



Fredenberg Township News



A pleasant blend of progress and tradition

Issue 1

VOL XXXIII

January 2022

FREDENBERG TOWNSHIP NEWS

A monthly newsletter published
by the Fredenberg Town Board
Editor: Ellen Hanson

This is not an official document and does not replace the requirements for the Board to post notices in posting. Minutes appearing in the newsletter are approved by the Town board. 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: Temporarily by appointment only

TOWN BOARD

Clay Cich, Supervisor	590-5005
Debra Pawlowicz, Supervisor	428-4539
Walter Rapp, Supervisor	721-3761
James Ray, Chair & Road Foreman	721-5201
Tim Wagner, Supervisor & Vice Chair	428-9460
Pam Blekestad, Treasurer	721-3991
Ellen Hanson, 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	Fredenbergtwp@gmail.com

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 1, 2021 TOWN BOARD MEETING

The regular Board meeting of the Town of Fredenberg, Minnesota, St. Louis County was held in the Fredenberg Town Hall on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 7:00 PM. **Board members present:** Chair Jim Ray, Supervisors Clay Cich, Deb Pawlowicz (Zoom), Walter Rapp, and Tim Wagner. Also, Treasurer Pam Blekestad and Clerk Ellen Hanson. **Others in Attendance:** There were 12 others in attendance and 4 via Zoom. This meeting was held in-person with a ZOOM connection. **Call to order the Regular meeting at 7:00 PM:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Ray at 7:00 PM. **Pledge of Allegiance:** All present stood and cited the Pledge of Allegiance. **Approval of the Minutes:** Regular meeting of November 3, 2021: There was a motion by Chair Ray to accept the November 3, 2021, Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as presented and seconded by Supervisor Cich. Roll call vote, all in favor. This motion carried unanimously. **Treasurers Report –** Pam Blekestad, Blekestad reported the bank statement ends as of 11/16/2021. She reports the checking account is reconciled. Checking account balance is \$289,647.55. Total funds are \$490,248.30, which includes 4 Certificates of deposit (CDs) totaling \$202,917.51. The Treasurer received an email from National Bank of Commerce (NBC) asking Fredenberg to bank with them since the CDs are held there. Blekestad plans to meet with them. There was a motion by Supervisor Rapp to approve the treasurers report and seconded by Supervisor Cich. Roll call vote, all in favor. This motion carried unanimously. **Correspondence:** The correspondence was read by Chair Ray. There were 16 total received: 1 mail and 15 e-mails. The Board had a discussion on the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds. **Review of Bills:** The Board reviewed the claims list. The Janitor had not submitted her timesheet in a timely manner and therefore was not paid this month. There was motion by Chair Ray and seconded by Supervisor Rapp to pay claims 10578-10586 for a total of \$13,608.20. Roll call vote, all in favor. This motion carried unanimously. **Reports: Clerks report for November 2021:** The new clerk was given a warm welcome. **Roads report for November 2021:** Chair Ray reported that Stevens Road was the big project for the year. The total cost was \$9,100. People are dumping unwanted items on the intersection of Fredenberg Lake Road and Fish Lake roads. He will order a sign. Supervisor Rapp had picked up the junk and put it in the dumpster. **Fire Department report for November 2021:** There were seven medical calls in November. **Cemetery report for November 2021:** There was nothing new to report. **Parks and Recreation report for November 2021:** The new rink attendant will make an appointment with the Clerk for employment paperwork. The Board had a discussion on the budget and American Rescue Plan funding and also, lighting for outside buildings. **Community Center & Pavilion report for November 2021:** Supervisor Cich reported there was a request to use the upstairs of the town hall including the classrooms for Santa day. The requested was granted by the Board. Chair Ray reported the grills are ready to go. He also replaced all the light bulbs have been replaced with LED lights. There are a few

