

# Waterford Township Newsletter

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### VOTE EARLY IN PERSON (DIRECT BALLOTING)

FOR PNP, STATE PRIMARY OR GENERAL  
Voters can request an absentee ballot, in person, at the county service center and place their completed ballot in a machine tabulator.

Early voting for the **PNP begins 02/16/24** at Dakota County Administration Center in Hastings, the Northern Service Center in West St. Paul, or the Western Service Center in Apple Valley. Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed 02/19/24) & Saturday, 03/02/24 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



### **ANNUAL TOWNSHIP ELECTION**

**SAMPLE BALLOT:** See [page 8](#) of this Newsletter or posted at 30038 Alta Ave. Northfield MN or on website: [waterfordtownshipmn.org](http://waterfordtownshipmn.org)

One Supervisor – Three-year term  
One Town Clerk – Two-year term

### VOTE BY MAIL

To register to vote, apply for an absentee ballot for **Township Election**, call Dakota County elections at 651-438-4305; or email [elections@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:elections@co.dakota.mn.us) or [co.dakota.mn.us/government/votingelections](http://co.dakota.mn.us/government/votingelections)

### VOTE EARLY IN PERSON (DIRECT BALLOTING)

#### FOR TOWNSHIP ELECTION

Vote early in person for the Township election starting **02/23/24**. Hastings Government Center – Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. & Saturday, 03/09/24 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### VOTE AT POLL ON ELECTION DAY

**WHEN:** March 12, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Sciota Town Hall, 30038 Alta Ave, Northfield

**INCLEMENT WEATHER** may cause the Annual Election to be postponed until the third Tuesday in March at the same time and place.



### **MN STATE STATUTE § 204B.09 (3)**

### **RESOLUTION R2023–23 TALLYING REGISTERED WRITE-INS**

WHEREAS, Minnesota State Statute 365.02 (a) establishes a town as a public corporation thus able to own and dispose of property, levy taxes, maintain roads, provide fire protection, and secure polling precinct(s) that serves the township as a whole and is directly related to the functions of government; and



## **2024 ELECTIONS**

### **PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION PRIMARY (PNP)**

03/05/2024 – 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### **ANNUAL TOWNSHIP ELECTION**

03/12/2024 – 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### **STATE PRIMARY**

08/13/2024 – 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### **GENERAL ELECTION**

11/05/2024 – 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



## **WAYS TO VOTE**

### **VOTE BY MAIL**

FOR PNP, STATE PRIMARY OR GENERAL

To register to vote, apply for an absentee ballot, and view a sample ballot online at [mnvotes.gov](http://mnvotes.gov).

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WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 204B.09, subdivision 3 allows for the governing body of a statutory or home rule charter city to adopt a resolution governing the counting of write-in votes for local elective offices; and

WHEREAS, the current write-in vote counting process is overly time consuming and unnecessary. Therefore counting only registered write-in candidates aligns the write-in recording process with Federal, State and County offices; and

THEREFORE, NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Waterford hereby requires candidates for Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer to file a written request with the Township's Election Administrator no later than the seventh day before the Town election if the candidate wants to have the candidate's write-in votes individually recorded.

PASSED this 14th day of September, 2023.

Election  
Judges  
Needed



On February 8, 2024, the Town Board raised the Election Judge wage to \$16.00 per hour in recognition of the importance of Election Judges to our democracy.

No experience is necessary. The Township pays for training time as well as hours working the Election. Shifts are 4 to 5 hours long.

Please email or call Election Administrator Wheeler for more information: 651-346-8467 – leave message she will call back; [waterfordtownship@gmail.com](mailto:waterfordtownship@gmail.com)



### ANNUAL TOWNSHIP MEETING

03/12/2024 AT 8:15 P.M.

Please note that Sciota Township will be conducting their own Annual Township meeting within their building, thus requiring Waterford to meet at an alternate location.

The Prairie Creek Community School Board & Prairie Creek's director, Simon Tyler graciously hosted Waterford Township in March 2023 and has agreed to host Waterford Township again. The Township is most appreciative of the hospitality.

