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April 2023

FREDENBERG TOWNSHIP NEWS

A monthly newsletter

Editors: Kim Wagner, Ellen Hanson

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: 12 (noon) to 5:30 PM
on Thursday or by appointment.

TOWN BOARD

Jeff Blix, Supervisor	393-3011
Clay Cich, Supervisor	590-5005
Debra Pawlowicz, Vice Chair	428-4539
Walter Rapp, Supervisor	721-3761
Tim Wagner, Chair	428-9460
Pam Blekestad, Treasurer	721-3991
Ellen Hanson, Clerk	721-3991
Kim Wagner, 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	fredenbergtp@gmail.com
Website	fredenberg.org

APPROVED TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES for MAR. 1, 2023

The regular Board meeting of the Town of Fredenberg, Minnesota, St. Louis County was held in the Fredenberg Town Hall on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at 7:00 PM. Board members present: Chair Tim Wagner, Vice Chair Deb Pawlowicz, Supervisor Jeff Blix, Supervisor Clay Cich, Supervisor Walter Rapp, Clerk Ellen Hanson, Deputy Clerk Kim Wagner, and Treasurer Pam Blekestad. Others in Attendance: There were 6 others in attendance.

1. Call to order the Regular meeting: The meeting was called to order by Chair Wagner at 7:00 PM.
2. Pledge of allegiance: All present stood and cited the pledge of allegiance.
3. Approval of the Agenda: There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to approve the agenda and seconded by Chair Wagner. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion carried unanimously.
4. Open Forum: • Craig Stevenson spoke to the need for new pickle ball nets. He recommended the purchase of 2 nets that would cost \$901.84. He addressed other issues the with court; cracks on surface and edge trimming resulted in rocks on the court last season. He asked the Board to consider adding signage to deter bikes and skateboards on the court. During their annual tournament, he asked if a food truck could be setup. The Board was supportive of the food truck. • There was a motion by Supervisor Pawlowicz to approve the purchase of two pickle ball nets and seconded by Supervisor Rapp. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion carried unanimously.
5. Approval of the Minutes • Regular meeting of February 01, 2023: Hanson corrected the misspelling of Superintendent Whitwam. There was a motion by Supervisor Rapp to accept the February 1st, 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as presented and seconded by Supervisor Cich. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion carried unanimously.
6. Financial Report – Pam Blekestad • Blekestad reported the Clerk balances with the bank, and she does not. She plans to be balanced by the end of March. • Blekestad stated she had a meeting with NBC to add \$17,000 from the Roads fund to the current CD's and combining the existing CD's. When they expire in June or July they will be rewritten. She continues to work on getting Town credit cards from NBC.
7. Clerks Report – Ellen Hanson • Clerk Hanson presented the Cash control statement for Board review. • The Board reviewed the claims list. There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to accept claims 10610-10617 for \$5,701.95 and seconded by Supervisor Pawlowicz. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion carried unanimously.
8. Correspondence • Clerk Hanson read the correspondence. There were 10 total received: 3 mail and 7 emails.
9. Reports a. Roads report February 2023: • Jim Ray and Jeff Blix talked about the road issues/conditions. They are in good condition overall. • Attorney Gunnar Johnson emailed the documents for the 8th Avenue Bear Island Lake Road. The resolution. is forthcoming. b. Fire Department report for February 2023: • Supervisor Wagner read the Fire Department Report from the Chief. D.G. Solem & Sons was called for boiler repair. The injector pump failed; it may be under warranty. • Electrician Rex Greenwall, firefighter, can install a surge protector for future protection. • There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to install a surge protector and fix the pump and seconded by Supervisor Cich. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion carried unanimously. • There were 9 calls in January. c. Cemetery

report for February 2023: • Supervisor Rapp stated the cemetery remains closed. d. Parks and Recreation report for February 2023: • Supervisor Blix reported the skating rink looks great. • Quotes were submitted from BAP for new rink boards. The quotes ranged from \$42,690 to \$86,982 plus installation. Supervisor Rapp had a conversation with the Hermantown Schools Superintendent Wittwam discussing their arena boards. The city has not received the monetary commitments at this time for their new arena. It will be some time before they know what will happen with their old boards. e. Community Center & Pavilion report for February 2023: • Clerk Hanson stated there were no rentals for January. • Supervisor Cich recommended the purchase of a griddle for the kitchen that plugs in to 110 electric outlets. Supervisor Pawlowicz made a motion to purchase a griddle and seconded by Supervisor Blix. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion carried unanimously. f. Recycling report for February 2023: • Supervisor Pawlowicz reported the Recycling Center is operating well.

