



**Meetings & Events
@ Town Hall
(unless otherwise noted)**

Township Board*

1st Wed/month @ 7 p.m.
Next meeting Wed, 3/2

Township Board Annual Mtg*

3/8 @ 7 p.m. in person and
Zoom

Planning Commission*

2nd & last Mon/mth @ 9 a.m.
Zoom only

Advisory Committee*

Every Mon @ 9 a.m., Zoom only

***Meetings via Zoom and
open to the public**

MEETING ID:
841 1114 6136
PASSWORD: WabanaMtg2
or by phone 312-626-6799

Exercise

Tues & Fri /wk @ 10 a.m.
Join area residents for free
exercise and socializing

Cribbage

Every Tues @ 1 p.m. (for
experienced players) \$3 to play

Community Fund Meeting

5/2 @ 6:30 p.m.

**Note: Any changes to Meetings
and Events will be posted on the
website and at Town Hall.**

Wabana Warbler

A newsletter for residents of Wabana Township

Attend the Town Board Annual Meeting Tuesday, March 8 at 7 p.m.

Residents may participate in their township government at the Wabana Township Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 8 at 7 p.m. Pending approval by the board, the annual meeting will be held in person and by Zoom. At the annual meeting, permanent residents can vote on the recommended levy. At its prior budget meetings, the board discussed the budget and will consider the following recommended levy at the March 8 annual meeting:

General Fund	75,195
Road & Bridge.	42,300
Fire	33,240
Reserve	<u>0</u>
Total	\$150,735

Shoreland Management Ordinance and Fee Schedule Approved 2-2-22

On Wednesday, February 2, 2022, the Wabana Township Board adopted Ordinance No. 2022-1, the Wabana Township Shoreland Management Ordinance. The ordinance is a land use ordinance applicable to shoreland areas within the Township. It establishes shoreland classifications, identifies uses allowed and prohibited in shoreland areas, requires permits for those uses identified as conditional uses, establishes performance standards, and provides for the enforcement of the regulations. The ordinance does not adopt new floodplain, subdivision, or septic regulations and does not apply in areas of the Township outside of shoreland areas (non-riparian zones).

The Township Board also adopted Ordinance 2022-2 to establish a fee schedule for the Town for zoning requests in the Shoreland Overlay (Variances, Conditional Use Permits, Zoning Ordinance Amendments, and Appeals).

A copy of the Ordinances is available at the Itasca County Public Library, a copy may be obtained by contacting the Town Clerk, and both Ordinances are viewable on the Wabana Township website.

The Shoreland Management Ordinance addresses only the Shoreland Overlay district in the Township, and the ordinance achieves three objectives: (Continued on page 3)

Wabana Community Scholarship Program Applications Due April 22

Applications for the Wabana Community Fund Scholarship are now available on the Wabana Township website at www.wabatanatowship.com/affiliations, and at the counselor's office at Grand Rapids H.S. Applicants must be a resident of Wabana Township and be pursuing the first or second year of post-secondary education in the Fall of 2022. Applicants may receive the scholarship only one time. Applications must be received by April 22, 2022. Funding for the scholarship comes from the proceeds of the annual Hunter's Supper. For more information, contact Jean Koewler at 218-326-4302 or email djkoewler@paulbunyan.net.

Township Garage Sale

During the third weekend of September 2021, township resident Kim Oja spearheaded the Wabana Township Garage Sale, a fundraising event for the township's park improvements.

In Kim's words, "And the best part was meeting all these 'new' people (who've been here 10-15 years) some of which live right across the bay from us. Yes, it was a lot of work, but every step of the way, people showed up and helped. Thank you all. We really do live in a very special community. All this effort was much appreciated and resulted in a total of \$5,087.50 being raised."

Wabana Community Fund

The Wabana Community Fund is a non-profit organization that sponsors Wabana Township community events such as the Deer Hunter's Supper in November. The Hunter's Supper is the largest fundraiser which provides funds for the Scholarship Program and other community services and events such as funeral lunches and the annual Ice Cream Social in August.

At its November meeting, the Community Fund members approved a motion to partner with the Grand Rapids Community Foundation through their Fiscal Sponsorship program so that the Community Fund can apply for grants and receive donations which would be eligible for any applicable tax benefit. This will greatly assist in helping to make improvements in the township. All are welcome to participate in the Community Fund meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for May 2 at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

Hunter's Supper results

Not only was it fun to get together with neighbors and enjoy the delicious meal at the Wabana Community Fund's 2021 Hunter's Supper, the event raised \$2,057 that will be used to support scholarships, the ice cream social, and funeral lunches. Thanks to all who contributed to this annual community fundraising event!

