

Duluth Township Newsletter

January 2023

Township website: www.duluthtownship.org



HAPPY NEW YEAR



What's Coming Up.....

- ◆ Town Board Minutes p. 3
- ◆ Job Opportunity at Duluth Township p. 4
- ◆ Open Seats on Town Board p. 6
- ◆ What's in the Kitchen p. 8



The 2022 General Election was on November 8, 2022, and we would like to thank everyone for coming out to vote. The Town had an amazing turnout of 1,014 voters including 52 newly registered voters. It was great to see everyone. Thank you!

We look forward to seeing you at the Township Elections in March of 2023.

North Shore Community Rink Hours are Monday through Friday 6-9 pm and Saturday 12-9 pm. Come skate, play hockey, and be a part of your community. The new boards and fencing are almost ready – we plan to open during Christmas break. Volunteers are needed, welcomed, and appreciated for flooding and managing the shack during the evening. Please reach out to Dan Rosenlund at (218) 349-3318 if you would like to help out.

Thanks to Duluth Township, TC Energy, Phil Strom, Lloyd Johnson Foundation, and Coop Light & Power, and the NS Endowment Fund for supporting us!



Homesteaders

Dorothy Aho

January 7, 2023: Wednesday, 12:30 pm. New Year Celebration, with potluck and bingo.

February 1, 2023: Wednesday, 12:30 pm. The very talented Colette Bitz will lead us with her yoga expertise. It will be a potluck.

March 1, 2023: Wednesday, 12:30 pm. Our annual anniversary celebration. It will be a potluck.

Everyone is welcome!

*To see color versions of the photos in this Newsletter, visit the Town's website: www.duluthtownship.org

Thanks to all of the contributors to this issue

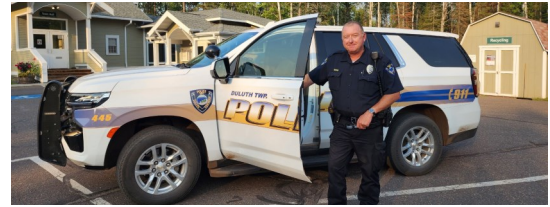
Dorothy Aho, JoVanna Balquier, Valerie Brady, Nicole Chatterson, Bob Engelson, Shelly Pierson Evans, Mark Haselow, Beth Lukiart, Beth Mullan, Sherry Rovig, Liz Strohmayer, Carol Surine, Carla Tamburro and the NSCS Sixth Grade Art Class



Fire Department

Bob Engelson, Chief

Sherry Rovig, Secretary/Emergency Operation Dept. Director



Police Department

Mark Haselow, Chief

Paul Johnson, Officer

2022 was a busy year for the department. We responded to over 120 emergency calls. We also focused on fire prevention and safety with two Firewise events, including the popular "Chipper Days." We continued working with the Red Cross and installed 42 free smoke alarms at 10 residences. We also started providing free FireWise assessments upon request (see application below.) The impact of spruce budworm in our area has been a wake-up call and many residents are working to clear dead and dying trees from their property. We will provide two more free chipping events in 2023 thanks to the MNDNR grant we received in 2022. Look for notice of these in the spring and fall.

We are currently completing a survey of Duluth and Alden Townships to track the installation of the new 911 signs. There are still many addresses without the new style signs and many that have signs that are poorly positioned and difficult to view. Remember, the signs are needed so we can find you quickly in an emergency. Two important things you can do to help yourselves: put the new style sign up correctly and give us good driveway access for our trucks. We need at least 12 feet of width and upper clearance of 14 feet. Space for us to turn around at the end is also a concern.

Our department is strong with 24 members. If someone has an interest in becoming a fire fighter, please contact our Chief, Bob Engelson at (218) 341-0707 or email cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com. Openings arise on our roster, so be sure to let us know if you are interested.

We are grateful for our supportive community and the entities that provide grant funding. MNDNR, MN Power, and CLP made significant contributions. Local businesses paid for ads in our calendar. Please give them your business and support. Have a safe and Happy New Year!

