

# Waterford Township

# December 2016

## MEMORIAL GARDEN



“where the path from the past & the future meet”

## ORDINANCE CHANGES

On July 27, 2016 the following Ordinance changes became effective:

*Ordinance 2001-5 - 6.09 Dimensional Standards for District Users – Front setbacks for farm, non-farm and rural residential from 110 feet to 75 feet.*

*Ordinance 2001-5C – Section V & VI – Eliminate Interim Use Permit requirements for “Retail Solar Electric Systems”.*

*Ordinance 2001-5B – 4.10 Home Occupations – Clarify definition and all language to ensure home occupation may use an accessory structure and may not have employees other than those family members living within the home.”*

## TOWNSHIP UPDATES

**ANNUAL PICNIC:** The Annual Township Picnic held on July 4, 2016 was a trip down memory lane. Twenty-four people shared stories related to the late John Dudley, Board Supervisor for 45 years.

More than one person stated that they heard heart-warming stories about John that they never knew. Certainly, solidified that John was a true “peach of a guy”.

**TOWNSHIP HALL PAINTING:** Weather prevented the fall scheduled exterior painting of the Township Hall. Painting will occur in late spring/early summer as soon as weather permits.

The weather delay did not stop Charlene Klemenhagen, Liz Messner & Frank Gerdesmeier from preparing the grounds around the Township Hall for the painters. Lots of hours spent fixing broken windows, trimming & removing shrubs/trees, patching foundation, clearing weeds & brush. Township paid for some hours of work, but other hours were volunteered. Thank you!

The John Dudley Memorial “Garden” project was delayed until the painting of the Township Hall was completed. The Township Hall painting was delayed due to weather. Both projects are now scheduled for the summer of 2017 followed by a fall dedication ceremony.

Landscapers, gardeners or anyone interested in contributing an idea and/or design expertise for the “Garden” are needed. If you can volunteer just a few hours in May 2017 to attend a couple of “design” meetings, please contact Clerk Wheeler. Wheeler will coordinate the meeting date (s) and notify all the volunteers.

If you can't make a May meeting but have an idea or two you wish to contribute, please send an e-mail to [waterfordtownship@gmail.com](mailto:waterfordtownship@gmail.com) Some of the great ideas that have been suggested so far include a LED lighted flag pole, plaque, bench, pavers, flowering tree, antique farm implements, Iron Bridge sign (what was salvaged from the vandalism), a large farm field boulder, perennials, etc.

The current “Memorial Fund” has a balance of \$2,888.35 thanks to the following: John Dudley family, Joe & Pam Harris, Glenn & Karen Holz, Tim Gallagher & Julie Johnson, Liz & Steve Messner, MNSPECT & Scott Qualle, Marie Struss, Harold & Francis Veness, Steve & Elizabeth Wheeler, the Protect Our Waters & Environmental Resources Citizens Board.

It is not too late to send a donation to Waterford Township, P.O. Box 531, Northfield, Mn 55057. Monetary donations are still needed and most appreciated.

## ANNEXATION

After several meetings with the City of Northfield, on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Waterford Township Ad-Hoc Negotiating Committee received from the City a proposal for a new Orderly Annexation Agreement with the City.

The City's proposal was presented in bullet form and is presently being written in legal form. The proposal was presented to the Town Board Supervisors at the regular Board meeting on October 10th and a motion was passed to submit the proposal to Couri & Ruppe, the Township Attorneys for review.

If the final language meets all the Township's needs it is expected to pass at the township level followed by a vote of the Northfield City Council. Voting on this new agreement is anticipated before the end of the year.

The Ad Hoc Negotiating Committee is comprised of Marie Struss, Charlene Klemenhagen Township Treasurer and Larry Odegard, Township Supervisor.

# YOUR TAX DOLLARS

A major responsibility and single biggest expense of a Township is road maintenance including road surfaces, culverts, ditches and bridges.

Waterford has one asphalt road (Dresden Avenue is a shared responsibility with Greenvale Township & City of Northfield), over 15 miles of gravel road, four bridges (Barnard Ave, Burma Ave, Canada Ave, Dudley Bridge), numerous culverts and miles of ditches.

Early in 2016 the Township Supervisors voted to form an advisory Road Committee to research, study, plan and recommend solutions to several road maintenance issues including longitudinal erosion; wash boarding; tire rutting; muddy or slippery road surfaces; frost boils; dust; too much loose gravel; lateral erosion & potholes.

