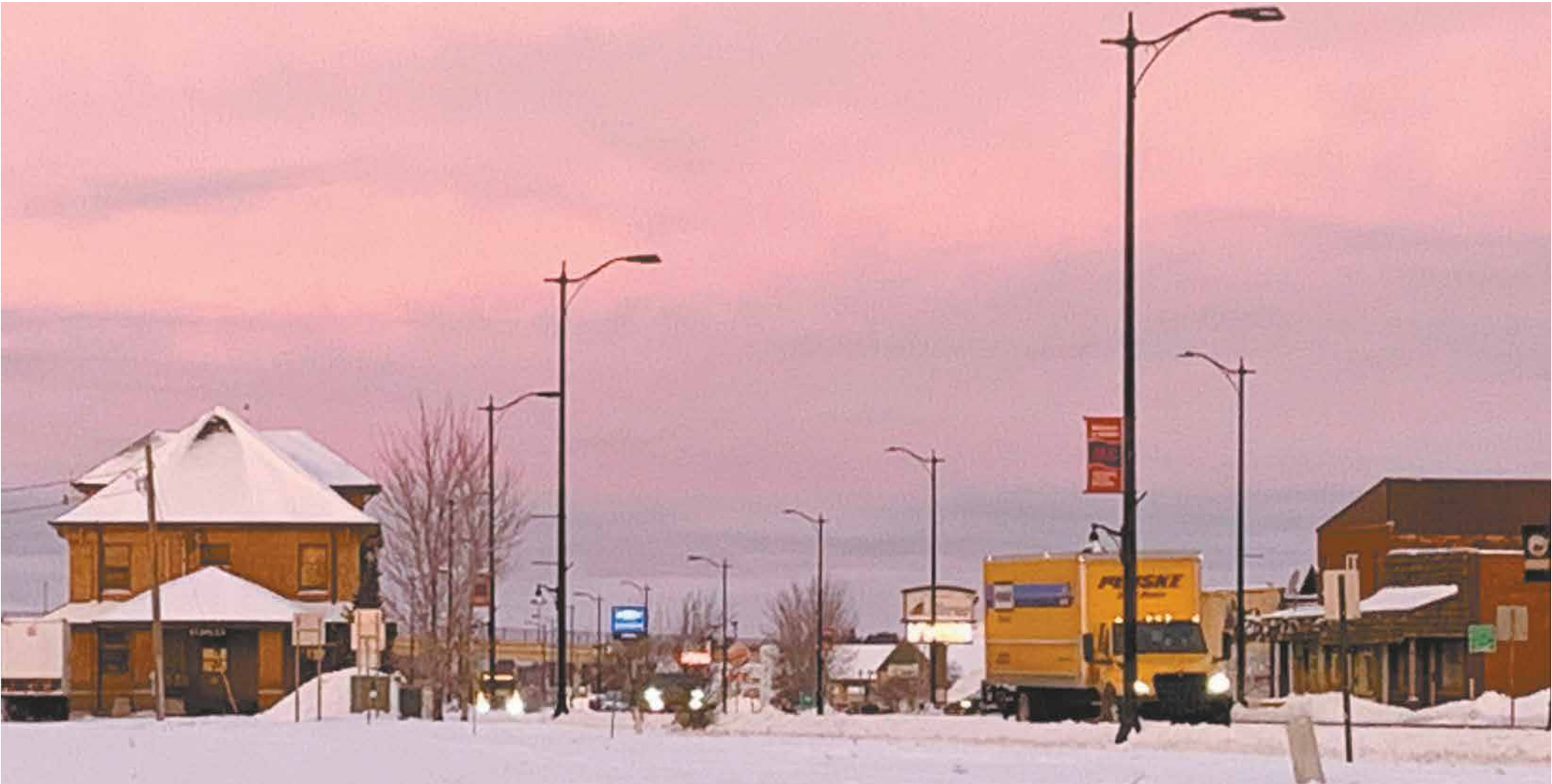


Inside this issue:

Motley City Council new members
Top outdoor stories of 2025
Girls basketball win
Wrestling team wins Heart O' Lakes
First month activity at The Nest



Wednesday, January 22, 2025

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota \$1²⁵

A shower of color in the morning looking west across Hwy. 10, Staples. (Photo by Janice Winter)

Staples increasing city electric rate five percent

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples City Council agreed to increase the rate for the city's electricity by five percent, starting in April. Public Works Director Scott Grabe said the increase is around five percent for all electricity, with a little bit more for commercial buildings and a little less for homes.

Public Works Director Scott Grabe said electric costs are predicted to go up over the next five years. Grabe said the city had at a rate increase in July but had not increased rates for customers since 2017.

The increase is for buildings that get power from the city. Most homes north of Warner Road get their power from Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative.

The council also approved the co-generation

report for the one solar energy customer in the city.

Bond savings

In two instances, the city approved paying off bonds that had been used for improvement projects to save interest payments.

In the first instance, the council approved redemption of general obligation improvement bonds that were used for the new Highway 10 corridor, which was completed in 2014. City Clerk Tara Greer said the city has money in that account to pay off the remaining bonds. By paying this off early, it will save \$13,200 and will free \$41,110 from the property tax levy, which can be allocated to future projects.

The second redemption of bonds is for three projects, Lakewood Health System extension, for improvements on the south side of Staples in the 1990s, and for

water tower improvements. Greer said the water fund has enough to pay everything left in that bond.

This payment of \$682,562 will save \$33,187 in interest and will free \$174,300 from the property tax levy, which can be allocated to future projects.

Personnel policy

The council approved updates to the city's personnel policy to fit with changes to Minnesota workplace laws.

Changes included language in the drug and alco-

See **STAPLES** on page 3a



Accounting firm opening in Staples

Mandi Polito cuts a ribbon with the Staples Chamber of Commerce to commemorate opening her accounting business in downtown Staples. From left, Mar-

lo Corona, Zoe Stevens, Polito and John Jewison. See story, page 10a. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Patrick Quance's novel, "The Cross and the Swastika" available soon

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Patrick Quance of Staples is excited for the launch of his newly published book, "The Cross and the Swastika," a historical fiction novel that takes place in World War II Europe.

A synopsis of the story, found at Quance's website, www.patsvo.com, states that, "The year is 1943. Christoph von Richter is a man caught in the crossroads between two opposing ideologies, whose clash reverberates like thunder through his life and the lives of people all around him. Ironically, it begins to appear more and more that his greatest opposition may come from near - and inside - him, and that his only hope may lie in the very people he is sworn to oppose."

"Eva DuBois, a woman with a secret, soon finds herself entrapped in a web of seemingly contradictory secrets. A strange twist of events brings her face to face with a man to whom she is deeply drawn - but a man whom she is sworn to oppose."

"Set against the backdrop of occupied France, and carefully crafted to fit with real-life places and events, this story confronts its characters with confounding dilemmas and inconceivable alliances, as they struggle desperately to find an escape from the terror that is the

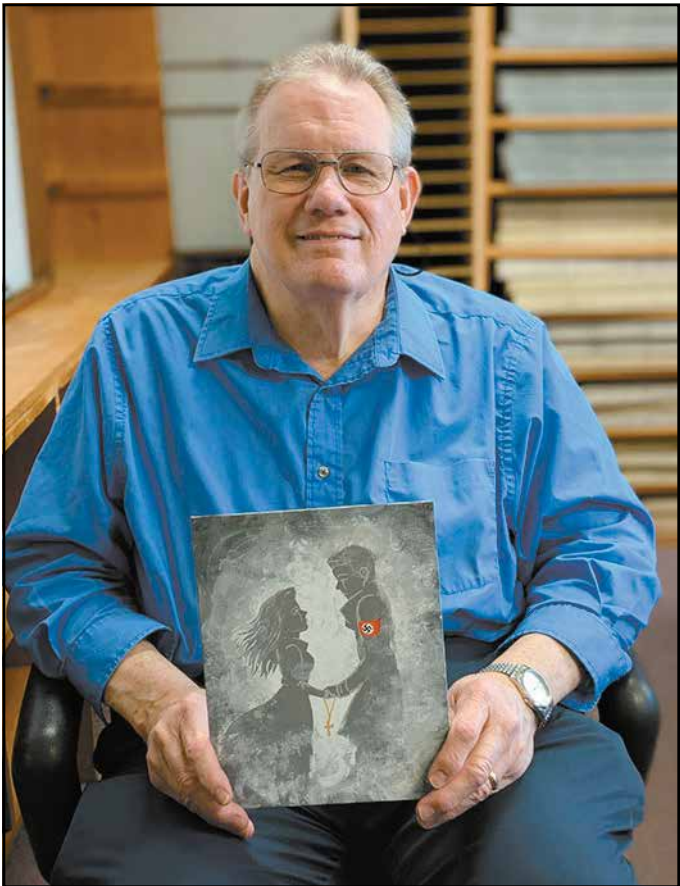
middle ground between "The Cross and the Swastika."

Quance's project started last summer after he and his wife, Nancy, met with their friend, freelance writer Susan Smith-Grier. She was looking for story ideas, Smith-Grier said, and during the course of their conversation Quance was reminded of his own love for writing.

