375.97. Total funds available \$535,293.48, which includes 4 CDs totaling \$202,917.51. Clay Cich made a motion to accept Treasury report, Walter Rapp seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** **CORRESPONDENCE:** 23 total: 2 mail and 21 e-mails were received and reviewed by the Board. Deb Pawlowicz requested that the variance notices be forwarded to the Board when they arrive. **REVIEW OF BILLS:** Mary Skafte/clerk informed supervisors that checks to Vesel Construction, MN Locksmith and Air Circulation are 2 separate checks, one for a down payment, which will be sent out now and one the final payment which will be sent when the work is complete. This is done to comply with CARES FUNDING requirements to submit payments by Nov. 15. Also check #10203 is amount returned to St. Louis County to use from our CARES distribution that was unused (total of \$1796.65). No corrections. Jim Ray made motion to accept check #10159 to 10203, totaling \$62,262.35, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** **REPORTS:** **Clerk** – Mary Skafte & Diane Palmstein/clerks read an email received through the Fredenberg Townhall office from Clay Cich regarding mail received through the office, stating Diane Palmstein was discarding documents in the trash can in the office in his presence, the clerks felt the Board should be made aware of the accusation, the clerks wanted to emphatically deny discarding documents or withholding documents from the Board. Clerks requested that more outlets be put in the office area, Jim Ray will check into this. Clerks were very busy with elections and very grateful for all the hard work by the election judges. **Road Report** – Wood Duck Lane/NW Island Lake Road intersection had Century Link pedestal moved and the curve work was completed by Lakehead Trucking. Will continue to do grading as needed. **Fire Department-** responded to 6 calls: 2 medical calls, a tree on a power line, an equipment problem in a structure & 2 mutual aid calls (1 in Gnesen: cancelled & 1 in Rice Lake, commercial garage fire). Fire Department members would like to congratulate Glen Bergstrand on his 50th anniversary of serving the community through the department. Glen joined the dept. on Nov. 12, 1970. Glen has served in many positions on the department, including 10 years as the Fire Chief. Thank-you Glen for your dedication & service to the Fredenberg Fire Department, residents & visitors of Fredenberg and beyond. The Fredenberg Fire Dept. has a few openings for new members. Please contact any current member to find out more or stop by the fire hall when you see vehicles in the parking lot. You may also email at Fredenbergfd@aol.com. Our expenses this year have been high because of the COVID pandemic. We have had to purchase much more personnel protective equipment than we normally do. We also need to purchase additional equipment to