Maintenance issues can be caused by poor road surfaces, poor road surface materials, insufficient road base thickness, insufficient ditching, insufficient road tilting or road crowning, poorly drained soils, ridge of soil or grass growth along outer edge of road, increased traffic stress, unpredictable weather, inadequate snowplowing and snow removal procedures, etc.

After several meetings, the Road Committee recommended a multi-year road maintenance plan. During 2016 the crowning or tilting of road surfaces, grading to remove ridges, upgrading the "fines" in the road materials and increasing the road base in critical areas was done improving all the Township roads.

Next year (2017) additional road maintenance will include plowing snow wide enough to get the snow banks off the edge of the road to allow proper drainage from snow melt, improve road ditch drainage and the application of calcium chloride to prevent road material breakdown.

Future (2018) road maintenance will include culvert repair and bridge repair/replacement. The Township hopes to find ways to share the bridge replacement costs with other government entities.

The Committee currently has three volunteers including Frank Gerdesmeier-Chairperson, Liz Messner & Andy Devney. The Township Supervisors wish to find two additional Township residents for this committee. If you can spare a little time periodically to serve on this committee, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please let the Township Clerk or Township Chairperson know of your interest. See page 4 of newsletter for contact information.

## Timely Reminder

Frank Gerdesmeier of Frank's Landscaping (507-645-7248) plows snow on Township Village roads and Mark Henry of Henry Excavating (952-460-6314) plows snow on the Township gravel roads. Both contractors are requesting that Township residents remember that under Minnesota Statute it is a misdemeanor to deposit snow or ice in the right-of-way, which is punishable as a misdemeanor (Minn.Stat. § 169.42, subd. 1 & 5).

# CALCIUM CHLORIDE

Ever wonder why the Township applies calcium chloride to gravel roads???? Recently I researched the question.

While we can all agree, chloride helps with dust control, it does so much more. The chloride application has been around for many years with documented results.

Liquid calcium chloride application to gravel roads has a two-fold purpose; maintaining integrity of a gravel road by reducing the loss of primary fines and control dusting by preserving the moisture level in the road surface materials.

Primary fines are essential in maintaining the integrity of a gravel road surface. Fines are the binders that hold the road surface material in a tight, hard mass. The fewer the fines the looser the gravel, which adversely affects traction, can result in wash boarding, and dusting.

While dusting is a nuisance and at times safety issue the real problem of dusting is the deterioration of the gravel road. It has been demonstrated that a gravel road can lose as much as a ½ inch of surface materials (primarily fines) per year because of dusting. A ½ inch loss of surface material per year on 5,280 feet of a 12-foot road results in an annual loss of about 100 cubic yards of road material. Replacing that road material is costly.

Two types of "Chloride" application will occur in 2017:

1. Road traffic has increased substantially on Canada Avenue in the past few years. In late May or early June, 2017 the Township will "test" chloride the entire road surface on Canada Avenue between Highway 19 and Northfield Boulevard in an effort to slow road material breakdown, reduce wash boarding, eliminate tire rutting and drainage issues. This "test" application of chloride will be monitored & analyzed closely for "costs versus benefits."
2. The Township will be making arrangements for biennial "spot chloride" of the gravel road in front of a Township resident's homes (dust control) and critical township intersections (safety). Spot chloride applications are approximately 300 feet in length and a shared expense of the property owner and the Township.

**DEADLINE:** In order to get the best price and schedule the chloride application in a timely manner, the Township needs any Township resident who wishes to chloride the road in front of their residence to send a check for a \$100 by no later than MAY 5, 2017 to Waterford Township, P.O. Box 531 Northfield, MN 55057. Indicate on check it is for "chloride".

If you wish to chloride more area than the 300 feet directly in front of your residence, please call or e-mail the Township Clerk for costs and procedures. Contact information for the clerk is on page 4 of this newsletter.

P.S. - Want to read (over 100 pages) about gravel road maintenance, e-mail the clerk - I will share my research sources.

# Filing for Office

Notice is hereby given to qualified voters of the TOWNSHIP OF WATERFORD, Dakota County, State of Minnesota, that filing for township office will be held for a two-week period beginning Thursday, December 29, 2016.

