



Fredenberg Township News



A pleasant blend of progress and tradition

Issue 3

VOL XXXIII

March 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: Thursdays 12 to 5:30pm

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
Website	Fredenberg.org

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES FROM February 2, 2022 TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

The regular Board meeting of the Town of Fredenberg, Minnesota, St. Louis County was held in the Fredenberg Town Hall on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at 7:00 PM. **Board members present:** Chair Jim Ray, Supervisors Clay Cich (Zoom), Deb Pawlowicz, Walter Rapp, and Tim Wagner. Also, Treasurer Pam Blekestad and Clerk Ellen Hanson. **Others in Attendance:** There were 3 others in attendance and 1 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 Agenda:** There was a motion by Supervisor Rapp to approve the agenda as presented and seconded by Supervisor Cich. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. **Approval of the Minutes:** Regular meeting of January 5, 2022: There was a motion by Chair Ray to accept the January 5, 2022, Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as amended and seconded by Supervisor Pawlowicz. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. Under Roads report first sentence change phone to phones. It will read: ...he receives phone calls from residents. Reorganization meeting of January 5, 2022: There was a motion by Chair Ray to accept the January 5, 2022, Board of Supervisors Reorganization meeting minutes as presented and seconded by Supervisor Rapp. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. **Treasurers Report** – Pam Blekestad. Blekestad reported the bank statement ends as of 1/18/2022. She reported the checking account is reconciled. Checking account balance is \$429,277.43. Total funds are \$691,525.31, which includes 4 Certificates of deposit (CDs). The Treasurer continues to work with banks to determine which one would be best to transfer the checking account to. There was a motion by Supervisor Rapp to approve the treasurers report and seconded by Supervisor Wagner. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. **Clerks report** – Ellen Hanson: Hanson reported on the work being done with the accounting system by the staff. There was \$1.9 million in both receipts and checks not cleared out. That work has been completed and all receipts and checks from 2015 have been cleared. Work continues on the investments and the fire bond. The Board reviewed the claims list. There was motion by Chair Ray to pay claims 10259, 10285-10291, 10311-10312 for a total of \$16,720.56 and seconded by Supervisor Pawlowicz. Hanson explained that claims are out of order from the past when staff matched the claim number with the check number and when a check was voided it created the missing claim number. Over the next several months the claim numbers will be out of order. The Board had a discussion on a claim made out to Ehlers for \$750. Hanson explained she believes the charge is for the SEC disclosure filing for the fire hall bond and she can file it instead of paying Ehlers the fee. Supervisor Pawlowicz recommended Hanson look into the Ehlers disclosure with SEC. **Correspondence:** The correspondence was read by Chair Ray. There were 9 total received: 1 mail and 8 emails. **Reports:** Roads report for

January 2022: Chair Ray reported Steve Overman connected with him regarding road plats and road dedications. Fire Department report for January 2022: Supervisor Wagner reported there were 7 calls in January. Training included information on electric vehicles and stress reduction. Members attended the 3-day Arrowhead EMS conference at the DECC. The department provided retired Fire Chief Don Pelofske with a firefighter honor ceremony at his funeral. Cemetery report for January 2022: Supervisor Rapp had nothing new to report. Parks and Recreation report for January 2022: Chair Ray reported the rink is flooded. There is a volunteer helping with the rink. Supervisor Cich reported he has been in contact with the playground equipment company about placement. There was a motion by Chair Ray and seconded by Supervisor Pawlowicz approving Supervisor Cich and Chair Ray to make the final approval of the playground equipment placement. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. Community Center & Pavilion report for January 2022: Supervisor Cich asked about the hall rentals. Hanson responded rentals have been increasing and are going well. Chair Ray reported on electrical issue in the town hall building. He will talk with an electrician about the issues and possible remedies. Recycling report for January 2022: Supervisor Pawlowicz reported the center is operating fine. Locks in the winter freeze so she picked up deicer to use on them. There has been dumping at the recycling center when it is closed. The Board decided to put a notice in the newsletter about no dumping when the center is closed. Also, with the recent dumping the resident has been identified and a letter will be sent to them about the dumping violation. Other Meetings for January 2022: Chair Ray attended the DAT meeting. The guest speaker was Gordy Halverson, Highway Superintendent. Mr. Halverson talked about snowplowing and paved roads getting priority during snow falls. He also talked about their new trucks and brushing and clearing town roads. Preparedness Plan Update for January 2022: There was nothing new to report. **Open Forum:** Fire Chief Bergstrand talked about the impact of COVID. Response is not as fast due to having to put on personal protective equipment. **Old Business: Dam Lighting:** Supervisor Pawlowicz continues to research this issue. Supervisor Cich mentioned the ARPA funds may be used for dam lighting and pavilion lighting. **Signs into Fredenberg Road entrance:** Supervisor Cich continues to work on this project with the County. He recommended the purchase of 4 signs, 2 x 4 feet, for the Fredenberg entrances. The County would make and install the signs at a cost of \$1,600. He presented a picture of the signs for the Board to review. There was a motion by Supervisor Cich to purchase 4 signs for \$1,600 from the County to install and seconded by Supervisor Pawlowicz. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. **New Business:** None **Adjourn:** There was a motion by Supervisor Ray to adjourn meeting at 8:10 PM and seconded Supervisor Wagner. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously.

