



Fall in Duluth Township

Duluth Township Newsletter

Duluth Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org

November 2006

Thanks to all contributors to this issue:

Jody Anderson, Wendy Anderson, Ann Cox, Helen Hendrickson, Janis Hoey, Barb Jackson, Kaye Jacobs, Kathy Johnson, Michael Kahl, Janet Lampi, Carolyn Marino, Janet McTavish, Trish O'Keefe, Sherry Rovig, and our Township webmaster, Linda Holliday. Note: If you would be willing to provide a masthead drawing or picture, leave a note at the Town Hall.

Thanks to UMD student, **John Geissler**, who developed an internet site for our Township residents to use to see maps and zones for their property. He also held a number of training classes for our residents. The site will be available from our Township web site.

What's Coming Up?

Some Topics and Issues Being Considered.

Elections – Nov 7th, 7am-8pm in our Town Hall on Homestead Road. This includes the general election and School District 381 operating levy and a constitutional amendment on transportation (see articles below). We have 1286 registered voters.

Building Addition Team report on space needs for our *Duluth Township Community Center* was given to the Town Board at the Oct 23rd special meeting. The Town Board will review their report at the November Board meeting.

Stoney Point Development – Odyssey Development submitted an initial land use permit application and the Planning Commission indicated parts that were incomplete. Once completed, the application will specify a public information process and a public hearing. Notice of these will be posted.

Filing for Town Supervisor. Filing is open from January 2nd to 5pm on January 16th at our Town Hall. The election is held March 13th before our Annual Town Meeting. Two positions will be on the ballot.

Planning and Zoning. The Committee is working on several areas where policies or clarification appear to be needed. These include performance standards for the Light Industrial Use (LIU) areas, rentals, the permitting process, enforcement, etc. The Committee has attempted to notify stakeholders for suggestions. An LIU group has been meeting.

VOTE!

Tuesday NOVEMBER 7th

General Election, including:

**Transportation Amendment, and
School District #381 operating bond vote**

Duluth Town Hall – Polls Open 7am to 8pm

(Absentee ballots are available at the St Louis County Court House))

NSCS Book Fair at Barnes & Noble

Barb Jackson, NSCS Librarian

Our *North Shore Community School* will be holding a Book Fair at Barnes & Noble Book Store on **Friday, December 1st**. A portion of all merchandise purchased that day with a NS voucher will be returned to the NS library in Barnes & Noble gift cards.

Vouchers are available at school and the French River Lutheran Church, and there will be extras at the checkout counters if you ask! Do some Christmas shopping and support the school library at the same time.

Township Road and Bridge Needs

If you wish to report needs for **Township** road and bridge repairs, **please call a Township Supervisor** (Jeff Cook at 525-4010, or Steve Dahl at 525-4679) rather than talking with the road contractor. *Repairs need to be ordered by the Supervisors.* Stopping work crews also interferes with their work. A list of Township roads was in the March Newsletter.

For repairs to **County** roads, call the St Louis County Tool House (525-7000).



Rural North Shore Senior Housing Initiative

A group of residents exploring ways to help our seniors stay in our community.

Jan McTavish, Convener

The Town Board passed a resolution to work with the *Northern Communities Land Trust* to seek funding to do a needs study, assist with site selection and initial planning.

The next meeting is **Nov. 13th (2nd Monday each month)** at 7pm in the Town Hall. Interested residents are invited to participate. For more information contact: Janet McTavish, 525-0103 or Helen Hendrickson, 525-4154.

Duluth Township Community Center

Building Addition Team (BAT)

The Committee presented a report to a special working meeting of the Town Board on October 23rd. The report summarized findings about community and school space needs relevant to our Community Center. The Board will review the report and discuss it at their November meeting. No further meetings of the BAT group are planned at this time.

Please Pick up your 9-1-1 Sign!

Ann Cox, Town Clerk

The following 9-1-1 address signs need to be picked up at the Duluth Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804 during regular business hours.

Pending since

Aug 2005	Mary Brown, 5385 North Shore Drive
Dec 2005	Daniel Ring, 5736 North Star Road
Jan 2006	Roger Rose, 5252 McQuade Road
July 2006	Donna Brenna, 1456 West Knife River Road
Oct 2006	Robert Mohs, 5163 Greenwood Road

Township Police Department

Shawn Padden, Police Chief

Welcome our new police officer, **Rick Swanson**. Rick was appointed to our Township Police Department for 20 hours per month. He is a security consultant to the Duluth Airport Authority and served for many years as a St Louis County Deputy Sheriff. He was also a liaison for the St Louis County Rescue Squad before he retired.

