



# Duluth Township Newsletter

January 2022

Township website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

## What's coming up.....

- ◆ Update on Zoning Ord. p. 4
- ◆ News from NSCS p. 6
- ◆ Scholarship Opportunity p. 7
- ◆ What's in the Kitchen p. 8
- ◆ Community Calendar p. 11

# HAPPY NEW YEAR



## Open Seats on Town Board 2022

### Homesteaders

Dorothy Aho

January 5, 2022: Wednesday, 12:30 pm, Town Hall, New Year's Celebration, potluck and bingo.

February 2, 2022: Wednesday, 12:30 pm, Town Hall. Sandwiches and Bars.

March 2, 2022: Wednesday, 12:30 pm, Town Hall. Potluck with cake and ice cream to celebrate all the years together.

Due to the rising cases of covid, it has proven difficult to secure entertainers for our group. With that said we will not be having any entertainment at our meetings until further notice. If you have any suggestion on potential entertainment options, contact Dorothy.

**Everyone is welcome!**

Are you interested in local government? Would you like to be a voice for residents of the Township? This March, elections will be held for 2 Town Board Supervisor positions on the 5-member Board of Duluth Township. If you are interested, the information below will help you:

### Notice of Filing for Township Election

Notice is hereby given to qualified voters of Duluth Township that filing for Town office will be open for a two-week period from December 28 to January 11, 2022. Affidavits of Candidacy can be filed with the Town Clerk at the Duluth Township Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804, during regular business hours from December 28, 2021, to January 11, 2022. A filing fee of \$2.00 must be paid at this time. The office will be closed Friday, December 31, 2021, in observance of New Year's Day. Filing will close on January 11, 2022, at 5:00 pm. The Town Clerk office will be open Tuesday, January 11, 2022, as per MN Statute 205.13, subd 1a, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

Offices to be filled at the March Annual election are:  
2 Supervisor positions for 3 year terms

\*To see color versions of the photos in this Newsletter, visit the Town's website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

### Thanks to all of the contributors to this issue

Dorothy Aho, Val Brady, Nicole Chatterson, Bob Engelson, Sue Lawson, Beth Mullan, Shawn Padden, Shelly Pierson, Sherry Rovig, John Schifsky, Carol Surine, Carla Tamburro and the second and third grade students at NSCS, and Jo Thompson.



**Fire Department**  
Bob Engelson, Chief  
Sherry Rovig, Secretary



**Police Department**  
Shawn Padden, Chief  
Paul Johnson, Officer

2021 has been a busy year. We have been called out over 106 times as of this newsletter printing.

Along with high call volumes, we had damage to Hall 1 from broken pipes and boiler issues. Fortunately, our insurance has covered repairs and our community has supported us and expressed gratitude for our service. We appreciate everyone's efforts to get vaccinated and stay healthy.

More of our neighbors have stepped up and installed new 911 signs at their driveways, though there are still unclaimed signs at the Town Hall. You can pick up yours during Town Hall hours.

Many homeowners have cleared dead and dying balsam from their woodlots. The Greenwood fire was strong motivation to be more Firewise. We can do more. Please continue to watch out for each other as we watch over our community.

Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2022 from all of us at Clifton Volunteer Fire Department.

**For medical & police emergencies, call 911.**

Sign up for email police alerts and other urgent or informative notifications at the Township website:

[www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

**Police Events:**

For the months of October and November 2021, there were 167 recorded police events. The following is a complete list of Initial Complaint Reports and officer-related activity within Duluth Township. Most were direct service to residents. There were 55 requests for checks on homes or businesses, 12 medical emergencies, 12 public assists, 9 attempts to locate careless drivers, 9 burglar alarms, 8 animal complaints, 7 extra patrol requests, 6 health/welfare checks, 5 property damage accidents, 5 fire alarms, 5 traffic related warnings/citations, 4 assist other agencies, 4 disturbance complaints, 4 suspicious activity, and 4 theft complaints. There were 2 each of the following: civil process, suspicious vehicle complaint, check hazard, unwanted person complaint, and criminal sexual conduct. There was also 1 each of the following complaints: child neglect, suicide threat, fraud, damage to property, alcohol compliance check, recovered property, domestic dispute, personal injury accident and OFP violation (order for protection).

If you have any information about any criminal activity in our community, please contact the Duluth Township Police Department at: 218-525-5705, on our mobile phone: 218-393-8407, or by email:

[duluthwppolice@duluthtownship.org](mailto:duluthwppolice@duluthtownship.org).

**Note:** If you need/want/expect a police squad to respond immediately, call 911. Other than 911, the quickest way to get our police response is to leave a message on our squad phone (218-393-8407).

FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE!  
FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE!  
  