March 12, 2024 – 8:15 p.m. Township Annual Meeting  
Prairie Creek Community School  
27695 Denmark Ave, Northfield, MN 55057

See prior year's presentations on the website [waterfordtownshipmn.org](http://waterfordtownshipmn.org) under NEWS. Residents of Waterford will vote on the proposed 2025 Tax Levy.

2025?

### STAKEHOLDERS WORKING TO SAVE THE GRANT



The Township applied for and received a Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Program grant for \$244,393 to strengthen the trusses (Phase 2) on the 1909 Waterford Bridge.

On 09/23/2023, the bid of \$399,900 was opened. This bid exceeded the grant amount by \$155,507. Stakeholders (MHS, DNR, Dakota County, City of Northfield, Friends of the Mill Towns Trail, and Waterford Township) are exploring possible solutions, including a Phase 2 scope reduction, and/or seeking donations to make up the \$155,507 difference.

Another solution is to search for additional grants. The Town Clerk is currently working with a grant writer (furnished by Dakota County) to submit a highly competitive online grant application that is due by March 27, 2024.

The Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) gave the Township a grant extension until June 1, 2025. If we fail to come up with a solution, the Township will be required to return the grant funds prior to June 1, 2025.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
**6 YEARS OLD**

[WATERFORDTOWNSHIPMN.ORG](http://WATERFORDTOWNSHIPMN.ORG)

The Township website turned 6 years old February 1<sup>st</sup>.

The purpose of the Township website is public engagement, transparency, and convenience to the Township's property owners and all others that visit the site. A few months ago, a County Official at a public meeting stated "I keep up with what's going on in Waterford by utilizing their website".

The County Official was referring to the "Agenda & Documents" tab on the home page. Every month, on the Tuesday morning before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, the Town Clerk uploads the Board packet for the Board and the public to review BEFORE the Board meeting.

This packet is the business of the Township! The Board will discuss and make decisions based on the information included in the packet.

Very few Townships upload their Board packet to a website providing the residents with total transparency and the convenience of an "at home" viewing.

Periodically, I hear someone say "*I didn't know*" or "*when did that change*"? To stay informed, take just a few moments every month to review the packet.

# Waterford Township Newsletter

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### MANDATORY EIS



### REQUEST EIS & CUP EMAIL NOTIFICATION

The Township website under NEWS (left side of home page) has a link to a flowchart authored by the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) that lays out the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process including informational meetings, public comment periods & public hearings.

**Mandatory EIS Trigger for Bryan Rock Mining Application:** *Minn Stat 4410.4400 Subpart 9 (B): Subp. 8. B. For development of a facility for the extraction or mining of sand, gravel, stone, or other nonmetallic minerals, other than peat, which will excavate 160 acres of land or more to a mean depth of ten feet or more during its existence, the local governmental unit is the RGU (Responsible Government Unit). See website for flowchart.*

The EIS process is long (approximately 18 – 24 months), complex (federal, state, county regulations) and requires multiple areas of expertise (mining, legal, environmental, engineering, etc.).

The Town Attorney, Bob Ruppe wrote the following:

- *The Town Attorney has advised the Township not to discuss Bryan Rock Product's pending CUP and EIS at the present time.*
- *Under Minnesota law, the Town Board must remain neutral until all the information is gathered and all parties have been heard at the required public hearings.*
- *Further, the Township is still completing its environmental review of the project which is expected to take a year or more to complete.*
- *Until the environmental review is complete, the Town Board lacks sufficient information to address concerns raised by the project.*
- *Please note that there will be required **PUBLIC HEARINGS** on both the CUP and EIS once the environmental review is complete. The Township thanks you for your understanding.*

During a public meeting at the Northfield Ballroom on October 12, 2023 it was announced that the Town Board (RGU) & Stantec (RGU's Environmental Consultant) & the applicant, Bryan Rock Products will be hosting Work Sessions (**public is invited**) in the first and second quarters of 2024.

**JUST CONFIRMED:** Work Sessions are scheduled for 03/14/24 & 03/21/24 at 6:00 p.m. at **Nfld Ballroom**.

**MEETING INFORMATION:** Meeting details have not yet been finalized. Once the Clerk receives the details from Stantec, the Clerk will upload the information to the website under NEWS and Calendar and send out a "group email notification".

