Ice Candle Memorial - December 19, 2020
*No celebration at Town Hall this year.
Please stop by the cemetery to view the candles and honor our loved ones.

Embarrass Town Board Meeting
Wednesday, December 9, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.

Please submit materials for the January 2021 issue to the Embarrass Clerk’s Office by December 23, 2020.
## DECEMBER 2020

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FROM THE EDITOR:
The Flying Finn strives to represent both Embarrass and the surrounding area. To submit articles, advertisements, community notices, letters to the editor, photos, artwork, etc. for the newsletter, mail them to Embarrass Town Hall, 7503 Levander Rd, Embarrass, MN 55732, or e-mail them to embarrasstownship@frontiernet.net. Please include your name, phone number and e-mail address. Photos or other materials will be returned as soon as possible. The township regrets that it is unable to purchase or reimburse for materials which are published. The Town of Embarrass reserves the right to publish or not publish any letter to the editor or other submitted material. Call 218-984-2084 with any questions. ***** Thank you. Diane Nelmark, Editor

Town of Embarrass
Regular Meeting - November 10, 2020
PENDING BOARD APPROVAL

Visitors: None present
Present: Roy Worsham, Gary Rantala, Gene Wright, Mary Novak, Jennifer Boese

Meeting was called to order by Roy Worsham at 6:00 with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion/Wright: Support/Rantala to accept the October 2020 minutes. Carried 3-0.

Motion/Wright: Second/Worsham to accept the October Treasurer’s Report. Carried 3-0.

Motion/Wright: Second/Rantala to transfer the remaining Cares Act Funds, that has a spending/transfer deadline by November 15. The remaining funds in the amount of $1,403.98 to be transferred to the ERVFD to help with some Covid – 19 costs the department has accrued. Carried 3-0.

Motion/Rantala: Second/Worsham to approve the Board of Canvass from the Embarrass November 3 election results. Carried 3-0.

Cemetery deeds were signed by the board.

Motion/Worsham: Second/Rantala to approve Novak and Boese to attend Zoom meetings with Minnesota Association of Township annual meeting and training sessions. Carried 3-0.

Wright discussed direct deposit for township employees and asks clerk to look into the process of setting up.

Motion/Worsham: Second/Wright to accept the claims (17645 – 17679, $13,031.13) and correspondence. Carried 3-0.

Worsham adjourned meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Jennifer Boese

Clerks Corner

Despite what is going on in this crazy world right now, I hope you all were able to have a nice Thanksgiving.

An incredibly special thank you to Embarrass Election Judges for the November 3 election. Judges are such a big part of the election process and they all were very busy and did a fantastic job as always. Embarrass had a wonderful turnout of 327 registered voters that stopped in to vote and another 76 that voted absentee. Thank you Embarrass for exercising your rights and freedoms to vote.

Ice Candle Celebration will be held at the Embarrass Cemetery on December 19. Lighting of the candles will start around 3:30. Unfortunately there will be no gathering at the Town Hall afterwards due to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you would like to help with placing and lighting of the candles, please call the Clerk’s Office at 984-2084 for information.

I wish you all well and A Merry Christmas!

Jennifer Boese, Embarrass Town Clerk
**ADS FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES**
Suggested donation to The Flying Finn
1/4 Page = $8; 1/2 Page = $13; Full Page = $22
To place an ad, write to:
The Flying Finn, 7503 Levander Rd
Embarrass MN 55732
Email embarrasstownship@frontiernet.net or call the Embarrass Town Clerk at 984-2084.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**
Persons interested in subscribing to The Flying Finn may drop off or send a donation of $15 for one year, payable to the Town of Embarrass, 7503 Levander Road, Embarrass, MN 55732.

The Flying Finn makes a great gift for someone who has moved out of the community!

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**Waasa Cemetery Bench Honoring Veteran’s**
Babbitt VFW Post 1539 donated $500 to Waasa Township for a memorial bench. Waasa in turn matched that and ordered and installed a granite bench at the Waasa Cemetery. The bench is inscribed, "IN MEMORY OF BEN NIEMI TO HONOR ALL VETERANS". Ben Niemi was a long-time Cemetery Sexton and a very active member of the VFW post. The late Mitch Lind, Township Supervisor, finished off the ground base for the bench and Supervisor Steve Sipola mounted it in place. Babbitt VFW members, Robert Curtiss and Darwin Salo also assisted. The Waasa Town Board would like to thank VFW Post 1538 and Don at Northland Monuments for their help with this project.