Our Police Department now has Chief Shawn Padden and Officers Steve Peterson and Rick Swanson who all split patrol time that the Township provides.

Our Police Department maintains an **email Crime Alert** service (it is also on our web site). To receive notices send your email address to PoliceOffice@duluthtownship.org.

Clifton Volunteer Fire Department

Barry Lampi, Fire Chief

Check your wood burning stove and chimney to prevent a fire. The Annual Harvest Dinner benefit was a fine success. See the report in this Newsletter. If you missed out, come next year!!

Firefighter volunteers are needed. To join up, come to a Fire Department meeting (first Wednesday at 7pm in Fire Hall #1 on Ryan Road) or contact Chief Barry Lampi at 525-4842.

Emergency Key Lock Boxes are available. They can be purchased from our Fire Department for \$35.00. A request form is available at the Town Hall. You provide a key for the lock box. Our Fire Department sets the code

and installs the box at your home or business. This provides *only* emergency fire/police/medical access. It's *not* a resident backup key!!

Township Calendars. The work on the 2007 Duluth Township Volunteer Fire Department calendar has recently been completed. This year's calendar raised over \$2000 for the Fire Department. Thanks to all of the businesses who supported the Fire Department by purchasing an ad, and to the committee members who volunteered their time to put the calendar together. As soon as the calendars have been printed, Township residents will again be hand delivering them to all Township households.



Report on the 4th Annual Harvest Dinner

Sherry Rovig

The 4th Annual Harvest Dinner was a great place to be on October 14th. The combination of home cooked food, live music, fantastic door prizes, an incredible variety of desserts, and friendly neighbors is definitely a winner. The next generation of firefighters had a fine time climbing on the fire engine and trying out the sirens and lights. The success of the event was evident in the enthusiasm of the participants, as well as the proceeds donated for our Clifton Fire Department and First Responders.

Many people and businesses contributed to the success. Special thanks go to: the *kitchen and prep crew* – Jody Anderson, Pat Halverson, Mary Ann Daniel, Judith Torrence, Barb Crow, Sherry Rovig, Mary Tennis, Joanne Norgren, and Trisha O'Keefe; *greeters* – Stacy LeVres and Stasia Ruskie; the *musicians* – Jim and Dwayne Madison, Louisa and Bob Fabbro; the *gardeners* who donated produce for the meal and decorations – Sherry Rovig, Deb Shubat, Jody Anderson, and Terry Carl; *candy jars* from Janet Lampi; *Alakef Coffee*; and all the wonderful *bakers* in our community who brought the desserts.

The door prizes this year were exceptional and plentiful with **donations from** The *New Scenic Café*, The *Mocha Moose*, *Bark in the Dark Studio*, Ann Cox, and Dan Tanner for *Korkki Nordic*. Other donations came from *Arrowhead Product Development, Inc.*, Dorothy and William Aho, *Marshall Hardware*, Dolores and Bob Abrahamson, Bill and Norma Cox, Diane Daniels, and many others who contributed more than the price of the meal. Thanks also go to Keith, Andrea, Ryan and Brady Darsow for pitching in during clean-up.

The **Harvest Dinner** and the **Calendar** are successful fundraisers and enjoyable projects by the **Clifton Fire Auxiliary**. We hope that more members of our community **join the Auxiliary** in support of emergency services for our Township. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and contribute. Call Jody Anderson (525-4971), Sherry Rovig (525-0489), or Pat Halverson (525-2535) for further information.