The Town Clerk has set up a **group email notification** for those interested in receiving an email notification when the Town Board will be meeting with Stantec (environmental consultant) involving work sessions, informational sessions, public comment or when a public hearing is scheduled regarding the proposed limestone quarry. **Send an email requesting to be included in the "Township's group email notification" to the clerk at: [waterfordtownship@gmail.com](mailto:waterfordtownship@gmail.com)**



### FOR YOUR NEXT SOCIAL EVENT

Sciota Township has graciously extended an invitation to **Waterford Township residents** to rent Sciota Town Hall for your next shower, graduation, birthday, anniversary, family reunion, meeting, etc.

For information and/or reservations, please call Heidi VanDeSteege, Sciota Town Clerk at 507-645-8195. Leave a message – she will return your call.



### 1882 WATERFORD SCHOOL BUILDING MOVED 07/29/23

Xcel Energy, State Troopers, Northfield Police & Otting Movers managed a move of the 1882 Waterford School Building (a.k.a. Waterford Town Hall). The move started shortly before midnight on July 29th and ended at the Rice County Steam & Gas location on south State Highway 3 just before 6:00 a.m. on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Tour the school building on 8/30/24 & 8/31/24 at the building's new location.

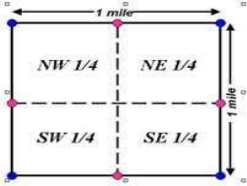


### UPDATE FROM DAKOTA COUNTY

Kevin Krech, PE–Design Engineer wrote: "I am writing to inform the township that the construction of the Northfield Boulevard resurfacing project will be **rescheduled for summer of 2025**. The current condition of the pavement is sufficient to withstand another year of traffic and continues to provide an acceptable ride surface for drivers. We will be spending more time assessing the environmental impacts (wetlands) to remove roadside obstacles such old cattle passes and guardrail".

# Waterford Township Newsletter

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### “BUILDABLE SITES” DATABASE & MAPS JUST ARRIVED

The long-awaited electronic “Section by Section Database” of the 15 sections of the Township has just arrived.

The Township applied for & received a \$14,500 grant from the Dakota County Community Development Block Grant Program to hire Planners at WSB to build a map database (95 MB) of all sections and an Excel parcel information database (1 MB) both of which are updatable.

#### PLANNER’S DATABASE DEVELOPMENT

The WSB Planners built the database from records at Dakota County plus GIS information such as wetlands, floodplains, waterways, etc. In each record are fields that define and explain the number of buildable sites. Multiple factors are used to determine whether a parcel has a buildable site available. A few, but not all factors include: wetland, floodplain, too small to develop, farmland easement, natural area easement, shoreland zoning boundary.

#### HEAVY LIFTING BEGINS

Before the database & maps are ready for decision making and the public, the Zoning Administrator (Town Clerk), Planning Commission (PC) & Town Board will review every section, one section at a time to ensure past Board actions have all been recorded at the County and in the database. Work begins in May 2024.

**PROPERTY OWNER NOTIFICATION:** Property owners, within a section, will be notified and invited to attend the Work Session that will review the section in which they own property. Parcel owner documents and Township records will be used to make a determination of buildable site rights should there be a question.

#### FUTURE ZONING REVIEWS

The buildable sites database will be used by the Zoning Administrator when preparing a Zoning Review for Planning Commission & Board action.

Following Board approval, the database will be updated by the Zoning Administrator.

#### RECORDS MANAGEMENT

- The original electronic database & maps are stored on the “cloud” as a historic record.
- A duplicate copy will be managed and updated by the Zoning Administrator (Town Clerk).
- The Zoning Administrator will update the database as required due to death, sale, zoning ordinance changes, property splits, IUP, CUP etc.



### “2023 DUMPSTER DAY SUCCESS”

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sciota & Waterford Dumpster Day was a success thanks to volunteers, grant money and recycling/landfill fees collected from participants. The event, for a second time, broke even.