**Waasa Township Election Results**

November 12, 2020

| Number of persons registered as of 7 a.m. | 163 |
| Number of persons registered on Election Day | 11 |
| Total number of persons voted | 155 |

**Waasa Town Supervisor Seat 1**

| Mike Johnson | 140 votes | 2 write-in |
| Nina Honkola | 79 votes | 0 write-in |
| Kimberly Daugherty | 55 votes | 0 write-in |

**U.S. President & Vice President**

| Donald J. Trump and Michael R. Pence | 81 |
| Joseph R. Biden and Kamala Harris | 64 |
| Kanye West and Michelle Tidball | 2 |
| Gloria LaRiva and Leonard Peltier | 1 |
| Jo Jorgensen and Jeremy “Spike” Cohen | 2 |

**U.S. Senator**

| Kevin O’Connor | 9 |
| Oliver Steinberg | 5 |
| Jason Lewis | 72 |
| Tina Smith | 68 |

**U.S. Representative District 8**

| Judith Schwartzbacker | 12 |
| Pete Stauber | 81 |
| Quinn Nystrom | 60 |

**State Senator District 6**

| John J. Moren | 64 |
| David J. Tomassoni | 84 |

**State Representative District 6B**

| Julie Buria | 69 |
| David Lislegard | 80 |

The Flying Finn and the Town of Embarrass welcome announcements about community events and community groups. These submitted announcements are printed here and on following pages. Neither the Town of Embarrass nor The Flying Finn necessarily endorses the viewpoints or ideology of these groups or their events. The Town of Embarrass reserves the right to publish or not publish any letter to the editor or submitted material.
Waasa Township  
Regular Board Meeting  
Wednesday, October 7, 2020; 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mike Johnson, Steve Sipola, Bonnie Keller and Sandra Gibson

Clerk’s Note: Mitchell D. Lind (Mitch Lind), town board supervisor, passed away unexpectedly on September 25, 2020.

Visitors: David Hess, Carrie Westvik, Kevin Kappes, Rich Niemi, Linda Cox and Nina Honkola

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board Chair, Mike Johnson and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Minutes Approval: Mike moved to approve the September 2, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes. Steve supported. Carried (2-0).

Treasurer’s Report: Receipts for today: Embarrass Vermilion Federal C.U., $51.34, Quarterly Dividend

Total Disbursements September 2, 2020 Regular Meeting: $6,161.83. Steve accepted the report and Mike supported. Carried (2-0).

Approval to Pay Bills: Mike moved to approve payment of the bills listed below plus payroll and PERA with support from Steve. Carried (2-0).

- Davey Do-Right Services, $910.00, Mow & Trim Cemetery
- Gibson, Sandra $83.18, Clerk’s Office Supplies
- Lake Country Power $76.88, Electricity for Town Hall
- New Babbitt Weekly News, $32.00, Ad for Selling Lawn Tractor
- Range Office Supply, $23.72, Treasurer’s Checkbook
- Rock, Snow & Fire, $1,900.00, Turnaround for SLC on Teinala Rd.
- St. Louis County – Public Works Dept., $2,510.64, Snowplowing—1st Half
- Sipola, Steve, $42.55, Mileage for Road Supervisor Duties
- U.S. Treasury, $251.21, Quarterly Payment 941

Road Report: Steve made contact with property owners on Teinala Road where a turn-around was needed to be built for the county snowplows. He also cleared a turn-around at the end of Norby Road. An official from St. Louis County checked out both places and gave his approval. Rock, Snow & Fire completed the brushing on Beckman, Niemi and Taapa Roads and built the new turn around. All township roads have been checked and look good.

Cemetery: The clerk has been notified that the bench in memory of Ben Niemi, a veteran and former Waasa Sexton, has arrived at Northland Monuments. This memorial bench project was made possible thru a generous donation from the Babbitt VFW Post 1539, the other half was covered by Waasa Township. It will be placed on a cement slab installed near the flag pole at the Waasa Cemetery. Rich Niemi thanked the township and VFW for this memorial.

Old Business: Mike found an on-line source for the (3) cemetery signs and (2) “Waasa Township” signs in green for a reasonable price. This purchase was approved at the August meeting Mike will get them ordered as soon as possible and turn in a voucher.

The “Wish List / To Do List was reviewed and updated. Mike will contact a couple of electricians in the area for estimates to add a couple of new outlets in the town hall. He will also put up the new window plastic. Steve volunteered to replace the missing pieces of siding on the hall. Clerk’s Note: Near the end of the meeting Carrie Westvik offered to look for siding and to help put it up. Sidewalk patching will be done by Mike, if the weather is favorable.