Duluth Township Information

Duluth Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804
 Phone (218) 525-5705 (voice message),
 fax (218) 525-3845, web site: www.duluthtownship.org. or
 Email: TownHall@duluthtownship.org

Town Office Hours: Tues. and Wed. 9am-12am
 Thursday 9:00-12:00 and 4:00-7:00

Supervisors:

Wendy Anderson (2005-2008) **Vice Chair**, 525-0263
 or Email: WendyAnderson@duluthtownship.org
 (responsibilities: Community Center, Board of
 Adjustment, Personnel, Planning, Senior Housing,
 Building Addition Team), Recycling (South meetings)

Jeff Cook, (2006-2009) 525-4010
 or Email: JeffCook@duluthtownship.org
 (responsibilities: Road & Bridge, Planning, D/NSSD,
 McQuade Harbor Joint Powers, North Shore Mgmt
 Board, RSPT Stormwater)

Stephen Dahl, (2004-2007) 525-4679 or
 Email: SteveDahl@duluthtownship.org
 (responsibilities: Road & Bridge, Community Center)

Dan Tanner (2005-2008) **Board Chair**, 525-4087
 or Email: DanTanner@duluthtownship.org
 (responsibilities: Cemetery, Town Hall, Recycling
 (South meetings), Personnel, Outside Township
 Meetings – St Louis County and Duluth)

Corlis West, (2004-2007) 525-7719
 or Email: CorlisWest@duluthtownship.org
 (responsibilities: Fire, Police, Newsletter, Sr. Hsg.)

Town Clerk: **Ann Cox** 525-5705 (Town Hall)
 or Email: TownClerk@duluthtownship.org

Treasurer: **Janet Johansen** 525-5705 (Town Hall)
 or Email: TownTreasurer@duluthtownship.org

Attorney: **Tim Strom** 722-4766 (office)
 or Email: TownAttorney@duluthtownship.org

Cemetery: **Denise Connolly** 525-7161 or 525-1902
 or Email: Cemetery@duluthtownship.org

Planning and Zoning Administrator: **Wayne Dahlberg**
 Assistant to the Administrator: **John Kessler**
393-8500 or Town Hall hours: 3:30-6:30 Wed.
 or Email: JohnKessler@duluthtownship.org

Planning and Zoning Secretary: **Carolyn Marino**
 Email: CarolynMarino@duluthtownship.org

Planning and Zoning Committee: **Dave Miller** (Chair), **Dave Chura** (Vice Chair), **Sue Lawson**, **Jan Green**, **Adam Hendrickson**, **Michael Kahl**, and **Seth Levanen**.
 Email: PlanningZoning@duluthtownship.org

Peace Officers: **Chief Shawn Padden**, **Officers: Mike Peterson**, **Steve Peterson** and **Rick Swanson**.
 Emergencies 9-1-1, Messages 525-5705 or 393-8407
 Email: DuluthTwpPolice@duluthtownship.org

Fire Department: **Chief Barry Lampi**, **Assistant Chief Bob Engleson** Email: FireHall@duluthtownship.org

Community Center Event Coordinator: **Anne Miller** 525-0663
 x208 or Email: EventCoordinator@duluthtownship.org

Note: Where possible, email is forwarded to the person, otherwise it is sent to the Town Hall where it is picked up.



Township Calendar

See updates on www.duluthtownship.org.

Official calendar is posted at the Town Hall.

November 2006

- 1, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's**, Town Hall
- 1, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- 7, Tue. 7am-8pm **ELECTION DAY**, Town Hall
- 8, Wed, 7am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 9, Thu, 7:00pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- 13, Mon, 7pm **Senior Housing** group, Town Hall.
- 15, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** training, Hall #1
- 20, Mon, 6:30pm **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library.
- 30, Thu, 7:30pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall
(tentative date for Nov/Dec meeting)

December 2006

- 1, Fri. NSCS **Book Fair** at Barnes & Noble.
- 6, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's**, Town Hall
- 6, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Rd
- 11, Mon, 7:00pm **Senior Housing** group, Town Hall
- 13, Wed, 7am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran
- 14, Thu, 7:00pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- 18, Mon, 6:30pm, **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library
- 20, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** training
- 23, Mon. **Deadline** for November Newsletter
- 28, Thu. **Planning Commission** does not meet.

January 2007

- 2, Tue, Start of time to file to run for Supervisor.
- 3, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's** meet Town Hall
- 3, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- 8, Mon, 7pm **Senior Housing** group, Town Hall.
- 10, Wed, 7am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 11, Thu, 7:00pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall.
- 15, Mon, 6:30pm, **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library.
- 16, Tue, 5:00pm Last day to file to run for Township Supervisor *(note office hours are 9-12 today).*
- 17, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** Training Hall #1
- 25, Thu, 7:30pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall

Township Recycling Centers

North site – at the Town Hall, on Homestead Road

Bob Abrahamson and **Caroline Marino** now share staffing the center **Tuesday 7-11am, 2-6pm, Thursday 3-7pm, and Saturday 8-12 noon.**

South site – Closed due to McQuade Harbor construction.