- **Dakota County** paid for the advertising, hauling & recycling of the tires, scrap metal & cardboard.
- **“Dumpster Day Heros”** contributed the required grant “in-kind” hours during the four-hour event.
  - **Sciota Heros:** Heidi, Tony, Lyndsey, Kaitlyn, Brandon VanDeSteege; Duane Ness & his multi-purpose tractor; Randy Volkert & his tractor with loader
  - **Waterford:** Steve & Elizabeth Wheeler

DUMPSTER DAY STATISTICS			
DESCRIPTIONS	2022	2023	2024
Sciota Residence	21	20	???
Waterford Residents	22	24	???
Sciota Volunteers	7	7	???
Waterford Volunteers	3	2	???
In-Kind Volunteer Value	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	???
Dakota Cty Grant \$	\$ 962.89	\$ 1,494.00	???
Recycle/Landfill Fees	\$ 780.00	\$ 1,482.00	???
Mattresses	None	4	???
Scrap Metals Dumpster	1	1	???
Tires	124	146	???
Appliances	7	28	???
Electronics	22	8	???
Roll Off Dumpsters for Trash-Debris-Junk	2	4	???

### DUMPSTER DAY 2024

**DATE:** TBD – a Saturday in July or August

**ADD:** **Document Shredding – “FREE”**

**If you would like FREE” document shredding** at the Dumpster Day event – let the Town Clerks know by an email to either [sciotatownship@gmail.com](mailto:sciotatownship@gmail.com) or [waterfordtownship@gmail.com](mailto:waterfordtownship@gmail.com) or call the Clerks.

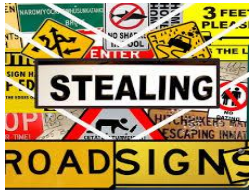
**Note:** Town Clerk makes every effort to ensure accuracy in the Newsletter but makes no claims, promises, or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the contents & expressly refuses liability for errors & omissions in the contents.

**Note:** *MN State Statutes are cited but not transcribed word for word due to space constraints.* Printing segments or paraphrasing or summarizing the Statute is in no way intended to mislead anyone but to allow the reader to look up the exact wording for further clarity and/or understanding, if they so choose.

Town Clerk requests respectful feedback on the Newsletter to ensure it meets the needs of the recipients. Email [waterfordtownship@gmail.com](mailto:waterfordtownship@gmail.com) or call 651-346-8467. Newsletter Editor & Publisher – Town Clerk Elizabeth Wheeler

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### BUSTED BUDGET LINE ITEM – AGAIN!!

**FACT:** Road signs are a costly item that taxpayers pay for in their property taxes. The cost of one traffic sign can be upwards of \$600 per sign, depending upon the staging, hardware, sign & labor costs. The Road Steward, due to liability, no longer volunteers to replace road signs only at the cost of the signs.

**2022 & 2023:** For the last two years, repetitive stealing of road signs along Canada Avenue, 320<sup>th</sup> & Barnard has busted the “road signs budget line item”.

**Example:** In the past two years the street sign on 320<sup>th</sup> & Barnard has been stolen three times (twice within 8 days of each installation). Bridge & culvert reflectors (8 signs each time) have been stolen twice. Other signs in that area that have been stolen at least twice, including the narrow bridge, 20 mph curve and double arrow signs.

In 2023, when the signs disappeared for at least the second time, a decision was made due to lack of budget, to not replace the signs until the 2024 budget. The signs will be replaced in 2024 until the sign line item in the budget is exhausted – again!

The Dakota County Sheriff will be made aware when the new signs are installed and asked to patrol the area. Whomever is stealing the signs may not realize that MN State Statute 169.08 Traffic Regulations states: “it is unlawful to possess, alter, deface, injure, knock down, or remove signs”.



### “NOT EXTRA – NOT FREE”

This spring/summer Waterford Township will be in its FIFTH year of rehabbing the gravel roads. Each year during the rehab process, it is either reported or observed that gravel, along the sides of a rehab road, has been removed.

Please note that gravel along the sides of a rehabbed roads (or any road) is not “extra” nor “free” for the taking. In fact, **taking the loose gravel is stealing from the Township taxpayers**, per Town Attorney. During maintenance grading the loose gravel is pulled from the sides and re-incorporated in the road surface.

Approximately three months after an initial rehab, the rehabbed road is graded mixing the loose gravel at the sides of the road back into the road surface re-establishing the crown followed by a 2<sup>nd</sup> coat of chloride to finish the rehab.