A 1973 graduate of Staples High School, Quance had gone on to study music at St. Olaf College and what is now Central Lakes College in Brainerd, and along the way took electronic courses at M-State in Wadena. Later on, Quance used his vocal talent as a radio broadcaster and narrator for audio books. As much as he enjoyed reading books, Quance began feeling a nudge to write one. "I'd tried my hand at creative writing back in high school and college," Quance said, going on to mention he'd been encouraged by teachers along the way, including his college English professor Joseph Plut.

Quance said he had a brainstorm...perhaps Smith-Grier would be willing to be his writing coach on a book project he was contemplating and be listed as an advisor in the credits. That sounded fine to her...

See **QUANCE** on page 3a



Published author

Patrick Quance of Staples holds up the picture that graces the cover of his newly published book, "The Cross and the Swastika." His project was made possible thanks to an artist grant he received from Five Wings Arts Council in Staples. The original cover artwork was done by Staples area artist Naomi Lynn Sullivan. For more information about Quance's book, visit www.patsvo.com. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Weather

2025 This Week's Forecast			
	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 22	20	-5	Cloudy
Jan. 23	12	-6	P. Cloudy
Jan. 24	19	16	Cloudy
Jan. 25	21	1	Cloudy
Jan. 26	18	2	M. Sunny
Jan. 27	18	8	Sunny
Jan. 28	30	16	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2024			
	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 22	28°	14	Cloudy
Jan. 23	30	23	Cloudy
Jan. 24	31	28	Cloudy
Jan. 25	33	27	Cloudy
Jan. 26	31	30	Cloudy
Jan. 27	40	25	Sunny
Jan. 28	45	17	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 21° Low = 3°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Motley Summary
of Amendments
to Code of
Ordinance fees
9A

Todd
Commissioners:
9A

Todd AIS
Program: **6A**
Todd Planning **6A**

Obituaries

Shirley
Baumgartner
Craig Brand
Alan Grant
Douglas Johnson,
Sr.
David Larson
Judith Palmer
Peggy Wille

Motley City Council holds first regular meeting of 2025

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

At their regular meeting Jan. 13, the first for 2025, the Motley City Council held a swearing-in ceremony for its newly elected officials, approved a motion regarding time-and-a-half pay; and approved several appointments and resolutions pertaining to the new year.

City Clerk/Treasurer Tami Brotherton administered the oath of office to Mayor Pat O'Regan and council members April Skeesick-Larson and Steve Johnson. All are familiar faces in the council chambers, having previously served in their respective seats. Re-elected council member Dennis Erickson was not at the meeting, so was sworn in at a later date.

The discussion regarding overtime pay was initiated by Police Chief Al Yoder, who was seeking clarification as to whether or not 'call outs' on the police department should be paid time-and-a-half. A 'call out' is when a police officer is called out from home outside of his/her regular schedule, such as on a Sunday or at 3 a.m.

Council member Nikki Bjerga said she thought this was addressed in the city's personnel policy. City Clerk/Treasurer Tami Brotherton said she believed this item had not been updated in the personnel policy, but could not find it in the minutes.

During the subsequent discussion, it was noted that the public works

department is sometimes 'called out' upon occasion as well, such as when roads need to be snow-plowed in the middle of the night, or when a water main breaks on Christmas Day, as was the case two years ago.

Public Works Supervisor Bruce Brotherton said that they try to keep up on the weather so they are usually prepared for the snow. However, that is not always the case, and you can't plan ahead for all emergencies.

Currently, Tami Brotherton said, city employees only receive overtime pay if they work over 40 hours.

Subsequently, the council approved time-and-a-half pay for all department heads when they are called out above and beyond their normal working hours. In addition, they are to be paid for a minimum of two hours work when this situation occurs.

In other matters the council:

- HEARD monthly report from Fire Chief Brad Olson. There were nine calls for December. Chief Olson also noted the fire department's election results: Fire Chief, Brad Olson; 1st Asst. Chief, Todd Judd; 2nd Asst. Chief, Nathan Thiede; Medical Officer, Tim Holmberg.
- HEARD monthly report from Police Chief Al Yoder. There were 45 calls for December.
- HEARD monthly report from Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton, with no major issues noted. He went on to say that the skating rink near Veterans Park is now open, as well as the warming house. Regarding

the EV charger located near BRICKS Travel Center, the slow charger was used 11 times by five unique drivers, and the fast charger is still not working.

- LEARNED that the old one-ton truck used by the public works department sold for \$14,625 through MNbid. The portion that went to the city was \$13,875.
- APPROVED Bruce Brotherton's request to attend the Minnesota Rural Water Association (MRWA) conference in March.
- APPROVED Tami Brotherton's request to attend the Minnesota Municipal Clerks and Finance Officer Association (MCFOA) Annual Conference in March. It will be held in Brooklyn Center.
- APPROVED Tami Brotherton's request to attend the MN Municipal Clerks Institute in May. This will also be held in Brooklyn Center.
- APPROVED Tami Brotherton's request to apply for a grant through MCFOA.
- LEARNED that the city's audit has been scheduled for March 3 - 7, with Schlenner Wenner & Co.
- NAMED the Staples World the city's official newspaper for 2025.
- APPROVED the annual Mayor's Association membership for Mayor O'Regan.
- APPROVED the following appointments for 2025: Acting Mayor, council member Nikki Bjerga; Assistant Weed Inspectors, council member April Skeesick-Larson and Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton; Emer-



Swearing-in ceremony at Motley City Hall

The City of Motley's Clerk-Treasurer Tami Brotherton (standing, left) led newly elected city officers in reciting the oath of office at their first regular council meeting of 2025 held Jan. 13. Being sworn in, from left, are April Skeesick-Larson, council member; Pat O'Regan, mayor;

and Steve Johnson, council member. Council member Dennis Erickson, absent from the meeting, was sworn in at a later date. Seated, from left, are Fire Chief Brad Olson, Public Works Supervisor Bruce Brotherton, and Police Chief Al Yoder. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

gency Management Directors, Mayor Pat O'Regan and Police Chief Al Yoder; City Attorney, Pemberton Law; Planning and Zoning Commission Board Chair, council member Dennis Erickson.

- APPROVED the following council liaisons for 2025: Police Dept., Steve Johnson; Administrative Dept., Dennis Erickson; Maintenance Dept., April Skeesick-Larson; Fire Dept., Nikki Bjerga.
- APPROVED a resolution authorizing the following signers for banking transactions in 2025: Clerk/Treasurer Tami Brotherton; Mayor Pat O'Regan; and council members John-

son and Erickson.

- APPROVED the Motley Fire Department Relief Association Board of Trustees: Municipal Board Members for 2025, and defined their duties.
- APPROVED resolutions having Clerk/Treasurer Tami Brotherton as the responsible authority; having EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) authorization from the Clerk/Treasurer; and authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to pay all claims presented to the city.
- APPROVED the 2025 meeting schedule and the city-observed holidays.
- NAMED all local banking institutions as the city's official depository for 2025.
- Approved a \$1,000

donation from the Motley Lions Club, designated to go toward Christmas lights and decorations.

- APPROVED the renewal of existing tobacco licenses at the following establishments, pending receipt of all application materials: Orton's Motley Holiday, My Store, Inc., Bremer's Bar, Motley Discount Liquor, BRICKS Travel Center, Y Knot Package Liquor, Dollar General.
- SET the second monthly council meeting for Monday, Jan. 27, at 2 p.m.
- Set the next regular council meeting for Monday, Feb. 10, at 4:30 p.m.

Cass County Sheriff's Office statistics from 2024

By Bryan Welk
Cass County Sheriff

As we close out 2024 and move into 2025, our Office reviews data and statics from the previous year as we plan to serve our communities in 2025. In the January edition of Sheriff's Corner, we take the opportunity to highlight key events from the previous year and preview the data being processed for our Annual Report.

In 2024, the Cass County Sheriff's Office handled 19,198 Calls for Service (CFS). This metric is our primary method to document and monitor activity reported to our Dispatch

Center in a variety of formats. There are a variety of calls for service that our dispatch center receives that require some sort of action, whether it be from a Sheriff's Deputy, a Local Police Department, an Ambulance or Fire Department. These also include self-initiated responses from officers and reports made to track activity and investigations.

This figure represents a slight decrease from the 19,442 calls for service handled in 2023, continuing a post-COVID trend.

In terms of serious incidents, notably and sadly, the occurrence of fatal crashes was up, with 8 incidents resulting in 10 fatal injuries

6occurring, with 102 injury crashes resulting in 150 persons injured. The total crashes involving commercial vehicles was 17, and 5 crashes were in a work zone. In addition, 176 property damage crashes occurred. The Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) reports that traffic fatalities in Minnesota have risen this past year, despite a decrease in driving deaths nationwide. This is consistent with what we saw in Cass County in 2024 and significantly different from 2023 when only one fatal crash was reported. On a positive note, in 2024 we did not report any ATV fatalities and ATV crash with

injury was slightly up from 2023 but down from many previous years.

