



BALDWIN TOWNSHIP

30239 128th Street, Princeton MN 55371

October 2013 Vol. 3 No. 16



Town of Baldwin
30239—128th Street, PO Box 25
Princeton, MN 55371
Office Hrs.
8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Mon– Wed and Fri
8:00 a.m.—6:30 p.m. Thursday
Closed Daily 12:00 noon—12:30 p.m.
Phone 763-389-8931 Fax: 763-389-2751
Email: baldwintwp2@qwestoffice.net

TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Jay Swanson, Chair—763-856-4201
Larry Handshoe—763-389-3195
Tom Rush—763-389-8931
Kimberly Good—763-856-3061
Randy Atwood—763-856-5722

CLERK/TREASURER

Cathy Stevens—763-389-8931
Cheryl Dobson, Deputy Clerk—
763-389-8931

ANIMAL CONTROL

Craig Hilburn—612-501-7814

FIRE STATION

****EMERGENCY DIAL 911****
Mike Rademacher, Fire Chief—
763-350-0378

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT
763-389-0036

SHERBURNE COUNTY WEB SITE:

www.co.sherburne.mn.us

BALDWIN TOWNSHIP WEB SITE:

Approved Town Board meeting minutes
can be found at
<http://baldwintownship.govoffice.com>

**Burning Permits at the town hall or
online at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us>.
burningpermits**

WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE SNOW PLOWING AND ICE CONTROL

Winter road maintenance is one of the most important duties of the public works department. Providing the best service and the utmost safety to the public will always be the first consideration. As important is the safety of the snowplow operators. Although winter weather will always be unpredictable, every effort will be made to provide a consistent and high level of service.

In November of 2009 the Township of Baldwin adopted a snow and ice control policy. The policy set guidelines for snowplow operators to follow while performing winter road maintenance. Responsibilities of residents were also outlined in the policy. Prior to the winter season each year the snow and ice control policy will be reviewed and recommendations will be made for the Township to consider.

Go to <http://baldwintownship.govoffice.com/ordiances> for complete information.

CHILD SAFETY FIRST: Do not allow children to build snow forts in the cul-de-sacs or road right-of-way.

Just a Reminder

Per Minnesota Statute 160.2715a1, it is unlawful to push or plow snow into or across any public road. When clearing snow from your driveways, snow must be directed on to your own property. Exercise caution in following or approaching plow trucks. Snowplows are not as maneuverable as smaller vehicles.

Any motor vehicle left on any roadway or road right-of-way in the Township that impedes the performance of the Township snowplow efforts shall be dealt with under the provisions of Baldwin Township policies. Your vehicle will be towed at the owner's expense.

Roads are plowed when snow accumulation reaches 2".

Try to keep garbage cans off the road surface to enable the snowplows to get through more effectively.

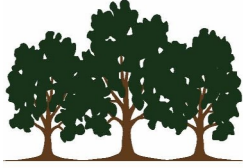
RESPONSIBILITY OF RESIDENTS

Snowstorms create numerous problems and inconveniences. The residents will also have certain responsibilities. These include clearing their own driveways, clearing areas for trashcans, clearing around mailboxes, and newspaper delivery tubes. These areas should be cleared without depositing any snow into the street. There also must not be any large piles, which obstruct vision of driveways. Trash cans must not be placed on the street surfaces. The Township will not clear private drives.



Baldwin Township Maintenance Department has a new hire in Gary Kubiszewski. Gary's expertise with working and repairing anything and everything with a small engine has been a valuable asset to the Township.

Gary loves fishing and camping as well as spending time with his family. He also likes old cars, and going to auctions and swap meets.



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30239 128th Street, Princeton MN 55371

U.S POSTAGE
PAID
Princeton, MN
PERMIT NO. 30
Zip Code 55371

Return Service Requested

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Unless otherwise noted, all meetings start at 7:00 p.m.)

- Oct 7 Town Board Reg Mtg
- Oct 10 Planning Commission Mtg
- Oct 15 Town Board Reg Mtg
- Oct 17 Park Committee Mtg
- Oct 21 Baldwin Volunteer Corps Mtg
- Nov 11 **VETERANS DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)**
- Nov 4 Town Board Reg Mtg
- Nov 14 Planning Commission Mtg
- Nov 18 Baldwin Volunteer Corps Mtg
- Nov 19 Town Board Reg Mtg
- Nov 21 Park Committee Mtg
- Nov 28 **THANKSGIVING (OFFICE CLOSED)**
- Dec 2 Town Board Reg Mtg
- Dec 12 Planning Commission Mtg
- Dec 17 Town Board Reg Mtg
- Dec 19 Park Committee Mtg
- Dec 23 Baldwin Volunteer Corps Mtg
- Dec 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)**

LET'S GO GREEN!

To save money on paper and postage

If you send a message to cheryl.dobson30239@gmail.com, we will have your email address for the green edition of the newsletter.



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
ISO RATING IMPROVES**

Good news for Baldwin residents! The Baldwin Fire Department's ISO rating has improved from a 9 to a 7. The new rating becomes effective December 1. The rating change could affect property insurance rates because of the better rating so residents are urged to contact their insurance companies to see if their insurance rates could be reduced. Three main areas are considered as part of the rating: fire department staffing and equipment, community water supply, and the dispatch system. The ISO maintains that there should be a financial benefit to communities that invest in their local fire departments.