**FREE AND NEW! JUST CALL!!**

  
Old style! This needs to be **REPLACED!!!!**

**Country Kids Day Care**  
**218-343-6370**  
Infants to School Age  
Licensed  
Bus to NSCS & Lakewood  
Schools  
Accepting Full and Part Time  
  
*Paid Advertisement*

**WAGGIN' Tails**  
Boarding Kennels  
Long & short term  
boarding  
  
Reservations  
Required  
218-525-4842  
7002 App Rd.  
Two Harbors  
  
*Paid Advertisement*

**Regular Community Meetings**  
AA meets at 7 pm on Tuesdays at French River Lutheran Church on Ryan Road.

**LOOKING FOR A HOME TO RENT?**  
**OR**  
**LOOKING FOR A RENTER FOR YOUR HOME?**  
Call **Apartment & Home Advisors**— We can help!  
We specialize in properties of distinction and we help “take the stress out of moving.”  
Call **Suzie Lannon**, Licensed Minnesota Broker,  
218-720-3987  
  
*Paid Advertisement*



Dave Edblom, Blane Tetreault, Angela Wilson, Liz Strohmayer, and Dave Meyer  
(Not pictured: Pam West and Justin Osadjan)



Penny Morton, Michael Kahl, Rolf Carlson, John Schifsky, Tim Strom

### Summary of Planning Commission Meetings

Official minutes by Planning Secretary Beth Mullan are available on our Township website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

#### October 28 Planning Commission Meeting.

Commission members present: Liz Strohmayer, Dave Edblom, Angela Wilson, Pam West, Blane Tetreault, Justin Osadjan, and Dave Meyer.

A public hearing was held for a high-frequency short-term rental on Aho Road. The applicant hoped to use the home as a vacation rental for his own family and be able to rent it to others when his family was not using it. He had previously applied in August but had presented insufficient evidence in his application to support the request. He had had communication with his closest neighbor and worked to alleviate concerns that neighbor had. No one was present from the public for or against the proposed rental. The use was approved as an interim use for a period of 12 months, with a limit of 120 rental days, by a unanimous vote. The Commission reviewed the October 19 open house for the presentation of the Draft Zoning Ordinance. Of note was the interest in the Shoreland Streams Overlay and also in farming. Clint Little, Coastal Program Specialist with the DNR, was present with GIS capabilities and was able to show folks where their properties were in relation to zoning.

#### November 16 Planning Commission Meeting.

Commission members present: Angela Wilson, Pam West, Justin Osadjan, and Blane Tetreault.

The comments from the October 19 Open House for the Draft Zoning Ordinance were presented. The comments concerned the Shoreland Streams Overlay (SSLO), livestock, high-frequency short-term rentals, driveways, isolated camping sites, agriculture, and greenhouses. Some commentors felt the SSLO was wide. The Commission felt that since the width had not changed since the 1980s and had not yet been a significant issue, it should remain as is. In response to comments concerning high-frequency short-term rentals, the Commission adopted additional requirements limiting the maximum number of rental days per year to 60 days, and requiring that the rental be occupied by the owner as a primary residence for at least 9 months of the year. One commentor thought the Town should adopt language addressing "market farms" as a use that has evolved from traditional agriculture. The Commission agreed and, with his input, developed the definition "A farm existing to produce and sell agricultural products to the local region which may include some or all of the following seasonal activities: on-farm and/or off-farm sales of agricultural and related value-add products, on-site agricultural related events, food sales, and pick or cut your own operations." They added performance standards for the use. Other comments were addressed by the Commission choosing to leave the language as is or by making minor modifications.

#### December 2 Public Hearing for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Number 6.

Eight members of the public attended the public hearing. The Planning Director reviewed the comments received on the Draft Zoning Ordinance and how they were addressed. Among the comments made regarding the Proposed Zoning Ordinance were that the Town overregulates the residents of the Township and that enforcing could be a problem, that allowed livestock animal units were too strict, that farm stands should not have to register with the Town if they are registered with the State, and that allowing isolated camping sites at the proposed density could be disruptive.

Regular **Planning Commission Meetings** are held on the fourth Thursday at **6:30 pm** in the Town Hall

### Summary of Town Board Minutes

Official Minutes by Town Clerk Nicole Chatterson are available at the Town Hall and on our Township website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

**October 14 Regular Meeting:** In attendance: Supervisors Tim Strom, Rolf Carlson, Michael Kahl, Penelope Morton, and John Schifsky; Town Clerk Nicole Chatterson, Treasurer Mel Peulen.

**Reports:** Treasurer: Beginning balance \$606,529.26, deposits of \$114,666.76, expenses of \$22,703.70, ending balance of \$698,492.32. All claims were approved for payment, and the payroll net account distribution and claims list for approval were signed. Fire: John made a motion that the Clerk may write discretionary checks up to \$200.00 per month after a discussion with MAT. Seconded by Penny. Motion passed unanimously.

