



AGENDA FOR ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 10TH, 2026

1. Call Meeting to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Elect Moderator.
4. Approve Agenda for Rest of Meeting.
5. Approve Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting.
6. Reading of Board of Audit Report.
7. Report of Annual Election.
8. Set Date & Time for 2027 Annual Meeting & Election
(March 9th, 2027; Election 5-8 pm, Annual Meeting at 8 pm, Ideal Community Center).
9. Road & Bridge Report.
10. Fire Department Report.
11. Buildings & Grounds Report.
12. Transfer Station Report.
13. Set levy for 2027.
14. Open Forum.
15. Adjourn.

J. Craig Wallace
Ideal Township, Clerk-Treasurer
February 23rd, 2026

IDEAL TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, MARCH 11TH, 2025



Ideal Township Annual Meeting, March 11th, 2025

The Town Clerk called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were approximately 14 residents in attendance.

The Clerk called for nominations for Moderator of the 2025 Annual Township Meeting. Motion by Dave Peterson, second by Ron Ommen to nominate Jon Grothe. There were no other nominations. Grothe accepted the nomination.

The Moderator asked for any changes to the proposed agenda provided. Motion by John Bilek, second by Patti Peterson to accept the agenda as is. Carried unanimously.

Motion by John Bilek, second by Lynn Scharenbroich, to accept the minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting and a Special Town Meeting in August of 2024 as presented. Carried unanimously.

The annual Board of Audit Report was read by the Clerk. The Board of Audit Report, the Annual Audit & Financial Statements, and the Auditors Communications Letter are available in the Clerk's office.

Moderator Grothe requested the results of the Ideal Township Annual Election. The results presented by the Election Judges were read by the Moderator: Supervisor, 3-year term Ronald Ommen - 49 votes, Tom DeMers - 12 votes. Based on the results, Ronald Ommen was declared winner of the election.

The date and time for the 2026 Ideal Township Annual Meeting and Election was set. Motion by Dave Peterson, second by John Bilek, to hold the Annual Election between the hours of 5pm and 8pm with the Annual Meeting to begin at 8pm. All will take place at the Ideal Community Center on Tuesday, March 10th, 2026. In case of inclement weather, the Election & Annual Meeting may be postponed to Tuesday, March 17th, 2026. Carried unanimously.

The Road & Bridge report was presented by Dave Peterson. The Township in 2024 overlaid a portion of Father Foley Road and Taray Road. Chip sealed Clear Blue Avenue, Gasink Road, Kimble Lodge Road, Ossawinnamakee Road, Schaller Road, Shadow Trail, and Winnamakee Shores. The Governor declared Crow Wing County as a disaster area stemming from the June 12th, 2024, Tornado. The Township spent \$194,958 on storm damage; the State will reimburse the Township 75% of what it spends on cleanup. In 2025 planned road work is pavement markings on Silver Peak Road, Butternut Point Road and the Helipad at Station Two. The Township continues to collaborate with Breezy Point on the reconstruction of Buschmann Road, it was scheduled to be done in 2025 but is delayed until 2026. The Board approved the purchase of a new 2023 John Deere Wheeled Loader to replace the current 1999 loader. The new Loader is lightly used with 157 hours on it and still under warranty.

The Fire Department report was presented by Chief I Luke Hanson. He noted there are 26 members in the department and had 122 Fire Department runs in 2024. Chief Hanson is thankful for the hard work the Fire Department members are putting in with the increased run volume these last few years. He reported on ISO rating info that can affect home insurance rates, some notes about the 2025 training schedule, a review of apparatus inspections, the 2024 Beef Feed fundraiser, future water source infrastructure plans and donations to the department. The department is in the process of creating a red card crew of 10 members. A red card is an accepted interagency certification for wildland fire fighting. This would enable the red carded IFD members to work in State or outstate wildland fires. Having members on a red card crew also is advantageous when applying for FEMA or State grants.

