

# Town of Namakagon Civic History

## Cable, Wisconsin 54821

**On January 21, 1912**, a petition was started to secede from Cable Township. The main reason for secession was that most of the highway money was being used to build roads in the west end, and the children in the east end couldn't always get to school due to no roads.

**Dr. Laughlin donated land for a schoolhouse** on Lot 2, Section 21, T43, R6 in what was still Cable Township. He later built and equipped Lakewoods School on this property. This school and the Namakagon School housed the town meetings until a town hall was built.

**In the secession case**, the settlers were represented by the Ashland law firm of Sanborn, Lamoreux & Pray. Victor Anderson and Joseph Good made many trips by horse and buggy to Cable and Grand View, and later by train to Madison to present their case to legislators and senators. On May 20, 1913, a bill was passed in Madison creating the Town of Namakagon. The cost to the residents of the law firm was \$150.00.

**The first caucus meeting for the town** was held on March 14, 1914 at the home of Joseph Good. The first town meeting was held in April 1914, and the town's schools pulled away from the Cable schools that summer to form their own district. The first plat map of the town was drawn by Sawyer County Surveyor, Harry Johnson, in late 1915.

**In March of 1915**, land by the first dam was conveyed to the Immigraion Company by North Wisconsin Lumber Company for a period of fifteen years. Immigraion was then renamed the Namakagon & Totogatic Dam Company. This occurred despite efforts by the Glover family who wanted to control the dam, and had been the biggest opponents to Namakagon becoming a town.

**Construction for a town hall** was approved on April 26, 1921 at an annual town meeting. Elmer McKay was awarded the contract to build the 32'x50' building at a cost of \$1,975.00.

**At the annual town meeting in 1962**, it was discussed whether to remodel the town hall or to build a new one. During a special meeting on October 15, 1962, the town board was authorized to proceed with plans for a new town hall, and to apply for a grant from the Federal government to assist with the cost.

**Another special meeting was held** on September 4, 1963 to discuss building the new hall because the prior meeting was not properly posted. A resolution was passed for the town to purchase land from Sam Golz at Birches Corner, and to solicit bids for building the new hall.

Four Star Construction was awarded the contract in February, 1964 for the low bid of \$40,905.00, with work to begin that March and completed in July.