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

Police Events:

For the months of October 2022 and November 2022, there were 119 recorded police events. The following is a complete list of Initial Complaint Reports and officer-related activity within the Township. Most were direct service to residents. There were 24 requests for checks on homes or businesses and 14 medical emergency calls. There were 9 disturbance complaints and 7 traffic related warnings/citations and 7 animal complaints. There were 6 attempts to locate a careless driver and 5 fire alarms and 5 civil processes. There were 4 suspicious vehicle complaints and 4 hazard checks. There were 3 reports of each of the following: property damage accidents, burglar alarms, unknown trouble complaints, suspicious activity, thief complaints, mental health crises, and neighbor trouble. There were 2 reports each of assisting other agencies, personal injury accidents, and motorist assistance. Finally, there were 1 of each of the following: assisting the public, child neglect, health/welfare check, extra patrol request, fraud, juvenile trouble, and damage to property.

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:

duluthtwppolice@duluthtownship.org.

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

FREE SMOKE DETECTORS AND FIREWISE ASSESSMENTS

The Red Cross has provided us with more free smoke detectors for our community. If you lack working smoke alarms in your home or your existing smoke alarms are out of date, we can provide new ones. If you have difficulty installing them yourself, you can sign up to have our volunteers do the installation. We are also offering Firewise assessments for Township residents. An assessment includes a site visit with specific recommendations for ways the property can be improved for fire safety and emergency access. To sign up for any of the above services, mail the form below or email us at cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com or leave a message at (218) 525-9240 with your contact information, including a phone number. We will get back to you to arrange a convenient time. Please indicate which service(s) you would like.

SMOKE DETECTOR REQUEST FIREWISE ASSESSMENT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NO. _____

PREFERRED TIME TO BE CONTACTED: _____

MAIL FORM TO: CLIFTON FIRE DEPT.

6092 HOMESTEAD RD., DULUTH, MN 55804



Dave Edblom, Blane Tetreault, Angela Wilson, Planning Director Liz Strohmayer, and Dave Meyer. (Not pictured) Pam West, Justin Osadjan, and Tony Mancuso.



Town Board Supervisors: Penny Morton, Jim Ward, Rolf Carlson, Stacia Grayson. (Not pictured, Tim Strom.)

Summary of Planning Commission Meetings

Official minutes by Planning Secretary Beth Mullan are available on our Township website: www.duluthtownship.org

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

October 27, 2022, Planning Commission Meeting

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

A public hearing was held for a request for an extension to an Interim Use Permit for a short-term rental at 1690 Aho Road. The original Interim Use Permit was granted on October 28, 2021, starting on December 1 for a period of one year with a maximum number of rental days of 120 and a condition requiring dogs to be leashed when outside. The rental usage during that time was approximately 104 nights, with an average stay of three days. The owner said that it had been going very well and he had not had any negative comments. There was no written or spoken public testimony. The criteria from the Ordinance for considering extension of an Interim Use Permit are (1) Demonstrated compatibility with the neighborhood; (2) Any detrimental effects documented during the period of the interim use; and (3) Any increased costs to the Town as a result of the interim use. The Town had not had any complaints pertaining to the rental. Given the positive rental record, the Commission considered the owner's request for an increase of 30 additional rental days. It was pointed out that this rental is a grandfathered use under the old Ordinance and for a grandfathered use, the use is typically allowed to continue, but not to be expanded. With this information the Commission approved the extension for a period of one year for the same number of rental days.

When debating the period for which to extend the use, the Commission concluded that a permit issued for a longer period of time can be difficult to revoke if there are problems, whereas if a periodic application for extension is required, a permit that is problematic can simply not be extended at that time.

The following Ordinance amendments and clarifications were proposed:

- Move language for HFSTRs from Section 20, Article A, Special Requirements and Conditions, to Article II, Definitions, to further clarify the use.
- Change designation in Table 5.3 for Accessory Structure between 1000 & 2000 sq ft from Not Allowed in SSUR-1 to permitted with Performance Standards to correct a mistake and reflect original intent of Ordinance.
- Change Table 16.1 – Permit and Administrative Fees such that “Conditional Use Permit” under “Conditional Uses” be amended to “Conditional/Interim Use Permit” for each applicable instance so that Interim Use Application fees are the same as the fee currently set for Conditional Uses.
- Remove the word “conditional” from the line in Fees reading “Conditional / Interim Use Permit High-Frequency Short-Term Rental” because HFSTRs are only allowed as Interim Uses. Increase the annual fee for Low-Frequency Short-Term Rentals from \$68 to \$100 per year.