Ron Ommen presented the Buildings & Grounds report. The Ball Field renovation, landscaping around the Town Hall, installation of outdoor smart AED cabinet, parking lot paving and curb were completed in 2024. In 2025 the Township will be researching ways to improve the water source infrastructure for the Town Hall, Park, and Ball Field. In 2024 the Ideal Sno Pros, who maintain a building on Township property, informed the board of their desire to add on to the building. Given that there is some shared space, it is essential that the Township and Sno Pros discuss and agree on the project. While no action has been taken during 2024, we expect that there will be discussions during 2025.

Ideal Township Broadband Infrastructure Update:

The Township broadband infrastructure project is essentially complete. All Township residents have access to this service, via Tremolo (ECTC).

The Transfer Station & Recycling Center report was presented by John Bilek. The Transfer Station had another busy year in 2024 with 2,004 permit holders. The Transfer Station is seeing increased usage from Township residents and neighboring community residents. The Township broke ground on a new office building on the Transfer Station grounds in November of 2024. It will be completed and open in March of 2025. The building will improve service and employee wellbeing.

Dave Peterson spoke regarding the proposed levy and the reasoning on why the 2025 levy was revised at a special town meeting in August of 2024. The Township Board is proposing a 7.11% decrease over the 2025 levy. Motion by Dave Peterson, second by Lynn Scharenbroich to authorize the proposed levy for 2026 at \$1,305,000. Carried unanimously.

Open Forum:

Ron Ommen and Dave Peterson spoke regarding the Township looking into solar power. There is a concern with rising electricity cost and solar could offset that. There is a 35% federal government reimbursement for the solar panels. Ommen met with a representative from Wolf Track Energy regarding the possibility of the Township utilizing solar panels, and Ommen was provided with a plan and potential costs. The board for this next year will discuss possible locations of the panels, viability, partners, and grants. The Township Board would come to the Annual Meeting in 2026 with a proposal for the residents to vote on.

There are seven properties along Buschmann Road that the Township needs easements for the road reconstruction. For six of those properties the acquisition has gone smoothly. There is one property owner that hasn't been as cooperative. The board needs authorization from the residents to pursue eminent domain to acquire the easement and award damages. Motion by Dave Peterson that the Town Board be authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 164.07 to realign, establish, or vacate any portion of Buschmann Road as deemed necessary to complete the joint road reconstruction project with the City of Breezy Point including, but not limited to, establishing Buschmann road across the property with PIN #68430500. Seconded by Ron Ommen. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Dave Peterson, second by Lynn Scharenbroich to adjourn as there was no further business to discuss. Carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

J. Craig Wallace
Ideal Township Clerk
March 13th, 2025

Jon Grothe, Moderator

J. Craig Wallace, Clerk-Treasurer

BOARD OF AUDIT REPORT FOR 2025



Board of Audit Report for 2025, March 5th, 2026

In accordance with Minnesota Statute § 367.36, Ideal Township is required to conduct an outside audit annually. For fiscal year 2025, the audit was performed by the CPA firm of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP.

A Board of Audit Meeting was held on March 5th, 2026, at 10:00am with all Town Board members, Kristen Houle of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP and the Clerk-Treasurer in attendance.

Chairman Bilek presented the 2025 Annual Audit documents to the Board for review. As shown on page 8 of the Financial Statements, the total Governmental Funds receipts from all sources totaled \$1,757,586 with disbursements of \$1,333,169. This indicates a surplus from operations in 2025 of \$424,417.

The 2025 beginning balances of all funds was \$597,007; plus, the 2025 surplus, plus fund transfers leaves a beginning balance for 2026 of \$1,041,424.

Activity of the proprietary enterprise fund representing the operation of the Ideal Transfer Station, as shown on page 10, includes revenue of \$159,664 and expenses of \$166,521 indicating an operating loss of \$6,857. The 2025 beginning balance of \$33,026 plus non-operating receipts (property taxes) of \$5,083 minus the operating loss and a \$20,000 transfer out, leaves a beginning balance for 2026 of \$11,252.

