

Ida Township Newsletter

February 2021

Town Board

Dan Diedrich, Supervisor
Mike Steidl, Supervisor
Jim Peterson, Supervisor
Barb Kilgore, Clerk/Treasurer

Contact Information

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2020 Highlights

Another interesting year behind us. The first thing that always comes to mind is the amount of trash the township continues to pick up from the ditches. If you see anyone dumping on the side of the road, please let us know so we can clean it up. This dumping costs the township taxpayer a good amount of money. Replacing stolen speed signs on Big Chip Trail was also an added cost.

Due to the covid-19 virus, running the township got interesting; we had to reschedule meetings and held a couple of them remotely.

We were asked to install speed bumps on Wahtomin Trail on a trial basis. The response we received was both positive and negative. We will reconsider alternatives come spring.

In 2020, we completed the Big Horn Bay Project, which included paving Big Horn Bay Road and Gerhkes Point, and despite everything it worked out very well. The price of oil saved us a considerable amount of money. As part of the project, we installed a digital speed monitor on Big Horn Bay Road. We hope it will help to slow the speed of traffic. We installed a turnaround at the end of Oakwood Terrace, moved the corner on Highland Circle, we took over Caroline Beach Road, which is now Engstrom Way, and did several miles of sealcoating.

In 2021, we are looking into doing a rebuild on 81st Avenue west of Co Rd 6.

If you have any concerns with township workings, please feel free to attend any meeting and voice your concerns. Your input makes it easier for the board to make decisions. Once again thank you for your support.

Dan Diedrich

Ida Township Levy History

Tax Levy History and Proposed 2022 Levy:

	2018	2019	2020	2021	Proposed 2022
General Revenue	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000
Road & Bridge Fund	240,000	320,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Fire Protection Fund	60,000	60,000	65,000	65,000	70,000
Blacktop Upgrade Fund	65,000	105,000	105,000	105,000	100,000
7T Debt Service Fund	52,000	52,000	52,000	-	-
2018A Bond Debt Service			140,000	140,000	140,000
2019A Bond Debt Service				52,000	52,000
ALASD	98,294	100,967	100,344	97,387	100,000 *
Total Levy	\$585,294	\$707,967	\$782,344	\$ 779,387	\$782,000

The 2022 levy will be proposed and voted on at the annual meeting and will be collected on taxes in the year 2022. 2021 tax collections are already set.

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

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

March Election and Annual Meeting

The Township Election and Annual Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. 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 B 3-year term Candidates: **Jim Phillips, Jeff R. Way**

The 2022 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 16, 2021 at the same time. **Face masks are required.**

Candidates for Office



Jeff R. Way. I am married to my wife Jane. We have three grown children and one granddaughter. I have lived in Ida Township for 27 years. Along with Jane, we own Ida Valley Farm. I have served the township community and the lakes area as a First Responder. I would like to represent and serve the people of Ida Township as a Supervisor on the Township Board.



Jim Phillips. I have been coming to the Alexandria area with my wife and children for over thirty years to visit my in-laws on Lake Ida. My wife and I purchased our home on Lake Ida in 2010. After purchasing our home our family would come to the lake three or four times each year for extended vacations. After retiring from the Department of Defense in 2016, my wife and I moved here permanently. I am currently on the board of directors for the Alexandria YMCA and participate in other community activities such as the Central Lakes Symphony Orchestra and the Alexandria Senior Center Jazz band. I have also been a district representative for the Ida Lake Association for the last four years.

Lake Charley Cemetery News - New Cemetery Manager

Greetings! My name is Greg Cabana. I was hired this past year by Ida Township to manage the Historic Lake Charley Cemetery. Before I give you my background and what's happening at the Cemetery, I want to be sure to recognize with deep appreciation, all the volunteers who have worked so hard over the years to clean-up, develop and maintain the grounds. Everything from grave identification and plot marking to viewing benches and gardens are all the product of selfless individuals who gave their time and resources to this on-going piece of History.

I and my wife Donna have lived in Douglas County for over 40 years. We now live just a stones' throw from Lake Charley Cemetery on Lake Louise. I have been fascinated with Older Cemeteries for many years but have never been involved in actual management of one. When Donna and I were looking for plots to purchase, we were directed to Lake Charley Cemetery by a friend. After our first visit we not only purchased several plots, I inquired as to how to get involved in maintaining this beautiful resting place. I met with several retiring members of the volunteer group, members of the Ida Township Board and offered my services as a full-time manager. Ground Maintenance is still performed by the firm hired by Ida Township, which includes mowing, leaf and debris pickup and trimming. Projects completed this past season included stone pillars to accent the Cemetery sign...road improvement and the addition of two turn-around areas...new weather resistant mulch and flowerpot in the viewing location at the top of the hill...design for new walking paths in the newest portion of the Cemetery...and new markers for all of the existing Pioneer graves.

It is my goal to maintain a tranquil and welcoming place of internment for existing and new families as well as those unknown individuals who still deserve our respect. Come and visit! Or inquire about a purchase at Ida Township Hall. I'll be working on some new projects this summer so maybe I'll see you there.

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).

Thank you, Jim!



Supervisor Jim Peterson has decided not to run again for Seat B on the Ida Township Board. He has been a valued member of the Board since 2015. We would like to thank Jim for his service and his valuable contributions to Ida Township. We will miss him a lot!

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 was 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

In December, the Board voted to return to in-person voting. Absentee voting is available to anyone who chooses to vote by mail. 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 8

State House of Representatives: District 8b

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 or stop by to fill out a form if you are interested. 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.

Office Hours: The Township Office is open Monday, Wednesday, 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 not currently available to rent.