The fourth Thursday falls on Thanksgiving in November, so the Commission decided to hold the November Planning meeting, including a public hearing on these proposed amendments, on November 30.

An individual looking at land in the Township with the intention of living on the property asked about also have a barn-like structure on the property to host events like weddings, conferences, etc. They wanted to know what use this would fit under. The Commission agreed that such a use could be very complicated and suggested that the individual come to the Commission with a proposal for evaluation.

November 30, 2022, Planning Commission Meeting

Commission members present: Angela Wilson, Dave Edblom, Pam West, Justin Osadjan, Blane Tetreault, and Tony Mancuso.

A public hearing was held on proposed changes to the Ordinance. There was no written or spoken public testimony.

(Planning Minutes continue on page 4)

October 13, 2022, Town Board Meeting:

In attendance: Supervisors Rolf Carlson, Penelope Morton, Tim Strom, Stacia Grayson and Jim Ward. **Reports:** Treasurer: Beginning balance \$922,894.75, deposits \$2,860.08, expenses \$95,659.46, ending balance of \$830,095.37. All claims were approved for payment and the payroll net account distribution and claims list for approval were signed. Public Comment: After receiving more information from Cemetery Sexton Molly Tillotson, Supervisors are more receptive to changing vault requirements. Rolf will contact Molly for a write-up for the November newsletter. Shane Stolp and Ron Sundberg gave an update on the North Shore Community Rink and thanked the Board for the advancement of funds in order to continue the project. Police: There were shooting complaints that were taken care of by Chief Haselow. Otherwise, nice and peaceful in the Township. Fire: The fire department is up to 110 calls for the year and are sitting well with a full roster. The volunteers have been great about doing their training. The Firewise grant they received from the DNR was in the amount of \$28,900 and the event held on Sept. 17, 2022, went very well. Planning: There have been a lot of permits coming in and one public hearing for an interim use permit. This was Sue's last meeting as director, but the Township is in good hands with Liz at the helm. Liz is registered for MS4 Training and has started classes. Sue submitted a timeline for positions in the department. Beth is looking to retire in 2023, so she proposed an assistant/secretary position to replace the secretary position. The Board liked the timeline and the ideas presented. Tim made the motion that Liz Strohmayer be appointed Planning Director as of Nov. 1, 2022. Liz's salary for the year 2023 will be \$23,920 plus the COLA adjustment. Liz's salary from Nov. 1, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022 will be \$23,920, prorated for the period. Seconded by Penny. Motion passed. Liz will get a job description and information for the assistant/secretary position to Rolf and Penny for review at the next Town Board meeting. Roads: Jim talked to Bob regarding the Torgeson Road; it was unresolved at the time of this meeting. The winter snowplowing application was submitted to the County. Mace and England Roads will be plowed by private contractor. Town Hall: Tim suggested the Board reach out to Kurt Rogers for snow removal this season. Unfortunately Keith, who has done fantastic work for the Township, won't be able to get to the Hall early enough for recycling. After making the correction to cross out Nicole Chatterson, who was not present, and add Deputy Clerk Hannah Jurek, who was present, to the Polling Place Resolution 10132022, Tim made the motion to adopt Resolution 10132022. Seconded by Penny. Motion passed. American Rescue Plan Act: The Board decided to have 2 community meetings regarding ARPA funds, first, an informational meeting on Jan. 10, 2023, at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall, and second, the proposal meeting on Feb. 21, 2023, at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall.

November 10, 2022, Town Board Meeting: In attendance: Supervisors Tim Strom, Rolf Carlson, Jim Ward, Stacia Grayson, and Penelope Morton. **Reports:** Treasurer: Beginning balance \$830,095.37, deposits \$9,268.76, expenses \$51,844.63, ending balance of \$787,519.50. All claims were approved for payment and the payroll net account distribution and claims list for approval were signed. Police: One criminal call last month. There were people casing the air base. Fire: The fire department will be keeping Keith on for snow removal at the Hall on Ryan Road. Bob also brought a proposal to the Board for using ARPA funds for a new rig for the department. There are currently 3 vehicles that need to be replaced. Planning: Liz provided a proposal to the Board for the new hybrid Planning secretary/assistant position. Tim moved to authorize the Planning Dept., through Liz, to advertise for the training position as stated in the email sent on 11/10/2022. Seconded by Penny. Motion passed. Liz and Beth will create a posting for the position and send that to Rolf and Penny for final approval. There was a Public Hearing on Nov. 30, 2022, to discuss some changes to Ordinance Number 6. Some inconsistencies were found over the past few months that needed cleaning up. There was also a variance for a High-Frequency Short-Term Rental. (Board Minutes continue on Page 4)

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

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

Job Opening with Planning and Zoning Department

Liz Strohmayer, Planning Director

Duluth Township is seeking a Planning and Zoning Assistant/Secretary who will train for approximately 15 hours per week at \$16/hr.

