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January 2026

FREDENBERG TOWNSHIP NEWS

A monthly newsletter
Editor: 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: 218-721-3991

Office Hours: 12 (noon) to 4:00 PM on Thursday or by appointment.

TOWN BOARD

Jeff Blix, Supervisor & Road Foreman 218-393-3011
Clay Cich, Supervisor 218-590-5005
Debra Pawlowicz, Vice Chair 218-428-4539
Walter Rapp, Supervisor 218-721-3761
Tim Wagner, Chair 218-428-9460
Ellen Hanson, Clerk 218-721-3991
Kim Wagner, Deputy Clerk 218-721-3991
Chelsey Mahr, Treasurer 218-721-3991

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

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

DEPARTMENTS

Chief, Linda Bergstrand 218-349-2668
Recycling Center 218-721-3991
Assessor, County 218-726-2304
Town Hall 218-721-3991
Email fredenbergtwp@gmail.com
Website fredenberg.org

Township Roads Reporting

Jeff Blix is the Town Road Foreman, if there are any issues with roads, he should be contacted at 218-393-3011. Thank you.

Notice of Annual Township Meeting

Notice is hereby given to the residents of Fredenberg Township, St. Louis County, State of Minnesota, that the Annual Township Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 6:00 PM at the Fredenberg Town Hall/Community Center. In case of inclement weather, the meeting may be postponed until the third Tuesday in March. The main purpose of the meeting is for the residents of Fredenberg Township to review the 2027 proposed levy and vote on it.



Santa Arrived

at Fredenberg's Breakfast with Santa event held at the town hall/community center on December 6. The annual event was well attended by children and parents where all enjoyed a pancake breakfast and gifts from Santa. A heartfelt thank you to all the many volunteers for making this a successful community event.



Photo by Melissa Bell

APPROVED TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES for DECEMBER 3, 2025

The Town of Fredenberg, Minnesota, St. Louis County, held the regular Board meeting in the Fredenberg Town Hall on Wednesday, December 3rd, 2025, at 7:00 pm.

Board members present: Chair Tim Wagner, Supervisor Deb Pawlowicz, Supervisor Jeff Blix, Supervisor Clay Cich, Supervisor Walter Rapp, Clerk Ellen Hanson, Deputy Clerk Kim Wagner and Treasurer Chelsey Mahr.

Others in Attendance: Four others were in attendance.

Call to order the regular meeting: Chair Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance: All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda: Chair Wagner moved to approve the agenda, and Supervisor Pawlowicz seconded the motion. The members took a roll-call vote, and they approved the motion unanimously.

Open Forum: There were no speakers.

Approval of the Minutes: Regular meeting of November 5th, 2025: Supervisor Blix moved to approve the November 5th, 2025, Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as presented, and Chair Wagner seconded the motion. The members took a roll-call vote, and they approved the motion unanimously. Second meeting of November 19th, 2025: Supervisor Blix moved to approve the November 19th, 2025, Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as presented, and Supervisor Rapp seconded the motion. The members took a roll-call vote, and they approved the motion unanimously. Supervisor Pawlowicz abstained from voting, citing her non-attendance at the meeting.

Financial Reports: Treasurer Mahr stated she agreed with the bank balance. On November 30th, 2025, the ending balance in the checking account is \$217,212.640. The total of outstanding checks is \$962.32. As of now, the investment balance amounts to \$293,619.90. Supervisor Blix moved to approve the financial report, and Supervisor Pawlowicz seconded the motion. The members took a roll-call vote, and they approved the motion unanimously.

Clerk's Report: Clerk Hanson balanced with the bank and provided the claims list report. The board reviewed the claims list. Claims numbered from 11079 to 11089 totaled \$26,234.13. Supervisor Blix moved to approve claims 11079-11089 for \$26,234.13 as presented, and Supervisor Rapp seconded the motion. The members took a roll-call vote, and they approved the motion unanimously. The board reviewed the dates for the 2026 annual meeting schedule. Supervisor Blix moved to approve the 2026 annual meeting schedule, and Supervisor Pawlowicz seconded the motion. The members took a roll-call vote, and they approved the motion unanimously. Clerk Hanson noted that preparations for the audit, reorganization, budget/compensation, and levy meetings, all happening on one night, take considerable time. She requested the board split the meetings. The board agreed to split up the meetings.

Correspondence: The correspondence Clerk Hanson read included one piece of mail and seven emails received during the month.

Reports for November 2025: Fredenberg Law Enforcement Statistics: Deputy Sheriff Sergeant Nick Voltzke presented his report. In the township, 23 incidents occurred, resulting in one arrest.