At our Detention Center in Walker, 960 inmates were booked in 2024, continuing a downward trend. The average daily booking has been at three inmates per day with a daily total population in Walker of 9 inmates, averaging 7 male and 2 female, with the remainder being held for the first half of the year in Crow Wing County and the second half of 2024 with our new inmate housing contract at the Itasca County Jail in Grand Rapids, with an average of 25 inmates being housed out-of-County.

The Recreation Divi-

sion held its annual Boat and Water Safety Training course with collaborating school districts, training and certifying approximately 255 5th and 6th graders in Boat and Water safety. Over the last several years we have seen a significant benefit to these training and education opportunities, as the number of boat and water incidents has been declining.

Deputies had a new tool this year with the Cass County ATV ordinance that was passed in May by the Cass County Board of Commissioners. The ordinance streamlines where ATVs, both Class I and II, can be operated. Deputies spent a significant amount of time returning phone calls, answering questions, and educating people in the field on the new ordinance and operation rules. Once again, Intensive high visibility patrols were conducted in high traffic areas on known busy weekends and holidays this past year. While still providing education, hundreds of contacts were made and verbal warnings and citations were issued. We assisted with four ATV Safety Training courses and enforcement efforts have definitely proven to be beneficial.

has also been seized

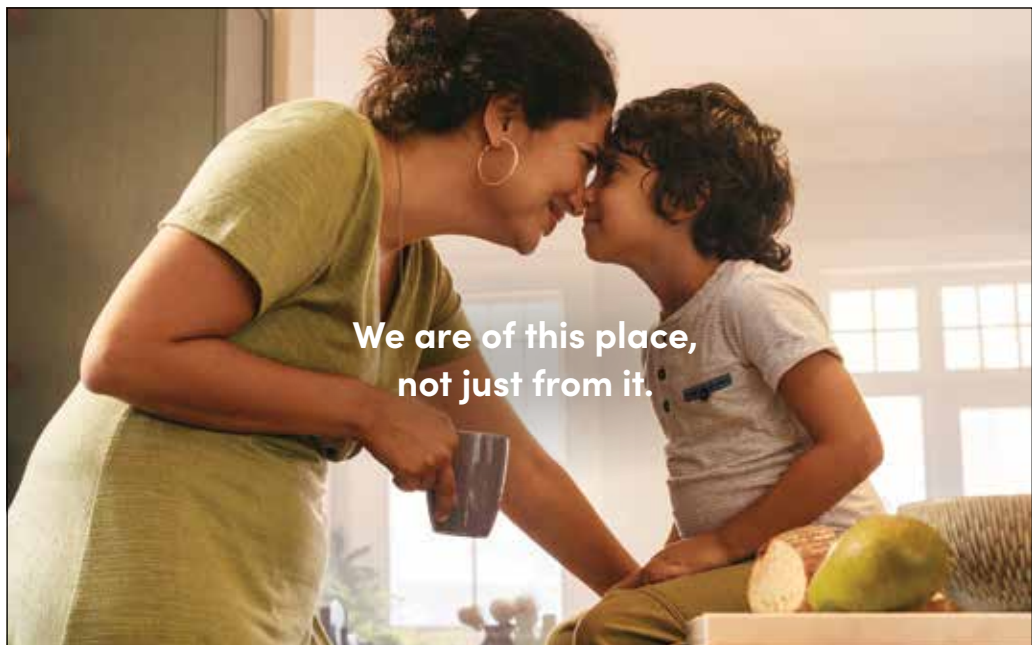
- 24 drug-related arrests occurred
- Seized Drugs include:
 - 3,135 grams of methamphetamine (street value \$194,370).
 - 371 grams of cocaine (street value \$33,390).
 - 430 grams of psilocybin mushrooms (\$13,330)
 - 188 grams of fentanyl (street value \$25,380)
- Currently, we have two individuals with federal indictments involved in weapon and narcotic possessions.

Emergency management

In 2024, Emergency Management drones were used a total of 24 times.

- 7 times during emergencies involving risks to life.
- 2 times to collect information from a public area as there was reasonable suspicion of criminal activity.
- 13 times over a public area for officer training or public relations purposes.
- 2 times for purposes unrelated to law enforcement at the request of a government entity.

This is just a brief glimpse into the operations of the Cass County Sheriff's Office in 2024, as we gather data and build our Annual Report many more factors will be summarized and put together and published in our Annual Report available on our County website at <https://www.casscountymn.gov/1450/Newsroom>.



We are of this place,
not just from it.

Essentia Health is proud to bring expert, personalized care to Staples at our new clinic.

STAPLES CLINIC & URGENT CARE

INCLUDING ORTHOPEDIC URGENT CARE

 301 2nd Avenue NW  218-894-7870

 **Clinic:** Mon–Fri: 8am–4:30pm
Urgent Care: Mon–Fri: 9am–6pm
Orthopedic Urgent Care: Mon–Fri: 9am–6pm

CLINIC & SPECIALTY SERVICES

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| ■ Cardiology | ■ Infusion Therapy | ■ Physical Therapy |
| ■ Family Medicine | ■ OB/GYN | ■ Podiatry |
| ■ General Surgery | ■ Orthopedics & Sports Medicine | |



Essentia Health

Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?

I can help!

Diane M. Hahn

30 years serving our area!

Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.

Call 218-445-5685 or 218-640-2341

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Staples World newspaper subscription rates, one year:

Local: \$53
(Todd, Wadena, Morrison, Cass counties)

Minnesota: \$58.

Out-of-State: \$63.

Foreign: on-line only

Student Rate: \$43 per school year, in-state (Sept.-April)

On-Line: \$50

Print with on-line: \$76

P.O. Box 100
224 4th St. NE
Staples, MN 56479
218-894-1112
www.staplesworld.com

Motley area law enforcement

Recent reports from the Motley Police Department (MPD) and Morrison County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) included the following:

Jan. 14 - Motley Police received a call from a resident at the 300 block of Birch St. E., reporting a scam.

Jan. 14 - Law enforcement responded to a report of a domestic assault causing fear and injuries at the 700 block of Postel Dr., Motley. Subsequently, Benjamin Philip Vogt, 37, was arrested.

Jan. 11 - Motley Police received a report of a crash with damage at Hwy 10 and Front St., Motley. A Morrison County deputy assisted the MN State Patrol at the scene.

Jan. 14 - The MCSO received a complaint of a scam at the 4000 block of 330th St., Motley.

Jan. 11 - The MCSO received a call from a resident at the 33000 block of Elm Rd., Motley, who reported being harassed via text message. As this was occurring in a different county, caller was advised to report it in a different location.

Jan. 10 - A Morrison County deputy issued a citation to Quentin Aaron Knudson, 29, for driving after revocation.

Jan. 8 - Law enforcement responded to a civil matter at the 33000 block of Fir Ln., Motley. While there, a deputy found evidence of theft of services. An investigation will continue.



Preschool Storytime at Staples Library

Storytime attendees recently had fun listening to stories about snowmen and making paper snow globes at the program held at the Staples Library. Call the library at 218-894-1401 to sign your child up to attend. The program is provided by the Staples Friends of the Library. Above: Rhett, Bjorn and Silas LaBlanc, Maddie Dalgano-Ward, Faith Frisk, Alida Hanson, Ori Tepley. (Submitted photos)

Fellowship, Connection and Nourishment

~ Monthly CARE Community Meal ~

Tues., January 28, 4:30-6 p.m.

Staples Church of Christ

27343 490th St., Staples
(across from Pine Grove Park)

FREE

Scalloped potatoes, ham and the fixings.

FREE Meal! All Welcome!

THANK YOU

for making a difference!

Congratulations to these 5-Star employees

Alexis House, RN, Med/Surg
Nominated by Rebecca Moxley, Patient Access Rep.
"Alexis was one of the many wonderful nurses who cared for my husband when he was admitted to the hospital. She was kind, caring, empathetic and I could tell that she really had my husband's best interests in mind. Alexis was attentive and considerate and even went to find the doctor instead of dismissing our concerns. As we were being discharged, she took the time to wish us well; she wasn't even on his care team that day and still took time out of her day to check on us and see how we were doing. She went above and beyond for us and made the whole experience so much better than it could have been."

Dr. Julie Benson, Family Medicine, Hospice and Palliative Care Medical Director
Nominated by Marne Pogreba, Patient Accounts Representative
"Dr. Benson embodies the pillars of Integrity, Compassion, Accountability and High Quality. I don't know where to begin in expressing all of the ways she has shown this over the years. One of many examples was a very complex health situation with a home care patient; Dr. Benson arranged a meeting with the care team and the biller to ensure we could meet the needs of the patient, that the care would be covered by insurance, and that it was safe to take on this case. Just the other day she addressed the Home Care/Hospice team at their Monday meeting on the topic of burnout. Her concern was not only for the burnout of the care givers in the home, but also that of our nursing staff providing care/end of life care. As the Hospice Medical Director, Dr. Benson is always quick to respond to our nurse's questions at any hour of the day and regularly expresses her appreciation for them. This is just the tip of the iceberg, as there is not enough time, and words cannot express enough my admiration for Dr. Benson."