A report of all 2025 Property Tax Settlements paid to the Township from the Crow Wing County Auditor was presented by the Clerk. The total amount received from the 2025 levy was \$1,398,588.41. The approved 2025 levy was \$1,405,000.

A comparison report was presented showing net tax capacity rate (NTC) and total taxable market value (TMV) for the Township since 2004. Values for 2025 tax year show TMV of \$1,659,332,838 which calculates to a tax capacity of \$18,614,439 meaning the Township operated with a NTC rate of 7.549%. Tax capacity is a calculation of the statutory limit that a local government can levy based on the total market value of properties within the jurisdiction. The NTC rate is a measure of financial performance comparing tax capacity to the actual amount levied.

The Clerk gave the Board a demonstration of process procedures and document filing including computerized accounting system (CTAS), monthly reporting process, and year-end procedures. The demonstration indicated compliance with generally accepted practices and that all required filing & reporting has been completed including annual financial reports to the Minnesota State Auditor, periodic and year-end payroll filings and tax payments, workers compensation insurance audit, sufficient deposit account security pledges, and 2026 tax levy certification.

The Financial Statements, and Independent Auditor's Report for 2025 are available to the public upon request from the Clerk-Treasurer.

J. Craig Wallace
Ideal Township Clerk-Treasurer
March 6th, 2025

ROAD AND BRIDGE REPORT 2025

Ideal maintains 76 roads totaling just under 49 miles as certified by the county. We also maintain two bridges on Long Farm Road. The Township approved a resolution in September accepting Grove Creek Trail as a town road and will begin maintaining it as such.

Our maintenance crew has done a good job again this past year maintaining our roads and right-of-ways. This includes plowing & sanding in the winter and mowing during the summer. They also maintain the transfer station, park, both fire stations, and town hall grounds.

The ongoing maintenance & repair of vehicles and other equipment is completed by our crew as much as possible.

The Town purchased a new/used 2024 John Deere Wheeled Loader.

Road and Bridge Account:

Our maintenance crew continues to maintain the road right-of-ways removing trees, grinding stumps, and using the brush hog. This is the first year in a while we haven't had extra costs associated with storm cleanup.

Road Construction Account:

- We spent \$28,701 purchasing right-of-way for the Buschmann Road project.
- Cracked sealed South Arrowhead Drive, Pine Terrace Road, South Kimble Road, West Shore Drive and Station Two Parking Lot.

2026 Planned Road Work

- Crack sealing on Gasink Road, Pinewood Drive, Round Lake Road, Star Lake Drive, Sunset Bay Lane, and Wild Acres – East of Nelson Road.
- We continue to collaborate with Breezy Point on the reconstruction of Buschmann Road. Construction will hopefully begin this year. We're waiting to find out if we'll receive a \$1.5M Local Road Improvement Grant (LRIP) from the state. Results are due to be released around May 1st, after which bids will be advertised.

IDEAL FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



2025 Fire Department Report March 10th, 2026

2026 Officers

Chief I: Luke Hanson
Chief II: Ben Withhart
Chief III: Troy Anderson
Captain I: Dave Peterson
Captain II: Joe Clayson
Chief Engineer: Craig Polchow
Secretary: Brad Foster

Membership

- We currently have 26 active firefighters

Safety incidents: None

ISO Certification

The ISO rating of 7 is given to residents that are within 5 miles of either Station I or Station II. Those residents living more than 5 miles from either Station are at an ISO rating of 9. We have posted this information on the Townships website along with equipment information. If your insurance agent has any questions, they should reference the Township website for information before they contact the Township or the Fire Chief.

Training

The Fire Department continues to keep up its required Monthly Training and always stresses the importance of Safety.

Apparatus

All of the apparatus has gone through their annual inspection and have met pumping requirements.