Meetings continue to arrange for re-opening at some point.
(Drop off only during recycling hours)

*"Volunteering is the rent you pay to live in a good township."
 Ken Hendrickson*

Consider Your Vote on the Constitutional Amendment for Transportation

David Fricke, Minnesota Association of Townships
An article from the Sept/Oct Minnesota Township News

In 2005 MNDOT provided information showing a \$1 billion per year shortfall in the trunk highway system over the next 20 years. When you add local roads and transit, the unmet need is about \$1.5 to \$1.7 billion per year.

This year the people will have a chance to vote on a constitutional amendment that was a small part of a larger transportation bill that Governor Pawlenty vetoed. The constitutional amendment will dedicate 100% of the proceeds of the Motor Vehicle Sales Tax (MVST) to transportation needs, phased in over the five (5) year period. With 54% of the MVST already being used for transportation purposes, the Minnesota legislature already has shown the need to use these dollars for transportation.

As you ponder your vote on the constitutional amendment, remember that the legislature recently moved to eliminate the transit property tax levy for operating budgets and they reduced license tab fees.

The actual language you will see on the ballot will read:

"Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to dedicate revenue from a tax on the sale of new and used motor vehicles over a five-year period, so that after June 30, 2011, all of the revenue is dedicated at least 40 percent for public transit assistance and not more than 60 percent for highway purposes?" (Yes/No).

As you know, there are usually two sides to an issue. Recently at the National Association of Towns and Townships conference in Washington, DC, Congressman Jim Oberstar addressed the Minnesota delegation at a breakfast on Capitol Hill. In his presentation, the Congressman told the group that the people of Minnesota should vote for the constitutional amendment in order to increase funding for all transportation. The opposite view was expressed last month at the District 1 Association of Townships meeting in Albert Lea. Retiring Minnesota State Representative Dan Dorman said the people in rural Minnesota should vote no for the amendment. Rep. Dorman indicated that the amendment would have a long lasting impact on future transportation funding for rural Minnesota.

The legislature will still have a say in how 60% of the new funds will be divided between transit and roads. The language as presented could possibly allow a future legislative body to give up to 100% of these dollars to transit.

If the amendment is approved, approximately \$300 million will be added to available transportation funding. Considering this is only a small part of the current and projected need, it certainly is not going to be the answer to our transportation funding problems.

The legislature will still need to act soon on a transportation funding package to address all the projected road, bridge and transit needs.

Talk to your legislators and candidates about the pros and cons of this Constitutional Amendment and then go to the November election and vote!

Invest in Your Community November 7th No-Frills Operating Levy

Kaye Jacobs, our School District representative

Your Lake Superior Independent School District No. 381 is asking you to vote on an operating levy on the November 7th ballot. The levy provides \$950 per student, per year, for 10 years. Only homestead and commercial property and 1-ac of agricultural land (house garage, 1ac) will pay this levy. By law, timber-seasonal-recreational land (cabin, hunting shack, 2nd homes) do not pay operating levy taxes. The State's inflation index on the levy, tied to the Consumer Price Index, is not expected to increase the amount you pay each year, based on current factors.

Why do our schools need new funding? Times have changed! 1) Declining enrollment, 2) Rising costs, 3) Zero State Funding Increase 3-years in a row.

What has the District done to reduce costs? 1) Gave more than \$1 million back to taxpayers (favorable refinancing of the 2002 building bonds). 2) Closed Silver Bay's only elementary and one of two Two Harbors elementary schools (only 3 schools left open). 3) Cut class offerings. 4) Cut graduation requirements. 5) Added multi-grade teaching at both elementary schools. 6) Cut staff. 7) Spent savings account to keep cuts away from classrooms. 8) Increased energy efficiency in other buildings. 9) Closed swimming pools for several months. 10) Increased some class sizes, particularly HS.

Why vote to pay more school taxes? 1) Its the right of all citizens to receive a free public education. 2) Its our responsibility to provide for future generations. 3) High quality schools create high-quality communities. 4) High quality communities provide high-quality schools! 5) Schools strengthen the community. 6) Schools offer excellent family activities. 7) School taxes for non-lakefront property have generally dropped over the past 5 years even with higher valuations.