The Board of Supervisors Budget/Salary meeting of the Town of Fredenberg, Minnesota, St. Louis County was held in the Fredenberg Town Hall on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at 8:14 PM. Board members present: Chair Jim Ray, Supervisors Clay Cich (Zoom), Deb Pawlowicz, Walter Rapp, and Tim Wagner. Also, Treasurer Pam Blekestad and Clerk Ellen Hanson. **Others in Attendance:** There were 3 others in attendance and 8 via Zoom. This meeting was held in-person with a ZOOM connection. **Call to order the Budget/Salary meeting at 8:14 PM:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Ray at 8:14 PM. **Approve the Agenda:** There was a motion by Supervisor Rapp to approve the agenda as presented and seconded by Supervisor Cich. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. **Proposed Levy:** The Board had a discussion on the past levies and the proposed 2023 levy. The goal is to lower the levy. The proposed 2023 fund amounts are: General fund: \$49,133; Town building: \$15,000; Fire Department: \$99,000; Cemetery: \$1,400; Parks & Recreation: \$10,000; Roads & Bridges: \$150,000; Fire Hall Bond: \$60,000; total \$384,533. There was a motion by Chair Ray to reduce the levy by 1.5% by reducing the General Fund to \$49,133 and seconded by Supervisor Cich. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. After the discussion with the Fire Chief and granting a proposed increase in the Fire department levy to \$102,900 there was discussion on the fund to be reduced. There was a motion by Chair Ray to reduce the proposed 2023 General fund levy by \$3,900 (\$45,233) and seconded by Supervisor Pawlowicz. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. **Salary/Wages:** The Board had a discussion on employee wage increases for 2022. There was a motion by Supervisor Pawlowicz to increase the meeting fee to \$80 for all employees including the Clerk, and the Chair will increase to \$90 for meeting fee and seconded by Supervisor Wagner. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. There was a motion by Chair Ray to raise all wages across the board by 3% for hourly positions except the Treasurer and seconded by Supervisor Wagner. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. There was a motion by Chair Ray to raise the Treasurers hourly wage to \$21 and seconded by Supervisor Wagner. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. **Open Forum:** Fire Chief Linda Bergstrand asked for a 5% increase for the 2023 Fire Department levy due to increasing operating expenses. There was a motion by Chair Ray to increase the Fire Department 2023 base levy by 5% (\$3,900) and seconded by Supervisor Wagner. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously. Fire Chief Bergstrand reported the department had applied for a FEMA grant. The request was for 12 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and 18 sets of turn out gear for a total of \$197,000. **Adjourn:** There was a motion by Chair Ray to adjourn meeting at 9:17 PM and seconded Supervisor Pawlowicz. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously.

