



CITY OF BALDWIN

30239 128th Street NW, Baldwin, MN 55371

NEWSLETTER

City of Baldwin
30239 128th Street NW
Baldwin, MN 55371

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Closed for Lunch: 12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Phone: 763-389-8931

Email: city.clerk@baldwinmn.gov

CITY COUNCIL

Jay Swanson, Mayor - 763-631-8545
mayor@baldwinmn.gov
Jeff Holm - 763-389-8931
CouncilmemberA@baldwinmn.gov
Scott Case - 763-389-8931
councilmemberB@baldwinmn.gov
Alan Walker - 763-389-8931
councilmemberC@baldwinmn.gov
Tom Rush - 763-389-8931
councilmemberD@baldwinmn.gov

CITY CLERK / TREASURER

Joan Heinen—Clerk/Treasurer
Kayla Nielsen—Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

FIRE STATION

****EMERGENCY DIAL 911****

Robin Fischer Fire Chief -763-350-0374

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Zachary Good, Supervisor
Phil Fadden, Maintenance Technician
Josh Wergin, Maintenance Technician

CITY OF BALDWIN WEBSITE:

www.baldwinmn.gov

CITY OF BALDWIN FACEBOOK:

[www.facebook.com/
CityofBaldwinMinnesota](http://www.facebook.com/CityofBaldwinMinnesota)

July - September 2026

Calendar of Events for 2026

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

July 1	City Council Meeting
July 3	Observance of Independence Day - OFFICE CLOSED
July 8	Special Planning Commission Meeting
July 13	City Council Budget Meeting
July 14	Filing Period Opens 8 am
July 15	City Council Meeting
July 15 & 16	Baldwin Fire Garage Sale 8 am - 5 pm
July 16	Park Committee Meeting
July 17	Baldwin Fire Garage Sale 8am - 12pm
July 22	Planning Commission Meeting
July 28	Filing Period Ends 5 pm
August 4	National Night Out 6 pm - 8:30 pm
August 5	City Council Meeting
August 11	Primary Election
August 12	Special Planning Commission Meeting
August 19	City Council Meeting
August 20	Park Committee Meeting
August 26	Planning Commission Meeting
August 29	Baldwin Fire Dance 8 pm - 12 am
September 2	City Council Meeting
September 7	Labor Day - OFFICE CLOSED
September 9	Special Planning Commission Meeting
September 12	Baldwin Fire Open House 11am - 3pm
September 16	City Council Meeting
September 17	Park Committee Meeting
September 19	Baldwin FunFest 11 am - 3 pm
September 23	Planning Commission Meeting

COUNCIL CORNER

A Story about Kermit and Margritte Young - By Council Member Jeff Holm

Many Baldwin residents are familiar with Young Park, named after Kermit Young, who donated the land in 2005. Kermit and his wife, Margritte, purchased their 80-acre homestead from his parents, William and Cora Young, along with an additional 120-acre tract. They farmed the land and enjoyed daily walks, cross-country skiing, and hunting—especially around what the family called the “Big Pond,” a tradition that continues today.

During the platting process of the 120-acre tract, it was discovered that the Big Pond was classified by the Minnesota DNR as unnamed lake #71003400, a “natural environment” lake. These lakes are typically shallow and marshy, with stricter development setbacks. When I jokingly told Kermit it was officially a lake and suggested naming it, he quickly replied, “Lake Margritte.” What began as a joke soon became a mission.

The naming process required a petition with at least 15 county signatures. I canvassed nearby residents and also sought support from the Baldwin Township Board. In January 2006, I presented the idea to honor Margritte Young, who passed away in 1998. The board approved the measure and later adopted a formal resolution recognizing her contributions, including her 40 years of service as a fire warden and her role in the community.

With the petition and resolution in place, I presented the request to the Sherburne County Board of Commissioners. With support from the Minnesota DNR, the proposal passed and was forwarded to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. By June 2006, Lake Margritte was officially recognized. It took time for maps to update, but today it can be found on Google Maps.

The lake is surrounded by private property with no public access, but it plays an important role in the ecosystem. It serves as a feeding and resting area for migrating waterfowl and is home to trumpeter swans, muskrats, and occasional loons. Bald eagles are also frequent visitors. This type of shallow lake adds valuable diversity to Baldwin’s wildlife and is worth protecting for future generations.