New Business: Dave Hatfield of Davey Do Right Services, expressed his desire to continue moving the cemetery in the coming year. The board is pleased with his work. A motion made by Steve and supported by Mike to hire Dave Hatfield for the 2021 season. (Carried 2-0).

Mesabi East School District lead bus driver asked if the town hall driveway will be plowed for the winter. There are children living in the neighborhood that need to be picked up. The Clerk referred him to St. Louis County to ask if that would be possible.

The General Election is coming up on November 3, just before the November Town Meeting. One of the election judges is not available to work, but two of the judges are willing to work extra hours to fill in. Extra cleaning precautions were taken at the Primary Election due to COVID-19 and this will be true of the General Election, as well. Table-top plexiglass shields will be used to keep the voters and the Election Judges safe, as well as cleaning after each voter. General Elections run from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. The hours will be on posters around town and published in the Babbitt Weekly News and the Flying Finn.

Insurance Beneficiary Forms were passed out to each member of the board.

A card was signed by the board for Charlotte in an expression of sympathy in the loss of Mitch Lind, our board supervisor’s sudden passing. In lieu of flowers, $100 will be added to Mitch’s final check. So moved by Mike and supported by Steve.

Mike wants the public to know that he will use his phone to connect into the conference number. This way anyone can join in the meeting remotely at TELECONFERENCE CALL: 701-802-5057 & USE ACCESS CODE: 3131553#

Three people in attendance were interested in being appointed to the open seat left by Mitch Lind. The clerk stated that the appointed person needs to fill out Mitch’s term until the end of 2022. At that time, they could file to run for another term of 4 years. Each person was asked to introduce themselves and then each was asked to answer the same questions by Mike. Steve asked a couple of questions, as well as the clerk. The candidates were: Linda Cox, Rich Niemi and Carrie Westvik.

After thoughtfull consideration, Mike voted for Linda Cox, Steve voted for Carrie Westvik. This meant that the clerk was eligible to have the deciding vote. Sandra voted for Carrie Westvik. Mike declared Carrie the winner. The clerk then swore in Carrie Westvik for the position of township supervisor. Mitch’s keys and a township manual were given to Carrie.

Correspondence: All mail was read and filed.

Adjournment: Mike moved to close the meeting at 7:35 p.m. and was supported by Steve.

Respectfully Submitted, Sandra Gibson, Waasa Town Clerk; Mike Johnson, Waasa Board Chair
PIKE SANDY WOMEN’S CLUB

Due to COVID-19 we have made the very difficult decision to cancel all club events from September 2020 through May 2021.

Embarrass Flower and Garden Club

The Embarrass Flower & Garden is suspending all future meetings due to the COVID 19 pandemic. We plan on having some interesting speakers in the future. Please check the Flying Finn for future announcements. For further information, please contact: Linda Cox, President (218) 984-3002 or (218) 780-4143.

Heritage Holidays @ the Nelimark

CANCELLED

due to government mandates.

People may call 984-2302 for orders of breads and Christmas bakery and the details about when orders can be picked up curbside at the Neli.

Ron and Verna

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the Embarrass Region Fair Association Pancake Breakfasts are cancelled until further notice.

Pancake Breakfast

Merry Christmas
Memorial Forest Monument:
Names can be added for the price of $50 a name. The honoree does not need to be a resident of Embarrass Township. Contact Clerk’s Office at 218-984-2084 for more information.
**Sandra M. Heikkila, 77**

Sandra Mae Heikkila, 77, of Embarrass, passed away on Oct. 27, 2020, at Essentia Health St. Mary’s Medical Center in Duluth. A private family service was held on Nov. 3. Arrangements were with Range Funeral Home. A celebration of Sandy’s life will be held next spring or summer.

**Clifford E. Wichern, 79**

Clifford Emil Wichern, 79, of Babbitt, passed away on Oct. 26, 2020, after an eight and a half-year battle with cancer. No services will be held per Cliff’s request.


Cliff was a force of nature, determined to provide for his family and give them the life he felt they deserved. His family meant more to him than anything else in the world, something he often mentioned. He was very proud of his family and always tried his best to support them. He was well known for his sense of humor and quick wit. He was a man among men.

Cliff was passionate about his grandchildren. He enjoyed ice fishing, hunting, running sled dogs, woodworking, and his chickens. He was well known for his caramels, fudge, jerky, salsa, and wine which he enjoyed sharing with others. Anyone who knew Cliff knew that he was the most loving husband, father and grandfather a family could ask for.