Misty Baker, MLS (ASCP) Director of Laboratory & Infection Prevention
Nominated by Allison Twardowski, RN, BSN, Clinical Informaticist Manager
"Over the past year, I've had the privilege of working closely with Misty during our OCHIN conversion. This process has been a significant challenge for our lab division, but Misty's perseverance and positive attitude throughout has been nothing short of amazing. Her ability to remain focused and motivated, even under pressure, has been a tremendous source of inspiration. Her leadership has been nothing short of extraordinary, and learning from her has been an enriching experience. She leads by example, ensuring that she never asks her team to undertake tasks she wouldn't do herself. Her hands-on approach is a powerful demonstration of her dedication. Her exceptional leadership, tireless support, and positive influence make her an invaluable asset to our team."

Martina Hendrickson, Environmental Services Housekeeper
Nominated by Debbie Toth, RN, Home Based Services Director
"Martina recently witnessed a home care patient struggling to get her garbage can to the end of her driveway while using her walker for ambulation assistance. Without hesitation, or knowing that this was a current LHS patient, Martina pulled her car to the side and approached the patient offering to help. This in itself demonstrates the immense level of compassion and caring Martina has for those around her. Despite all that she does, she never seeks recognition for her actions, no matter how far above and beyond they go. She is truly the essence to the level of goodness all should encompass. Martina's warm smile, welcoming nature and loving heart truly makes her one of a kind."

Dr. Kaitlyn Schoeck, Family Medicine
Nominated by Amanda Hemmilla, Clinical Pharmacist
"Dr. Schoeck was having a very busy week as she was the hospitalist, along with her other duties at Lakewood. I had my final OB appointment scheduled with her on Wednesday afternoon. I got a call that morning asking if I could reschedule my appointment for earlier in the day, which I did. My husband and I had planned for our two other children to be at this appointment to help Dr. Schoeck "measure baby", guess the size and hear the heartbeat. Despite Dr. Schoeck's demanding schedule that morning, she took the time to interact with my boys, allowing them to help measure my belly, ask their questions, and made sure they felt comfortable. I always appreciate Dr. Schoeck's bedside manner and the time she takes in the clinic with me to ensure I have my questions and concerns answered. She is compassionate and approaches each day with excellence."

January 22

WOMEN'S AA Mtg Wednesdays, from 6 - 7 p.m., at Staples Church of Christ, on Hwy 210, south of Staples.

January 23

'WALK WITH A Doc' Thursdays at 5:15 p.m., at Lakewood Health System's main campus in Staples. Meet at the main entrance. For more information about this free program, visit <https://walkwithadoc.org/join-a-walk/locations/staples-minnesota>

WADENA WHIRLAWAYS SQUARE DANCE GROUP DANCING Thurs-

day, Jan. 23, 7:30 - 10 p.m., at St. Michael's Church, 280 1st Ave. S., Motley. Brian Freed, caller. For info., 612-743-3480.

January 24

WOMEN'S OPEN AA Recovery MEETING Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley.

January 25

FREE COMMUNITY BREAKFAST Saturday, Jan. 25, 9 - 10:30 a.m., at Motley United Methodist Church, 847 3rd

Ave. S., Motley.

January 26

CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS are held every Sunday at 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

January 27

AA GROUP MTGS IN MOTLEY are held at the United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. S., on Mondays at 8 p.m.

January 28

CARE MINISTRY FREE MEAL Tuesday, Jan. 28, 4:30 - 6 p.m., at Church of Christ,

27343 490th St., Staples. The free meals are held on a monthly basis to promote fellowship, connection and nourishment

WOMEN'S AA Mtg Tuesdays, from 6 - 7 p.m., at Staples Church of Christ, on Hwy 210, south of Staples.

EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE AA GROUP MTGS IN STAPLES are held at the Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Tuesdays, 7 - 8 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

WADENA COUNTY REPUBLICANS MTGS are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Wadena VFW at 7 p.m.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2891
Jonny Olson, Associate Pastor
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA.....6:00 p.m.

Assembly of God
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples.....218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Small Groups (Bible classes for all ages).....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service.....10:30 a.m.
Children's Church (Kids start in main worship service).....11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting.....5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Sonlight (kids ages 4 yrs.-6th grade).....After school to 5:30 p.m.
Youth Group (Teens, 7th-12th grade).....After school to 5:30 p.m.

Church of Christ
27343 490th St., Staples.....218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Facebook Live
Bible School (youth and adult).....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Adult Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

Faith Lutheran
430 12th Street. NE, Staples.....218-894-1546
Pastor Carl Larson
Sunday Worship Service.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship.....10:05 a.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples Church.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Sunday.....8:30 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist
421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples 218-894-0033
Saturday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sabbath School.....10:45 a.m.

Thomastown Covenant
15940 251st Ave., Staples.....218-894-3923
Pastor Scott Jorgenson
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH.....6:30 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran
1000 4th St., NE, Staples.....218-894-2372
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
Sunday Divine Service.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Bible Class.....10:30 a.m.

United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2248
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran
19550 490th Street, Aldrich Janet Eckman SMA.....218-837-5831
jre227@yahoo.com
Sunday Worship.....8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN 320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
Pastor Chris Mathiason
www.bethanylutherancushing.org
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
Communion.....1st and 2nd Sunday of each month

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443
Phone: 218-575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org
Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad
Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel.....10:00 a.m.

Cushing Baptist
26298 Bear Rd., Cushing
Pastor Dan Holmes.....320-749-2583
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible study.....7:30 p.m.

Leader
Swan Valley Lutheran
Leader.....218-397-2470
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Sunday Worship
January - July.....9 a.m.
July - January.....11 a.m.

Maple Hill Lutheran
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Leader.....218-397-2470 (Rural Pine River)
Worship and Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.

Motley
Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466.....218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Casey Reynolds, Assistant Pastor
Sunday Worship.....9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live.....9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA.....4:00-5:30 p.m.
Youth Group.....6:00-8:00 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran
497 3rd Ave. S., Motley.....218-352-6399
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
Sunday School and Bible Class.....8:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
St. Michael Catholic Church
1st St. and Birch, Motley.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday.....4:00 p.m.

St. Michael
280 1st Ave S, Motley.....218-894-2296
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Sunday.....10:30 a.m. (May - Nov.)
Saturday.....4:00 p.m. (Dec - April)

United Methodist
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley.....218-352-6466
Pastor Greg Leslie
www.motleyumc.net
Sunday Worship Service.....10:00 a.m.
Monday AA meeting.....8:00 p.m.

Oylen

Oylen Alliance
City Rds. 7 and 9, Oylen
218-472-3440 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....11:00 a.m.

Pillager

First Lutheran Church
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN 218-746-3775
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 2nd and 4th Sundays.....8:30 a.m.

Casino Assembly of God
Pastor Dan Johnson
N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on Cty 34 to Cty. 104.
Phone.....218-746-3839
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY.....7:00 p.m.

First Baptist
903 River Street South, Pillager
Pastor Jake Anderson
218-746-3768
curious@fbcpillager.com
Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.
Connection Point.....9:30 a.m.

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN 218-924-2028
Jim and Linda McGaffey, Pastor
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m.
WEDNESDAY PRAYER.....7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)
524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Hewitt Community Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Verndale
Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Youth Pastor Joe Ward
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes.....11-11:45 a.m.

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self.....218-371-7189
Tahna Kurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tillman Phagan, Kid's & Food Shelf Pastor
Ryan Wolfenden, Youth Pastor
SUNDAY
Youth Prayer.....9:20 a.m.
Worship Service.....10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting.....5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Life Groups.....6:30 p.m.

Hope Chapel Alliance
18126 County Road 7, Verndale 218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Family Night.....5:30 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS)
17097 460th St., PO Box 37, Verndale
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

Verndale United Methodist
10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale 218-445-5108
Pastor Jill Pawlowski
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.

Central Community Church
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4952
Sunday Service.....9:00 a.m.
Bible Study.....10:30 a.m.

St. Frederick Catholic Church
20 Mason Avenue NW
Verndale.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Saturday.....6:00 p.m.

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Sunday Service.....10:00 a.m. (Dec. - April)
Saturday.....4:00 p.m. (May - Nov.)

Leaf River Township The Old Country Church
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690 Call first.

Wadena St. Helen's Episcopal Church
22 Dayton Ave. SW, Wadena, MN 218-631-3928
Sunday Worship.....10:00 a.m.

"Adorable"

Pastor Scott Jorgenson, Thomastown Covenant Church, Staples

We got a puppy! Yep, we did our civic duty and adopted a mutt from the local shelter: eight weeks old, white, fluffy and fortunately built for winter weather. The only difficulty is finding this white fluffball in the snowbanks. Sooooo CUTE!

I was searching the Bible for some CUTE reference and found out that CUTE is not found in the Bible. So, I did due diligence and a synonym for cute is ADORABLE. Also, not in the Bible!

Hmmm... 'tis a conundrum. God made puppies cute. And "adorable" is certainly an attribute of parts of God's creation: baby ducks, the sloth, koalas (young and old), etc. And there are certainly parts of God's creation that are definitely NOT cute: slugs, wood ticks, mosquitos, etc.

God has given us examples in His creation of things that makes us say, "Awwwwwww, it's so CUTE! I just ADORE him."

