

Happy
New Year



BALDWIN TOWNSHIP

January 2024

Town of Baldwin
30239 128th Street NW
Baldwin Township, MN 55371

Office Hours
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mon—Fri

Phone 763-389-8931
Email:
town.clerk@baldwintwpmn.com

TOWNSHIP BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS

Jay Swanson, Chair —763-631-8545
Tom Rush, Vice Chair—763-389-8931
Bryan Lawrence—763-389-8931
Scott Case—763-350-0374
Jeff Holm—763-389-8931

CLERK / TREASURER

Joan Heinen—Clerk/Treasurer
763-389-8931
Julia Pettitt—Deputy Clerk/Treasurer
763-389-8931

FIRE STATION

****EMERGENCY DIAL 911****
Scott Case, Fire Chief
763-350-0374

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Zachary Good, Supervisor
763-389-8931

BALDWIN TOWNSHIP WEBSITE:
www.baldwintwpmn.com

**Burning Permits at the town hall or
online at www.dnr.state.mn.us.**

Calendar of Events for 2024 (unless otherwise noted all meetings start at 7:00 p.m.)

January 1	New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED
January 8	Town Board Meeting
January 15	Martin Luther King Day OFFICE CLOSED
January 17	Special Planning Commission Meeting
January 18	Park Committee Meeting
January 22	Town Board Meeting
January 24	Planning Commission Meeting
February 5	Town Board Meeting
February 15	Park Committee Meeting
February 19	President's Day OFFICE CLOSED
February 21	Special Planning Commission Meeting
February 26	Town Board Meeting
February 28	Planning Commission Meeting
March 5	Presidential Nomination Primary Election
March 12	Township Election / Annual Meeting
March 18	Town Board Meeting
March 20	Special Planning Commission Meeting
March 21	Park Committee Meeting
March 27	Planning Commission Meeting
April 1	Town Board Meeting
April 15	Town Board Meeting
April 17	Special Planning Commission Meeting
April 18	Park Committee Meeting
April 24	Planning Commission Meeting

Mark your calendars for the 2024 Elections!

Presidential Nomination Election — March 5th, 2024

Township Election — March 12th, 2024

Presidential Primary Election — August 13th, 2024

General Election — November 5th, 2024



TOWNSHIP ELECTION IS MARCH 12th, 2024

Polls open at 10:00 a.m. and close at
8:00 p.m.

Precinct 1 and 2 will be combined

Voting will be held in the Town Hall

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Supervisor "A" - 3-year term

Supervisor "E" - 3-year term



BALDWIN TOWNSHIPS ANNUAL MEETING IS MARCH 12th, 2024 STARTING AT 8:01 P.M.

Why You Should Attend!

- Learn how the 2025 Levy is proposed to be spent
- Electors approve the proposed Levy. The levy is certified to Sherburne County

Benefits of Incorporation for Baldwin Township

The Baldwin Township Board passed Resolution 23-44 on December 4th, 2023, instructing our Legal Firm, Couri & Ruppe, to petition the State for the Incorporation of Baldwin Township.

- Significant increase in state aid money. A large portion of that funding can be used for street reconstruction projects which must be completed whether or not incorporation occurs.
- The City will have greater economic development powers allowing the City to attract more industrial tax base and jobs.
- Baldwin's borders will be more certain as annexations will become very rare giving Baldwin greater economic stability.
- Incorporation will allow Baldwin to remain intact as a community and maintain the services that it currently provides.
- Allows Baldwin's residents to control their own destiny.
- Incorporation will solidify the Township's borders, allowing the Township to engage in efficient long-range planning for future infrastructure, matching costs to the properties that will use these future improvements and services.

Lester W. Kriesel

We would like to introduce you to Lester W. Kriesel, a very upbeat, funny and interesting man who has served Baldwin Township in various capacities. Lester was born at high noon in Baldwin Township, just one mile east of the Baldwin Cemetery. He has lived here for over 31 years. In his youth, he worked in farming until he joined the Air Force in 1951 where he served in the Korean War flying 24 missions as a tail gunner on a Boeing B-29. He served in the Air Force for 4 years. When he was discharged from the military, he lived in Zimmerman until he purchased his parents home in Baldwin Township. He married, had three children and worked at Hoffman Engineering for 30 years. Among his many hobbies are tinkering with tractors and riding motorcycles.

