



# Wabana Warbler

*A newsletter for residents of Wabana Township*

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

### Township Board\*

1<sup>st</sup> Wed/month @ 7 p.m.  
Next meeting Wed, 3/5  
In person & Zoom

### Township Board Annual Mtg\*

Tues, 3/11 @ 7 p.m. In person & Zoom

### Planning Commission\*

Meets Quarterly @ 7 p.m.  
(4/28, 7/28, 10/27 & 1/26/26)  
In person & Zoom

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

MEETING ID:  
841 1114 6136  
PASSWORD: WabanaMtg2

### Daylight Savings Time Begins

Sunday, March 9  
Turn clocks forward 1 hour

### Exercise - SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life)

Tues & Fri /wk @ 10 a.m. (Free)

### Cribbage

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

### Community Fund Meeting

Mon, 5/5 @ 6:30 p.m.

### Spring Roadside Clean Up

Wed, 5/14 @ 9 a.m.

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

## Attend the Town Board Annual Meeting Tuesday, March 11 at 7 p.m.

Residents may participate in their township government at the Wabana Township Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 11 at 7 p.m. The annual meeting will be held at the Township Hall and by Zoom. If inclement weather, the meeting will be by Zoom only. At the annual meeting, permanent residents can vote on the recommended levy. At the January budget meeting, the board discussed the 2026 budget and will consider the following recommended levy at the March 11 annual meeting:

General Fund	85,645
Road & Bridge	40,650
Fire	<u>35,000</u>
Total	\$161,295

The increase includes +\$3,000 for fire protection (\$32K to \$35K) and an increase in the Road and Bridge fund due to significant County increases for winter plowing. The 2024 levy was \$154,195.

## Wabana Recreation Rebuild

This project was a dream of many people about four years ago. A group of interested and motivated people got together and formed a Recreation Committee with the blessing of the Town Board. We sent out surveys to find out what the community wanted to see for the future. At the top of the list were a new hockey rink and new playground.

Fundraising was started and donations started coming in. We applied for many available grants. Our goal was to finish the project without raising taxes.

In 2024, the hockey rink and family mini rink along with the playground were completed with funds available. We received the DNR grant in December, 2024. Looking at 2025, you will see new ADA sidewalks from the parking lot to the Town Hall, skating rink, playground, pavilion, basketball court, swings, pickleball court and tennis court. We will be building a walking trail around the area of the old ball field. This work is projected to start this Spring and be completed mid-Summer. As we are receiving bids, it looks like the project is coming in on budget.

*Wabana Recreation Rebuild continued on p. 3.*

### Cribbage Players Welcome

For the past three years, Wabana Cribbage Club has gathered on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. at Town Hall. If you have thought about giving cribbage a try, don't be shy! We have a fun and welcoming group of players, and would love to see you join us for a couple hours of card playing fun. Call Jean @ 952-250-6690 for more information.

### Hunter's Supper Results

The Wabana Community Fund's 2024 Hunter's Supper raised \$2,716 that will be used to support the community scholarship program, the annual ice cream social, and funeral lunches. Once again, the turnout was great. Without all of the volunteers who helped, it would not be possible to provide this delicious meal which raises funds for the community. Thank you for attending to enjoy the meal and support your community, and thanks to all the volunteers who make it happen.

*2024 Hunter's Supper*



### Community Fund

Join the Community Fund at its next meeting on Monday, May 5 at 6:30 p.m. This non-profit organization supports Wabana Township in many ways. We are looking for new members to share their ideas and to help keep the Community Fund strong.

## 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](#). Consideration of any nominations will be addressed by those attending the March 11 Annual Meeting.

## Wabana Community Scholarship Program Applications Due April 25

Applications for the Wabana Community Fund <https://wabanatownship.com/wabana-township-community-fund-scholarship-application-2/>. Scholarships are available on the Wabana Township website at , 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 2025. Applicants may receive the scholarship only one time. Applications must be received by April 25, 2025. 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](mailto:djkoewler@paulbunyan.net).