Roads/Bridges report: Supervisor Blix gave an update on the road work that occurred in November. There will be one final grading event this fall. Presently, the roads are in optimal condition. The workers finished the road brushing.

Fire Department report: Chief Bergstrand submitted her report earlier. The fire department responded to three medical calls and one fire call in November. They also attended the St. Louis County Fire Chiefs' Association meeting. She reported on a successful life-saving event that occurred in Fredenberg.

Cemetery report: Supervisor Rapp reported the cemetery is closed for the winter.

Parks/Recreation/Pavilion: According to Supervisor Rapp, everything is going well. He had put up the snow fence.

Community Center report: Deputy Clerk Wagner confirmed three rentals in November.

Recycling report: Supervisor Pawlowicz reported the center is running well. Reminder: the recycling center will be closed when local schools are closed. She will purchase a mat for the center.

Other monthly meetings: There were no other meetings in November.

Unfinished Business: The town's application for the LRIP grant will be submitted by December 12th. Board members should review the packet and reach out to Jeff Monsaas with questions or updates.

ATV Ordinance 91-2 Update: Clerk Hanson explained she had spoken to the town attorney about rescinding the ATV Ordinance 91-2. He stated that a public hearing was unnecessary.

New Business: Second monthly meeting: Chair Wagner moved to cancel the December 17th second meeting, and Supervisor Blix seconded the motion. The members took a roll-call vote, and they approved the motion unanimously.

Adjourn: Chair Wagner moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm, and Supervisor Blix seconded the motion. The members took a roll-call vote, and they approved the motion unanimously.

Fredenberg Fire Department, Linda Bergstrand, Chief
Town Board Report
December 2025

December was a busy month for emergency calls. Members responded to 10 calls including 7 medical, 1 fire, 1 carbon monoxide and 1 motor vehicle accident.

Routine equipment inspections and maintenance were conducted as well as training on ice safety and emergency driving.

There were 68 calls for services in 2025. There were 44 medical calls, 21 fire calls and 3 motor vehicle accidents.

Activities in 2025 included hosting a Firewise demonstration and woody debris collection, providing assistance at the Brimson fire complex, Active shooter training with mutual aid departments, large scale mass casualty drill at the Duluth International Airport, Medical station at Grandma's Marathon, Fire standby at the Duluth Air Show (2 days), Annual Fishing Opener Pancake Feed, National Night Out, Traffic Control/medical standby for Fitger's Brewhouse Triathlon, medical standby for Waters of Life 5K, Apple Palooza booth, Minnesota State Fire Chief's conference, and Arrowhead Emergency Medical Association conference.

PLEASE DO NOT PUT SIGNS ON TOWNSHIP PROPERTY. They will be taken down and disposed of in the trash. Thank you.

TRUE CRIMES

Frederberg Crime Statistics, December 2025 Sergeant Nick Voltzke St. Louis County Sheriff's Office

In the Township during December 2025, there were 27 incidents and one arrest.

12/3/25 14:28	FRAUD-FRAUD/SCAM/ID	RPT-REPORT TAKEN
12/3/25 17:23	PS-PAPER SERVICE	PS-PAPERS SERVED
12/3/25 18:36	CE-COMM ENGAGEMENT	MOR-MATTER OF RECORD
12/4/25 10:20	ASLT-ASSAULT	MOR-MATTER OF RECORD
12/7/25 16:40	EXPAT-EXTRA PATROL	MOR-MATTER OF RECORD
12/7/25 16:52	EXPAT-EXTRA PATROL	MOR-MATTER OF RECORD
12/7/25 17:04	T - TRAFFIC STOP	REP-WARNED OR REPRIMANDED
12/8/25 11:52	FCO-CO ALARM	MOR-MATTER OF RECORD
12/8/25 12:59	CIVMTR-CIVIL MATTER	ADV-ADVISED
12/13/25 0:20	SUSPA-SUSP ACTIVITY	MOR-MATTER OF RECORD
12/13/25 23:19	T - TRAFFIC STOP	TAG-TICKET ISSUED
12/13/25 23:33	PI-PERSONAL INJ	JAIL-ARRESTED/LODGED JAIL
12/14/25 15:21	PERMAG-ACQUIRE HANDGUN	CLR-CLEARED
12/16/25 8:43	DIST-DISTURBANCE	RPT-REPORT TAKEN
12/16/25 17:48	T - TRAFFIC STOP	REP-WARNED OR REPRIMANDED
12/17/25 23:51	VINFO-VEH INFO	MOR-MATTER OF RECORD
12/18/25 1:55	DITCH-VEH IN THE DITCH	MOR-MATTER OF RECORD
12/18/25 21:49	T - TRAFFIC STOP	REP-WARNED OR REPRIMANDED
12/19/25 22:42	PDAN-MVA W/ANIMAL	RPT-REPORT TAKEN
12/21/25 20:59	T - TRAFFIC STOP	REP-WARNED OR REPRIMANDED
12/22/25 12:56	TRBNBR-NEIGHBOR TROUBLE	RPT-REPORT TAKEN
12/22/25 15:58	T - TRAFFIC STOP	REP-WARNED OR REPRIMANDED
12/25/25 19:52	CKWEL-CHECK WELFARE	MOR-MATTER OF RECORD
12/26/25 8:09	911 DISCONNECT - HANG UP	MOR-MATTER OF RECORD
12/27/25 18:54	T - TRAFFIC STOP	REP-WARNED OR REPRIMANDED
12/31/25 15:51	CIVMTR-CIVIL MATTER	MOR-MATTER OF RECORD
12/31/25 23:05	T - TRAFFIC STOP	CLR-CLEARED