Lester began his service for Baldwin Township as a Town Board Supervisor in 1975, serving over 20 years. At that time there were only three supervisors on the Board and approximately 500 people in the township. During his time on the Board, Lester witnessed a lot of growth in our communities population, largely due to the sale of farmlands to developers. With that growth came the need for increased road and community improvements. Around 1999, Lester became the Baldwin Township Cemetery sexton. His grandfather before him was the Cemetery Sexton for about 10 years; so, there isn't much Lester does not know about the cemetery. According to Lester, one interesting fact is that our cemetery has Civil War veterans buried there!

We asked Lester to tell us what being a Cemetery Sexton involved. Before going through all his duties, he explained the difference between the words cemetery and graveyard. Although used interchangeable, a cemetery refers to burial grounds not associated with a church, whereas a graveyard refers to burial grounds located on church property. He explained he is responsible for organizing burial needs, coordinating with the funeral homes regarding arrival times, verifying dimensions of monuments, ensuring compliance with appropriate cemetery rules and regulations, maintaining records of burials, interments, gravesite purchases, marking for monument placements, as well as updating the cemetery map. As evidenced by the above, the duties of a Cemetery Sexton are wide-ranging!

Baldwin Township's Cemetery is located on the southeast corner of County Road 38 and County Road 19. The first part of the cemetery was donated to the township in 1876, and the second part was purchased in 1900. There is approximately 1,400 gravesites, with 94 still available for purchase. Lester has also worked with the parks system for over 30 years.



He currently serves on the Park Committee which makes recommendations to the Town Board regarding new recreational needs in the Township. Lester worked on the planning and development of Young Park and is presently working on the Goose Lake Park and trail.

When asked what some of the biggest changes he has seen over the years, he said it was the townships population growth and road improvements. Lester stated that township roads were once all gravel and snowplowed with a horse and buggy!

At 92 years old, Lester continues to serve the residents of Baldwin Township with no signs of slowing down. Thank you Lester, for your dedication and service to Baldwin Township!

ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED FOR THE 2024 ELECTIONS

Baldwin Township is looking for Election Judges for the upcoming 2024 elections. Each polling place is staffed on Election Day with citizens who serve as Election Judges, carrying out election procedures.

Before serving for an election, Election Judges must complete at least two hours of training which is provided through Sherburne County. This training needs to be completed every two years.

The Township pays Election Judges \$18 an hour to attend the training sessions and perform Election Day duties. Head Judges receive \$20 an hour for Election Day duties.

Becoming an Election Judge is a great way to serve your community and protect voters' rights.

If you are interested in serving as an Election Judge, you will find an application on the Baldwin Township website at www.baldwintwpmn.com or at the Town Hall. If you have any questions about becoming an Election Judge, please call Baldwin Township Hall at 763-389-8931.

Baldwin Townships Winter Parking Ordinance Is In Effect!

With the winter season upon us, having clean and safe roads is even more important during this time. To help ensure that our Township roads are plowed both safely and well, Baldwin Township's Ordinance No. 110, Section 6 requires that **"no vehicle shall be parked upon any public roads, boulevards, ditches, and rights-of-way in the Town between November 1 through April 30, including and not limited to Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays."**



BALDWIN TOWNSHIP SNOWPLOWING AND ICE CONTROL POLICY

Snow removal and/or ice control operations will begin under the direction of the Town Board and/or designated representative. Operations will begin when **two or more inches** of snow have fallen. It is the intent of the Township to complete plowing, widening and sanding operations within 48 hours of the time the snowfall ceases. Operations may be suspended during periods of limited or zero visibility.

First Priority Priority routes, high volume intersections, hills and curves

Second Priority Stop intersections, moderate volume intersections

Third Priority Residential intersections

PROPERTY DAMAGE The Township will not be responsible for any of the following damage occurring during the normal course of snow removal from Township roads: 1) mailboxes or fences damaged by thrown snow or from improperly placed mailboxes per Postmaster policy; and 2) landscaping or objects within the Township road right-of-way.

RESPONSIBILITY OF RESIDENTS Responsibilities 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.

Residents are reminded that it is against the law to plow snow from your driveway across a public road. (Minnesota Statute 160.2715 RIGHT-OF-WAY USE; MISDEMEANORS)