Responsibilities will include preparing for and taking minutes at Planning meetings, reviewing and processing Planning applications, issuing permits, preparing for and assisting with public hearings, creating decision documents for public hearings, maintaining records and files, helping with the Planning portion of the Town website, maintaining the Zoning Ordinance, analyzing Planning data, responding to inquiries from the public, and general assistance to the Planning Director.

The minimum qualifications for this position are a high school diploma or GED; computer literacy, including proficiency in Microsoft Word and Excel and ability to learn additional programs; personal communication skills for working with Township staff and the general public; attention to detail; willingness to learn new skills; and experience or interest in planning and zoning.

Preferred qualifications include a bachelor's degree in natural sciences, social sciences, or planning (or equivalent experience) and knowledge of zoning and land use issues.

Training will be under the direction of the Planning Director and current secretary.

Starting date is March 1, 2023. Please email resume and a cover letter to townclerk@duluthtownship.org by Wednesday, February 8, 2023, by Noon.

For complete job description, visit the Duluth Township website: www.duluthtownship.org

Summary of Planning Commission Minutes Continued

Official minutes by Planning Secretary Beth Mullan are available on our Township website: www.duluthtownship.org

(Planning Minutes, continued from page 3)

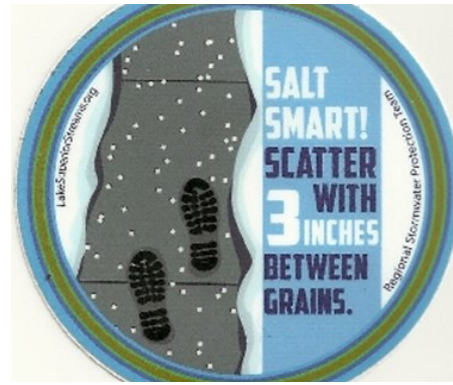
All of the proposed changes were approved to be recommended to the Town Board. The proposed changes are outlined in the above summary of the October 27 Commission meeting.

The Commission had a discussion about how stringent they originally intended the rules for high-frequency short-term rentals to be. Especially at point was the possibility of someone having an accessory structure on the property they resided on that they would like to use as a HFSTR. It was agreed that this expansion of the use would potentially be within the spirit of what the Commission intended, but that it made sense to see how the new Ordinance language concerning HFSTRs went for a period of time before considering changing it again.

An inquiry was made by someone who wanted to have an RV rental business on a two-acre lot in Zone District SC-1. The Commission said that it could be considered under a conditional use, but that there would be a lot of questions and it was not straightforward. The person also wanted to know if they could rent out RVs for camping in on the property. That use would not be allowed under HFSTRs or under the isolated camping site use. A campground requires a minimum of 10 acres. It was felt that the use on that property would not be allowed under the Ordinance.

Do You Salt Smart?

Val Brady



When winter conditions get slippery, it is tempting to spread lots of salt around. But remember, salt is harmful to pets, concrete, the environment, and your

gardens. And more salt does not mean more melting! When sprinkling salt, a good rule of thumb is to leave about a 3-inch space between granules. Keep in mind that salt has little to no effect at temperatures below 15° F. Below 15° F, it is better to use sand. As an alternative to salt crystals, try using brine or alternative products such as alfalfa meal or sugar beet juice. Other options are sand, ash, kitty litter, birdseed, and used coffee grounds. These provide traction and are a darker color which can help to melt ice by absorbing heat. And finally, stay safe! Wear proper footwear for icy conditions, make sure your vehicle tires have proper tread, and go slower!