The Board of Supervisors Audit meeting of the Town of Fredenberg, Minnesota, St. Louis County was held in the Fredenberg Town Hall on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at 9:18 PM. Board members present: Chair Jim Ray, Supervisors Clay Cich (Zoom), Deb Pawlowicz, Walter Rapp, and Tim Wagner. Also, Treasurer Pam Blekestad and Clerk Ellen Hanson. **Others in Attendance:** There were 3 others in attendance and 1 via Zoom. This meeting was held in-person with a ZOOM connection. **Call to order the Audit meeting at 9:18 PM:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Ray at 9:18 PM. **Audit of Claims:** The 2021 claims history list was presented to the Supervisors for review. They choose several claims to review. All the claims and checks were verified as correct. **Audit of Receipts:** The 2021 receipts register was presented to the Supervisors for review. They choose several receipts to review. All receipts and deposits were verified as deposited and correct. **Adjourn:** There was a motion by Supervisor Ray to adjourn meeting at 9:39 PM and seconded by Supervisor Cich. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmative. This motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Fredenberg is accepting quotes to contract approximately 18.5 miles of road work in the township for the 2022/2023 season. Must have own equipment & provide Certificate of Liability insurance with quote. Quotes submitted no later than March 31, 2022 by 5:00pm to: Clerk, 5104 Fish Lake Road, Duluth, MN 55803 or email: Fredenbergtwp@gmail.com. If you have questions: contact Clerk at 218-721-3991. Ellen Hanson/Town Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Fredenberg is accepting quotes for mowing of township properties for the 2022 season, approximately 30 acres, at 4 locations: Community Center, Recycle Center, Fire Hall & Cemetery. Each site **MUST have their own separate quote** to mow, which includes trimming & clean up. Quotes combining sites will not be accepted. Fire Hall and Cemetery mowed every other time or **ONLY** two times a month. To mow, grass must be at least 2 -1/2 inches in height. Submit quote **“per time for each location”** no later than Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 5:00pm to: Clerk, 5104 Fish Lake Road, Duluth, MN 555803 or email: Fredenbergtwp@gmail.com. Certificate of Liability must be furnished with your quote. Please call 218-721-3991 for more information. Ellen Hanson/Town Clerk

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.



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Wednesday 5:45-7:00pm

(Reservoir Riders Club House)

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Instructor: Sandy Rock \$4/class

*Sheila Wixo \$5/class

Monday

Cardio/Toning/Core **7:00 am**

Low Impact Toning/Core **8:10 am**

Tuesday

*Tabata/HIIT/Strength/Weights 5:30pm

Wednesday

Fun floor & Core **7:00am**

Weights and Core **8:10 am**

Friday

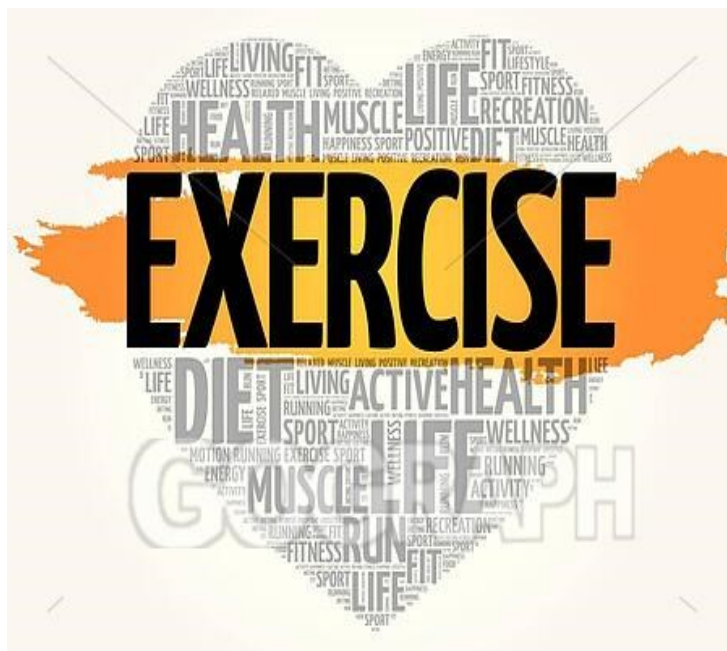
Step Class **7:00 am**

Movement & Weights **8:10 am**

Saturday

Cardio/Toning/Core **8:00 am**

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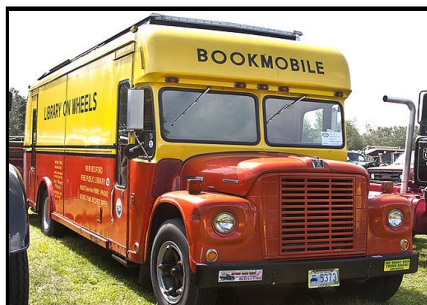
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From: 12:30pm to 1:30pm



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HOURS

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

**NEXT FREDENBERG TOWN BOARD
MEETING**

WEDNESDAY April 6, 2022
Regular Board Meeting at 7:00pm
ALL MEETINGS
AT 7:00 PM @ Town Hall
and via Zoom (see website for info)

**THE FREDENBERG COMMUNITY CENTER IS NOW
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

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For information about renting the facility and costs