### HAULING & DISPOSAL BUDGET LINE ITEM SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE

Within a five day period “dumping” occurred on Canada Avenue in late December costing taxpayers **\$996.19** because the Road Steward was out of state and unable to volunteer to pick up the mattresses, T.V., couches, chairs, trash, etc. The Township had to hire the cleanup, hauling, and recycling. The Clerk reported these incidents to the Sheriff along with pictures, and requested additional patrols.

Dakota County Sheriff Richard Schroeder responded *“we highly recommend if your residents witness a dumping to call 911 asap”*. Schroeder stated *“we patrol a very large area and we cannot be everywhere at once which is why we rely on tip information. If they can safely grab a plate number and a description of the vehicle that is also very helpful, but we do not encourage citizens to engage suspicious behavior, please leave that piece up to us”*.

**Sheriff’s response to reported dumping:** someone drove by as the Road Steward was disassembling a lift chair near the 1909 bridge to load it in his pickup truck. The person took a picture of the truck license & reported it to the Sheriff. A couple of hours later, a Deputy arrived at the Road Steward’s residence to investigate the “dumping” incident. Wheeler was able to prove he was the Road Steward – no citation was issued.

A **“special thanks”** to whomever reported what they thought was “illegal dumping”. The Township needs more **“see something, say something”** to help curb dumping.

A side benefit to the Road Steward getting reported as an “illegal dumper”, was the suggestion by the Deputy to have magnetic placards made for his truck identifying him as doing Township business.

For the last four years, the Road Steward, using his own truck/trailer has voluntarily picked up tires (27 at one time), a piano, exercise equipment, lift chair, trash, hot tub, toilets, couches, chairs, old furniture, electronics, appliances, mattresses, hazardous waste, etc. and hauled it to one of four locations.

Had the Road Steward been out of state for these various dumping events, the Township would have had to hire the ditch clean-up, hauling & recycling.

The 2025 Trash PU & Disposal line item will be increased 500% to manage the increased costs associated with “dumping” activity. The line item for 2024 is \$400. The \$995.19 invoice & a new invoice from a couch dump, will exceed funds thus the shortfall will need to be coded to non-levy funds.

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### FIRE PROTECTION 37.5% INCREASE

#### TWO FIRE DISTRICTS

- NAFRS – Northfield Area Fire & Rescue Service
- RAN/HAM – Randolph/Hampton Fire District

#### 37.5% NAFRS INCREASE – HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?

NAFRS is at a disadvantage in that they are not a “Taxing District”, thus their fire trucks, when they need replacement, must be bought with cash. The Pumper Truck, that was responsible for this year’s substantial increase was \$1 million+ according to NAFRS budget.

If NAFRS was a “Taxing District”, they could “bond” for their fire trucks over a period of up to 20 years, thus the members of NAFRS (Cities of Dundas and Northfield plus 7 Townships) would experience more reasonable increases.

YEAR	INCREASE	NAFRS OPERATIONS & CAPITAL EXPENDITURES
2023	6.7%	Full Time Chief, training, Operational Costs
2024	37.5%	Replace old Pumper Truck
2025	unknown	Replace old Tanker Truck plus increase in operations
2026	unknown	Rescue Boat

#### 37.5% INCREASE CAUSES TWO TOWNSHIP ISSUES

- Cashflow for Fund 250 (Fire)
  - Tax revenues are received in July & December.
  - Invoices are due in April (60%) & October (40%)
  - The Fund 250 balance must have enough money to pay the April invoices.
- 2024 Levy is short by \$3,897.37 – see below.

YEAR	NAFRS	RAN/HAM	Annual	Levied
2022	\$14,610.00	\$6,604.13	\$ 21,214.13	\$ 21,600.00
2023	\$15,840.00	\$6,604.13	\$ 22,444.13	\$ 23,000.00
2024	\$21,429.00	\$7,000.37	<b>\$ 28,429.37</b>	<b>\$24,532.00</b>

#### TOWNSHIP MANAGES THE UNEXPECTED

- NAFRS was established in September 2014. Since then, the annual increases were moderate as the chart below illustrates. The Township’s 2024 levy of \$23,000 for Fire Service, in normal circumstances would have been adequate. It wasn’t, with a 37.5% increase, it was short by \$3,897.37.