Summary of Town Board Minutes Continued

Official minutes by Town Clerk Nicole Chatterson are available at the Town Hall and on our Township website: www.duluthtownship.org

(Board Minutes, continued from page 3)

Term Rental that needed a closer look. There was discussion on how to enforce issues regarding the Ordinance. Legal: There was discussion with Mr. Zurcher, but it was suggested that the DNR take the lead on this issue. Roads: The culvert on West Clover Valley Road was improperly installed and needs to be fixed. Town Hall: The Township hired Kurt Rogers for the 2022-2023 winter season for snow removal needs at the Town Hall. The circulator pump was replaced in the boiler system at the Town Hall. The addition was out of heat for a time. Stacia has compiled a Facilities Checklist for annual maintenance and future projects at the Town Hall. American Rescue Plan Act: There has been an uptick in feedback regarding the use of the ARPA funds. Nicole will create a spreadsheet of the proposed ideas. Personnel: Nicole will provide a COLA report to the Board for review. New Business: DNSSD Board of Managers Election Resolution 11102022. Tim made the motion to adopt Resolution 11102022 to elect Dean and Angela to the DNSSD Board. Seconded by Penny. Motion passed.

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 and on page 11 of this Newsletter.

French River Book Club

Carol Surine

Because the French River Readers' regularly scheduled meeting was postponed until after the Newsletter deadline, we cannot announce a book choice for January.

However, we will meet (weather permitting) on January 19 at 1 pm in the Fireside Room of French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Road. The host will be Carol Surine. If you have any questions, you may contact her at carolsurine@gmail.com or 218-525-4426.

BOOK EXCHANGE UPDATE

JoVanna Balquier

Oh, the weather outside may be frightful, but the inside of a good book sure is delightful! Find your next great read at the little free library located in the Community Room at the Township Hall.

If you bring donations, we kindly ask you to refrain from leaving non fiction books like teaching manuals, textbooks, etc. Thank you and happy reading!



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

A cartoon illustration of a white dog with floppy ears, sitting and looking towards the right. The dog is wearing a collar with a tag.

Paid Advertisement

Two Harbors Area Food Shelf



*Our Mission: To reduce hunger
and improve the health of those
in need.*

Serving Lake & St. Louis County
residents.

Food Distribution on Tuesdays
from 10:00 am to 3:45 pm.

Call 218-391-8191 with any
questions.

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 next edition of the Newsletter. We've had calls looking for workers!

The deadline for the next Newsletter is February 8, 2023.
Call 525-5705 or email deputyclerkduluthwp@gmail.com



SolFed Farm

Support local food production and get to know where your food is grown! Offering full and half CSA Farm Shares and seasonal farm stand. Farm shares run June-October. For more information check out our website or follow us on Facebook.

www.solfedfarm.com

Paid Advertisement

Open Seats on Town Board 2023

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 two Town Board Supervisor positions on the 5-member Town Board of Duluth Township. If you are interested, please see below for more information:

Notice of Filing for Township Election

Notice is hereby given to qualified voters of Duluth Township that filing for Town office will be held for a two-week period beginning Tuesday, January 3, 2023, to 5:00 pm January 17, 2023.

Affidavits of Candidacy shall be filed with the Town Clerk at the Duluth Township Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, during regular business hours from January 3, 2023 to January 17, 2023. A filing fee of \$2.00 will be accepted at this time.

Filing will close on January 17, 2023, at 5:00 pm. The Town Clerk's office will be open Tuesday January 17, 2023, as per MN Statute §205.13, subd 1a, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Offices to be filled at the March Annual election are:

Two Supervisor Positions for 3-year terms



Shelly Pierson Evans, Executive Director



Endowment Fundraiser at Korkki Nordic Center: The Endowment Committee will be hosting a ski fundraiser at Korkki Nordic Center on Friday, February 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Save the date; more information will be coming!

Ski Trails: With the new snow, it is time to start up the Snow Dog and groom some trails! The ski trails will be available for community use after school hours and on weekends. The trails will be groomed after new snow during the week and will be maintained as long as the snow holds.

Recommitment News: Recommitment forms will be sent to families in January. Please return them as soon as possible.

Enrollment News: For enrollment information or to complete an application for the 2023-2024 school year, visit our website: <https://northshorecommunityschool.org/enrollment-forms/> or call the office at 218-525-0663 x100 for more information.

Preschool News: Next year, our preschool will offer either a 2-day or a 4-day option. Our preschool fills fast, so you will want to apply as soon as possible. Applications for the upcoming school year are available on our website. Questions? Please reach out to the office or email Linda Johnson, our Preschool Teacher, at ljohnson@nscsk6.org.