How will new operating levy funds affect classrooms? They will help maintain current standards of quality: 1) Continued broad course offerings. 2) All-day, everyday kindergarten. 3) Local control of our schools. 4) Strong extracurricular offerings. 5) Lower K-3 class sizes. 6) Avoid bankruptcy, which brings State oversight.

What will the operating levy cost me? 1) You pay on only the taxable market value on your property tax statement. 2) You pay each year for a maximum of 10 years. 3) For each \$1000 of TMV, the cost is \$1.82 for the first year (\$182 on a \$100,000 TMV). 4) The North Shore Community School should receive more than \$34,000 each year of the levy. 5) Due to growth in our region, consultants predict the amount you pay will not increase in later years.

What is an operating levy? 1) Its the only way a school district itself can raise substantial funds to operate schools. 2) Its a tax assessment on your land. 3) Its your opportunity to support School District programs and keep tax dollars in the community. 4) Its your right to vote to decide the School District's ability to pay for critical school programs.

What happens if you say no? 1) Deeper budget

reductions will cut even basic course offerings and programs. 2) Students will lose more classes and programs. 3) More people lose jobs. 4) The community loses quality in its schools.

How is this vote different from the 2002 and 2005 votes? 1) 2005 vote approved transferring interest income from the construction bond. 2) 2002 vote approved construction of the new Two Harbors high school and remodeling the other two schools. 3) Dollars approved by these votes can not be used to pay general salaries and general operating costs.

Want more information? Please call Kaye Jacobs (525-7749), or any other School Board member at 834-8201, or Superintendent Minkkinen at 834-8216 x8213.

The Homesteaders

Helen Hendrickson

November 1st, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. Turkey Bingo.

December 6th, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. Christmas Pot-Luck luncheon, and NSCS musical program.

January 3rd, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. New Year's Pot-Luck and Bingo.

Everyone is welcome. For information, call 525-4154

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Summary of Town Board Meetings

(Official minutes are available at the Town Hall and on our Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org).

August 10th meeting. All Supervisors were present. Audience concerns: Larry Nesgoda raised concerns about enforcement of the Junk Car Ordinance and screening. (tabled to clarify definition of screening). **Department reports:** **Police:** Darrell Rajavouri made progress in complying with the Junk Car Ordinance. Rick Swanson will become our 4th police officer as requested at the last Annual Town Meeting. There was a fatal accident at McQuade and Lismore. Shawn recommended asking the County for a 4-way stop at that location. **Fire:** The fire lock box application form was approved following review of its legal wording. **Community Center:** Request paying the remaining \$48,000 for the sprinkler system. The Building Addition Team will be sending a questionnaire to all residents concerning community needs. The recreation field has been completed. An event coordinator will be sought to fill Jeanne Anderson's position. **Legal:** The sexually oriented business ordinance legal notice was approved. **Town Hall:** A maintenance assistant position will be posted. **Planning:** Building permits have been slow this year. Recycling: Some problems with garbage dumping. **Roads:** Still waiting on County for road chloride. Request to move "Welcome to Duluth" sign for better traffic visibility. Federal mileage rate is .445/mi.

September 14th meeting. All Supervisors were present. Correspondence: The County is considering Chief Padden's letter requesting a stop sign at McQuade and Lismore. Officer Rick Swanson's hiring for 40 hours per month was approved pending final checking. Treasurer: Expenses \$82,286.48, deposits \$5,093.26 for a balance of \$591,567.50. A CD matured and will be reinvested. A building permit check was returned with insufficient funds and will be pursued. Supervisor Anderson will request the bank to write their own guarantee to insure our funds beyond the FDIC \$100,000. **Police:** They were thanked for their presence in the Township. New Officer Richard Swanson was introduced. **Fire:** 3 calls plus first responder calls. **Community Center:** A generator has not yet been delivered to handle power outages. A motion to extend the NSCS lease to 2011 (required by a grant), was approved. Maintenance should be a budget line item to be approved at the Annual Town Meeting. The Building Addition Team continues to meet to determine school and community needs. Another well is going to be needed to handle watering the Center's grounds. There was a discussion of how to arrange for maintenance of the recreational fields. **Legal:** Reversionary clause discussion will be tabled until after the Building Addition Team's report. **Town Hall:** Maintenance position will be advertised in the Two Harbors paper (see ad in this Newsletter). Supervisor wage adjustment tabled. **Planning:** Setback variance approved with condition of a buffer planting plan. Discussion of progress on Rajavouri junk car issue. Meeting to discuss ordinance conditions for Limited Industrial Use zone districts (LIU) was held on Sept 7th. Planning Director Dahlberg met with Stoney Point Cottage developer. Their PUD application will be submitted. **Recycling:** Household garbage is being