Roads: Township roads are looking good; not all projects were completed this year. Contracts will be drafted for Mace and Englund Roads. No sign of ditching has been done as planned in Oct. There will be a follow-up. Town Hall: John made the motion to adopt Resolution 10142021, designating a polling place for the precinct of Duluth Township, seconded by Michael. The resolution passed unanimously.

American Rescue Act (ARA): We have received \$111,848.56; this is our first installments of the ARA. Nicole will reach out to the State for more information on what we can use the funding for. Personnel: Tim made a motion to raise the Clerk's wages by 15%, retroactive to Sept. 10, 2021, when she took over the position. Seconded by John. Motion passed unanimously. Interviews for Deputy Clerk position will be conducted before Nov. 18 meeting. Michael and Sue met and created a draft advertisement for a planning assistant to be published in the newsletter.

**November 18 Special/Regular Meeting:** In attendance: Supervisors Tim Strom, Rolf Carlson, Michael Kahl, Penelope Morton, and John Schifsky; Town Clerk Nicole Chatterson.

A special meeting was held prior to the regular scheduled meeting to interview 4 applicants for the Deputy Clerk position. Public comments: Matthew Johnson, Planning and Community Development Director for St. Louis County discussed Flood Plain Ordinance. The County or Township needs to administer an ordinance. Sue will be working with Matt moving forward.

**Reports:** Treasurer: Beginning balance \$698,492.32, deposits \$1,692.98, expenses, \$32,324.92, ending balance of \$667,860.38. All claims were approved for payment, and the payroll net account distribution and claims list for approval were signed. Fire: Bob Engelson and John Schifsky have been working with Dave Mount regarding funding of the PERA contributions. Planning and Zoning: Ordinance discussion set for Jan. 20, 2022, at 6:30 pm. Roads: Rodda completed the road work for 2021. Reports of garbage dumping in multiple locations and signage knocked over. Michael will look into it. Security Alarm System: Michael made a motion to authorize up to \$1,200.00, \$600.00 per Town Hall and Fire Dept., to purchase cameras and freeze alarms. Seconded by John. Motion passed unanimously.

American Rescue Plan Act: We will be receiving \$223,697.18. Discussion on permissible uses for the funds. No need to commit to expenditures until Dec. 2024. Personnel: Tim made a motion to offer the Deputy Clerk position to Hannah Jurek. Seconded by Penny. Motion passed unanimously. Wages: Rolf made a motion to pay the new hire \$1,120.00/month for 15 hrs. per week. Seconded by Penny. The motion passed unanimously. New Business: Resolution 20211118. Penny made the motion to elect Kevin J. Bovie to the Duluth NSSD Board of Managers. Seconded by John. The resolution passed unanimously.

Regular **Town Board meetings** are held on the second Thursday at **6:30 pm** in the Town Hall

**Even in Winter, Pick up the Poo, Prevent the Goo!**

Jo Thompson and Valerie Brady

Winter snows seem to magically make pet waste disappear, only to reappear as a gooey mess when the snow melts. This reminds us that, indeed, **there is no Poop Fairy**. With snow melt and rain events (which happen now even in winter), that goo can appear in our ditches, streams, and the lake as bacteria and nutrients, which can wreak havoc with our clean water. Also, trying to navigate through or clean up a winter's worth of poop is no fun! So, pick up your pet waste before it gets covered in snow!



**Salt Smart!** Help keep our waters clean: As winter brings us icy walkways and driveways, remember to use salt sparingly. More is not better. Salt does not work below 15° F. Use coarse sand instead.



The Township Board received a written communication from Coop Light and Power. That communication is attached to the [official minutes](#) and is duly noted.

**Vacancy on the Township Planning and Zoning Commission**

Planning Director, Sue Lawson

The Planning Commission is a 7-member board that guides the implementation of the Township's Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Land Use Plan. No special qualifications are necessary to serve on the Commission other than an interest in the Township's future and a willingness to serve. Commission members serve 3-year terms and cannot serve more than two consecutive terms. The Commission holds regular monthly meetings on the 4th Thursday of each month, with occasional special meetings as the need arises. Commission members receive a per-meeting stipend.

Interviews to fill the vacancies will be held by the Town Board. Interested residents should submit a letter of interest including relevant past experience **by January 31, 2022**, to: Duluth Township, Attn: P&Z Commission Vacancy, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804. If you have questions, leave a message for the Planning Director at the Town Hall, 525-5705

**Updating the Zoning Ordinance  
Planning Commission**

As you may be aware, the Planning Commission has been working on updating the current Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map in light of the updated Comprehensive Land Use Plan adopted in 2020. The Planning Commission met over the past year to consider changes to the Ordinance and Map and to seek comments from the community.