## Spring Roadside Clean up - May 14

Spring is just around the corner and with that comes the annual spring roadside clean up. If you are able to help, just show up at town hall on Wednesday, May 14 at 9:00 a.m. You will be given directions, an orange safety vest, and a trash bag. It's just a couple hours of work to help clean-up the township roadways.

## Wanted: Township Newsletter Editor

Consider using your communications and computer skills as you work from home as the township newsletter editor. The newsletter is produced three times/year. For more information, contact Steve Melin, Township Clerk at [wabanatownshipclerk@gmail.com](mailto:wabanatownshipclerk@gmail.com).

## Arts & Craft Shows

If you missed the Northwoods crafters this past October & December, stay tuned for the 2025 fall/winter dates. Both shows include talented artists from the township.

*Hummingbird wood carving by local artist Collin Clough*



### Please Share Your Feedback and Photos

During our last Recreation Committee meeting, it was brought up that collecting positive feedback on the new recreation facilities and how they are used is important to share with the organizations we have received grants from, and it also helps with future grants. Emails about how great the park facilities are can be sent to: [wabatanowshipclerk@gmail.com](mailto:wabatanowshipclerk@gmail.com)

Thanks to the Roden family who provided positive feedback and the photos below of their family fun!

*Wabana Recreation Committee*



*Great to see people enjoying the new hockey rink.*



### Wabana Recreation Rebuild, con't. from p. 1

We want to send a big thank you to everyone for your donations, time, talents and positive thoughts. The project has taken many people and hours to get this done. We're thankful to have such wonderful cooperation from our community. As we look forward to 2025 and beyond, we will need more volunteers.

A component of the grant process is finding out how the completed project will affect the whole community and outside Wabana Township. If anyone has used either the new rink or playground and would like to share a photo or comments, please communicate this information by email to Steve Melin, your township clerk. This kind of information will be helpful for future grants and for our records. Thank you,

*Wabana Recreation Committee*

The new rink was dedicated to Bob Moore (2nd from left) who spent much of his time and a lot of hard work over the past 25 years supporting the hockey rink. His family shared in this well deserved celebration.

Congratulations Bob and thank you!



*Photos by Kim Oja*

*More playground fun at Wabana*



## Seeking Planning Commission Applicants

Get involved in your Township now!

Great opportunity to learn more about Wabana Township. We are looking for people to become members of the Planning Commission. The terms are three years and we meet quarterly starting the last Monday in April at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are either in person or zoom. Please contact Steve Melin, Township Clerk at [wabanatownshipclerk@gmail.com](mailto:wabanatownshipclerk@gmail.com) if you are interested or would like more information.

### Wabana Township Officers and Staff

Jane Moore, Chair (ph: 563-580-5253; email: [jane.moore.wabana@gmail.com](mailto:jane.moore.wabana@gmail.com))

Lloyd Adams, Supervisor (ph: 218-999-9749; email: [lloyd.adams.wabana@gmail.com](mailto:lloyd.adams.wabana@gmail.com))

Mark Johnson, Supervisor (ph: 218-398-6959; email: [mark.johnson.wabana@gmail.com](mailto:mark.johnson.wabana@gmail.com))

Steve Melin, Clerk (218-256-5913; email: [wabanatownshipclerk@gmail.com](mailto:wabanatownshipclerk@gmail.com))

Deb Kee, Treasurer (ph: 218-326-2115; email: [dk317322115@gmail.com](mailto:dk317322115@gmail.com))

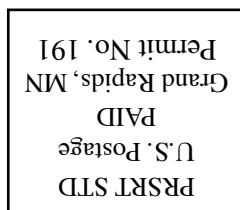
Carol Speedling, Deputy Clerk (text: 612-518-8992)

Ken Aho, Maintenance (ph: 218-256-7230)

*Township Meetings are held the 1st Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. in person and via Zoom  
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](mailto:jeanonwabana@gmail.com)

Return Service Requested



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