Don't forget to come out and vote March 14, 2023 for the Township Elections. The polls open at 7 am and close at 8 pm at the Town Hall.

The Annual Meeting will follow shortly after the polls close.

Community Input Encouraged on Spending of ARPA Funds

The Duluth Town Board is asking for suggestions and ideas about how best to spend a relatively large sum of money it has recently received from the federal government.

Congress enacted the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) last year. The Act included approximately \$1.9 trillion in funding, apportioning nearly \$350 billion to municipalities all across the United States.

The Town of Duluth's share is \$231,022. To give that some perspective, the Town's annual budget usually runs between \$350,000 and \$400,000.

Initially, the ARPA money was to be used to address effects caused by the COVID pandemic. Over time, the program's scope was expanded. Now the funds can be used for almost any governmental purpose.

Municipalities must commit or dedicate their allocated money to specific projects or programs by the end of 2024. The money must then be actually spent before the end of 2026. If not, the money can be lost.

The Town Board invites your suggestions about how best to spend this money. There are a number of ways you can share your suggestions. You can talk with Town Supervisors and/or staff. You can email ideas (email addresses can be found on the Town's website) or mail them to the Town Hall (6092 Homestead Rd, Duluth, MN 55804). You can also attend any monthly Town Board meeting (typically at 6:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month at the Town Hall).

The Board also plans to hold an informational meeting at the Town Hall on Tuesday January 10, 2023 at 6:30 pm, explaining ARPA and answering any questions. On Tuesday February 21, 2023, the Town Board will host an open house at the Town Hall, giving residents an opportunity to present their ideas on how to best spend the funds to better the Township and the community.

The Town Board invites you to attend and share any thoughts or suggestions you might have. The Board plans to have proposals to share at the Annual Meeting in March.



Scholarship Opportunity

Minnesota Association of Townships

The Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) is proud to announce its 2023 Scholarship Program, which will award up to five \$2,000 scholarships to high school juniors. All students currently enrolled in 11th grade and attending a Minnesota public, private, or parochial school, or a home-study program, are eligible to apply for this program. Since its inception in 2001, the MAT Scholarship Program has had over 2,500 submissions and 97 winners.

Applicants should submit a written essay using critical thinking on the topic of promoting awareness of township government by June 1, 2023. Winners will be chosen by an independent panel of judges and will be notified in September 2023. They will also be invited to attend MAT's annual conference in December 2023 in St. Cloud.

The 2023 essay question on promoting township government is, *"Representation of people and ideas is the hallmark of government in the United States. No level of government is as close to its constituents as the township. Today's townships face several challenges, including decreasing populations, annexation pressures from cities, declining interest in public service, growing demands from constituents, and a distrust of government. Considering these challenges, what do you see as the future role of townships in local government?"*

For more information and application details, please call the MAT offices at 1-800-228-0296 or visit <https://www.mntownships.org/about/scholarship-program>. A letter announcing this program has been sent to high schools, as well as newspapers, statewide. We encourage township officers to also forward this information to high school juniors.

The MAT Scholarship Program has made a real difference for our recipients and has also been an opportunity to learn about township government, which embodies the values of 'grassroots government' where local citizens directly participate. We encourage as many high school juniors as possible to apply, whether they are from rural areas or urban cities.

What's in the Kitchen
Nicole Chatterson, Town Clerk



How about that weather we had to end the year 2022? From the huge snowfall to the arctic cold, I hope everyone has finally gotten dug out, is staying warm, and is ready for the new year! Now that the holidays are over, there is time to take a breath and reflect on the past year, the things you accomplished, the good times and the bad. Then look forward to the year to come, thinking of the adventures you might have, the home projects you wish to accomplish, and the resolutions you may make. In my case, it will be looking for new recipes that I can integrate into my recipe book.

Before the holiday season, I did a fair bit of exploring in quest of new cookie recipes to freshen up the cookie platters I was gifting. This year I added nine new cookies to my arsenal: Swedish Butter Cookies, Chocolate/Vanilla and Chocolate/Orange Pinwheels, Spiced Eggnog Oatmeal Cream Pie (my new personal favorite!), Swedish Tea Rings, Gingerbread Whoopies, Peppermint Mocha Cookies, Andes Mint Chocolate Cookies, and Christmas Sparkle Cookies. So far, they have been well received by the test tasters.