Thank you to all of those who attended the Public Hearing on December 2, 2021, to testify and to those who sent in testimony.

The Planning Commission is reviewing the testimony and will be sending a report to the Town Board with a recommended Zoning Ordinance and Map in early 2022. The Town Board will then meet to consider the recommendations and adoption of the updated Zoning Ordinance and Map.

Please keep in touch with this process and watch for an update via the Town website and/or the Town Newsletter.

## Hall Rental

The Town Hall is now available for rental. Contact the Clerk's office to make reservations.

The Community Room is also available for public use during office and recycling hours. The hours are posted on the Town's website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org) and on page 11 of this Newsletter.

Masks are **strongly encouraged** and welcomed!

## French River Book Club

*Carol Surine*

The French River Readers meets at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be January 20 in the Fireside Room at French River Lutheran Church.

Any questions can be directed to Carol Surine at [carolsurine@gmail.com](mailto:carolsurine@gmail.com) or 525-4426.

## Help needed

One or two youth to help move stacked lumber from site in town to my property. Outdoors. Daylight hours. Timeline is flexible. \$15/hr. Must be vaccinated or have own transportation. 218-343-9439.

## Snowplowing

Call or text Larry Nesgoda at 218-393-2863

**For our Township youth:** Advertise for **FREE!** Any **youth** seeking work or **Township residents** needing help with various jobs suitable for youth (babysitting, lawn and garden maintenance, house cleaning, etc.) can submit an ad by email, by phone, or by dropping it off at the Town Hall to be published in the March edition of the Newsletter. I have had calls looking for workers!

The deadline is February 18, 2022.  
525-5705 or [deputyclerkduluthwp@gmail.com](mailto:deputyclerkduluthwp@gmail.com)

To place an ad or list community meetings in the Newsletter, contact the Newsletter editor at: [deputyclerkduluthwp@gmail.com](mailto:deputyclerkduluthwp@gmail.com)

## BOOK EXCHANGE UPDATE

The Book Exchange is open! Come by and pick up a good winter read. Or two. Then cozy up to a fire with a nice cup of hot chocolate! **The shelves are overflowing.**

Book needs: Our children's book selection is getting low. Kids love books, too!

The Book Exchange is open during Township office and recycling hours.

The Book Exchange is located in our Community Room. Stop by today and pick up your great next read!



## North Shore Meanderer

Longarm machine quilting services, specializing in computerized edge to edge quilting.

Call Lori Sorvik at 218-349-1588

Email: [northshoremeanderer@gmail.com](mailto:northshoremeanderer@gmail.com)

Visit my website: [www.northshoremeanderer.com](http://www.northshoremeanderer.com)

## Caretaker/Farm Manager Live-in Position

Ten-acre northeast Minnesota horse farm overlooking Lake Superior and four mature dressage horses need a full-time, year-round Caretaker. Twenty miles from the metropolitan community of Duluth with major medical and educational institutions. Two-bedroom carriage house with room for a personal garden.

Position includes taking exceptional care of the horses, supervising daily workers, barn cleaning, maintaining feed supplies, snow removal, lawn mowing, grooming of indoor and outdoor arenas, and fence maintenance. Scheduling farrier and vet visits. Maintaining all equipment including snow blowers, mowers, and tractors. Cleanliness, attention to detail, and commitment to high quality care of the horses and property required. Horse experience a must.

Position available June 1, 2022. Salary commensurate with experience.

Please send resume with relevant qualifications and references to [dslewisht@gmail.com](mailto:dslewisht@gmail.com).



***News from North Shore Community School***  
 Shelly Pierson, Executive Director

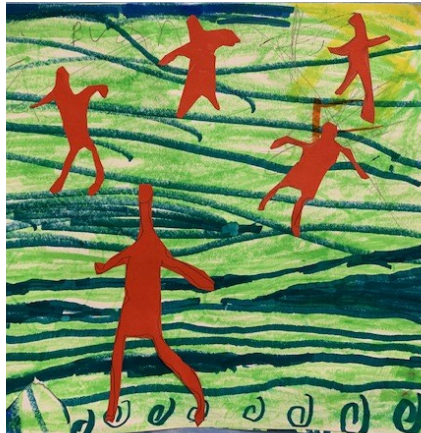


Twenty years ago, Duluth Township and the North Shore community were in the midst of transitioning from North Shore Elementary to North Shore Community School. No one knew for sure how the move to a chartered public school would go, but the dedication and perseverance of our community shows in our continued strength and growth as an independent district serving our corner of the north woods! The goal for enrollment back in 2002 was 180 students, and the to-be-opened NSCS reached that goal going into its first year. Over the years, we have continued to grow enrollment and physical spaces which brings us to our current total of 361 K-6 students and 37 preschool students. Our school is here because the community saw the importance of fighting for North Shore Elementary, and our students and future generations will benefit from their countless hours in the years to come. During our November Annual Board Meeting and board election, two candidates were elected to our Board of Directors. Please join us in welcoming Harmony Feldman McCullough (parent member) and Chloe Dryke (teacher member). Board meetings are typically held on the 4th Monday of the month at 5:00 in the library. Updated information can be found on our website. It is that time of year... recommitment time!