10. Other Meetings for February 2023: • None

11. Old Business: None

12. New Business: • Annual meeting agenda: The draft agenda was discussed by the Board. • Board of Audit meeting: The BOA meeting will reconvene after the March 1 board meeting.

13. Adjourn a. There was a motion by Supervisor Blix to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM and seconded by Chair Wagner. There was a roll call vote and all signified affirmatives. This motion carried unanimously.

Fredenberg Fire Department, Town Board Report, March 2023, Chief Linda Bergstrand

March was a quiet month for emergency calls, members responded to two calls, one medical and one rescue. Fredenberg Fire worked with St. Louis County Rescue Squad and Grand Lake Fire to rescue a snowmobiler who had gotten stuck in the backwoods near Fish Lake.

The new inductor motor was installed in the gas boiler at the fire hall. The motor was under warranty. Members trained on Mental Health Resilience and truck driving, attended the St. Louis County Chief's association meeting and the Minnesota State Fire Chief's Fire Officer School.

Spring is coming and that brings with it the possibility of flooding due to the record amounts of snow this year as well as spring wildfire season. Please keep your safety in mind during this time. The fire department will be monitoring conditions and will be working with other agencies to help mitigate these issues if they arise.

Electrical hazards are one of the leading causes of home fires in the United States

Spring has arrived!

Soon, birds will chirp, flowers will grow, and homeowners everywhere will grumble their way through spring cleaning. Although spring chores may not be the most enjoyable, they do present an opportunity to inspect for and correct potential electrical fire hazards throughout your home. While Ting is incredibly sophisticated in its ability to detect electrical hazards, and is statistically proven to prevent 75% of electrical fires, Ting alone cannot eliminate the risk of a fire in your home. So, as you tidy up this month, consider our top five tips for ensuring your home and family are better protected from electrical fires.

#1. Check your smoke alarms: While smoke alarms cannot prevent a fire, they are often the first line of defense in alerting you to one, so you can evacuate safely. According to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) data, almost three of every five home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. Since smoke alarms should be checked monthly, use spring cleaning as an opportunity to ensure yours work properly. Replace batteries as needed or at least once a year and replace the smoke alarm itself if it is older than 10 years. New alarms meet updated performance requirements and often have 10-year batteries – a win-win!

#2. Inspect your cords: As you pull furniture and appliances away from the walls for cleaning, take a minute to check electrical cords or outlet extenders that are usually out of sight. Make sure they fit snugly in the outlet and are not 'sagging.' Look for signs of wear and tear, such as frayed, crimped, or cracked wires, and replace damaged cords immediately. As you put things back, never run cords under rugs that could lead to overheating or under furniture that could cause damage.

#3. Reduce your load: Look for opportunities to lighten the load on circuits throughout your home by unplugging appliances you're not using. Consider hiring an electrician to install extra outlets in places where you find heavy extension cord usage. This will reduce your reliance on extension cords – and fire risk. Always avoid daisy-chaining multiple extension cords together.

#4. Feel your outlets: One of the best ways to detect electrical fire risks within the home is through your senses. As you clean the baseboards, take a brief moment to safely feel outlet covers and the wall around them. While outlets currently in use may feel warm, they should never be uncomfortably hot, as this is an indication of a potential fire hazard behind your walls. If you come across a hot outlet or smell smoke near one, unplug any devices plugged into it and turn off the breaker if it has not already tripped, and contact an electrician.

#5. Clean your devices (Hint, don't forget to look up!): It's not spring cleaning without, well, cleaning! When you pull out the refrigerator to clean the floor, take a minute to remove dust and debris from the coils on the back and check the cord for damage too. Also be sure to empty and clean your vacuum. Doing so with both appliances will increase their efficiency by reducing the amount of power required to operate them. Finally, inspect the dryer vent – if you've not vacuumed it out in a while, or don't have the means to do it, hire a service to get that done. Lint builds up quickly and can ignite from a spark or very hot temperatures.

