

Assessor Ole Kleppe
Trustees Sam O. Lee, Ole Tvedt, H.E. Myhre

September 19, 1916, A committee was appointed to investigate the purchase of an electric light plant.

October 30, 1916, The election favored buying the light plant. Board sidewalks were ordered laid on Minnesota Avenue.

March 16, 1917, Dr. Johnson was elected mayor. A poll tax was levied that all men from 21 to 50 should pay a poll tax equivalent to one day's labor or pay two dollars cash.

October 15, 1917, Purchase was ordered for the constable, star, club handcuffs.

April 9, 1918, A roof ladder and six buckets were purchased for fire equipment.

May 28, 1918, A lot was purchased for the light plant south of the present village hall.

October 19, 1918, To prevent the spread of influenza the council ordered the public meetings be cancelled.

February 20, 1919, The council granted Ole Tvedt and Olaf Nelson licenses to sell cigarettes.

April 3, 1921, H. C. Haugen was appointed assessor.

April 30, 1921, Election was held giving approval to enlarge the light plant.

October 3, 1922, Three acres of land were purchased from Tonnes Nelson for a village cemetery.

May 3, 1922, Board sidewalks were ordered laid on those blocks of Minnesota Avenue.

1929, An acre of land as bought from Andrew Ekman for a village dump ground.

July 1938, At the election the voters voted against licensing the sale of intoxicating liquor.

1938 Storm sewers were laid.

1948 Fire department was organized.

1949 Resolution was made for the rebuilding of sidewalks.

1954 A well 126 feet deep was dug and a water tower erected.

1960's New sewers were laid, street curbing and blacktopping on Minnesota Avenue.

1970 A new well was dug 385 feet deep.

Newfolden Newspapers

In 1895 S. Tunheim edited a Norwegian religious periodical called Bud og Hilsen which for many years was dispatched from the Newfolden post office. At its peak, Bud og Hilsen had 8,000 subscribers. After Tunheim's death in 1918 Bud og Hilsen was printed and mailed at Minneapolis.

In 1907 Mr. Haines of Fountain, Minn. came to Newfolden and started a weekly newspaper known as Newfolden Review. He set up an office and printing shop in the south lounge of the Central Hotel. Three or four years later Mr. Haines sold out to Mr. Raerdon who moved the printing press to the second floor of the Nordrum complex. From 1910 to 1913 Eddie Grimstad became the owner and publisher of the Newfolden Review. Then Mr. Smith from Thief River Falls tried for one year to publish the paper but who sold out to E. M. Wilson who continued till 1916 or thereabout. When he quit the Warren Sheaf took over the mailing list and carried a Newfolden section. In 1932 another attempt was made to publish a Newfolden newspaper, and it was named The Newfolden Clarion with C. H. Cook of

Strandquist as editor. After Mr. Cook moved to Newfolden Norman Johnson in 1936 bought the paper. In 1941 he sold to A. Holmlund who continued the publication until October 10, 1941, the last issue of the Newfolden paper. Now the Newfolden news is carried by the Middle River Record.

The Newfolden School

Much should be written about the public school but only the background or early beginnings will be given here. On July 23, 1888 the county commissioners of Marshall County authorized the formation of school district number 49 to include all of Newfolden township. The request had been made by Ole Hevle who secured signatures on a petition submitted to the commissioners. Even before the organization of the district some of the parents had arranged for school to be held at the Gust Eckman farm home with Miss Lavina Rokke as teacher. Later another bachelor, K. M. Gustavson, opened his home for school with Miss Olga Willer as teacher. The first school building in district 49 was built in the southwest corner of the Anton Johnson farm in the center of the northwest corner of section about three fourths of a mile southwest of the present village of Newfolden. Evidently the structure was erected in 1888 or 1889. (That Old building is now the center portion of the Bella Garfve residence in the village). Early teachers in district 49 were Anna Ahlberg, Regina Paulson, and Olga Willer. It soon became evident that the district was too large so out of this township district were created three other districts which were Number 68, number 69, and 79. It is interesting to note that thirty years later the four districts became the present district number 441 along with many other additions as time passed. From 1904 to 1908 the village children walked to the school located southwest of the village. The teacher in District number 49 in 1904-1905 was Miss