The recommitment form will be emailed in early January to all families with currently enrolled students. We use this information to help us determine available openings for new students at each grade level, as well as staffing. Thank you for taking the time to complete the form and for being a part of our NSCS Family!

NSCS is also accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year for preschool and K-6 grades. Applications for the upcoming school year can be found through visiting our website: <https://northshorecommunityschool.org/enrollment-forms/>. Help spread the word about our amazing school and all we have to offer!

Artwork in this edition provided by North Shore Community School second and third graders. To see in all their vibrance, check out our website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)



### **MAT Scholarship Opportunity**

The Minnesota Association of Townships is proud to offer a township scholarship program for high school juniors in the state of Minnesota. Up to FIVE \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded. [Please visit the MAT website for full information about scholarships.](#) All students currently enrolled in the 11th grade and attending a Minnesota public, private, or parochial high school or a home study program and who plan to further their education at a college, university, or vocational school are eligible for this program. 2022 Essay Topic: Promoting Township Government. The question is: "The Minnesota Association of Townships has the responsibility to promote public understanding of the heritage and future of township government and its role in the state and federal systems. What are some ways that MAT could promote awareness of township government and inspire township residents and Boards to become involved?"

All applications must be submitted by May 1, 2022.

## What's in the Kitchen

Nicole Chatterson, Town Clerk

Welcome to 2022! We did it, we made it through another year! Not to say this past year hasn't been easy, but here we are! I hope everyone enjoyed themselves over the Holiday seasons and is ready to take 2022 by the horns. Before you get ready to tackle your New Year's Resolution, give this tasty quick bread a try.

This is an easy recipe that you can get your kids involved in. This is one of my daughter's favorites, as it combines some of her favorite fruits into delicious bread. She loves to help in the kitchen, learning how to follow the recipes, measuring the ingredients, and watching everything come together to enjoy our final product. This bread works perfectly for a Saturday morning brunch, to bring over to a playdate to share, or to simply enjoy all to yourself.

I am always looking for new recipes to test in my kitchen. If you have a recipe you would like to share with the community, email the Town Clerk, [townclerk@lakenet.com](mailto:townclerk@lakenet.com). Happy cooking!

### Triple Berry Streusel Bread with Lemon Glaze

#### Ingredients

##### Streusel

- ¼ cup flour
- 2 tbsp sugar
- ½ tsp ground cinnamon
- ¼ tsp ground nutmeg
- 3 tbsp salted butter cold
- 3 tbsp pecans (optional) or
- ¼ cup rolled oats



##### Bread

- 2 cups mixed blueberries, raspberries, and coarsely chopped strawberries
- 2 cups plus 1 tbsp flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 cup milk
- ¼ cup canola oil
- 1 tbsp lemon zest
- 1 tbsp vanilla extract

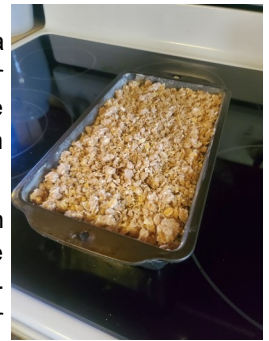


##### Glaze

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 to 2 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- 1 to 2 drops of lemon essential oil (optional)

#### Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease bottom and sides of a 9x5 loaf pan; set aside. For streusel, combine ¼ cup flour, 2 tbsp sugar, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Cut in butter until mixture resembles crumbs. Stir in pecans or oats. Set aside.
2. Toss berries with 1 tbsp of flour and set aside. Combine remaining dry ingredients in a large bowl. Make a well in the center of the dry ingredients and set aside. In a medium bowl combine: egg, milk, oil, lemon zest, and vanilla. Add egg mixture to dry ingredients all at once, stir until just moistened; batter will be lumpy. Fold in berries. Spoon batter into prepared pan, making sure it is evenly distributed. Sprinkle streusel on top.
3. Bake for 60 to 65 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool in pan on wire rack for 10 minutes. Remove from pan. Cool completely on wire rack.
4. Combine powdered sugar and enough lemon juice to make a thick glaze and optional essential oil for an added lemon kick. Drizzle glaze over loaf; slice and enjoy!



## Meet the New Deputy Clerk

Hannah Jurek, Deputy Clerk

Hi there! My name is Hannah Jurek, and I am the new Deputy Clerk for the Township. I will be assisting Nicole in the day-to-day operations here at the office as well as working on becoming a Public Notary and Fire Warden to assist you, the residents, during our office hours.