YEAR	COST	% Increase
2017	\$ 13,300	6.7%
2018	\$ 13,300	0.0%
2019	\$ 13,300	0.0%
2020	\$ 13,495	1.5%
2021	\$ 13,495	0.0%
2022	\$ 14,610	8.3%
2023	\$ 15,584	6.7%
2024	\$ 21,429	37.5%

- Managing the shortfall started back in February 2022 when the Town Board, by resolution, approved Fund 250 (Fire) with reserves to manage cashflow and the unexpected.



### LOWERING THE LEVY FOR THE THIRD YEAR

Following a six-year audit of the Township’s accounting system (CTAS) and utilizing the Clerk’s minutes, the Board adopted (02/14/22) the findings of the audit along with the establishment of funds and protocols necessary to gain and maintain financial stability into the future.

At the March 2022 Annual Meeting, the Town Clerk & Treasurer introduced a plan to lower the levy. (see the 2022 Annual Meeting on website under NEWS) If what is forecasted to happen, happens & nothing unforeseen happens, the Township should be able to lower the levy annually for an estimated four years while maintaining financial stability.

The protocols of the “lowering the levy” plan:

- Cannot short change roads, elections, or fire service as these are the core responsibilities of the Township.
- Remain focused and disciplined to reach and maintain financial stability.
- Manage stability by applying the 4 M’s (Manage core responsibilities, Maintain financial stability, Master financial policies/funds & be Mindful of a changing economy & global events).

The levy was reduced 4% for 2023 & 4% for 2024. The Clerk & Treasurer will recommend at the 2024 Annual Meeting that the 2025 levy be reduced by 4%. The decision will rest with the Electors & the Board.

**2022 & 2023:** As was stated at the Annual Meetings, “*should anything unexpected happen or not go as anticipated, the levy lowering plan would need to be halted & most likely taxes would need to be raised*”.

#### FINANCIAL PATH TO LEVY REDUCTION

2017	\$ 170,000	Financially not stable
2018	\$ 280,550	Start building reserves
2019	\$ 297,000	Road Steward develops 6-yr Road Rehab & Maint Plan - New Road Contractor
2020	\$ 311,000	1st Rehab - 1.3 miles Canada between CR 47 & State 19
2021	\$ 311,000	Stabilize Expenses: 2-3 yr contracts: contractor, lawn mowing, ditch mowing
2022	\$ 311,000	6 yr audit- funds & balances adopted 02/14/22 - CTAS Budget & Investments
2023	\$ 297,082	4% Reduction - bridge loan paid off - Well Agreement (costs paid by well users)
2024	\$ 285,199	4% Reduction -1882 building moved & rental agreement (reduced costs)
2025	\$ 273,791	4% Reduction -NAFRS Taxing District - eliminates NAFRS levy
2026	\$ 262,839	4% Reduction - 1909 Bridge becomes part of Mill Towns Trail

**2024 UPDATE:** Should the fire taxing district not become reality in 2026, and/or the historic bridge does not become part of the Mill Towns Trail in 2026, the need to halt the levy reduction plan and possibly raise the levy will be necessary.

# Waterford Township Newsletter

## FEBRUARY 2024



### VILLAGE DRAINAGE PROJECT

Thanks to ARPA Fund, Village Fund & Non-Levy Fund

During the summer of 2018 & 2019 the condition of the village roads (flat, no gravel, no crown) required grading everytime it rained. Standing water, pot holes, gullies and washouts were worsening. Culverts (lack of, deteriorating, buried and/or plugged) and ditches were ineffective.

Waterford contracted with Kimley Horn in 2020 to prepare a drainage report. The drainage project was scheduled for 2021 (replace culverts, install additional culverts, & re-shape the ditches). However, COVID halted the project. Delay. Delay.

The delays due to COVID gave the Township the opportunity to apply for & receive into FUND 219 **\$54,750.40** from the America Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for a COVID delayed infrastructure project.

Unfortunately, the supply chain recovery took time, but finally the project was scheduled for the fall of 2023. An informational meeting was held August 17<sup>th</sup> by the Road Steward with the property owners. But suddenly the culverts & aprons were on a backorder that put the project in jeopardy for 2023.

