

# Ida Township Newsletter

February 2023

## Town Board

Dan Diedrich, Supervisor  
Mike Steidl, Supervisor  
Jeff Way, Supervisor  
Barb Kilgore, Clerk/Treasurer

## Contact Information

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## 2022 Highlights

The past year gave the township some interesting challenges. The Pilgrim Point Shores Development and all the work that had to be done topped the list.

The township did a couple of blacktop projects. (1). We laid down new blacktop on Garfield Lane and the remaining portion of Betsy Ross Road, and we, put down an overlay on Betsy Ross from Little Ida Beach including Abby Lane. (2). The other blacktop project was Sunny Brook Drive.

We replaced a twenty-four-inch culvert on Burr Oak Drive.

**2023.** Oakwood terrace was surveyed, so we can make repairs to the south corner next spring. Plans are in the works for a cul-de-sac at the end of Louise Drive and for getting the shouldering done where needed this coming summer. The Board has received a petition and is in the planning stages for blacktopping Primrose Lane and a portion of Big Chip Trail.

The board would like to thank Mike Steidl for his six years of service as a township supervisor.

Thank you to RBS excavating for the good job of maintaining the roads.

Lastly, a big thanks to everyone for the calls and other input to the board. We need this information to help us do the township work.

Chairman Dan Diedrich

## Ida Township Tax Levy History and Proposed 2024 Levy:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	Proposed 2024
General Revenue	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000
Road & Bridge Fund	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Fire Protection Fund	65,000	65,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
Blacktop Upgrade Fund	105,000	105,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
7T Debt Service Fund	52,000	-	-	-	0
2018A Bond Debt Service	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000
2019A Bond Debt Service		52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000
ALASD	100,344	97,387	96,827	102,089	100,000*
<b>Total Levy</b>	<b>\$782,344</b>	<b>\$779,387</b>	<b>\$ 778,827</b>	<b>\$784,089</b>	<b>\$782,000</b>

The 2024 levy will be proposed and voted on at the annual meeting and will be collected on taxes in the year 2024. 2023 tax collections are already set.

\*The ALASD amount is estimated and is available in September each year.

## Township Road Right of Way

Ida Township asks you to help them prevent the misuse of the Township roads as a dumping ground.

Specifically, the only things that can legally be put into the right-of-way are mailboxes, traffic signs and driveways.

**Your comments and concerns are important. You are the Township!**

An owner can likely engage in activities that have minimal impact on the maintenance and safety of the right-of-way. For example, an owner likely can, within reason, plant and maintain grass and flowers, in the town right-of-way. But likely not place fences, landscaping boulders and crops, particularly corn.

Everything else is prohibited by law, including the placement in the right-of-way of:

Leaves and rakings	Yard debris
Trees (any size)	Structures, (stone, wood, concrete or other)
Yard clippings	Garbage and waste
Bushes and hedges	Terraces and flower beds
Branches and brush	Construction debris
Shrubbery	Lawn-watering systems
Lake weeds	Oil and petroleum
Fences or walls	Plantings

Miscellaneous debris or ANYTHING ELSE

### **BURNING ANYTHING IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY IS ALSO PROHIBITED.**

Minnesota Statutes, Section 169.42 (traffic regulations) and, also, Minnesota Statutes, Section 609.68 (criminal offences) both make the above practices a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$700 or imprisonment for up to 90 days for each offense.

The Township has a good road system, and it takes taxpayer funds to clean up after violators. Also, the Township could hold liable for damage claims of road users if it knowingly permits these illegal acts. Landowners can also be held liable.

For the good of the Township and your neighborhood, please obey these laws. And if you observe any violations by others, please report them to your Township Supervisors.

### **March Election and Annual Meeting**

The Township Election and Annual Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. The polls will be open from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with the Annual Meeting beginning after the closing of the polls. There will be one office on the ballot:

#### **Supervisor Seat A 3-year term Candidate: Michelle Elmer**

The 2024 tax levy will be set and voted on at the Annual Meeting, as well as other pertinent items, so it is particularly important to attend! Both the election and annual meeting will be held at the Ida Township Hall, 4700 County Road 6 NW, Garfield, MN. In case of inclement weather, the election and meeting will be held on March 21, 2023, at the same time.

### **Candidate for Office**



**Chelle Elmer** was born and raised in the Garfield area by her parents, Jeff and Julie Lenarz, and with her brother, Mike. Chelle received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management from Minnesota State University, Mankato. After getting married on a family farm near Leaf Valley in 2006, she and her husband, Bret, began building their homestead in Ida Township along with their three kids. Chelle self-identifies as a modern-day homesteader but won't fully embrace the status until she convinces Bret to get a brood of chickens. When she's not busy gardening, you can find her and her crew enjoying all the splendor that Lake Ida has to offer.