Here's a little bit about myself:

I am new to the area. My boyfriend and I moved to the Township at the end of Summer 2021 and are enjoying every moment of it. I am originally from Wrenshall, Minnesota, which is about 45 minutes south of here. Wrenshall has a small-town, nature, farmland vibe just like around here, so I feel right at home. I enjoy running, hiking, and being out on the boat. I can't wait to take the kayak along the shores of Lake Superior next summer and try my hand at gardening. I've taken up embroidery during the pandemic and continue to do that during the cold winter months as well as "attempting" to paint Bob Ross paintings and other fun paintings. I'm a sucker for a good binge-watching series on Netflix or Hulu and can bake a great chocolate chip cookie.



I look forward to getting to know the Township and meeting the residents of the Township even more!

## Alden Township

John Schifsky

Alden Township is Duluth Township's neighbor to the north. North Star Township is on Alden's west boundary, Pequaywan on its north boundary. The northern half of the township is in Cloquet Valley State Forest. Its population in 2000 was 198; in 2010, 213, and in 2020, 196. 2020's population density was 5.4 per square mile. In comparison Duluth Township's 2020 population density was 41.61 per square mile.

Based on the accounts given by later generations, some of Alden's earliest settlers arrived in the period 1895-1905 (*Roots in the Past – Seeds for the Future*). In 1967 Anton Martinson spoke with Helen Hendrickson, then editor of "The Landmarks." He said: "Going back a few years now (c. 1910?) some people started moving up into Alden. It was still part of the town of Duluth." Martinson's interview was published in "The Landmarks," 1973. In an earlier edition (1971) another settler recalled: "Three Finns arrived during a winter storm and spent the night around a campfire." These men were Martin Martinson (Anton's grandfather), Alfred Swanson, and Charles Rosen.

Other Finns followed and took to calling the area "Manchuria," perhaps because it was so remote and cold. But access was essential, and Martinson also recalled that "Alden started settling quite fast and a road had to be built to give these new settlers a way to get in & out" ("The Landmarks"). Alden's similarity to the area of Finland early settlers left may have been a motive for choosing to live there.

Unlike Duluth Township, Alden's primary access to the North Shore was and is the Two Harbors Road, which was laid out in 1903. The Township's link to Two Harbors and its community is probably stronger than to other inland settlements ("Roots").

Alden split off from Duluth Township in 1920. The "Roots" editor comments: "Prior to September 1920, when Alden citizens voted to separate from Duluth Township and form their own governing body, little in the way of public records exist." In that year Alden's population was 138. There is evidence from an oral interview that besides clearing land and building homes, those settlers in Alden placed a premium on education; the first schoolhouse was opened in 1918 on the Laine Road in a two-room cabin owned by Herman Lepisto ("Roots"). Fellowship was also important: the Clover Valley Farmers Cooperative Hall Co. purchased an acre, in 1921, at the Two Harbors Road/App Road junction.

Handwritten minutes (ink in large ledger books) from the first Board of Supervisors meeting in October 1920 report the election of the Town's first officers: D.O. Driscoll as chair, E.A. Driscoll, clerk. At the second meeting in November, one of the items up for discussion was road repair. The projected cost was \$250. From that meeting in November 1920 to the present, roads, road building, road repair and maintenance, road costs, road conditions, and complaints about the roads were regular agenda items. Sometimes roads were the only item on the agenda.

In April 1921 a majority of Board members agreed to purchase Hjalmer site to be used as a town hall. Residents petitioned that the Town Hall site be on the Two Harbors Road. The Board stipulated the building was to have a rock foundation and they agreed to apply for a state loan for \$5000. But in 1922 the minutes record the Board purchased one acre on the Laine Road from Hjalmer Jasklinnen for \$150, the building to be erected by day labor under the Supervision of Mike Hakkila. The present Town Hall is at that location. In 1925 Board members approved a wage scale for members: the treasurer would receive \$50 per year, board members \$4 per day. In addition the Board would work (individually? collectively?) eight hours a day on the Town's roads.



In 1932 the Alden Town Board agreed to cooperate with Duluth Township's Board in the operation and maintenance of Lakeview Cemetery and pay a proportionate share of the cemetery expenses. That same year the minutes record the Township's fund balance as \$246.23, which sum included a \$150 loan from Henry Kordola. Roads and Bridges appeared to have its own budget: there was a \$571 dollar surplus. On several occasions in the early years the minutes record loans from Township inhabitants, all of which were paid off.