Commonly overlooked are the fixtures on the ceiling. In particular, make sure your ceiling fan has not developed a "wobble" as this can cause vibration that can loosen its wiring connections over time. If at any point during your spring inspection you detect any electrical hazard, be sure to contact a licensed electrician. And as you check these items off the list, enjoy the comfort that comes with knowing your home is not only cleaner, but safer for you and your family.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY CONSTRUCTION IN FREDENBERG

St. Louis County plans to perform construction on Fish Lake Road/Beaver River Road between Lavaque Road and Pioneer Road in 2024. We plan to perform vertical and horizontal grade corrections between Fredenberg Lake Road and Pioneer Road. The remainder of the roadway to the west will have a reclaim and overlay performed, which basically replaces the pavement in the same location it is today. We would like to know if Fredenberg Township has any comments, questions, or suggestions for the roadway.

We also plan to perform drainage improvements just east of Lavaque Road near the old fire hall as well. Who would be the best contact to work with for Fredenberg Township as we may look at some changes to the entrance to the property.

Thanks,
Steve Krasaway, PE

There is a copy in the town office of the powerpoint presentation Mr. Krasaway presented at the April 5 Town Board meeting.





Fredenberg Art Weller Recycle Center News

The Center is sponsored by an annual grant from Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD).

Hours: Wednesdays: 5 to 8 PM and Saturdays: 9 AM to 1 PM

Chesney Auto Salvage, 6250 Beaver River Road, will accept batteries and waste oil.

Please use WLSSD Household Hazardous Waste Facility and Product Reuse Center, 2626 Courtland St. (take the S 27th Ave W freeway exit), for other household hazardous waste and yard waste materials.

Below are a few rules to follow when using the Fredenberg Recycle Center.

1. The Center will only accept rinsed/cleaned & emptied cans, bottles & containers.
2. Styrofoam, in any form, is not recycled at this Center.
3. The Center does not accept household garbage of any kind and it is NOT to be dumped at the Center or the dumpster. Dumping garbage of any kind at the Center is illegal.
4. The Center does not accept any metal or plastic gas cans.
5. The Center does not repurpose any form of electronics. They can be brought to WLSSD Materials Recovery Center, 4587 Ridgeview Road, off the Rice Lake Road. For more information, check out the website at wlssd.com.
6. The Center does not accept take out containers, fruit/vegetable plastic containers or deli clam containers.
7. The outside dumpsters are for cardboard, newspaper/paper and glass/plastic/tin cans.

Please be respectful of the rules when using the Center. The Town may be charged for dumpsters/bins containing non-recyclables. Thank you very much for your cooperation.





Exercise Classes

Classes held at the Community Center/Town Hall

Instructors: Sandy Rock: \$4/class,
Sheila Wixo: \$5/class, Anita Anderson: \$5/class

**Sandy Rock classes are held through out the week.
Please call her at 218-320-2902 for information.**

Tuesday

Zumba Gold: **9:30 AM**

Classes are held in 6 week sessions and registration is through Hermantown Community Education . For more information contact Judy Gordon 218-355-0677

Wednesday

Yoga: **5:45 PM** (Reservoir Riders Clubhouse)

Thursday

Zumba Class: **6-7 PM** Beginning January 26, 2023
\$45/8 week session

<https://ph.ce.eleyo.com/> and search Zumba

ALL CLASSES PAY AT DOOR except Zumba




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Advertising Rates

Business Card Size: \$10 per month

Full page: \$80 per month

Half page: \$40 per month

Insert: \$80 per month

Send your ad request to Clerk, fredenbergtwp@gmail.com or call 218-721-3991, by the last day of month for printing.

Over 500 Fredenberg residents receive the newsletter every month. The newsletter is available on the Fredenberg.org web site.

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Fredenberg Town Board Meetings

Regular Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month, 7 PM at the Town Hall.

Hybrid meetings in-person with a Zoom connection. See the website for Zoom connection information.

The next 2023 scheduled meetings are:

May 3
June 7



Fredenberg Community Center

The Center is open to the public and available to rent.

For information on rentals and fees, please contact the Town Clerk at 218-721-3991 or email at Fredenbergtwp@gmail.com.