Cliff is survived by his wife of 57 years, Jean; sister, Marlys Jacobson of Coon Rapids; daughter, Terrie (John) Goedderz of Babbitt; son, Travis (Kerri) Wichern of Hastings; daughter, Tanaya (Cory) Wills of Babbitt; grandchildren, Mathew, Jordan and Colten Goedderz, Joselyn (Tyler) Rhein, Kailyn and Jacob Wichern, Bradley and Brielle Wills; great-grandchildren, Juniper and Iris Goedderz; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; stepfather; sister, Deloris; and twin grandsons, Trevor John and Travis Benjamin.

**Raymond W. Hill, 82**

Raymond William Hill, 82, of Eveleth, died on Nov. 9, 2020, at Essentia Health in Virginia. He will be greatly missed. He is now home in Heaven. A memorial service for Raymond was held on Nov. 16 at the Range Funeral Home in Virginia with his nephew, Jon Salo, officiating. Burial was at the Vermilion Lake Township Cemetery.

Raymond was born in Vermilion Lake Township on March 24, 1938, to Emil and Elsie (Wilmanen) Hill. He attended Embarrass School.

Raymond had lived at New Journey in Eveleth for many years. Raymond loved having visitors, especially family members. He looked forward to these visits. Raymond had a special gift of remembering everyone’s birthdays, anniversaries, confirmation date, and family history. Not only family, but others who knew him.

He loved singing Christmas hymns, especially at the family gathering on Christmas Eve. He lived in Joy and Happiness. He had a wonderful laugh that was noticed by everyone.

Raymond is survived by his brother, Ronnie Hill of Grand Rapids; sister, Viola Salo (Don) of New York Mills; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins; and those who cared for him.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and sisters, Kay and Jean.

**Inez A. Viney, 88**

Inez Alma Jokinen Viney passed away peacefully on Nov. 17, 2020, at The Virginia Care Center. The family would like to extend their deep heart-felt gratitude and thank you to all the staff at The Virginia Care Center for the excellent care they gave to Inez over the past almost four years. She loved and cared about each and every one of you. You truly became her family during this time of COVID. Private family services will be held at a later date due to COVID.

Inez was born on March 15, 1932, to John and Alina (Maaninga) Hakala in Iron. She graduated from Cherry High School. She was united in marriage to Vernon Jokinen in 1954 and they built their home in Pike Township. She worked at the Arrow Shirt Factory in Virginia until she and Vernon adopted their girls. She later worked at the Arrowhead Nursing Home in Virginia as a Certified Nursing Assistant until her retirement in 1995. She was married to Vernon until his death in 1980.

In 1982, Inez married George Viney and they were married until his death in 1998. She loved to bake and go for walks along the trails on the land they owned. She also enjoyed berry picking and planting flowers. They are all loves that she passed down to her daughters and granddaughters. She was a dedicated mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She is survived by her daughters, Gayle (Daniel) Padgett of Embarrass and Glori (Brett) Lundstrom of Pike-Sandy; stepdaughter, Melonie (Dwayne) Westley; granddaughters, Aleena, Autumn and Calli; step-granddaughter, Sheena; step-grandsons, Nathan and Isaac; and eleven great-grandchildren.
She was preceded in death by her parents; first husband, Vern; second husband, George; brother, Vernon (Ellen) Uutela; and two nephews, Derris and Dyroen.

Shirley A. Korpela, 94

Shirley Ann Korpela, 94, of Virginia, passed away on Oct. 24, 2020, in Virginia. The family thanks the staff at Virginia Carefree Living for their loving care of Shirley. A memorial service was held on Nov. 5 at Woodlands Bible Church in Eveleth, following CDC mask guidelines, with Justin Monacelli officiating. Private family burial was at the Sand Lake Chapel Cemetery.

Shirley was born on Jan. 8, 1926, in Virginia, to John and Mathilda (Kauppila) Hanala. She grew up in Pike-Sandy and attended school there and in Embarrass. On Sept. 22, 1945, she was united in marriage to Harold Korpela at the Sandy Lutheran Church, after Harold returned home from serving in World War II.

Prior to marriage, Shirley attended seamstress school in Duluth. She worked at the Shirt Factory in Virginia sewing military uniforms during WWII, and continued working until their first child was born. Shirley then devoted her life to her family as a homemaker. She also devoted her life to her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. She taught Sunday School at the Sand Lake Chapel for many years and led many young souls to Jesus.

Harold and Shirley lived in Wuori Township while raising their family, and then bought their home on Lake Vermilion, where they lived for 30 years until moving to Virginia.

Shirley was a friend to many and an active community member. She volunteered for the Food Shelf and Meals on Wheels for many years. She also was an election judge and did volunteer work with the Vermilion Lake Association. She was a member of the Ladies of Kaleva. Shirley worshipped with the church family at the Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church in Virginia.