Offices to be filled at the March 14, 2017 Annual Election at the Waterford Township Hall, 3847 321<sup>st</sup> Street West, Northfield, MN 55057 are:

- [\(one\) Township Supervisor – Three-year term](#)
- [\(one\) Township Treasurer – Two-year term](#)

Affidavits of Candidacy can be filed with Township Clerk Elizabeth Wheeler by calling 651-346-8467 or e-mail at [waterfordtownship@gmail.com](mailto:waterfordtownship@gmail.com). Wheeler will provide you with the forms necessary to file for office. Filing fee is \$2.00

Filing dates are from Thursday, December 29, 2016 to 5:00 p.m. Thursday, January 12, 2017.

## Supervisor Duties

- Attend all meetings of the Township Board.
- Supervision of the affairs of the Township.
- Make decision based on the Township's Comp Plan & Zoning Ordinances
- Oversight of the care, improvement & maintenance of Township roads & bridges.
- Vote on motions/resolutions
- Approve the budget.
- Respond to complaints & inquires of township residents
- Serve on Ad Hoc/Advisory Committees as necessary
- Attend & participate in Intergovernmental Township Meetings.
- Attend bi-annual Township Association meetings

## Treasurer Duties

- Attend all monthly, annual & special meetings
- Keep account of township receipts, revenues & expenditures utilizing a computerized accounting system (CTAS - City & Town Accounting System) as required by the State Auditor
- Provide monthly revenue, expense & claim reports to township board for approval
- Keep account of township receipts, revenues & expenditures
- Prepare all accounts payable for board approval.
- Issues township checks after approval by board
- Deposit revenues in approved depositories
- Submission of financial records to State Auditor
- Submit federal & state payroll reports



Annual Township Election will be held on March 14, 2017 Waterford residents can vote at the Waterford Township Hall, 3847 321<sup>st</sup> Street West, Northfield, Mn 55057 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A sample ballot will be posted on the Township Hall door and on the Township website on or about February 13, 2017. Candidate names will be on the sample ballot.

Unable to vote on March 14, 2017? Get an Absentee Ballot from Dakota County Government Center in Hastings or Apple Valley starting Monday, February 13, 2017. Call 651-438-4305 (Dakota County Election Department) with questions or requests.

## TAX LEVY

The key to sound fiscal health of any governmental entity is proper accounting, budgeting, and auditing. Last year the Township Supervisors wisely voted to form a "BUDGET COMMITTEE" in an effort to facilitate the preparation of the annual budget and the ensuing year tax levy. This committee is advisory and has no voting powers.

Marie Struss-Chairperson, Charlene Klemenhagen-Treasurer and Larry Odegard-Supervisor worked diligently with the Board in work sessions to review actual expenditures from prior years, current year and estimated expenditures for ensuing fiscal years.

The Committee, after hours of work, was able to recommend a sound realistic budget for 2016 and a tax levy for 2017. The budget and tax levy were presented at the Annual Township meeting and a final vote was taken at the August re-convened Annual Township meeting.

The 2018 tax levy for Waterford Township will be discussed, and voted on at the Annual Township Meeting on March 14, 2017 at 7:15 p.m.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please call a Board Supervisor with any questions, concerns or comments.

## Website

### Two ways to find Waterford's website

1. **Google:** *Dakota County Townships* then click on *Waterford*
2. **Add following link to your browser favorites:**  
<https://sites.google.com/site/waterfordtownshipwebsite>

**USE THE WEBSITE—IT WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED!!**

# WELCOME THE OFFICIALS

Former U.S. Senator Paul Wellstone once said, "As free citizens in a political democracy, we have a responsibility to be interested and involved in the affairs of the human community, be it at the local or the global level."

**NEW PLANNING COMMISSIONER:** The Township Board approved Paul Little as a Planning Commission member on July 11, 2016. Little fills a vacancy on the Commission when Charlene Klemenhausen resigned to become the Township Treasurer.

Little was born and raised in Waterford Township. After a few years living elsewhere he returned to Waterford Township and purchased the home he grew up in from his parents in 1998. Little is married, has two grown children and one granddaughter (one-year-old).

Little stated he is still learning the "ropes" (the Township Zoning & Ordinances), but enjoying it so far.

**NEW TOWNSHIP TREASURER:** After Larry Odegard was elected as a Supervisor in March 2016, the position of Township Treasurer was left vacant. But not for long!!!! Charlene Klemenhausen quickly submitted a letter of interest to the Township Board.