Northwoods Arts and Crafts

Wabana Town Hall served as the location for the first Northwoods Arts and Crafts show on October 2, with a second show held on December 4. Both shows were well attended by area citizens and showcased many talented artists from the township and nearby communities. Stay tuned for the 2022 fall/winter show dates.



Northwoods Arts and Crafts October Sale



Township Clerk Position

Town Clerk Ruth Fordham has announced she plans to retire, so will not file to run for town clerk at the November election. The Town Clerk is an elected position for a four-year term. This position will be on the November 2022 election ballot. MN Statutes 367.11 outlines the duties of a town clerk. Additional information may be found on the Minnesota Association of Townships website at <https://www.mntownships.org>.

If you are interested in this position and have more questions, you may contact Ruth Fordham at 218-259-0228 or email her at: ruthwabanaclerk@yahoo.com.

This is an important township position with much responsibility. Please carefully consider if you have the time and talent to serve.



Shoreland Management Ordinance and Fee Schedule, *continued from page 1*

- 1) The ordinance emphasizes low-density development in the Shoreland Overlay District, it restricts/controls high density developments by identifying specific non-permitted uses. This approach will maintain the rural feel of the area and maintain the quality of the waters for the future.
- 2) Applications, in the shoreland overlay, for zoning permits, shoreland alterations, septic permits, non-conforming (grandfathered-in) properties and rezoning will be administered by Itasca County and their Zoning ordinance. The County will continue to also be responsible for all zoning activities in the Township’s non-riparian zones including Variances and Conditional Use Permits for those zones.
- 3) The Township will administer Variances and Conditional Use Permits (CUPs) that are related to the Shoreland Overlay district. Review of these types of requests will be done by Township Planning Commission with their primary responsibility to follow the Township’s Comprehensive Plan. There will be no duplication of these types of applications or fees with Itasca County.

By Steve Melin, Advisory Committee Chair/Planning Commission

Nominations Sought for Citizen of the Year Award

This award recognizes a citizen for outstanding contributions to Wabana Township such as leadership, providing services to residents, or other activities that enhance the environment or quality of life for residents. Send your nomination with a brief description of why you think your nominee is deserving of the award to the Board through the [Contact Form](#) on the Website. The Board may consider nominations at the March 8 annual meeting.

Sign up for Township E-mail News

Sign up to receive township E-mail News by going to Wabana e-news on the town website: <https://wabatanatownship.com/wabana-warbler-newsletter/>. Simply provide your name and email address. You will receive the Warbler and timely township news such as meeting notices, events, and other pertinent township activities by email. If you want to continue to receive the Warbler by U.S. mail, notify Jean Panchyshyn, jeanonwabana@gmail.com, otherwise you will be removed from the Warbler mail list. At any time you have the option to remove yourself from receiving e-mail notices by clicking on “unsubscribe” at the bottom of the e-news message.

Town Board activities

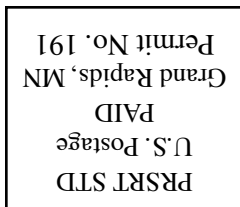
- Jane Moore was sworn in as Town Supervisor at the February 2 meeting. Jane was appointed to fill the position vacated by Steve Bjerke.
- Approved the Shoreland Management Ordinance and Fee Schedule.
- Two recommendations for new Planning Commission members will be made to the Wabana Board Supervisors at the March township meeting. These are appointed positions.

Wabana Township Officers and Staff

Lloyd Adams, Chairman (ph: 218-999-9749; email: lloyd2006@me.com)
 Ruth Fordham, Clerk (218-259-0228; email: ruthwabanaclerk@yahoo.com)
 Sarah Fordham, Deputy Clerk (email: sarahkfordham@gmail.com)
 Deb Kee, Treasurer (ph: 218-326-2115; email: dk317322115@gmail.com)
 Jane Moore, Supervisor (ph: 563-580-5253; email: b.jane.moore@gmail.com)
 Gary Oja, Supervisor (ph: 218-259-0732; email: gdoja@msn.com)
 Ken Aho, Maintenance (ph: 218-256-7230)

*Township Meetings are held the 1st Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. via Zoom through June 2022
 Any changes to the meeting date/time will be posted at Town Hall and on the website.*

Jean Panchyshyn, Newsletter Editor, 952-250-6690 or email: jeanonwabana@gmail.com



C/O Wabana Township
 30980 Clearwater Rd
 Grand Rapids, MN 55744