

# IDA TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

## February 2020

### TOWN BOARD

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

### Contact Information

4700 County Road 6 NW  
 PO Box 95, Garfield, MN 56332  
 Office Phone: 320-834-3377  
 Website: [www.idatowship.com](http://www.idatowship.com)  
 E-mail: [datwp@wisper-wireless.com](mailto:datwp@wisper-wireless.com)

### 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

The past year proved to be as challenging as 2018. With the proposed road work to be done this year the board started with securing another bond for \$1,250,000.00. Then the board let bids for the rebuilding and blacktopping 3.8 miles to complete West side Improvements Phase 2. After rebuilding the base the wet weather forced a decision to install the base layer of blacktop earlier than planned. We then did the wear layer later in the fall. The work has been completed except for some final grading and landscaping. We also installed school bus stop and

speed limit signs on Big Chip trail. The interesting part is that someone decided to remove the speed limit signs so we had to replace them. I would also like to mention that we continue to have to pick up trash such as sofas, tires, boxes of trash and other things out of the side of the roads. Please realize that this becomes a cost for the township. 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 2021 LEVY

|                          | Actual<br>2017   | Actual<br>2018   | Actual<br>2019   | Actual<br>2020   | Proposed<br>2021 |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| General Revenue          | \$70,000         | \$70,000         | \$70,000         | \$70,000         | \$70,000         |
| Road & Bridge Fund       | \$200,000        | \$240,000        | \$320,000        | \$250,000        | \$250,000        |
| Fire Protection Fund     | \$58,000         | \$60,000         | \$60,000         | \$65,000         | \$65,000         |
| Blacktop Upgrade Fund    | \$58,000         | \$65,000         | \$105,000        | \$105,000        | \$105,000        |
| 7T Debt Service Fund     | \$52,000         | \$52,000         | \$52,000         | \$52,000         | 0                |
| Sunset Strip Paving Fund | 0                | \$70,000         | 0                | 0                | 0                |
| 2018A Bond Debt Service  | 0                | 0                | 0                | \$140,000        | \$140,000        |
| 2019A Bond Debt Service  | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                | \$52,000         |
| ALASD*                   | \$104,021        | \$98,294         | \$100,967        | \$100,344        | \$100,000*       |
| <b>Total Levy</b>        | <b>\$612,021</b> | <b>\$585,294</b> | <b>\$707,967</b> | <b>\$782,344</b> | <b>\$782,000</b> |

The 2021 levy will be proposed and voted on at the annual meeting and will be collected on taxes in the year 2021. 2020 tax collections are already set.

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

### 2019 EXPENDITURES

The following were some of the major expenditures in 2019: West Side Improvement Project costs not included.

|                    |           |                       |          |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------|
| Road Maintenance   | \$147,509 | Town Board Wages      | \$23,150 |
| Ice & Snow Removal | \$44,056  | Town Hall/Office Exp. | \$3,540  |
| Gravel             | \$23,037  | Fire Protection       | \$63,216 |
| Chloride           | \$15,430  |                       |          |

## ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED

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.

## MARCH ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

The Township Election and Annual Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 10, 2020. 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: Michael Steidl**

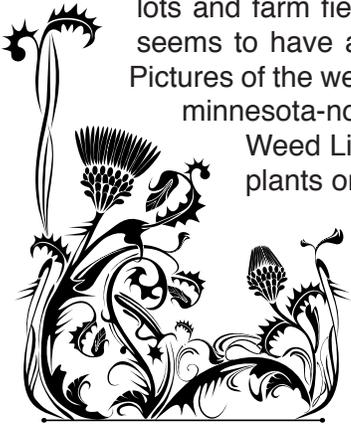
The 2021 tax levy will be set and voted on at the Annual Meeting, as well as other pertinent items, so it is very important to attend! Both the election and annual meeting will be held at the Ida Township Hall, 4700 County Road 6 NW, Garfield, MN. In case of inclement weather, the election and meeting will be held on March 17, 2020 at the same time.

## CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE SUPERVISOR SEAT A

**Michael Steidl.** I live at 1721 Pilgrim Point Road NW, Alexandria, MN. I grew up in the Alexandria area and have lived and owned property on Lake Ida in Ida Township for more than 36 years. My wife, Terri, and I have been married for over 40 years and have three grown children and eight grandchildren. I am a retired Certified Financial Planner with Ameriprise Financial in Alexandria. I feel committed to the well-being of Ida Township and Lake Ida as a place that all residents can use and enjoy, both now and a generation from now. I have been a Supervisor on the Ida Town Board since 2014.

## 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 Thistles. Wild Parsnip was also found in the township. Pictures of the weeds can be found on the MN DNR website <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/plants-insects/minnesota-noxious-weed-list>. Once there, you will see a box on the right side for the 2020 Noxious Weed List. If you click on that a list of all the weeds will pop up. If you click on one of the 42 plants on that list, you will be able to see information about that weed and pictures to help you identify that weed.



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, the noxious weeds will be taken care of and "OUR" township will benefit by this combined effort. Thanks for your help!

## 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).

**YOUR COMMENTS AND CONCERNS ARE IMPORTANT. YOU ARE THE TOWNSHIP.**

## LAKE CHARLEY CEMETERY NEWS

**GREEN THUMB?** If you have seasonal free time and would enjoy lending a hand with beautifying the cemetery grounds, please contact the township office. Help is welcomed spring through fall on an as can-do basis.

**AVAILABLE PLOTS.** We have 12 plots currently available to the public. If interested contact the township office for available locations. Pricing is as follows:

- Township residents – \$250.00 per lot
- Non-township residents – \$500.00 per lot

**UNKNOWN BURIALS.** Everybody has a story. Lake Charley Cemetery is home to at least 28 unknown interred. Please call the township office if you have any information that might help us determine their identities.



## 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](http://www.popedouglasrecycle.com).

## 2020 CENSUS

United States®  
**Census  
2020**

Every ten years the United States counts its residents. The next count is this year. April 1st is Census Day. In mid-March you will receive a letter in the mail inviting you to respond to the 2020 census. You can respond to the short questionnaire online, by mail or by phone. Douglas County asks that you participate to make sure Minnesota receives its maximum amount of federal dollars (\$2,796 per Minnesotan), we retain all 8 congressional seats, and can plan for roads, hospitals, schools and future businesses. In the last census, Ida Township had an 85% response rate. Congratulations to all that participated. The goal for 2020 is at least a 90% response rate. Your response is confidential and should only take a few minutes. To find much more information go to [mn.gov/admin/2020-census/](http://mn.gov/admin/2020-census/), or call Census Outreach Specialist Vicki Clayton at 763-607-0857.

## IDA TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL NOTE

Published in the Alex Post News. Friday March 24, 1876, p 4:

A Big Slide on the Ice. Mr. E. H. Alden is moving his dwelling house and mill from the upper end of Lake Miliona down to the outlet of Lake Ida. The distance is eight miles, nearly all the way on the ice of the two lakes. The dwelling will be moved entire; the mill will be taken apart, and re-built on the Long Prairie River, between Lakes Ida and Charlie and about five miles from Alexandria.

## VOTING INFORMATION

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

US Senate: Minnesota

State Senate: District 8

County Commissioner: District 1

Federal House of Representatives: District 7

State House of Representatives: District 8b

School Districts: Alexandria 206,

Brandon-Evansville 2908



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**PAID**  
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## **OFFICE & MEETING SCHEDULE**

**MEETING SCHEDULE:** The Ida Town Board meets on the First and Third Mondays 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, and Friday, from 9:00 a.m. until Noon. Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. except for holidays. You may also call and set up an appointment.

**TOWN HALL RENTAL:** The Town Hall is available to rent for meetings and family gatherings.