There it is...adore. The word "adore" IS in the Bible. We just celebrated the coming of our Savior, Jesus, into the world. And we sang, "Come let us adore Him."

My puppy is cute...and adorable. And so is our God. Not so much cute but God is adorable. Yes, in much the same way a puppy is adorable:

•The puppy is pleasing to gaze upon. The psalm-

ist in Psalm 27 reminds us that we should seek to "behold the beauty of the Lord."

•Our little pup really appreciates the attention via the belly rub or praise after successful training. Similarly, God longs for a relationship with each of us and reminds us that He is waiting for us to answer His call (Revelation 3:20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and He with Me.")

•Lastly, pup gives so much, albeit unknowingly, but the affection and peace that comes with this little furball on your lap is heaven sent. Our God, knowingly, knows our needs and desires and is faithful to give us what we need. He has poured out His love by giving us His very Son. He has showered us with His Holy Spirit that gives us a peace that passes understanding. Of course, this is just the tip of the iceberg of blessings that God gives to those who call on His name.

As adorable as puppies may be, may we adore even more our everlasting God by gazing a bit more adoringly upon Him, by choosing to acknowledge that He, God, is seeking us, and by allowing Him to bless us.

Peace.

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Staples, MN 218-894-1775

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Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Sandwiches
Staples, MN 218-894-3299

Central Building Supply
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN
218-894-3794

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218-894-1112

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Lakewood HEALTH SYSTEM

218-894-1515 lakewoodhealthsystem.com

Public Notices

NOTICE TODD COUNTY AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) 2025 RFP

Todd County is the recipient of County Program Aid grant funds for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) prevention from the state of Minnesota as a result of 2014 Session Law Chapter 308. The purpose of these funds is to “prevent the introduction or limit the spread of aquatic invasive species at all the access sites within the county” (MN Statutes 477A.19).

The objective of this RFP is to facilitate the disbursement of these funds to parties interested in conducting work to this purpose.

Todd County is soliciting Local Government Units (LGU), private businesses and/or others who qualify for proposals for the Todd County AIS Program in 2025. The details of this RFP can be found on the Todd County website:

<https://www.co.todd.mn.us/divisions/soil-water-conservation-and-development/aquatic-invasive-species/>

or contact the Todd County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) at **320-732-2644**. Applications are due March 24, 2025.

5pnc

NOTICE TODD COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION 215 1st Ave. South, Suite 103 Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347 320-732-4420 toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

Notice is hereby given that the Todd County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Commissioners meeting room, Historic Courthouse, 215 First Ave South, Long Prairie, MN to consider the following applications.

NOTE: This meeting is again being held in-person

and the public is encouraged to attend, but Zoom and phone options are still available for those who are unable to attend in person. If you wish to join via Zoom, please contact our office for the call-in information. Those who do attend in person can find parking atop the hill on the west side of the Historic Courthouse and enter through the north doors, near the American Flag and monument.

Questions? Phone 320-732-4420 or Email toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

- Agenda**
- Call to Order.
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Introduction of Planning Commission Members and process review.
 - The applicant is introduced
 - Staff report
 - Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request
 - Public comment
 - Board review with applicant, staff, and public
 - Approval of agenda.
 - Approval of the January 2, 2025 Planning Commission meeting minutes.

1. LouAnna Mosher: Section 02, Burleene Township

Site Address: 32315 County 3, Eagle Bend, MN 56446

PID: 05-0001300

1. Request for Zoning Amendment of the NE ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 2, Burleene Township from R-10

Zoning to AF-2 Zoning for the creation of a 5-acre lot in the future.

**Adjournment –
Next meeting:
March 6, 2025**

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or submit a letter to be heard on these matters. **All correspondence must include name, mailing address and be received 48 hours before the date and time of the hearing.**

Todd County Planning Commission
Jim Pratt, Chair

5pnc

TCC continued from page 8a

REVENUES	2024	2025
Property tax	17,930,898	18,804,881
State General Purpose Aid	2,417,179	2,404,142
Other taxes	1,476,043	1,428,937
Licenses & Permits	174,690	174,800
Federal Grants	5,029,908	4,068,950
State Aids	10,136,351	12,243,428
Local Grants	0	0
Charges for Service	2,611,030	2,670,927
Edis Revenue	1,419,735	2,997,164
Interest on Investments	175,500	251,000
Other Financing Sources	27,700	28,000
Transfers	39,939	5,000
Total Revenue & Other Source	43,438,973	45,077,109
EXPENDITURES	2024	2025
General Government	6,774,210	7,236,005
Public safety	5,936,677	6,186,128
Highway/Construction	9,300,769	9,119,710
Streets & Highways (excluding Constr.)	4,452,020	4,531,355
Human Services	9,788,100	10,493,622
Health	2,682,800	2,915,750
Culture and Recreation	450,594	448,734
Conservation of Nat Resources	1,453,702	1,628,853
Economic Development	93,200	99,458
Gen Debt Service	417,506	415,354
Capital Outlay	1,457,100	1,682,736
Transfers	631,404	619,404
Other Fiscal Charges	0	0
Total Expenditures & other uses:	43,438,973	45,377,109
Budget Balance	0	300,000

is underway and many year-end meetings on the schedule.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator attended meetings regarding cannabis, dept head, finance, personnel, LP Chamber event, AMC Conference and union negotiations.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended.

Commissioner Denny attended the TNT, Planning Commission, regular meetings and union negotiations.

Commissioner Becker attended the Extension, TNT SWCD, AMC Conference and union negotiation meetings.

Commissioner Neumann attended the dept head, finance, TNT, AMC Conference, SWCD, Solid Waste, personnel, Rainbow Rider and union negotiation meetings.

Commissioner Noska attended regular meetings.

Commissioner Byers attended the TCDC director review, LP Comprehensive planning session, Extension and AMC Conference meetings.

Recess

On motion by Noska and second by Byers, the meeting was recessed until December 30, 2024.

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
ARC ELECTRIC	
SERVICE.....	\$4,450.05
BROWERVILLE	
TRUCKWASH/	
BIG BOYZ.....	13,604.83
CARGILL SALT	
DIVISION.....	2,394.15
CIVICPLUS, LLC.....	4,067.70
COMMISSIONER OF	
TRANSPORTATION.....	3,413.38
DLT SOLUTIONS INC.....	5,891.59
ECOWATER SYSTEMS.....	3,370.00
EMERGENCY AUTOMOTIVE	
TECHNOLOGIES.....	6,222.78
FORUM	
COMMUNICATIONS	
PRINTING.....	8,515.05
GOODIN COMPANY.....	3,296.09
HERDERING INC.....	2,857.50
LONG PRAIRIE	
LEADER.....	2,605.50
NORTHERN STAR	
COOP.....	4,799.96

Alan Grant

Alan E. Grant, 74, of Sedona, Arizona, died peacefully at home on January 6, 2025.

Plans for a spring get-together to honor Al's memory will be announced at a later date.

Alan was born in Staples in 1950 to Harry and Lois Grant. He was a retired railroad engineer. Beyond his work, Al was passionate about motorcycles, sailboats, skiing and rollerblading. Chewy, his small rescue canine companion loomed large in his life.

He will be remembered by one sister, Nancy Jo (Darryl) Moses; one aunt, Janet Hendrickson; one niece, Tierra Moses; his cousins; Bonnie Bray and Joe Carlson, as well as many lifelong hometown friends and workmates.

w5p A00006B2025JN22



Douglas Johnson

Private services will be held at a later date for Douglas D. Johnson of New York Mills and formerly of Wadena.

Burial will be in St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery, near Bertha.

Doug, age 79, passed away January 13, 2025, at the Vitality Living Center in New York Mills.

Douglas Dwight Johnson was born to Floyd and Blondina (Modrow) Johnson on September 2, 1945, in Bertha. He attended school through the ninth grade but was needed at home to help run the farm.

Doug married Carolyn Peterson in April of 1968. They had two children, Douglas, Jr. and Jennifer. Carolyn and Doug later parted ways.

Surviving Doug are his two children; two grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; along with two brothers and one sister.

Preceding Doug in death were his parents and one sister.

Arrangements are with the Schuller Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services, Wadena (www.SchullerFamilyFH.com).

w5c A00006B2025JN22



Peggy Wille

Peggy Ann Wille, 92, passed away peacefully at home on January 16, 2025, in Motley.

Visitation will be held at Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples on January 27, 2025 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Funeral services celebrating Peggy's remarkable life, will be held at the Lincoln Evangelical Free Church in Cushing on January 28, 2025 at 11 a.m. with a viewing at 10 a.m. Family and friends are invited to pay their respects and honor Peggy's memory. Peggy's soul found eternal peace and may her memory guide us to appreciate the beauty that surrounds us.

Arrangements are by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w5c A00006B2025JN22

Judith Palmer

Judith Marie Palmer, 85, passed away peacefully on January 16, 2025.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Taylor Funeral Home in Staples and are tentatively set for Friday, January 24, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Staples.

Check for more details at taylorfunerals.com.

w5x A00006B2025JN22

Craig Brand

Craig A. Brand joined his Heavenly Father at the age of 74 on January 14, 2025, at home with his devoted family at his bedside.