On April 11, 2016, the Township Board appointed Charlene Klemenhausen to fill the vacancy until the Annual Township Election in 2017. Klemenhausen is not new to Township government as she was a Township Planning Commissioner for two years before assuming the Treasurer responsibilities.

Klemenhausen recently retired from the Rosemount/Apple Valley/Eagan school district after 38 years of employment. While she retired from the school district she hasn't retired from farming. She continues to farm 300 acres as well as raises a few pigs. Her new hobby since retirement is raising "garlic".

# Thank You!!!

Commitment, time and energy to serve as an election judge is a vital service to our democracy. The job can be challenging but the 2016 Township election judges took the job seriously. Each and every judge worked with passion, dedication, diligence and professionalism.

During 2016 the following people attended election judge training in February followed by working as election judges at three separate elections: the Annual Township election in March, the State Primary election in August and the General election in November.

Alberta Aldahl, Linda Blankenberger, John Fried, Erin Johnson, Charlene Klemenhausen, Lorraine Lemke, Rein Lemke, Ines Malecha, Liz Messner, Jan Odegard, Larry Odegard, Bridget Renlund, Marie Struss, Elizabeth Wheeler, Steve Wheeler, and Paul Wrolstad

Thank you for ensuring that each and every Election Day runs properly and efficiently!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

# Contact Information

## PLANNING COMMISSION:

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of month - 7:30 p.m. (Not Nov – Mar)

Chairperson Bryan Nelson	507-663-9057 <a href="mailto:bryannelson945@gmail.com">bryannelson945@gmail.com</a>
Doug Bakken	507-645-7973 <a href="mailto:djbakken@northfieldwifi.com">djbakken@northfieldwifi.com</a>
Tom Davis	507-645-7644 <a href="mailto:lmcrash224@gmail.com">lmcrash224@gmail.com</a>
Kris Mortensen	507-645-7921 No e-mail
Paul Little	507-581-2761 <a href="mailto:Pwittle8@gmail.com">Pwittle8@gmail.com</a>

## TOWNSHIP OFFICERS

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of month-7:00 p.m.

Chairperson Liz Messner	507-581-9067 <a href="mailto:lmessner@northfieldwifi.com">lmessner@northfieldwifi.com</a>
Supervisor Frank Wergin	612-308-1401 <a href="mailto:ftwergin@gmail.com">ftwergin@gmail.com</a>
Supervisor Larry Odegard	507-645-4576 <a href="mailto:larryodegard@yahoo.com">larryodegard@yahoo.com</a>
Clerk Elizabeth Wheeler	651-346-8467 (leave message) Newsletter creator/editor/reporter <a href="mailto:waterfordtownship@gmail.com">waterfordtownship@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer Charlene Klemenhausen	952-356-5164 <a href="mailto:garlicgirlmn@gmail.com">garlicgirlmn@gmail.com</a>

## TOWNSHIP INSPECTORS:

Building, remodeling, inspections, septic repair/installation:

Building Official & Inspectors & Plan Review	888-446-1801 MNSPECT
Bob Freiermuth Jr. – #C818	651-437-5343
Certified Septic Inspector	Bob Freiermuth Sanitation,

## RED ROSE CEMETARY: Officers & Trustees & Caretaker:

Jane Skluzacek -Chairperson	507-645-0014
Donna Ozmum - Sec/Treasurer	507-645-9700
Laura Skluzacek	507-645-4213
Jerry Skluzacek	507-645-0014
Douglas Bakken	507-645-7973
Laura Storlie	507-663-7033
Dick Ozmum–Superintendent/Caretaker	507-645-9700

## ROAD COMMITTEE:

Frank Gerdesmeier	507-645-7248
Chairperson	No e-mail
Andy Devney	507-581-3342 <a href="mailto:atdevney@gmail.com">atdevney@gmail.com</a>
Liz Messner-Board Liaison	507-581-9067 <a href="mailto:lmessner@northfieldwifi.com">lmessner@northfieldwifi.com</a>

## BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Marie Struss-Chairperson	651-346-8467 <a href="mailto:waterfordtownship@gmail.com">waterfordtownship@gmail.com</a>
Charlene Klemenhausen	952-356-5164
Township Treasurer	<a href="mailto:waterfordtownship@gmail.com">waterfordtownship@gmail.com</a>
Frank Wergin-Board Liaison	612-308-1401 <a href="mailto:ftwergin@gmail.com">ftwergin@gmail.com</a>