replace some we currently have. Because of COVID we need to purchase more face masks for the SCBA's, but because of the age of the SCBA's, we are unable to purchase just the masks as they are no longer available. We will need to purchase some new SCBA's so we can properly outfit our firefighters. The items are not eligible items for the Assistance to Firefighters COVID grant that we are applying for. Information to go into the newsletter on kitchen safety during the holiday. **Cemetery** – Walter Rapp reported there was an issue with a recent burial grave site, and he added/smoothed out topsoil. The cemetery is now closed. **Parks & Rec** – Rink lights will be installed this week and outside lights added to the Community Center. Lights at the Recycle Center are complete. **Community Center-** Work has begun on air to air exchangers in the lower level today. There has been a leak in the Community Center roof from around the vents when snow melts, Jim Ray placed deicing cable there but the contractor for the air exchanger will look at it and give a recommendation. **Recycle Center** – Problems with residents putting clam shells in dumpsters, Deb Pawlowicz will put up more signage to inform patrons. LED lighting and garages doors (installed by Jim Ray & Walter Rapp) are complete. **Other Meetings** - None. **OPEN FORUM:** Mary Skafte/resident requested clarification on unsigned letters/anonymous letters to the Township. Walter Rapp made a motion to not accept unsigned/anonymous letters addressed to the Board, Tim Wagner seconded. **2 YEAS 3 NAYS. MOTION FAILED.** Deb Roach/resident stated she knew Carlton County accepted unsigned letters. Patty Wheeler/resident also stated in her work with St. Louis County that the courts accepted unsigned/anonymous letters. She congratulated Walter Rapp and Deb Pawlowicz on their re-election. Asked that the public be more civil at meetings and on Nextdoor/fredenberg. **OLD BUSINESS: East Cook Lake Road Paving and Bollig Feasibility Study:** Nathan Feist/Bollig Engineering presented the Feasibility Study and outline for the Road Improvement Project. Construction costs are estimated to be \$416,600.00 with 43 parcels assessed, approximately \$9,700.00/parcel. Jim Ray made a motion to a motion to hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00pm in the Fredenberg Town Hall, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** The Board did not approve Bollig Engineering to complete a survey of the road and would address at a later meeting. **Township Moratorium on Gravel Pits & ARDC Study:** Justin Otsea/ARDC present and requested direction from the Board on what ARDC would be directed to do to formulate a plan for zoning and a zoning board. Board members discussed clarifying roles for ARDC & Kennedy/Graven Law Firm and decided the township would contact ARDC if any further assistance was needed. **NEW BUSINESS: Update on Nov. 3, 2020 General Election:** clerks reported that 693 voted in person, approximately 355 voters were by absentee ballot. Election Judges were amazing, and everything ran smoothly, and voters had no issues complying with COVID restrictions. **Gravel Pit Ordinance Study Committee Formation:** The Board reviewed packet from Kennedy/Graven. Deb Pawlowicz made a motion to initiate a Study Committee for the Extractive Use Ordinance, not to be limited in number of members, Jim Ray seconded. **3 YEAS 2 NAYS. MOTION PASSED.** Jim Ray made a motion to accept the application for Study Committee members with corrections and advertise in the newsletter, Deb Pawlowicz seconded. **3 YEAS 2 NAYS. MOTION PASSED.** Deadline to submit application for the committee will be on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020. Residents can get an application by calling the Town Hall office or email Fredenbergtpw@gmail.com. **Second Meeting of the Board on Wednesday, November 18, 2020:** Jim Ray made a motion to cancel the Wednesday, November 18, 2020 Town Board Meeting at 7:00pm, Walter Rapp seconded. **5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** **OTHER MEETINGS:** Fredenberg Board of Canvass (to certify election results) in the Fredenberg Town Hall at 7:00pm on Thursday, November 12, 2020. **ADJOURNMENT:** Clay Cich made a motion to adjourn meeting, Walter Rapp seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Because of the rising rates of COVID-19 across Minnesota, **We will have to cancel the Santa Breakfast for this year.**

At this time we are unable to social distance appropriately in the basement of the community center. Have a great Holiday season and we look forward to **Santa Breakfast 2021.**



HONORING GLEN BERGSTRAND

On November 12, 1970, Glen Bergstrand began his dedicated service to the Fredenberg Fire Department. He has served as Fire Chief for 10 years and many, many other positions on the department. He has always gone above and beyond in serving our community. He has provided trainings to other members and participated at the local and state level. Fredenberg cannot thank him enough for his 50 years on the Fredenberg Volunteer Fire Department. The Fire Department also held a reception in his on November 12, 2020.

NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS

Fredenberg Township had an **amazing** turn-out for the 2020 General Elections. A total of 1067 registered voters voted, 373 were absentee and 63 were new registrants. Your cooperation with new COVID standards was so appreciated. You can review election results on the Office of MN Secretary of State website.