Craig was the first-born child of Armand and Dorothy (Meyer) Brand on December 26, 1950, in Fargo, ND.

A funeral service was held January 18, 2025, at the Swan Valley Lutheran Church in Leader.

Private family interment will be held at the Poplar Cemetery at a later date.

Arrangements were with the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w5c A00006B2025JN22

David Larson

David Gerald Larson, 76, of Staples, passed away peacefully at his home on January 11, 2025 surrounded by his family.

Family and friends are invited to join in remembering and honoring Dave's remarkable life. A celebration will be held at Pickle-Stone "A gathering place for family and friends" on Saturday, May 31, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. with storytelling and sharing memories at 3 p.m. located at 46647 Red Oak Rd, Staples, MN 56479.

Dave was born July 9, 1948, to Gerald and Lorena Larson in Brainerd.

Dave met his beloved wife, Violet, in high school and together they raised their family in Brainerd. He had a lifelong career in construction, retiring from Nor-Son Construction after 30 years of dedicated service. In 2017, they moved to Staples to be closer to family. Dave's passion for the outdoors was shown through his love of camping, hunting and fishing and then more hunting. After retirement, he enjoyed "supervising" family building projects. His family meant everything to him and he cherished every moment spent with them.

He is survived by his



spouse, Violet (Soderlund) Larson of 56 years; two sons, Tom (Lonnie) Larson, Fergus Falls and Tim (JJ) Larson, Staples; five grandchildren, Kerri Holm, Kyle (Monica) Metz, Taylor (Nycole) Larson, Ryan Larson and Seth Larson; eight great-grandchildren, Isaiah Holm, Harper Jorud, Griffin Jorud, Jayden Diaz, Landyn Metz, Evelyn Larson, Camryn Larson and Sawyer Larson; one sister, Linda Knutson, Fergus Falls; one brother, Robert (Sandi) Larson, Moncks Corner, SC; one brother-in-law, Kent Johnson, Brainerd and many nieces, nephews and extended family.

Dave was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Connie Johnson.

w5p A00006B2025JN22

Shirley Baumgartner

Shirley Lee (Hertel) Baumgartner passed away peacefully January 16, 2025 on the family farm in Motley.

A gathering will be held from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. followed by a memorial service at 6:00 p.m., on Friday, January, 24, 2025, at the Taylor Funeral Home in Staples.

Shirley was born September 26, 1952 to Emil and Mardelle (Paulson) Hertel, in Brainerd. She grew up with her two brothers in Brainerd and graduated from Brainerd High School in 1970.

On June 16, 1972, she wed Lawrence "Larry" Baumgartner, Jr. The couple had two children together, Aaron and Serenity. They worked for a few years in the Twin Cities, before eventually taking over the family dairy farm in Byron Township in Cass County.

She looked forward to watching the Minnesota Vikings, chatting with her brothers, playing games on her phone, working on crafts and baking with the grandkids on the holiday.



After Larry passed away her best friend became a pug named Angel.

Shirley is survived by one daughter, Serenity (Wayne) Keppers; one daughter-in-law, Jennifer Baumgartner; four grandchildren, Breanna, Dalton, Hannah and Tucker; two brothers, Terry (Brenda Lowe) Hertel and Jeffrey (Wendy) Hertel.

Shirley is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Larry Baumgartner; one son, Aaron Baumgartner; half siblings, James and Henry Hertel and Pati Dauber and Joan Nubbe.

w5c A00006B2025JN22

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To request that an obituary, anniversary or other event (including benefit events) be placed word for word, personalized, contain more than one photo, or to run for more than one week, it may be placed as a display advertisement at the regular advertising rates (\$10.75 /col. inch). The item will be placed in our newspaper with a border around it and must be paid for at the time of placement. Deadline for advertising copy is noon on Friday.

Obituaries received from private parties, funeral homes, will be edited to our format and paid for prior to running at our obituary rate (\$10.25 pci) plus \$5 per photo. Minimum is \$60. Deadline for copy is noon on Friday, however, every effort is made to include those with timely services. Death notices are available and are free if followed in the next publication by the entire obituary. Obituaries printed in the Staples World will be posted on our website.

All obituaries are paid advertisements. Obituaries requested to be printed word for word will be charged regular advertising rates and marked as a -Paid Advertisement- with a box around it.

Please be sure to include the name of the deceased, date of birth, age, city of residence, when and where he or she died and the name and city of the funeral home handling the arrangements.



Heart O’ Lakes Conference champions

Staples-Motley wrestling team with their HOL Conference trophy, front row from left, Steven Petrich, Caden Kramer, Garrett Bjerga, Cooper Tappe, Caden Neisen, Justin Olson and Coach Jim Jackson; row two, Zachary Tabatt, Jack

Carlson, Colbe Tappe, Eli Greenwaldt and Gage Bjerga; back row, Dustin Converse, Reece Headley, Luke Bjerga, Riley Reese, Turner Beachy, Beau Carlson and Adrian Gomez. (Submitted photo)

Cardinals have six HOL Conference champions

Staples-Motley had six conference champions and five second place finishers at the Heart O’ Lakes Conference Wrestling tournament Jan. 17, held at Lake Park Audubon. This was the first meeting of the new look HOL, with Staples-Motley and Pelican Rapids adding their teams to the conference this year. The Cardinals won the team title.

The individual conference champions are Caden Kramer, Gage Bjerga, Cayden Neisen, Turner Beachy, Colbe Tappe and Riley Reese.

At 160 pounds, Reese tore through his bracket with three pins, all in the first period, all against wrestlers with higher seeds. Tappe had a fall and technical fall; Beachy scored two tech falls, one fall and one major decision; Neisen had a fall and a tech; Bjerga had two falls and a tech; Kramer scored two falls and a tech.

The second place finish-

ers were also notable. Garrett Bjerga lost in overtime in his championship match. Eli Greenwaldt lost by decision. Luke Bjerga had a tough match and lost 4-1 in the final. Adrian Gomez had a big win in the semifinal, beating a ranked wrestler by riding out the second period and scoring a take-down late in the third for a 4-1 win. At heavyweight, Steven Petrich scored a pin to reach the final, but faced a highly ranked wrestler and finished second.

The biggest competition in many of the brackets was Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton, a team ranked in Class AA. Cardinal wrestlers were 5-7 head to head against DGF, but they also were a deeper team, with strong wrestlers in every weight. That depth carried them through to the team victory.

Team results

Heart O’ Lakes Conference Wrestling Tournament 2025

Staples-Motley 258, Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 184, Frazee 148, Perham 128, Park Rapids 77, Pelican Rapids 62, United Clay Becker (Hawley, Lake Park-Audubon) 42, Barnesville 34

107 Garrett Bjerga 1-1, 2nd place
107 Justin Olson 2-2, 4th place
114 Caden Kramer 3-0, 1st place
121 Gage Bjerga 3-0, 1st place
127 Cayden Neisen 3-0, 1st place
133 Eli Greenwaldt 2-1, 2nd place
139 Turner Beachy 4-0, 1st place
145 Cooper Tappe 2-2, 4th place
152 Colbe Tappe 2-0, 1st place
160 Riley Reese 3-0, 1st place
172 Dustin Converse 3-1, 3rd place
172 Zachary Tabatt 2-2, 4th place
189 Luke Bjerga 2-1, 2nd place
189 Reece Headley 2-2, 4th place
215 Adrian Gomez 2-1, 2nd place
285 Steven Petrich 1-1, 2nd place

Schultz scores 28 in win

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team is on a three game winning streak after beating Wadena-Deer Creek and Royalton last week. A big game against Heart O’ Lakes Conference leader Pelican Rapids was postponed due to weather.

At Wadena-Deer Creek, the Cardinals played great first half defense and built up a 25-19 halftime lead.

They increased that in the second half to win 64-45.

Against Royalton, Staples-Motley had five players score in double figures, led by Alex Schultz with 28. The team kept putting up points and their opponents couldn’t keep up. They expanded their 11 point halftime lead to a 90-62 win.

Team results

Staples-Motley 64,

Wadena-Deer Creek 45

Scoring: Noah Larson 12, Avandre Brandt 11, Eli Rutten 11, Alex Schultz 9, Peton Jares 8, Ryan Neelan 6, Conner Kuhns 5, Josiah Burton 2

Staples-Motley 90, Royalton 62

Scoring: Schultz 28, Larson 18, Brandt 13, Rutten 12, Jares 11, Kuhns 5, Ivan Lozano 3



6th grade GBB

The Staples-Motley sixth grade girls basketball team played at halftime of the Jan. 16 varsity game



Maros, Lange, Lorber power basketball win

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team won their second game of the season on Jan. 16 by driving to the basket, rebounding, and switching their defense in the second half. Earlier in the week, the team lost 72-32 against Hawley.

Clara Maros and Ellen Lange were the leading scorers against Verndale, both scoring inside and outside, while Oliviah Lorber patrolled the lane to control the boards and score off of rebounds and post up plays.

The Cardinals opened the game with Maros and Lange driving to the basket for scores and Lange made five free throws after getting fouled on her drives. Lorber scored on a putback basket to start a 12-4 run, capped by a three pointer by Lange. But the Cardinal offense went cold and Verndale had an 8-0 run to take the lead again. Late in the first half, Maros and Lorber made three point shots to pull within three at halftime, 25-28.