After moving to Carefree Assisted Living, she worshipped there on Sundays. The family would like to thank Pastor Eugene and Rebbecca O’Brien for ministering to her during her stay at Carefree. She also faithfully watched and enjoyed the Woodlands Bible Church broadcast on TV.

Shirley is survived by her daughter, Jill (Jerry) Korpela-Bontems of Tower; son, Steven of Virginia; grandsons, Justin (Margret) Monacelli and Ryan (Amy) Monacelli, both of Eveleth; great-grandchildren, Lindsay (David) Hernandez of Iron, Noah Monacelli of Eveleth, Evan Monacelli of Cloquet and Drake Monacelli of Duluth; great-great-grandsons, Ezra Hernandez and Roman Hernandez; and her special “double” cousin, Norma Bodovinic. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Harold; son, Jay; three sisters, Sheila, Beverley and June; eight brothers, Russell in infancy, John, Harley, Hartley, William, Kenneth, Elgin in infancy and Dalton.

To the Embarrass Region Fair, Team Penning Committee and Participants,

On behalf of my families and I, a BIG SINCERE THANK YOU goes out to each and every one of you involved for making such a successful Team Penning Event in the memory of Danny Theel

We know how much work and effort it takes to get this event put together!! There is no need to mention names as there are MANY and YOU know who you are! All of you did a GREAT JOB!

Thank you ALL for honoring us through Danny and his love of this event

May your upcoming Holidays be warm, happy, and safe

So Sincerely, Toni and families
**Trapline Liquor**
4897 Hwy 21
218-984-BYOB (2962)
traplineliquor@yahoo.com

Don’t limit happy to an hour
Open Mon-Sat, 8 am-10 pm
Sunday 11 am – 6 pm

Come see us for your Celebration Needs!

---

**Trappline Convenience Store**
4897 Hwy 21 - - - 218-984-2962

Monday – Saturday 8am-10 pm, Sunday 11 am-6 pm

**SNACKS:**
Pop, Juice
Energy Drinks
Candy, Chips

**GROCERIES:**
Milk, Eggs
Bread, Butter
Italian Bakery
---lots more!

**READY TO GO:**
Sandwiches
Ice
Coffee

**ATM**
Lottery
Cigarettes
Tobacco Products
DNR Licenses
Landfill Cards

**FROZEN ITEMS:**
Ice Cream
Pizzas

**OTHER:**
Cleaning Supplies
Baking/Cooking Items
Toilet Paper
Misc Personal Care
Some Auto Fluids

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**Offices in Aurora, Babbitt & Ely**

Check www.zupnorth.com for listings.
Our agents offer 90+ years of industry experience and are available by appointment, 24 hours a day, seven days a week! Contact any of our hardworking agents! Andrea Zupancich, Broker; Jan Erchul, Assoc Broker; Sara Powell, Kim Borgeson, Beth Rykken, Norma Jean Johns, Harry Drabik, Joyce Giblin, Misty Merhar, or Nikki Stanigian. Here to serve YOU!
EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
5606 E Taylor Rd, Embarrass, MN 55732
218-984-3402
www.efreechurch.com
E-mail: embfree@frontier.com

Sunday Family Worship, 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Sunday School Classes, 10:20 a.m.
Wednesday Women’s Bible Study, 9 a.m.
Wednesday Kids on the Rock, 4 p.m.
Wednesday ENGAGE Youth, 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services:
December 24, 2020, 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY MESSAGES:
December 6  “Team Lift”
December 13  Christmas message
December 20  Christmas message
December 27  Christmas message

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
5088 Hwy 21, PO Box 1076, Embarrass

Office hours
Tues & Thurs 4:30-7 p.m., Sat 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
hopelutheranembarrass@gmail.com
218-984-2037

All regular church services begin at 10:30 a.m.
with Interim Pastor, Brian Birk of Tower, MN

December 6  Confirmation 9:30, Service 10:30
December 13  Confirmation 9:30, Communion Service 10:30
December 20  Confirmation 9:30, Service 10:30
December 27  Confirmation 9:30, Communion Service 10:30

COVID guidelines will be adhered to. Please call the church for further updates.

God welcomes all people!
You are welcome here!

PIKE APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN
6997 Oberg Rd (on Hwy 169)
www.apostoliclutheran.org

Due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus outbreak, Social Distancing guidelines will be adhered to if services are held. Sunday services have been cancelled for the month of December.

Christmas Eve Service
December 24 – 5:00 p.m.
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