ballasts to be replaced. Supervisor Cich will donate. The pavilion has an enclosure that was located and now is labeled. **Recycling report for November 2021:** Supervisor Pawlowicz reported everything is running smoothly. A new fixture had been installed. **Preparedness Plan Update for November 2021:** There was nothing new to report. **Other Meetings for November 2021:** There were no other meetings in November. **Open Forum:** Diane Palmstein suggested an electronic marquee replace the current posting board in front of the town hall and use the ARP funds to purchase it. Supervisor Cich will investigate. **Dam lighting:** Lights at boat launches. Patty Wheeler talked about lights at boat launches or the lack of them, and she had a safety and public health concern for people using the launches. She asked the Board members who commented on nuisance and environmental concerns why they did not comment on the health and safety concerns with the lights at the launches. Wheeler compared this issue to the gravel pit issue. The Board had no comment. **Old Business: Dam Lighting:** Supervisor Pawlowicz continues to research this issue. Chair Ray researched solar lighting with motion detection. There is a need for more research on this subject. It will be left on the agenda under old business. There was a discussion about talking with Minnesota Power to finance this project. **Welcome Signs into Fredenberg Road entrance:** Supervisor Cich continues to work on this project with the County. **Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Lee Older Construction:** Older gave an update on the application. The application /meeting had been postponed with the County because the application had some misinformation on it. There will be a second letter from the County and at that time the town will review it. Chair Ray suggested when the revised application is submitted then the applicant should return and talk to the Board. **New Business: Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for 5936 Beaver River Road:** The CUP is for a wedding venue/event center as a public/semi-public use. Chair Ray felt it was a reasonable use of the property. Supervisor Cich asked about a sign attached to the road sign. The response was that the sign is a historic sign. Kathryn Pearson gave a presentation about the property and business. They would like to expand their business by offering a wedding venue/event center on their farm. Supervisor Rapp supports the CUP, Supervisor Wagner supports the CUP. Supervisor Pawlowicz had a question about sewage. The response was they will use portable toilets. **Road budget:** Chair Ray proposed \$3,500 per mile for 5.2 mile equals \$16,500 that will fit into the budget that will be added to the \$50,000 already in the reserve fund that will help with maintaining and upkeep with paved roads. Further discussion at the budget meeting. There was a motion by Chair Ray designating \$17,000 for future paved roads, repair, replacement, and maintenance fund to be transferred out of the Road fund and seconded by Supervisor Cich. Roll call vote, all in favor. This motion carried unanimously. **Portable toilets for sliding hill:** Chair Ray will take responsibility for it. **Second Meeting of Month, December 15, 2021:** It was Board consensus to have the second meeting of the month on December 15, 2021. **Adjourn:** There was a motion by Chair Ray to adjourn meeting at 8:41 PM and seconded Supervisor Wagner. All in favor. This motion carried unanimously.

DON PELOFSKE

On December 30, 2021, Don Pelofske passed away. Don served Fredenberg Township in many capacities: Volunteer Fire Fighter and Fire Dept. Chief, Township Supervisor, on the Zoning Board and active in the Community Center. He was a Hermantown School Bus Driver running the Fredenberg route. He owned the Minnow-ette for many years also. The Township sends his wife and family our condolences and THANK YOU for his many years as a dedicated Fredenberg Resident.

CAUCUS ON FEBRUARY 1, 2022 FREDENBERG DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN HELD AT THE FREDENBERG COMMUNITY CENTER DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM CAUCUS AT 7:00 PM

WHY THE LOCAL PRECINCT CAUCUSES ARE IMPORTANT:

PURPOSE: Precinct caucuses are a fundamental pillar of our MN party system. A caucus is a gathering of neighbors for the purpose of discussing issues and organizing the local party unit.

WHY HOLD CAUCUSES?: Much of the grass roots work is done at the caucuses.

At the caucuses we will:

- 1. Discuss issues and ideas for the party to support**
- 2. Choose volunteers who will organize political activities in the precinct**
- 3. Choose delegates who will endorse candidates at future conventions**

Written by Randy Docauer

**THANKS TO ALL THE LOCALLY OWNED BUSINESSES AND THE
FREDENBERG RESIDENTS WHO OWN BUSINESSES FOR HELPING TO
SUPPORT THIS YEARS BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

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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. Thanks to everyone for your cooperation.

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.



Did you know?

Most home fires occur in the winter and peak in January.

Each year in the United States there is more than \$2 billion in property loss due to winter home fires.

Over the last five years in Minnesota, 41 percent of fire deaths occurred in November, December and January.

FREEZE OUT WINTER FIRES

- Keep all doors and windows that could be used for an escape route clear of snow and ice.
- Keep all vents — fireplace, dryer, furnace and oven — clear of snow, ice and debris.
- Never use a blow torch to thaw frozen pipes.
- Use flashlights, not candles, if you lose power.
- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from heat sources; do not use your oven to heat your home.



SFM.DPS.MN.GOV

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**THIS IS NOT PERMITTED AND VIOLATORS WILL BE REPORTED TO THE
ST. LOUIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT !!!!**

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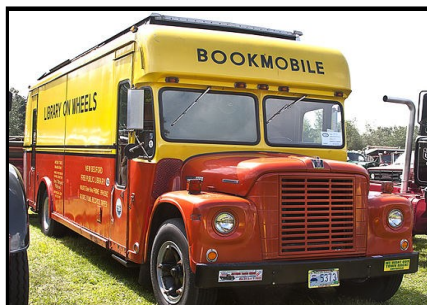


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HOURS

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

**NEXT FREDENBERG TOWN BOARD
MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, Feb. 2, 2022
Regular Board Meeting at 7:00pm
Followed by the
Board of Audit Meeting**

**ALL MEETINGS
AT 7:00 PM @ Town Hall
and via
Zoom (see website for info)**