Wheeler reached out to Dakota County(DC). DC ordered the culverts/aprons through their vendor & delivered the culverts/aprons to the Village. The project was able to move forward. Kudos to DC!!!!!!

The 3-year delay due to COVID, the supply chain shortages, inflation & a vendor order mixup caused the project to become more costly than the original estimates in 2020 by approximately 24%.

- **52.5%** – Fund 219 – ARPA Fund.
- **27.7%** – Fund 224 – Village Fund. Following the 6-year audit, these funds were re-designated as funds to be used for cleaning up the building site once the Town Hall had been moved as well as funds for the Village Drainage project.
- **19.8%** – Fund 260 – Non-Levy Fund. This fund accumulates revenues that are not levied on the taxpayers: solar production tax, interest income, town aid, Market Value Credit, Ag-Preserve, etc. It is used for non-recurring costs, such as the COVID project delay.

INVOICES PAID	LABOR & SUPPLIES	DISTRIBUTION	FUND	DESC
\$ 79,900.00	Road Contractor	\$ 54,750.40	219	ARPA
\$ 20,575.75	Culvert & Aprons	\$ 25,149.60	224	Village
\$ 3,620.00	Change Order	\$ 20,575.75	260	Non-Levy
\$ 104,095.75	TOTAL	\$ 3,620.00	224	Village
		\$ 104,095.75	TOTAL	

Roads in the Village are scheduled for their “Road Rehab” in 2024, now that the drainage issues have been resolved.



### CROWN CRUST CONTROL

When the Road Steward volunteered to develop and manage a six-year road maintenance & road rehab plan in 2019, the frequent angry text & calls over the next three years were not printable.

Now five years later, many of the roads have been rehabbed and his phone is silent. The taxpayer’s investment in Road Rehabs has produced more drivable roads (less frustration), safer roads (no dust clouds & very few pot holes) with much less grading.

**CROWN:** It is important for gravel roads to have an adequate crown where the center of the road is higher than the edges. The crown is created when the road is rehabbed and causes rainwater to flow into the ditches rather than staying on the road surface (which softens the surface leading to ruts & potholes). Maintaining a crown requires spring, fall and occasional maintenance grading (usually weather caused) by a road contractor that has the equipment and is skilled at maintaining a crown.

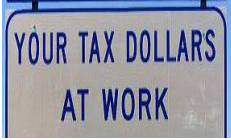
**CRUST:** Maintaining a good crown requires the use of chloride to stabilize and bind the aggregate into a hard relatively smooth surface (**crust**) through an initial compaction at the time of rehabbing followed by traffic compaction. Chloride attracts moisture from the air and its surroundings preventing the loss of gravel while also keeping the dust down. An untreated road loses “fines” in the form of dust at the rate of up to one ton per year per vehicle per mile of road. (<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/construction/pubs/ots15002.pdf> Page 79) These “fines” also help to bind the larger aggregate together. Without a chloride stabilized crust, a crown cannot be maintained, resulting in a flat road that doesn’t shed water. Rainwater then collects and softens the surface while vehicles create potholes and ruts.

**CONTROL:** The chloride level on a rehabbed road must be maintained. When a road is initially rehabbed in early summer, a “full” application of chloride is applied. In the fall, a second application at a lower rate is applied to “reinforce” the initial application. In the spring of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years after the rehab, a “full” rate is applied. Depending on the traffic volume of a road, the amount of chloride will be decreased to **maintain control** while reducing the cost.

**NOTE:** It is important to continue applying chloride to the roads, at an optimized rate (function & cost) to protect the rehab investment, maintain quality roads, prevent loss of “gravel” and minimize dust production.

# Waterford Township Newsletter

## FEBRUARY 2024



### ROAD REHAB & PROJECT SUMMARY 2020 THRU 2023

Below is a truncated progress report on the 6-year road rehab plan.

**2020 REHAB** – Canada Avenue (south) between State Hwy 19 & County Road 47 – 1.3 miles rehabbed

**2021 REHAB** – 300<sup>th</sup> between State Hwy #3 & Burma Avenue – 1 mile rehabbed

**2021 REHAB** – 290<sup>th</sup>, Danbury (between 290<sup>th</sup> & 297<sup>th</sup>) & 297<sup>th</sup> – 1.24 miles rehabbed

**2021 – CULVERT REPLACEMENT** – Canada Ave

**2022 REHAB** – 320<sup>th</sup> between Canada Ave & the town line – 1.4 miles rehabbed, 315<sup>th</sup> from SH 3 to town line – 0.72 miles rehabbed.