Emma Tunheim who taught a term of five months with an enrollment of 39 pupils in seven grades. The teachers who succeeded Miss Tunheim before the new school was built in the village were Jacobine Grimstad, James Mack, and Martha Thorson. School board members at that time were Gust Ekman, Ole J. Olson, and Nels Ekman. The two room cement block school was erected in the village 1908 on the south side of the highway. Stuverud was the contractor and O. M. Knutson was one of the carpenters. This cement block structure was moved farther south in the same block when in 1916 the brick building was built. In 1908-1909 Miss Martha Thorson taught the upper grades and Miss Ester Thomas the primary department. In 1909 the first rural 8th grade graduation in Marshall county was held in the Newfolden school for twelve young people of districts 49, 69, 68. To graduate from the 8th grade the pupils had to pass the State Board examinations. The next teachers were Miss Elizabeth Rankin and Miss Draxten. Miss Rankin later became assistant county superintendent. In 1913 she arranged for a Marshall County Teachers meeting at Newfolden. Mr. Ballard of the State Normal School at Moorhead was the speaker. Mrs. Bjornson rendered a piano solo and Miss Dovre read a paper.

The young people who graduated from the 8th grade looked forward to further education and some of them went to the high school at Thief River Falls and some went to the Northwest school of Agriculture at Crookston. After some agitation by parents the school board hired a couple of extra teachers and rented the old bank frame building. The two teachers were Miss Grace Bancroft and Arthur Johnson. Freshman subjects were taught the first year. In 1916 consolidation of district was approved and a new brick building was erected. The school then became known as Newfolden Community School.

The members of the 1916 school board were L. P. Slattum, H. E. Myhre, John Lokstad, Brede Svendson and Ole Kleppe, Carl Hanson.

In the spring of 1918 the first high school graduation was held in Newfolden. The graduates were: Ole Schey, Ernest Myhre, Ada Gerdlund, Harry Lokken. The latter was employed by the State Department of Education in St. Paul for many years. The superintendents of the Newfolden school have been:

B. C. Keufler		Ted Leland	1944- 1950
Arthur Johnson	1917- 1918	Trushenski	1950- 1954
T. Jackson	1918- 1919	John P. Halvorson	1954- 1967
Oscar Yngve	1920- 1921	Gene Kjellberg	1967- 1970
R. R. Werline	1921- 1931	Charles Peterson	1970- 1971
J. M. Mork	1931- 1943	Gene Busch	1971-
Les Anderson	1943- 1944		

In 1931 the old cement block building was remodeled as a gymnasium. In 1939 a new gymnasium W.P.A. project was built and a corridor connected it with the old cement block building.

During the span of time from 1916 many districts have been consolidated with district number 49 and has been renumbered 441. Many changes have been made in curricula and organization. In 1970 a million and a half dollar new high school building was erected on the north side of the highway.

Churches in Newfolden

The history of the churches will be given in abbreviated form only for the congregations have from time to time published histories of their churches.

The first beginnings of the churches will be briefly reviewed. The people and the pastors of the Newfolden area were concerned from the very first about the spiritual welfare of their families. In 1904-1906 Pastor Ordahl and Pastor Palm who served the Holt congregation came to Newfolden and held services in the Stamnes hotel lobby.

Pastor H. Ostgulen of Warren came to Newfolden and held services at the Ole Johnson Hotel lobby and sometimes in the Kleppe hall. S. Tunheim, an evangelist, also conducted services in various homes and the Kleppe hall. The very first Sunday school in the village was non-denominational held in the mission Church. Anna Ahlberg, the teacher, walked three miles from her home east of the village to teach Sunday school. She also started a small Sunday school library.

Den svenske Evangeliska Gustav Adolph Forsamling

(Swedish Lutheran Augustana Church)

The Swedish Lutheran congregation was organized as early as 1896. It called pastors, organized a Sunday School, and a Ladies' Aid with Mrs. Andrew H. Anderson as president. It laid out a cemetery on the northeast corner of the northwest section nine in Newfolden township. In 1905 and 1906 the congregation built a church in the village of Newfolden at a site north of the Oscar Hanson residence. After the congregation dissolved in the thirties the Augustana Synod moved the church to Strandquist, Minn. where it was annexed to Bethesda Lutheran Church.

The following pastors have served the congregation:

Rev. T. Seashore 1897-1899 Student Dahlquist 1899-1901
 Rev. O.J. Chilgren 1901-1904 Rev. A.J. Ryden 1907-1911
 Rev. A. Westlund 1911-1915 Rev. A.A. Larson 1915-1924
 Rev. Blom 1924-

Evangelical Free Church

(Newfolden Mission Church)

The Swedish and the Norwegian Evangelical Free Church groups organized a congregation and built the Mission Church in 1906 under the leadership of S. Tunheim, and the building committee. The ministry of the congregation has been