Ideal Fire Dept Relief Association Fund Raiser 2025

This year, we served just over 2,000 people at the Annual Beef Feed. We want to thank our community for their continuing support of the Beef Feed. We do enjoy hosting this for our community. It is a great time for everyone to gather and enjoy some fellowship.

Donations/Grants

The Department received \$10,950 in donations from individuals and organizations throughout the year and a \$2,000 grant from Sourcewell. Speaking for all IFD members, we thank you.

Future

New training schedule for 2026

Participating in Crow Wing Counties Urban Wildland Interface Plan and started a Red Card crew

Water source infrastructure

Equipment inventory and updating

Luke Hanson

Ideal Township Fire Department

Chief I

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS REPORT FOR 2025

Finished/In Progress Projects:

In 2024 we had discussions on putting an addition on the Sno Pros building. The talks have not progressed over the past year.

In 2025 we began work on determining our water needs and how best to meet them. Our expanded needs include both Fire Department water source infrastructure and expanded water needs for the park. The project should be finalized in the summer of 2026.

2026 Projects:

In 2024 we began the study of adding solar energy to Ideal Township; then found out in late summer of 2025 that there were grant monies available from the state and the federal government and, if we could act quickly, we could qualify for grants that would reimburse us for 100% of the project cost. We did receive the grants, contracted Wolftrack Energy as the installer, and began the installation with an end date of Spring 2026. The project cost is \$207,500 of which all but a small amount is covered by the grants, the small amount being an add on project to finish out the solar array and get us to 104% of current use.

TRANSFER STATION REPORT FOR 2025

- Collected approximately 12 cords of firewood for the Rollie Johnson Rec Area.
- No safety incidents in 2025

USER LOG TOTALS:

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Permits	1948	2004	1929	1807	1869	1863	1273	1321
Mattresses	312	324	394	327	514	384	220	393
Electronics	208	214	188	290	322	472	208	284
Appliances	338	382	389	436	422	412	122	130
Tires	223	228	262	286	405	407	279	324

2025 TRANSFER STATION FINANCIALS

Revenue	\$164,747
Expenses	\$166,520
Net Loss	\$1,773

Metal & Appliances were hauled away at no cost. Approximate total weight 78,000 pounds.

Hazardous waste was picked up by the county at no cost.

IDEAL TOWNSHIP BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2027 LEVY

Proposed 2027 Levy is a 3.06% increase over 2026.

	Proposed 2027	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022
General	195000	195000	195000	190000	190000	185000
Road & Bridge	295000	280000	390000	245000	235000	225000
Road Construction	340000	320000	290000	275000	270000	265000
Fire Department	200000	200000	200000	345000	335000	315000
Parks & Rec	10000	10000	15000	15000	5000	5000
Capital Projects	300000	295000	310000	230000	220000	190000
Transfer Station	5000	5000	5000	5000	15000	17000
Total	1,345,000	1,305,000	1,405,000	1,305,000	1,270,000	1,202,000

Budgetary items under General Revenue:

1. Board member's and clerk's salaries, training seminars, conferences, and expenses.
2. Office supplies & expenses. Election administration expenses.
3. Community Center building maintenance and minor improvements.

Budgetary items under Capital Projects:

1. Vehicle and major equipment purchases.
2. Major building improvements/additions.

Budgetary items under Park & Recreation:

1. Park/Ball Field maintenance and improvements.

Budgetary items under Road & Bridge and Road Construction:

1. Maintenance employee wages and benefits.
2. Annual road construction and improvements. Crack sealing, chip sealing, and road maintenance.
3. Gasoline, diesel fuel, oil.
4. Vehicle and equipment maintenance supplies and repairs.
5. Salt & Sand

Budgetary items under Transfer Station/Recycling Center:

1. Transfer station employee salaries.
2. Disposal of refuse materials.
3. Transfer station maintenance and minor improvements.

Budgetary items under Fire Department:

1. Fire/EMR equipment purchases, fuel, and maintenance.
 2. Firefighter & Recorder wages.
 3. Personnel training.
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