Kermit and Margritte lived remarkable lives. They farmed with horses, served as fire wardens for over 40 years, planted Norway pines, and raised Christmas trees. Margritte worked as a telephone operator in Princeton and shared her musical talents in the community. The couple welcomed neighbors to their home, especially during Halloween, and Kermit was known for taking nearly everyone fishing at least once.

Today, Young Park reflects their legacy. Its trails follow the paths they once walked, and it has become a place where families gather and memories are made. I enjoy seeing people use the park and recognizing its beauty in photos. My hope is that its popularity continues and Kermit’s vision is cherished for generations to come.

See Jeff’s entire article at
www.baldwinmn.gov/baldwin-city-newspaper/



RECOGNIZING LESTER KRIESEL

The City of Baldwin would like to thank Lester Kriesel for his dedication to Baldwin in various capacities for the last 50 years.

Lester began his service in 1975, serving for over 20 years as a Town Board Supervisor. At that time, there were only three supervisors on the Town Board and approximately 500 people in the township. During his time on the Town Board, Lester witnessed a lot of growth in our community's population. Lester became the Baldwin Township Cemetery Sexton on November 3, 1997, a role his grandfather held before him. Lester has been a faithful member of the Park Committee for the last 30 years and played a crucial role in the development of Young Park.

Lester is a man of many talents. In his youth, he worked on a farm until he joined the Air Force in 1951 where he served in the Korean War as a tail gunner on a Boeing B-29. He also served in the Air Force for 4 years. After

Lester was discharged from the military, he purchased his parents' home in Baldwin, got married, and had three children. He worked at Hoffman Engineering for 30 years. Lester loves to tinker with tractors and ride motorcycles.



On May 9, 2026, the City Council presented Lester with an Outstanding Public Service award. The award recognizes Lester's many years of dedicated service and exceptional commitment to Baldwin Township and the City of Baldwin.

Thank you Lester, for serving Baldwin with pride!

ELECTION JUDGES

Election Judges play a vital role in conducting voting activities for local, state, and federal elections. The City of Baldwin is looking for individuals to join this proud team working to ensure the election process is fair and in accordance with our laws.

To be an election judge, you must be:

- **Eligible to vote in Minnesota**
- **Able to read, write, and speak English**
- **Appointed by the City Council**

An election judge cannot be a candidate in the election or closely related to a candidate. Also, election judges cannot be closely related to another election judge in the same precinct.

Election judges are required to complete election judge paid training through the Sherburne County Auditor/Treasurer's Office.

If you are interested in serving as an election judge, you can find the Election Judge Application on the City's website at baldwinmn.gov, or by contacting the City Clerk/Treasurer Joan Heinen at 763-389-8931 or at city.clerk@baldwinmn.gov.



OPEN SEATS: MAYOR - 4 YEAR TERM CITY COUNCIL MEMBER (TWO SEATS) - 4 YEAR TERM

JULY 14 - JULY 28, 2026

CANDIDATE FILING PERIOD

Location and Hours for Filing:

Affidavits for Candidacy must be filed at Baldwin City Hall, located at 30239 128th Street NW, Baldwin, MN 55371, during regular business hours:

- Monday - Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Closed for lunch from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- On July 28, filings will be accepted until 5:00 p.m.

Filing Fee: A filing fee of \$2.00 is required at time of filing.

ORDINANCE SPOTLIGHT

Headwalls: Ordinance No. 100

Baldwin has adopted a Right-of-Way Ordinance for management of public rights-of-way and roadway easements within the City.

The Right-of-Way Ordinance establishes standards for construction of driveway access to properties off of public streets. These standards include the that the driveway be paved within the right-of-way or easement (the Zoning Ordinance establishes additional requirements), minimum and maximum width requirements for driveways, slope limits, and specifications for a culvert to maintain drainage through the ditch adjacent to public streets. A permit is required to construct a new driveway from a City street. Access from Sherburne County roads is subject to approval of the Sherburne County Highway Department.

Additionally, the Right-of-Way Ordinance prohibits placement of headwalls within the public right-of-way or roadway easement. Headwalls are small, decorative retaining walls placed on either side a driveway at the culvert ends. Headwalls are considered a hazardous obstruction for use of the public right-of-way or easement due to potential increased damages to vehicles leaving the public street or other right-of-way users, such as snowmobiles, that may collide with the structure.