**2022 REHAB** – Dresden Ave between 315<sup>th</sup> & County Rd 96 – ½ mile rehabbed.

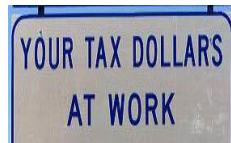
**2022 ASPHALT MAINTENANCE** – Dresden Ave between County Rd 96 & the township line – 1 mile crack fill.

**2023 – MINI REHAB** – Danbury Ave. north of 290<sup>th</sup> S., W to County Road 86 – necessary due to **“detour avoidance traffic”** caused by County Road 86 project.

**2023 – REHAB** – 300<sup>th</sup> between Burma Ave & Arkansas – 1.25 miles

**2023 – REHAB** – Burma Ave – 0.79 miles

**2023 – DRAINAGE-CULVERT REPLACEMENT** – Village Road(Colorado, Cornell, 321<sup>st</sup> St. & Upper 321<sup>st</sup> St.



### MINI ROAD REHAB STARTING 2026

The six-year road rehab plan will be finished in 2025.

Starting in 2026, the Township will protect their major road investments in Road Rehabs by performing a Mini Rehab on **high traffic volume** roads only!

1.3 miles of Canada Ave between Hwy 19 & Hwy 47 will receive a mini rehab in summer of 2026.

**More info on Mini Rehabs & traffic counts at Annual Meeting on March 12, 2024.**

Waterford Township Traffic Count Summary

Study Location	Days	Veh/Day
Canada Ave Just North of SH 19	13.13	353
Canada just south of CR 47 bridge	13.16	307
Canada Ave North of 313th		
300th Just East of TH 3	11.40	162
300th Just west of Arkansas Ave	14.62	62
290th Just West of Danbury Ave	13.94	118
290th Just West of Danbury Ave	17.19	238
290th Just West of Danbury Ave	14.88	185
297th (see 290th)		
320th St W East of Canada	13.00	114
Danbury Ave (south of 290th - see 290th)		
Danbury Ave (North of 290th)	12.14	63
Danbury Ave (North of 290th)	11.90	127
Danbury Ave (North of 290th)	17.99	114
Danbury Ave (North of 290th)	14.25	86
315th east of Barnard Ave	6.90	52
Barnard Ave (see 315th East)		52
313th @ CR 47	10.87	39
Dresden Ave - Asphalt		473
Burma Ave	14.00	110
Canada Ave north of CR 47		
Canada Ave north of 313th		
Canada Ave south of 300th		
315th St W west of TH 3	14.22	104
Dresden Ave - Gravel	13.99	104
Arkansas Ave - County Gravel	18.78	87
Arkansas Ave - County Gravel	13.99	72



### ROAD REHAB & PROJECT SUMMARY 2024 THRU 2025

**2024 – REHAB** – Canada Avenue (north) between County Rd 47 & 300<sup>th</sup> – 1.79 miles

**2024 – REHAB** – 313<sup>th</sup> St. between State Highway 3 & County Rd 47 – 1.38 miles

**2024 – REHAB** – Village Roads: Colorado, Cornell, 321<sup>st</sup> St., Upper 321<sup>st</sup> St. – total .67 miles

**2025 – REHAB** – 315<sup>th</sup> St. W. east of river .45 miles & Barnard Ave – .51 miles

**2025 – REHAB** – Danbury Ave. north of 290<sup>th</sup> St. W. to County Road 86 – 1.29 miles

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Official Ballot Judge _____ Judge _____	Town Election Ballot Town of Waterford March 12, 2024	Ballot ID: 2011 Waterford Township
To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●		
Town Offices Town of Waterford		
Town Supervisor Vote for One		
<input type="radio"/> Frank Wergin <input type="radio"/> John Fay		
Town Clerk Vote for One		
<input type="radio"/> Elizabeth C. Wheeler <input type="radio"/> John Fay		

Waterford Township