THANK YOU to all the businesses and Fredenberg residents who own businesses for supporting this year's Breakfast with Santa!
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



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6035 Lavaque Rd
218-379-5034
Greg & Todd Kaneski



**HI-BANKS RESORT
DULUTH, MN**

Tim and Kim Wagner
5392 Fish Lake Dam Road
218-721-3355



1621 West Michigan St., Duluth
218-341-6214
Chris Bell

THANK YOU to all the businesses and Fredenberg residents who own businesses for supporting this year's Breakfast with Santa!

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



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Jeff & Patty Hausmann



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Closed: Wednesday, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31, 2025

Fredenberg Art Weller Recycle Center News

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

Hours: Wednesdays: 5-8 pm and Saturdays: 9 am-1 pm. **Closed when the district schools are closed.**

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

Town Hall/Community Center Rentals

The Town Hall / Community Center is available to rent for township residents, non-residents, and events. There is a full kitchen with stove and refrigerator. The rental agreement can be found at the town's website: Fredenberg.org. Please call ahead for date and time availability at 218-721-3991 or email at fredenbergtwp@gmail.com. A \$100 refundable damage deposit and a copy of homeowners insurance is required.

Newsletter 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 website.

Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Fires

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be fire smart!

 <p>Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.</p>	 <p>Heating equipment is involved in 1 in every 6 home fires and 1 in every 5 home fire deaths.</p>	 <p>Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.</p>
 <p>Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and as far away from your home as possible.</p>	 <p>Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.</p>	 <p>Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.</p>
 <p>Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents every year.</p>	 <p>Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least 10 feet from your home and any nearby buildings.</p>	

				<p>For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit usfa.fema.gov/winter and nfpa.org/winter.</p>
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Winter Fire Safety Tips

Winter fire safety means keeping heat sources three feet from anything flammable, testing smoke alarms monthly, using space heaters safely (off when unattended), keeping chimneys clean, and installing CO detectors, as heating fires peak in winter; plan two ways out and use flashlights instead of candles during power outages.

Fredenberg Town Hall/Community Center

There are many outdoor recreation facilities available at the Hall/Center for residents to enjoy and participate in all year round.

Summer facilities/activities include (on a first come basis):

- Pickle Ball Courts
- Tennis Courts
- Basketball Courts
- Playground
- Pavilion
- Walking trail
- Baseball field
- Garden Club

Winter facilities/activities include (on a first come basis):

- Skating Rink
- Sliding Hill

Exercise Classes offered year round, indoors and outdoors.

Mahjong is played every Tuesday beginning at 1:00 PM. It is a game of strategy and memory, requiring players to track tiles, remember patterns, and make calculated decisions.



Exercise Classes

Classes held at the Community Center/Town Hall, Reservoir Riders Clubhouse, Pavilion

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 320-766-2902 for information.

Yoga: Beginning October 1

Wednesdays: 5:45 - 7 p.m. at the Reservoir Riders Clubhouse.





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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.

Meetings are in-person and held in the Board room, second floor.

The next scheduled meetings are:

Feb. 4, 2026

Feb. 18, 2026

Mar. 4, 2026

Fredenberg Community Center

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

For information on rentals and fees, please contact the Office at 218-721-3991, email at Fredenbergtwp@gmail.com or go to the website at Fredenberg.org.