Public Works staff will identify headwalls during regular roadway maintenance and inspections. Headwalls that are identified are subject to enforcement action to cause removal and restoration of the public right-of-way or roadway easements, including administrative fines or court orders.

Ordinances can be found at <https://baldwinmn.gov/ordinances/>.

Fences: Ordinance No. 900

The Baldwin Zoning Ordinance establishes regulations for fences constructed on properties within the City.

Construction of fences that are less than 7 feet in height require an administrative permit, whereas fences that are 7 feet in height or greater require a building permit for residential and business purposes. Qualifying farms are not required to obtain a fence permit.

Fences must be located entirely within property lines and property owners are be responsible for verifying the property lines. Fences located within drainage and utility easements require approval of the City Engineer and no fences are allowed in public rights-of-way or roadway easements.

Fences are required to be constructed of weather resistant materials with the “face” of the fence visible from outside of the enclosed property. Use of barbed wire or electric fences are only allowed for qualifying farm purposes, including for keeping of farm animals on residential properties as allowed by this ordinance, or for business security purposes.

Fences on residential properties are limited to a maximum height of 7 feet, whereas the maximum height for business uses is 12 feet. There are additional height and visibility requirements for fences in yards along public streets.

For more information regarding fence regulations or to obtain a permit application, visit the Planning and Zoning Department page of the City website at the link: <https://baldwinmn.gov/planning-and-zoning/>.

BALDWIN FIRE



To the citizens of the city of Baldwin and Blue Hill township, June 9, 2026, will mark the end of my fire service career. As a wide-eyed recruit at the St. Paul Fire academy to my last day as the Baldwin Fire chief, I have enjoyed the chance to help my fellow citizens and the on-going camaraderie of my fellow firefighters. I have seen many challenges to get through and thankfully made it through intact. While there are things yet unfinished, I will leave those to the ones who come after me. Having been in public safety for 40 years, I have seen things both good and bad that will stay with me for the rest of my life. I have had the pleasure of being the Baldwin Fire Chief for 9 plus years and know the firefighters I have led are well trained and dedicated to the welfare of the people they serve. Thank you for the honor of being your fire chief.

To my firefighters, stay safe and good luck.

Scott F. Case—Fire Chief (retired)

Family Clothes, Toys, Decor, Holiday Items, & More

**Baldwin Fire
Garage
Sale**

July 15 - 17th
Wed. & Thurs. 8 - 5 pm
Fri. 8 - 12 pm
30239 128th st nw Baldwin, MN 55371

Email:
baldwinfirefoundation@gmail.com

**All proceeds will benefit Baldwin Fire
Foundation & Relief Association**



★ TOGETHER, WE ★
★ BUILD A SAFER COMMUNITY ★

★ 2026 ★
NATIONAL
Night Out

★ POLICE • FIRE • COMMUNITY ★
★ STRONGER TOGETHER ★

HOSTED BY
BALDWIN FIRE
JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF COMMUNITY,
CONNECTION & FUN!

BALDWIN BFD
FIRE • RESCUE
2003

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS
TOUR FIRE TRUCKS & EQUIPMENT
CONNECT WITH LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS
FOOD, FUN & ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2026
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

BALDWIN FIRE DEPARTMENT
30239 128TH STREET NW
BALDWIN, MN 55371

BLUE HILL TOWNSHIP
32090 153RD ST NW
PRINCETON, MN 55371

★ LOCK YOUR DOORS. LIGHT YOUR PORCH. MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS. ★
Building a Stronger, Safer Baldwin—Together!

★ 2ND ANNUAL ★
BALDWIN
FIRE DANCE
FEATURING THE BAND
RHINO
SERVICE • COURAGE • COMMUNITY

21+ ONLY EVENT

BAR
CASH OR CARD

8PM – MIDNIGHT

The SMASHED COW FOOD TRUCK
A SPUD ABOVE FOOD TRUCK

GOOD MUSIC. GREAT PEOPLE. SUPPORT YOUR

★ **SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 2026** ★

PRE-SALE TICKETS \$10 | \$15 AT THE DOOR

BALDWIN
FIRE DEPARTMENT
OPEN HOUSE
Spend the afternoon with us!

Saturday September 12
11:00am – 3:00pm

Baldwin Fire Station
30239 128th St (County Rd 45)
Baldwin, MN

BALDWIN
FUNFEST
Let's Celebrate Our Community!

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026
11 AM – 3 PM
YOUNG PARK
— 11141 305th Ave NW —