In the second half, Staples-Motley started playing a zone defense that kept Verndale off the scoreboard for a long time and allowed them to go on a 19-0 run. When Verndale started scoring again, Maros stopped their runs by driving to the basket again and the team held on for a 17 point win.

Team results

Staples-Motley 58, Verndale 41

Scoring: Clara Maros 21, Ellen Lange 16, Oliviah Lorber 11, Sophia Luna 4, Miranda Schotzko 2, Addison Potter 2, Hannah Cole 2



Scoring at the basket

Clara Maros goes up for a basket against Verndale. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Oliviah Lorber hits a three point shot from the corner.



Ellen Lange outraces the defense to the basket on a fast break.



Hannah Cole



Brooklyn Winter

NOTICE
STAPLES TOWNSHIP
ELECTION
ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Township residents needing an Absentee Ballot for the township election on March 11 should contact the clerk at 218-296-2151 between February 7 and March 8, 2025.

Bonnie Thoele, Clerk
Staples Township
5pnc

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE
FORCLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: January 6, 2006
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$195,000.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Kevin J. Bednar, and Penny K. Bednar, husband and wife as joint tenants

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for MILA, Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on August 9, 2006 as Document Number 443619 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to:

U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for the Specialty Underwriting and Residential Finance Trust Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates Series 2006-BC2 by assignment recorded on January 6, 2010 as Document Number 466298 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Bank of America, N.A. by assignment recorded on September 5, 2023 as Document Number A537950 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Nationstar Mortgage, LLC by assignment recorded on November 12, 2013 as Document Number 487120 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for the Holders of the Specialty Underwriting and Residential Finance Trust, Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-BC2 by assignment recorded on October 29, 2014 as Document Number A491803 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North 436.14 Feet to the South 1183.43 Feet of the West 547 Feet thereof of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 17, Township 133, Range 33 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 48218 COUNTY 9, STAPLES, MN 56479

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED:

Todd County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$267,245.95

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: MILA, Inc.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 22-0017500

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1001752-0000289060-9

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: March 13, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Todd County Sheriff's Office, County Detention Center, 115 Third Street South, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on September 15, 2025.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERLY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: January 10, 2025

U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE SPECIALTY UNDERWRITING AND RESIDENTIAL FINANCE TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-BC2 Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: _____/s/_____
N. Kibongani Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Sung Woo Hong, Esq.
Alexa Marsh, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(24-0766-FC02)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
4-9pnc

PUBLIC NOTICES:
Your Right to Know

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD ON DECEMBER 16, 2024

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 16th day of December, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present except Commissioner Denny and Commissioner Noska.

Closed Session
Chair Becker closed the session at 8:03 a.m. to discuss negotiations strategies pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03.

Commissioner Denny arrived at 9:00 a.m. and joined the closed session discussion.

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reopen the session at 9:01 a.m.

Union Negotiations
Summary of proposals and discussion was held with the LELS beginning at 9:03 a.m.

On motion by Denny and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To enter into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03 at 9:33 a.m.

Commissioner Noska arrived at 9:55 a.m. and joined the closed session discussion.

On motion by Neumann and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reopen the session at 10:20 a.m.

LELS unit provided a status update to the County Board to continue this conversation at the next planned meeting on January 3, 2025.

Summary of proposals and discussion was held with the Teamsters Courthouse unit beginning at 10:34 a.m.

On motion by Denny and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To enter into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03 at 11:02 a.m.

On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reopen the session at 11:30 a.m.

Teamsters Courthouse provided a status update to the County Board to continue this conversation at the next planned meeting on January 3, 2025.

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To enter into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03 at 11:32 a.m.

On motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reopen the session at 11:50 a.m.

On motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the meeting was paused at 11:50 a.m. until the next scheduled union appointment time of 12:30 p.m. for lunch.

Chair Becker called the meeting to resume in open session at 12:30 p.m.

Summary of proposals and discussion was held with the Teamsters-Sheriff's Supervisory unit beginning at 12:30 p.m.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To enter into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03 at 1:07 p.m.

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reopen the session at 1:55 p.m.

Summary of proposals and discussion was held with the AFSCME 65 - Public Works unit beginning at 1:55 p.m.

On motion by Neumann and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To enter into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03 at 3:06 p.m.

On motion by Denny and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reopen the session at 3:27 p.m.

Summary of proposals and discussion was held with the AFSCME 65 - HHS unit beginning at 3:27 p.m. On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To close the session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03 at 4:07 p.m.

On motion by Denny and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reopen the session at 4:33 p.m.

Adjourn
On motion by Byers and second by Neumann, the meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

On a motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held December 16, 2024 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on December 30, 2024.

Witness my hand and seal:

/s/ on file

Barbara Becker, County Board Chairperson

/s/ on file

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD ON DEC. 17, 2024

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 17th day of December, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Byers and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented with the move of item 4.6 to now be listed as item 10.2 under the County Sheriff Dept.

Consent Agenda

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motions and resolutions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for November 19 and December 3, 2024 as presented.

To approve a One-Year On & Off Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License for Don & Dave's Store at the address of 26762 County 26, Browerville, MN in Moran Township effective January 1, 2025 through December 31st, 2025.

GAMBLING PERMIT – EAGLE BEND AREA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (EBFD AUXILIARY)

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Eagle Bend Area Community Development Corporation (EBFD Auxiliary) through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Eagle Bend Area Community Development Corporation (EBFD Auxiliary) to hold a bingo event at the Clarissa Ballroom in Eagle Valley Township at the address 19281 Kotter Road, Clarissa, MN on April 13, 2025.

To approve the 2025 tobacco license applications for American Legion Oscar Jacobsen Post #417, City of Clarissa - Clarissa Municipal Liquor, Don and Dave's Store - Staples, Eagle Valley Express - Clarissa, Jon's Family Foods - Clarissa, Partridge Creek Blinds and More LLC - Bertha, Shady's Golden Eagle - Burtrum, Shady's Midway - Long Prairie, Shattuck's Hub Supper Club - Burtrum, and Sidewalks Saloon & Grill - West Union.

Accept the Resignation of Tim Ebneth effective January 3, 2025.

Hire Samuel Wicken PT Correctional Officer, start date TBD at a pay grade of Grade 6 step 1, \$22.55 per hour.

To hire Angela Schleicher to fill the open Public Health Nurse position. Grade 12 Step 7, \$37.65 /hr. Start date: TBD

To hire Erin Schultz to fill the open Care Coordinator position. Grade 10 Step 7, \$33.51/hr. Start date: TBD

Hire Timothy Sweazey for the PT Road Deputy position start date TBD at the starting wage of Grade 10 step 3, \$30.20 per hour.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Byers and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 403590 through 403622 in the amount of \$63,069.67 and (Regular) 58550 through 58590 in the amount of \$72,937.41 for a total of \$136,007.08.

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 806004 through 806063 and (Regular) 712597 through 712636 for a total of \$112,397.75.

On motion by Byers and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Warrants number (ACH) 601502 through 601519 and (Regular) 518190 through 518212 for a total amount of \$71,810.62.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the contract with Peters Law Office for Public Defender services in Todd County for 2025.

Public Works

On motion by Byers and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the Budget Request Form to carry forward \$29,846 in Maintenance Parts-Buildings Funds within Fund 03 Public Works to the 2025 Budget Year.

On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the Budget Request Form to carry forward \$165,420 in Capital Expenditure Funds within Fund 03 Public Works to the 2025 Budget Year.

Discussion was held at the Fall Road Meeting regarding the schedule of roads to be tarred within Todd County. Research will be gathered and discussed further at the Spring Road Meeting.

Ditch/Ag Inspector

On motion by Byers and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unan-

imous vote: Acting as the Todd County Ditch Authority, approves the County Ditch Inspector signing a contract with Todd Carry - Lakes Area Blasting for services detailed in his Quote for Maintenance of County Ditch 41.

MIS
On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Office 365 project and to obligate ARPA funds to support the Office 365 project for a total amount of \$87,668.90.

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Assureon upgrade from ISC for \$208,837.00 and to obligate ARPA funds of \$135,579.89 plus any returned ARPA funding from open projects in 2025 or 2026 currently obligated prior to 12/31/2024.

Planning & Zoning
On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and

approve the preliminary plat for Hinrichs Acres on parcel 15-0045001 with the conditions below.

1. All new driveway accesses shall be approved by the local road authority prior to installation.

2. There shall be no dwelling sites allowed within the development area. Development shall be limited to accessory structures.

3. Abide by all other applicable Federal, State and Local standards.

On motion by Denny and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and approve the Oak Tree Acres preliminary plat on parcel 06-0005100 with the conditions below.

1. All new driveway accesses shall be approved by the local road authority prior to installation.

2. Abide by all other applicable Federal, State and Local standards.

On motion by Denny and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To table the Adoption of Article XII - Regulation on Cannabis Businesses to return to the December 30, 2024 meeting for discussion.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Adoption of the Crow Wing River Memorandum of Agreement for implementation of the CWMP.