The large ledger books containing minutes are stored in the Town Hall along with other records including a smaller ledger book recording the minutes of the Farmer's Club. Entries in that book cover the years from July 1926 through July 1942. The club's name changed to the Finnish Farmer's Club in 1940 and, from that date, entries are in Finnish. For several years meetings were devoted to programs and presentations on topics such as a study of a pure bred bull proposition, poultry grading, home management, and coop seed buying. The committee supported efforts to encourage rural children to complete high school education. In the 1930s committee members agreed to dig a well for the Town Hall and they purchased a pump for the well. Also in the 1930s they made efforts to find opportunities for community farmers to earn some money by doing road work. Club members bought gas lamps for the Hall and paid someone to wire the building. They also worked diligently to schedule community dances.

*Further information about Alden Township for the period 1970 – present will appear in the March 2022 Newsletter.*





## Did you know?

Ten percent of home fires in Minnesota from 2013-2017 were caused by heating devices.

Most home fires occur in the winter and peak in January.

Most Minnesota heating fires occur in fireplaces and chimneys.

## HEATING SAFETY

- Keep portable heaters three feet from anything combustible.
- Turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to sleep.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have your home heating system and chimney cleaned and inspected annually.
- Make sure your wood stove is properly installed and ventilated.



[SFM.DPS.MN.GOV](http://SFM.DPS.MN.GOV)



## Duluth Township Information 2022

Duluth Town Hall  
6092 Homestead Road  
Duluth, MN 55804  
Phone (218) 525-5705  
(Voice message)  
Email: See note below on  
using our Township website.

[www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

**Town Office Hours:** Tues 9 am-12 pm, Wed 9 am-2 pm,  
Thurs 1 pm-5 pm, Fri 9 am-12 pm

**Planning Office Hours:** No posted hours  
Call the Town Hall for an appointment: 525-5705

**Supervisors:** (See website for email contacts).

**Rolf Carlson (2020-2023) 525-0375 Board Chair**  
Primary contact: Personnel, Cemetery  
Alternate: North Shore Mgt Board, Intergovernmental  
Relations

**Penny Morton (2021-2024) 525-5443 Vice Chair**  
Primary contact: Business Mgt, North Shore Mgt Board,  
CC Liaison/NSCS Foundation Board  
Alternate: Personnel, Intergovernmental Relations,  
Communications

**Michael Kahl (2019-2022) 525-1594**  
Primary contact: Roads/Invasive Weeds, Planning  
Alternate: Business Mgt, Intergovernmental Relations,  
Town Hall, North Shore Mgt Board

**John Schifsky (2019-2022) 525-9363**  
Primary contact: Arts and Heritage, Communications,  
Public Safety  
Alternate: Cemetery, Intergovernmental Relations,  
North Shore Mgt Board

**Tim Strom (2021-2023) 525-5705**  
Primary contact: Materials Mgt, Town Hall  
Alternate: Intergovernmental Relations, Planning, Roads/  
Invasive Weeds, North Shore Mgt Board

**Town Clerk:** **Nicole Chatterson** 525-5705 (Town Hall)  
**Deputy Clerk:** **Hannah Jurek** 525-5705 (Town Hall)  
**Treasurer:** **Mel Peulen** 525-5705 (Town Hall)  
**Attorney:** **Scott Witty** 722-4766 (Office)  
**Cemetery Sexton:** **Molly Tillotson** 218-626-7005  
**Planning Director:** **Sue Lawson** 525-5705 (Message)  
**Planning Assistant:** **Liz Strohmayer** 525-5705 (Message)  
**Planning Secretary:** **Beth Mullan** 525-5705 (Message)

**Planning Commission:** **Liz Strohmayer (Chair), Dave Edblom (Vice Chair), Dave Meyer, Justin Osadjan, Blane Tetreault, Pam West, and Angela Wilson**

**Peace Officers:** **Chief Shawn Padden, Officer Paul Johnson**  
**Emergencies 911**, Messages 525-5705 or (218) 393-8407

**Clifton Volunteer Fire/EMS Department:** **Chief Bob Engelson, Assistant Chief Rob Peldo, President Jason Bruckelmyer, Secretary Sherry Rovig**  
Email: [cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com](mailto:cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com)

**Burning Permits** are available online at: [mndnr.gov/permits](http://mndnr.gov/permits) or at the Town Hall (office hours), or from **Fire Wardens:** **Nicole Chatterson (525-5705), Jeff & Carolyn Marino (525-6431) or DNR Two Harbors, 1568 Hwy 2 (834-1418)**

**Website Manager:** **Hannah Jurek** 525-5705 (Town Hall)

**Community Center Rental Coordinator:** **Jim Salls** 600-9015

### To Email Township Officials and Departments

See Township website, [www.duluthtownship.org/contacts](http://www.duluthtownship.org/contacts) for a dropdown list of personnel and departments you can use to send emails. Note that copies of all emails go to the Town Hall for Township records. If the person does not have email access, your communication is sent to the Town Hall to be picked up. Department information is also on our website.