This past month, I posted a question on the Duluth Township Facebook page asking what recipe the readers would like to see in the January edition of the Newsletter. The three options to vote for were: the Swedish Butter Cookies, the Pinwheel Cookies, or the Swedish Tea Rings. The Swedish Butter Cookies were the winner for this edition. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for future opportunities to vote on recipes you would like to see in the Duluth Township Newsletter.

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. Happy cooking!

Swedish Butter Cookies

Ingredients

- 1 cup softened butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons maple syrup
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- confectioners' sugar



Directions

1. Preheat oven to 300° F.
2. In a large bowl, cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy, about 5-7 minutes. Then add maple syrup.
3. In another bowl, combine flour and baking soda; gradually add this mixture into the wet ingredients and mix well.
4. Divide dough into eight equal portions. Roll each portion into a 9-inch log. Place 3 inches apart on an ungreased or parchment lined baking sheet. Bake for 25 minutes or until lightly browned.
5. Once out of the oven, immediately cut into 1-inch pieces. Remove to wire racks and dust with confectioners' sugar.

Bonus Recipe Alert!

With the Superbowl right around the corner, I figured I would share one of my go-to dip recipes. My nieces and nephews beg me to bring this when we visit. And it only requires three ingredients!

Sausage Dip

Ingredients

- 1 8 oz block of cream cheese, cubed
- 1 lb Jimmy Dean Breakfast Sausage
- 1 10 oz can of Rotel Diced Tomatoes & Green Chilies

Directions

1. In a large skillet over medium-high heat, cook sausage until crumbled and no longer pink. Drain.
2. Add cubed cream cheese and Rotel to the skillet. Stir occasionally until the cream cheese is melted and well combined. This step can also be completed in a crockpot on low, stirring occasionally.
3. Serve with your favorite chips.



Duluth Township has a Facebook page. Be sure to go check it out. Search [Town of Duluth](#) on Facebook.



Did you know?

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

Each year in the United States there is more than \$2 billion in property loss due to winter home fires.

Over the last five years in Minnesota, 41 percent of fire deaths occurred in November, December and January.

FREEZE OUT WINTER FIRES

- Keep all doors and windows that could be used for an escape route clear of snow and ice.
- Keep all vents — fireplace, dryer, furnace and oven — clear of snow, ice and debris.
- Never use a blow torch to thaw frozen pipes.
- Use flashlights, not candles, if you lose power.
- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from heat sources; do not use your oven to heat your home.



SFM.DPS.MN.GOV

445 Minnesota St., Suite 145, St. Paul, MN 55101 Telephone: 651-201-7200 Fax: 651-215-0525

CHILI FEED



Neighborhood Night IN

Mark your calendars and save the date! Gather together with your friends and neighbors for an evening of good food, entertainment and travelogue. It's way too cold to be outside, so we're doing this IN! Listen to classic rock by John Kronstedt, eat great chili made by Eric Sturtz from the New Scenic Cafe and then hear about Greg & Kay Libby's adventure traveling the waterways of America's Great Loop. Your free will offering will benefit the construction of our Outdoor Worship and Community Gathering Space!



**FRENCH RIVER
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

5310 RYAN ROAD

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18TH

STARTING AT 5:30 PM

SNOW DATE: THURSDAY, JANUARY 19TH

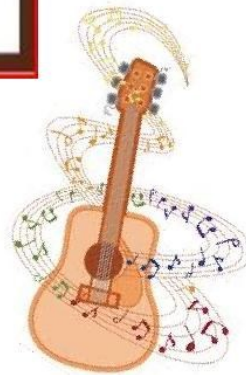
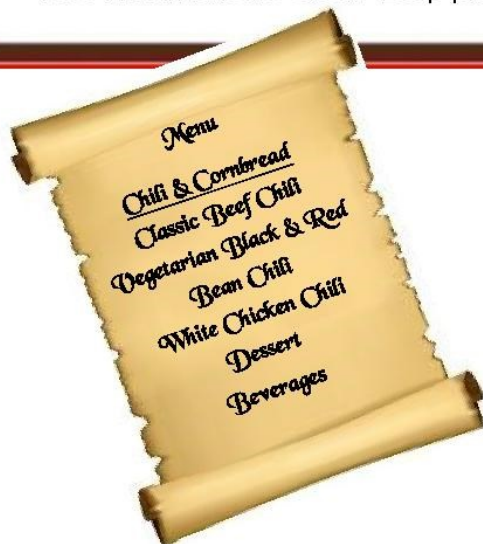
5:30–6:30 Chili Feed