October 14th will be the Fire Department's Open House.

Welcome aboard to Jay Johnson, Jake McGlynn and Joe Hodge.

Plans are also being made to completely outfit all firefighters by the end of the next year as well as replacing helmets since they are no longer NFPA compliant. Turnout gear will cost about \$1700 per set.

If you're a local business and would like to be featured in our next newsletter, please contact us.

AJ's BARK AVENUE
PET GROOMING
30209 116th St. • Princeton, MN 55371
(763) 389-1363
www.ajsbarkavenue.com

AJ's Bark Avenue is a professional grooming salon located 2 miles south of Princeton off County Road 38 near Young Park. We've been grooming all breeds in the surrounding area for the past 12 years. Check out our website or call us to set up your next grooming appointment.

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE FUTURE OF
BALDWIN TOWNSHIP?**

Be a member of the

BALDWIN VOLUNTEER CORPS.

Meetings are at the Baldwin Town Hall.
Check the online calendar for dates and time.

The Baldwin Township newsletter is a quarterly publication



Status of Comprehensive Plan

The Baldwin Township Planning Commission has been in the process of final completion on the Research portion of the Comprehensive Plan and beginning on the Goals and Action Plans for each section. What this means is that they are looking at their research and preparing ideas that will get the Township to a better place in the future. While strategic long term planning is done in conjunction with the Township Board of Supervisors, the Plan is a guide to help everyone to see where the Township might go to become a better place to live and work.

On the 21st of September, 2013 the Baldwin Funfest will be held at Young Park. By the time you receive this newsletter, the event will have happened. The Planning Commission had a booth at the Funfest and it is hoped that you had a chance to go over and talk to the Commissioners present and visit with them about your ideas for the future. Mapping and draft research materials were on hand to review and comment. Your comments were appreciated on what has been done so far and will be considered for the Plan working sections.

If you did not get to the Funfest, then you will have another opportunity to give your comments. The Baldwin Town Board recently authorized a mail survey to go out to the households in the Township by mail. There have been many surveys done, both in house and by different means. Past surveys were done in 2005, 2008, 2009 and 2011. The Planning Commission is determining what questions will be in the survey. In October, the final survey will be put together and sent out. It is hoped that the community will give the Planning Commission valuable information on how they feel today and what they see for the Township's future. While these also give the Commission insight, this will be one of the most thorough and largest surveys done to date. When it comes to you, please take the time to fill it out and return it immediately in the self-addressed stamped envelope. Once it is returned, the Planning Commission will review the final answers.

Finally, the Baldwin Planning Commission will continue to move forward with their work in the next months and year. The finished Plan will be a dynamic Plan and will not be placed on the shelf to gather dust. There are Action Plans that will go forward and be implemented and the Commission's role will be to work closely to give recommendations to the Town Board as they move the Township forward into the future. This is a new period for Baldwin. The Town Board, through and with the Planning Commission, has the best interests of Baldwin Township residents in mind.

If you wish to see the Planning Commission or want to give your comments to them, they are listed on the website and they meet monthly on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Baldwin Town Hall. We would love to see you. ALL meetings are open to the public, so feel free to attend any of them!



BALDWIN FUNFEST 2013



Looking for toys in the straw



Officer K-9 Axel Demonstration



Henry admiring the trucks



Hayrides

With events to please everyone, and unseasonably warm autumn weather, 200 plus people gathered throughout the afternoon to enjoy FunFest 2013 at Baldwin's Young Park. Kermit and Margritte Young, for whom the park is named, donated the park's 80 acres in 2004 to the township to be used as a community gathering place for recreational and wildlife purposes to be enjoyed by the citizens of Baldwin Township.

Activities began at noon with games for the kids, a clown, hayrides, music, food, vendors and demonstrations. The Baldwin Planning Commission had a booth to talk about it's Comprehensive Plan, Connexus Energy put on a demonstration, the Sherburne County Command Center was present, and the North Memorial helicopter landed in the field.

Many thanks go out to all those who helped make this event possible. If you are interested in being a part of a group of volunteers that is helping build a sense of community in Baldwin Township, please call or email the township office for more information.



Minnow Races



Mounted Police



Planning Commissioner Rich Harris



Margee the Clown and Facepainting



Nick Swanz and his steam engine



Jay Swanson, Lester Kriesel, Terry Carlile and Dick Dobson

Thank you to everyone who made the Baldwin FunFest 2013 a huge success. *Initiative Foundation * North Memorial * Baldwin Maintenance Department * Anita Lanz * Becky Clark * Carol Ossell * Debbie Hoelt * Dick and Cathy Hoheisel * Emily Misiura * Baldwin Township Fire Department * George Claussen * Helen Sanford * Jarod Schriefels * Jeff Lueck * Jon and Polly Smith * Karen Kunz * Lawrence Swanz * DenMark Music * Margee Berglund * Marv's Minnows * Marv's True Value * Mary Palmer * Sherburne County Mounted Police * Sheila Vanhooser * Sherburne County Command Center * Officer K-9 Axel * Baldwin Township Volunteer Corps and Staff *