County Sheriff
On motion by Noska and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Pay Motorola bill for On-site deployment, configuration and project management bill of \$16,000.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Hire Justin Gother for the FT Road Deputy position start date TBD at the starting wage of Grade 10 step 3, \$30.20 per hour.

Solid Waste
On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the rescinding of Board Action Tracking Number 20241119-06.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve removal of the WIC Coordinator position.

On motion by Neumann and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the revision of BAF 20241203-03 to the correct resignation date of 11/27/2024.

Finance Committee
On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2025 FINAL LEVY
WHEREAS, the Laws of the State of Minnesota direct that the Todd County Board of Commissioners are required to approve by resolution a preliminary levy no later than September 30 annually; and;

WHEREAS, The Todd County Board of Commissioners have considered the financial situation of the County and had an opportunity to deliberate the levying of property taxes upon property owners within the County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approves the following as the 2025 Final Levy for the County of Todd, Minnesota, for the property taxes payable in 2025 and directs that it be forwarded to the County Auditor.

	Certified Levy	Program Aid	Local Levy
General Revenue	23,222,424.00	2,087,764.00	1,134,660.00
Road & Bridge	2,889,924.00		2,889,924.00
Human Services	3,751,265.00		3,751,265.00
Public Health	222,013.00		222,013.00
County Water	5,360.00		5,360.00
Regional Library	347,905.00		347,905.00
Bonded Indebtedness	415,354.00		415,354.00
County Fair	20,000.00		20,000.00
Parks & Trails	25,000.00		25,000.00
Total	23,899,245.00	2,087,764.00	18,811,481.00

On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE 2025 COUNTY BUDGET
WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are required to adopt an annual budget and certify it to the County Auditor, and;

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners have had an opportunity to discuss the operations costs and revenues of the County for fiscal year 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby approve the following as the 2025 Budget for the County of Todd, Minnesota, for the property taxes payable in 2025 and directs that it be forwarded to the County Auditor.

*SEE CHART
County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported that preliminary audit via CLA

See TCC on page 6a

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY OF MOTLEY CODE OF ORDINANCES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Motley, Morrison and Cass counties, Minnesota, has adopted Ordinance No.192 to amend the City of Motley Code of Ordinances. The ordinance amends the schedule of fees and charges for various services and administrative offenses as authorize in the City Code. The Ordinance amends various charges as follows:

POLICE DEPARTMENT		
Police Officer services (security, abatements, etc.)	\$80.00	per hour, per officer, includes squad
WATER		
Meter Size	Monthly service charge	Volume/usage charge (per 1,000 gallons) - billed monthly
less than 1"	\$13.25	\$3.36
1"	\$14.25	\$3.36
1.5"	\$22.25	\$3.36
1" & 5/8"	\$27.25	\$3.36
2"	\$24.25	\$3.36
3" & 4"	\$65.25	\$2.36
4"	\$50.25	\$2.36
SEWER		
Meter Size	Monthly service charge	Volume/usage charge (per 1,000 gallons) - billed monthly
less than 1"	\$10.25	\$4.50
1"	\$10.25	\$4.50
1.5"	\$16.25	\$4.50
1" & 5/8"	\$10.25	\$4.50
2"	\$21.25	\$4.50
3" & 4"	\$50.25	\$3.20
4"	\$50.25	\$3.20
SOLID WASTE/RECYCLE		
Recycling	\$4.50 per month	

A printed copy of the entire Ordinance is available for inspection by any person at the office of the City Clerk, 316 Highway 10 South, Motley, MN during regular office hours or upon request by electronic mail.

LEGAL NOTICE		
TODD COUNTY BUDGET SUMMARY STATEMENT FOR BUDGET YEAR 2025		
The Todd County Budget Summary Statement is Published in accordance with Minnesota Statute 375.169. The complete budget is available for public inspection at the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer's Office during normal business hours.		
REVENUES	2024	2025
Property tax	17,930,898	18,804,881
State General Purpose Aid	2,417,179	2,404,142
Other taxes	1,476,043	1,428,917
Licenses & Permits	174,690	174,800
Federal Grants	5,029,908	4,068,850
State Aids	10,136,351	12,243,428
Local Grants	0	0
Charges for Service	2,611,030	2,670,927
Misc Revenue	3,419,735	2,997,164
Interest on Investments	175,500	251,000
Other Financing Sources	27,700	28,000
Transfers	39,939	5,000
Total Revenue & Other Source	43,438,973	45,077,109
EXPENDITURES		
General Government	6,774,210	7,236,005
Public safety	5,936,677	6,186,128
Highway/Construction	9,300,760	9,119,710
Streets & Highways (excluding Constr.)	4,452,920	4,531,355
Human Services	9,788,100	10,493,622
Health	2,682,800	2,915,750
Culture and Recreation	450,594	448,734
Conservation of Nat Resources	1,453,702	1,628,853
Economic Development	93,200	99,458
Gen Debt Service	417,506	415,354
Capital Outlay	1,457,100	1,682,736
Transfers	631,404	619,404
Other Fiscal Charges	0	0
Total Expenditures & other uses:	43,438,973	45,377,109
Budget Balance	0	300,000
Todd County Auditor/Treasurer Denise Gaida		



Winter moon hanging over Staples

A full moon hung over Staples around 7:55 in the morning with a view from the Hwy. 10 stoplights. (Photo by Janice Winter)

Mandi's Accounting Services open in Staples

Mandi Polito is turning her business experience into an accounting business in Staples.

Mandi's Accounting Services is now open at 138 4th Street NE in Staples, the back portion of the American Family Insurance business, with a door on 2nd Ave. NE.

Polito said she is transitioning out of working for

a company where she takes care of business accounts and manages payroll and personell for several businesses.

Polito is taking appointments for individuals and businesses for accounting services. She will also be able to do payroll services for businesses.

To open the business in downtown Staples, Polito

fixed up the office building to add new walls and paint, and has added her aunt's drawings and artwork to the walls.

Mandi's Accounting Services is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, with appointment hours and expanded hours during tax season.

Carla Fowler is newest anesthesia provider at LHS

Lakewood Health System, Staples, welcomes Carla Fowler, certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA), as the newest provider to the anesthesia team.

Originally from Hold- ingford, Fowler received her graduate degree from the Minneapolis School of Anesthesia. She is a member of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

As a certified registered nurse anesthetist, Fowler will work alongside the surgical team at Lakewood Health System, administering anesthesia and other medications to patients of all ages during medical procedures and surgeries. She is also responsible for monitoring patients during and after receiving anesthesia.



Carla Fowler, CRNA

"I love rural medicine and I'm looking forward to providing high-quality anes- thetic care to Lakewood patients."

Fowler is married with two children. In her free time, she loves to camp, travel, do outdoor activities, and reading.

The Nest pleased with initial fitness activity

By Mark Anderson, Managing Editor

Since opening on Dec. 2, Lakewood Health System and the Staples-Motley School District have reported that they are pleased with the activity spurred by the new facility.

"The positive impact it has already made is truly inspiring, and we're confident it will continue to be a place where people can stay active, build connections, and enhance their overall well-being," said Lakewood President and CEO Lisa Bjerga.

"The Nest has been going better than expected," said Josh Lee, Staples-Motley Activities Director. "Membership is really good and it is being used a lot."

Besides individuals using the fitness facilities, Lee said there are small groups who meet up for walking and friends registering as a group. The busiest times are early in the morning and late afternoons into the evening.

The Nest is open from 6 a.m.-11 p.m. on weekdays, 7 a.m.-3 p.m. on weekends. It is

closed on holidays. Memberships can be purchased monthly or yearly, a smaller membership can be for the walking track only.

Besides the fitness activities, youth basketball and wrestling tournaments are being held at the new space, as well as var- sity sports events. "The game flow is a lot better, we are pleased with the setup," said Lee.

The Nest is being operated by the Sta- ples-Motley School District, but was built by a donation from Lakewood Health System.

Bjerga said the activity shows the impact of a community fitness center.

"One of the most exciting aspects of The Nest is how it aligns perfectly with Lake- wood's vision of empowering health and well-being together," said Bjerga. "It's been wonderful to see the energy and activity happening at The Nest, and we're confident this momentum will only grow as more patients discover and take advantage of this incredible opportunity."



Chamber of Commerce at The Nest

Staples Chamber of Commerce welcomed The Nest into the community with a ribbon cutting in the fitness center area on Jan. 14. From left, John Jewison, Josh Lee, Lori Nienow, Zoe Stevens and Marlo Corona.

The fitness center and walking track around the Sta- ples-Motley High School gym are available to the com- munity to purchase memberships. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



LAKEWOOD WELCOMES

Frany Dadhanian, DO

RHEUMATOLOGIST

Lakewood is pleased to welcome the newest member of its rheumatology team, Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, Frany Dadhanian.

As a rheumatologist, Dr. Dadhanian specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of systemic autoimmune and rheumatic conditions. Her expertise includes managing complex diseases such as rheumatoid and psoriatic arthritis, systemic lupus, scleroderma, and other related disorders. Dr. Dadhanian will be seeing patients at the Staples Clinic.

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, CALL
218-894-8259



LAKEWOODHEALTHSYSTEM.COM