RESULTS OF LOCAL TOWN BOARD SUPERVISOR RESULTS:

Supervisor A:

Deb Pawlowicz: 501
Allen Edberg: 475
Write-in: 4

Supervisor C:

Walter Rapp: 521
Patty Wheeler: 461
Write-in: 2

Congratulations to our newly elected Town Board Supervisors:
Deb Pawlowicz and Walter Rapp

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ROAD IMPROVEMENT FOR EAST COOK LAKE ROAD

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of Fredenberg Township will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 7:00 pm at the Fredenberg Town Hall/Community Center, 5104 Fish Lake Road, Duluth, MN 55803 to consider the ordering of the proposed improvement to East Cook Lake Road in Fredenberg Township, including bituminous surfacing, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 429.011 to 429.111. The estimated cost of the improvement is Four Hundred Sixteen Thousand and Six Hundred and 00/100 dollars (\$416,600.00). A reasonable estimate of the impact of the assessment will be available at the hearing. Such persons as desired to be heard with reference to the proposed improvement will be heard at this meeting or by submitting comments via email at: Fredenbergtwp@gmail.com or writing to: Fredenberg Town Board, 5104 Fish Lake Road, Duluth, MN 55803. Written or email comments must be received at the Town Hall on or before 9:00 am on December 8, 2020.

Fredenberg Township is forming a Study Committee for the Extractive Use Ordinance

Anyone interested in becoming a part of this committee can obtain an application at the Town Hall office on Tuesdays by appt. (218-721-3991), by email request at Fredenbergtwp@gmail.com or on Fredenberg.org.

Committee Meetings will be on Mondays & Thursday at 6:30pm in the Town Hall and will begin on Dec. 7, 2020 at 6:30pm.

The Town Board requests that you submit your application by Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020 by 5:30pm **or** in person at the Dec. 2, 2020 Town Board Meeting in the Fredenberg Town Hall at 7:00pm.

Cooking safety from the Fire Department

Most house fires are caused by cooking. It is the greatest cause of home fires and home fire injuries. It isn't surprising that Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires. Share these cooking tips with your community during November. While they plan their menus, they can also plan for fire safety.

Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking at high temperatures. Stay home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently. If you leave the kitchen, set a timer to remind you there is food simmering or baking. Keep children and pets away from the stove. They need to stay at least three feet away.

Wear short or close-fitting sleeves while cooking on the stove. Keep pan/pot handles turned towards the back of the stove. Many people like to fry their turkeys. There are several risks you should consider if you use a turkey fryer: Turkey fryers can easily tip over spilling hot oil across a large area. An over-filled cooking pot will cause oil to spill over when the turkey is placed inside. You can test the level of oil needed by filling the pot with water first and dipping the turkey inside to see how much the water rises. A partially frozen turkey will cause hot oil to splatter. Turkey fryers can easily overheat and start a fire. Even a small amount of cooking oil spilling on a hot burner can cause a large fire. Without thermostat controls, deep fryers can overheat oil to the point of starting a fire. The pot, lid and handles of a turkey fryer can get dangerously hot and cause burn injuries. Consider using an electric turkey fryer.

They take some of the risks out of cooking. But if you do deep-fry a turkey: Place the fryer outside, on a flat surface that can't burn, such as cement. Place the fryer at least 10 feet from anything that can catch fire. This includes anything overhead like your house eaves or branches. Keep children and pets at least three feet from the fryer. Use a fryer with thermostat controls. Without these, the oil can heat to the point of catching fire. Thaw the turkey completely before cooking it so ice crystals won't splatter the hot oil. Use potholders and oven mitts when handling the turkey.

There's nothing more satisfying than cooking a good meal for the people we love. Make safety a priority in your kitchen, at Thanksgiving, and all year long.

NOXIOUS WEED: BUCKTHORN

Fall is the best time of year to control the noxious invasive weed, Buckthorn. Buckthorn was formerly planted as a hedge, but now we know how destructive it is, and it is illegal to sell it.

It forms dense thickets, and crowds out native plants, pushing out the shrubs and small trees that birds normally use for nesting. It degrades wildlife habitat, contributes to erosion, and serves as a host to other pests. There are no natural controls like insects to curb its growth.