## Township Recycling Center

Carolyn Marino

**November-March:** Tues. 7-11 am & 2-6 pm

Thurs. 2-6 pm

Sat. 8 am-noon

**April-October:** Tues. 7-11 am & 3-7 pm

Thurs. 3-7 pm Sat. 8 am-noon

**Located at the Town Hall, on Homestead Road**

**Household plastic bags accepted in ORANGE bin ONLY.**

**Please do not put black plastic bags, tarps, or plastic feed bags in the plastic bag recycle bin.**

Aluminum cans should be recycled with plastics/metal cans. Curb recycling pickup service is available south of the freeway.

Surveillance cameras have been installed around the Town Hall because of vandalism and dumping of household garbage.



## Township Calendar

See calendar updates on [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

Our Official Calendar is posted at the Town Hall

### January 2022

**January 1:** New Year's Day: Office closed, No recycling

**January 4:** Recycling 7-11 am; 2-6 pm; Fire Business Meeting Hall #1 7 pm

**January 5:** Homesteaders 12:30 pm

**January 6:** Recycling 2-6 pm

**January 8:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**January 11:** Recycling 7-11 am; 2-6 pm

**January 13:** Recycling 2-6 pm; Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm

**January 15:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**January 18:** Recycling 7-11 am; 2-6 pm; Fire Training Meeting 7 pm

**January 22:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**January 25:** Recycling 7-11 am; 2-6 pm

**January 27:** Recycling 2-6 pm; Planning Commission Meeting 6:30 pm

**January 29:** Recycling 8 am-noon

### February 2022

**February 1:** Recycling 7-11 am; 2-6 pm; Fire Business Meeting Hall #1 7 pm

**February 2:** Homesteaders 12:30 pm

**February 3:** Recycling 2-6 pm

**February 5:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**February 8:** Recycling 7-11 am; 2-6 pm

**February 10:** Recycling 2-6 pm; Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm

**February 12:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**February 15:** Recycling 7-11 am; 2-6 pm; Fire Training Meeting 7:00 pm

**February 17:** Recycling 2-6 pm

**February 19:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**February 22:** Recycling 7-11 am; 2-6 pm

**February 24:** Recycling 2-6 pm; Planning Commission Meeting 6:30 pm

**February 26:** Recycling 8 am-noon

# DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

January 2022

## Inside This Issue

- **Planning Commission Zoning Ordinance Update**
- **Homesteaders**
- **Police Report**
- **Notice of Filing for Township Elections**
- **Scholarship Opportunities**

Duluth Township Newsletter  
6092 Homestead Road  
Duluth, MN 55804

PRSRSTSD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 705  
DULUTH, MINN.

For a color version of this Newsletter, visit the Township website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

If your name or address is in error or you know of someone who is not receiving a Newsletter, please send a note to the Newsletter editor by using the contact list on our website ([www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)). Extra copies are also available in the Town Hall.

**1131** Newsletters are mailed to Duluth Township homes, businesses, and on request. Copies are available at the Town Hall. Please send comments and suggestions to Newsletter editor, Nicole Chatterson at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth MN 55804, or use the white mailbox at the Town Hall or email on the website. Our *Newsletter* is printed locally by Bob Sundstrom, **BB&K Printing**, and is mailed for us by the fine folks at **Twin Ports Mailing**.

## Town Services During the Covid-19 Pandemic

Please check the website for any developments, updates, or changes to Town services during the pandemic.

**Town Clerk's Office:** Open to the public during regular office hours. All COVID precautions will be followed. **We strongly urge** you to conduct your business via email, phone, U.S. mail, or the drop box under the public posting at the Town Hall entrance.

**Town Board Meetings:** Open to the public, adhering to pandemic directives.

### Planning and Zoning Department

**Land Use Permits:** Submit applications and fees for Land Use Permits to the Town via email, U.S. mail, at the Clerk's Office during office hours, or in the drop box under the public posting at the Town Hall entrance. On-site review for Land Use Permits will be conducted by the Planning Director following pandemic precautions.

**Variations and Conditional Use Permits:** Submit applications and fees for permits to the Town via email, U.S. mail, at the Clerk's Office during office hours, or put them in the drop box under the public posting at the Town Hall entrance. Hearings for the permits are open to the public, following state guidelines. Submit comments regarding applications to the Town via email or U.S. mail.

**Questions for the Planning Director:** Contact the Town Clerk

**Police Department:** For emergencies call 911

**Fire Department or Emergency Medical Responders:** Call 911

**Town Roads:** See contact on Town website

**Recycling:** Open during regular hours (posted on the Township website [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)). Follow the Governor's pandemic directives.

**Town Hall Community Room:** Open to the public during office and recycling hours.

**Town Hall Rentals:** Contact Clerk's office to reserve Town Hall facilities.