5:30–7:00 PM Music

7:00 PM America's Great Loop presentation



Kay & Greg Libby on the boat,
Superior Passage



America's Great Loop



Duluth Township Information 2023

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

Town Office Hours: Tues 9 am-12 pm, Wed 9 am-2 pm,
Thurs 9 am-5 pm, Fri 9 am-2 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: Intergovernmental Relations, Planning, CC Liaison/
NSCS Foundation Board

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

Tim Strom (2021-2023) 525-5705
Primary contact: Arts & Heritage, Planning
Alternate: Intergovernmental Relations, Business Manage-
ment, Roads/Invasive Weeds, Materials Management, Town
Hall, CC Liaison/NSCS Foundation Board

Jim Ward (2022-2025) (218) 260-5689
Primary contact: Roads/Invasive Weeds, Public Safety
Alternate: Arts & Heritage, Intergovernmental Relations, CC
Liaison/NSCS Foundation Board

Stacia Grayson (2022-2025) (612) 239-2292 or 525-5705
Primary contact: Materials Management, Town Hall
Alternate: Cemetery, Intergovernmental Relations,
Communications, North Shore Management Board, Public
Safety, CC Liaison/NSCS Foundation Board

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

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

Peace Officers: **Chief Mark Haselow, 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

Emergency Operations Department: **Co-Directors Sherry Rovig and Ann Cox**

Burning Permits are available online at: mndnr.gov/permits or at the Town Hall (office hours), or from **Fire Wardens:** **Nicole Chatterson (525-5705), Jeff & Carolyn Marino (525-6431), Hannah Jurek (525-5705), or DNR Two Harbors, 568 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 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. Curbside 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

Our Official Calendar is posted at the Town Hall

January 2023

January 3: Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm; Fire Business meeting 7 pm

January 4: Homesteaders 12:30 pm

January 5: Recycling 2-6 pm

January 7: Recycling 8 am-noon

January 10: Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm; ARPA Funds Informational Meeting 6:30 pm

January 12: Recycling 2-6 pm; Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm

January 14: Recycling 8 am-noon

January 17: Clerk's Hours 1-5 pm; Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm; Fire Training Meeting 7 pm

January 18: D/NSSD Volunteer Board Meeting at French River Lutheran Church 7 am

January 19: Recycling 2-6 pm

January 21: Recycling 8 am-noon

January 24: Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm

January 26: Recycling 2-6 pm, Planning Commission Meeting 6:30 pm

January 28: Recycling 8 am-noon

January 31: Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm

February 2023

February 1: Homesteaders 12:30 pm

February 2: Recycling 2-6 pm

February 4: Recycling 8 am-noon

February 7: Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm; Fire Business Meeting 7 pm

February 9: Recycling 2-6 pm; Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm

February 11: Recycling 8 am-noon

February 14: Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm

February 15: D/NSSD Volunteer Board Meeting at French River Lutheran Church 7 am

February 16: Recycling 2-6 pm

February 18: Recycling 8 am-noon

February 21: Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm; Fire Training Meeting 7 pm; ARPA Funds Proposal Meeting 6:30 pm

February 23: Recycling 2-6 pm; Planning Commission Meeting 6:30 pm

February 25: Recycling 8 am-noon

February 28: Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm

DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

January 2023

1114 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, Hannah Jurek, 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**.

Inside This Issue

- Homesteaders
- Police Report
- Chili Feed
- Open Seats on the Town Board
- Scholarship Opportunity
- ARPA Community Input



Duluth Township Newsletter
6092 Homestead Road
Duluth, MN 55804

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

For a color version of this Newsletter, visit the Township website: www.duluthtownship.org

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. If you would like you can 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.

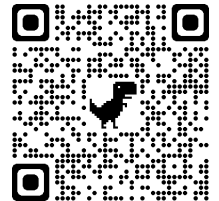
Fire Department or Emergency Medical Responders: Call 911.

Town Roads: See contact on Town website.

Recycling: Open during regular hours (posted on the Township website www.duluthtownship.org). 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.



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). Extra copies are also available in the Town Hall.