It can grow to 20 feet, has bark similar to native plum or cherry, and has glossy leaves that stay green late into the fall.

If you just have a few buckthorns on your property, it is fairly easy to control, and fall is the time to do it. Buckthorn holds its leaves later than most natives so it is easy to see. You can pull small plants by hand. Plants with thicker stems are best controlled by cutting the stem at the soil surface and then covering or treating the stump to prevent re-sprouting. Herbicides such as Roundup will kill actively growing plants.

Check the DNR or CISMA website for details.

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialplants/woody/buckthorn/control.html>

<https://sites.google.com/d.umn.edu/duluthcismapartners/home/brochures>

**CURRENTLY THE FREDENBERG COMMUNITY CENTER IS CLOSED
NO ACTIVITIES CURRENTLY BEING HELD IN THE
COMMUNITY CENTER**

RECYCLE CENTER NEWS UPDATE

The Fredenberg Art Weller Recycle Center is a very busy place this time of year. Here are a few reminders when using the Center.

1. We can only accept rinsed/cleaned & emptied cans bottles & containers.
2. We CANNOT accept Styrofoam in ANY FORM.
3. We DO NOT accept household garbage of any kind and it is NOT to be placed at the Recycle Center or the dumpster.
4. We do not accept any metal or plastic gas cans
5. We NO LONGER repurpose any form of electronics, these must be brought to the Rice Lake Road WLSSD Center.
6. Dumping of garbage of any kind at the Center is ILLEGAL.
7. We DO NOT ACCEPT take out containers, fruit/veg. plastic containers & deli clam containers.

Thanks to everyone for your cooperation.

RECYCLE NEWS

The outside dumpsters are for cardboard, newspaper/paper and glass/plastic/tin cans.
There are no longer bins for recycling inside the garage.

**HOURS
for the Center
weekly are:**

**Wednesdays 5 pm to 8 pm
Saturdays 9 am to 1 pm**

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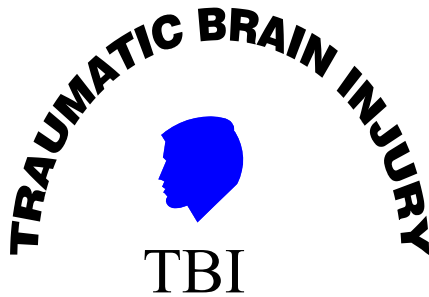
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low us on Facebook at:
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Eaglesnestresortduluth](https://www.facebook.com/Eaglesnestresortduluth).

We post all of our events, food menus and
drink specials. We will have a
Halloween Costume Contest on
Saturday, Oct. 31st
Between 5:00 - 10 pm.
Stop by in costume and enter.
Must be present to win.



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Fredenber Township would like to thank our election judges. Without their help, time and efforts, Election Day, November 3rd would not have run as smoothly & efficiently.

THANK YOU!!!

<i>Kathy Pearson</i>	<i>Sharon Birkland</i>	<i>Kerry Amborn</i>	<i>Maxine Proetz</i>	<i>Noreen Lee</i>
<i>Devaney O'Brien</i>	<i>Kim Wagner</i>	<i>Celeste Kawulok</i>	<i>Theresa Jordan</i>	<i>Jeff Blix</i>
<i>Liz Blix</i>	<i>Deb Roach</i>	<i>Barb Monsaas</i>	<i>Terry Caywood</i>	<i>Greg Smith</i>
<i>Karl Hagglund</i>	<i>Grace Aho</i>	<i>Mary Jo Lapcinski</i>	<i>Amanda Lawless</i>	<i>Stephanie Van Staagen</i>

*Also a special thank you to Walter Rapp
for all the work in making our Town Hall safe for all the voters and judges.*

**NEXT FREDENBERG
TOWN BOARD MEETING:**

**TUESDAY
December 2, 2020
At 7:00pm
In the Fredenberg Town Hall
Masks and social distancing required**