## Lake Charley Cemetery

### Notes from Greg Cabana, Manager, Lake Charley Cemetery

It was a busy year at Lake Charley Cemetery. As always, lots of clean-up with our magnificent Ancient Oak Forest! Our mowing service does such a great job, but this summer there were a number wind storms which caused a great deal damage. There was need for a lot of trimming and removal. Plus, both fences were damaged by falling limbs. In the process, we had Deblen The Tree Doctor, a Minnesota State Certified Tree Inspector, visit the Cemetery to inspect the forest as there seemed to be several dying trees. He discovered a fairly serious insect infestation. Treatments will be spread out over a three- year period. They will also be involved in a new all-natural treatment for all the grass areas of the Cemetery.

We also had a few new interments over the summer. And out of state members of the Lundgren family approached the Township about erecting new Headstones to replace the homemade signage that locates several family plots currently. These will be installed in the spring of 2023. All in all, our little Lake Charley Cemetery continues to be a charming, restful location in the heart of Ida Township. Come visit! Or contact the Township office for more information.

**Available Plots** We have 7 plots currently available to the public. Contact the town hall for pricing and location if you are interested.



**Honoring those laid to rest in 2022** We remember the families of and honor those interred at Lake Charley Cemetery in 2022: Joey Woida, Duanne and Jo Hammargren.

**Unknown Burials.** Everybody has a story. Lake Charley Cemetery is home to at least 28 unknowns interred. Call the township office if you have any information that might help us determine who these people were.

### Ida Township Honors Veterans

The Ida Town Board continues to honor our Veterans with a dedicated page on our website. If you know of a member of the United States armed forces (living or deceased) and would like the name added to our listing, please contact the township office with the following: 1) Veteran's full name, branch of service and years served. 2) When a resident of Ida Township (lifelong resident or approximate years a resident). 3) Submitters name and phone number (so we may contact you with any questions).

### Noxious Weeds

One of the duties of a township supervisor, each spring, is to patrol the township road ditches, vacant lots and farm fields for weeds that are on the state of Minnesota Noxious Weed List. Ida Township seems to have an abundance of Canadian Thistle. Wild Parsnip has been found in the south Lake Ida area. Information about the weeds can be found on the MN DNR website.



Please take some time to look for these weeds and either spray or cut them. If you do this, we the board, will not have to send you a letter asking you to take this action. If issues are not addressed, after notification, the board will hire someone to get rid of the weeds and then bill you for the work. If we all work together on this issue we can do our part to help control noxious weeds and "OUR" township will benefit by this combined effort. Thanks for your help!

### **Organics Recycling**

The Pope Douglas Organics drop off site on the Ida Town Hall property is ready to use. An additional site has been added at the Habitat for Humanity Restore Building located at 1211 N. Nokomis. Please use compostable or paper bags. NO PLASTIC. Check the Alex Area Organics Recycling program on their website for instructions.

Please contact them with any questions:

1-800-972-6318

320-763-9340

WWW.POPEDOUGLASRECYCLE.COM

### **Voting Information**

The following is our current voting information:

Polling Place: Ida Township Hall, 4700 County Road 6 NW, Garfield, MN

US Senate: Minnesota

Federal House of Representatives: District 7

State Senate: District 9

State House of Representatives: District 9b

County Commissioner: District 1

School Districts: Alexandria 206, Brandon-Evansville 2908

**NOTE.** Ida Township is looking for a limited number of new election judges, especially during the winter election cycle. Please contact the township office and stop by to fill out a form or sign up at your precinct caucus. Training is required and will be provided. You will be compensated for your time.

### **Office & Meeting Schedule**

**Meeting Schedule:** The Ida Town Board meets on the First and Third Mondays of the month March through October at 7:30 p.m. at the Ida Township Hall. The Board only meets on the third Monday of the month November through February. If the Meeting date falls on a holiday or conflicts with an election, the meeting will be held the following day at the same time and place. If you wish to be put on the agenda, call, or e-mail the township office by the Thursday before the next scheduled meeting.

**Website:** If you are interested in what is on the agenda for the next Town Board meeting or if you want to know what transpired at recent meetings you were unable to attend, check out the Township website at [www.idatownship.com](http://www.idatownship.com).

**Office Hours:** The Township Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 9:00 a.m. until Noon. Except for holidays. You may also call and set up an appointment.

**Town Hall Rental:** The Town Hall is available to rent.