(continued on page 6)

dumped at recycling. WLSSD will be contacted about assistance in enforcement of no-dumping rules. It was suggested that a camera be installed. Roads: Roads need grading. Recommended that we chloride entire roads rather than spots. Road chloride for private drives can be purchased by homeowners (contact Michele Hagglund). Ordinance review tabled until next meeting.

October 12th meeting. All Supervisors attended.

Interviews were held with two applicants for the Community Center Event Coordinator position (Jana Pastika and Anne Miller). Anne Miller was selected for the position. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Audience concerns:

Planning Commission member Janet Green asked the Board to ask our Township Attorney whether he can provide legal advice in the Odyssey Planned Unit Development (PUD) application, given that Odyssey is using an attorney in the same law firm. Correspondence:

The Senior Housing Group asked that the Board approve a resolution to work with the Northern Communities Land Trust in the development of a needs assessment, site identification and planning and with grant applications that may be needed to fund this preliminary work. The resolution was approved. Two insufficient fund checks for permits were discussed and steps were taken to collect the funds (or the permits are invalidated). A review of the Junk Car Ordinance was tabled to September. Police: Chief Padden read the monthly event report and noted a problem with an old structure on Old North Shore Road. The owners will be contacted. Fire: No one was available to report.

Community Center: Planning and grant work for window replacement is being done. The Community Center recreational field infield is completed. There was a discussion of how the fields would be managed and maintenance paid for. The Warming Shack needs electricity but this will be put off until next year. Legal:

There was a discussion of how our lawyer's time is requested. Unless there is an emergency, the request should come through the Board. Attorney Tim Strom will talk with Odyssey's attorney to see what is going on and what possible conflicts of interest there may be since both lawyers are in the same firm. Town Hall: No one applied for the part-time maintenance position. It will be re-advertised but there was a discussion of hiring for specific jobs to be done. Police Chief Shawn Padden suggested background checks as a condition of work (since it may involve keys and access to various private areas) and he will create some forms for the Board. Supervisor wage adjustment (equalization) was discussed. The motion to set it at \$250/month failed. Currently Supervisors are reimbursed for expenses and paid \$50/meeting. Zoning:

Planning Director Dahlberg reported (see Planning minutes). Recycling: Busy. Some garbage is being dumped at night and aluminum cans for NSCS support have been stolen. After a number of meetings and early promises, the South Recycling Center apparently is not going to be allowed on the *McQuade Safe Harbor* site even though the Township donated some of the land to the project. Curb side recycling pickup options are being pursued. The claims list was reviewed. Bills were paid.

October 23rd special working meeting. Supervisors Anderson, Dahl, West, and Tanner attended. The

purpose of the meeting was to receive the Building Addition Team's (BAT) report on needs for revised or added space at our Community Center (i.e. school needs and community needs). The BAT concluded that there is a need for additional space. The Board will review their written report prior to their next regular meeting. The BAT group was thanked for their work on the project.

The Next Town Board meetings: (2nd Thursday) Nov. 9th and Dec. 14th at 7:00pm in the Town Hall.
Residents are urged to attend these public meetings.

Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District
For service call Eric Appelwick's office at 345 Canal Park Drive, Suite 300, Duluth 55802. Phone. 624-8042 and 590-5911.
Board meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00am at French River Lutheran Church. The public is invited to attend all D/NSSD meetings.

Our New Community Center Events Coordinator
The Town Board appointed Township resident **Anne Miller** as our new Event Coordinator. Thanks to Jeanne Anderson, our first Event Coordinator for helping in the transition. Fall classes are progressing and spring classes will be announced in the January Newsletter.

Upcoming Duluth Township Community Center Fall Class Offerings
Anne Miller, Event Coordinator
If you are interested in teaching a class or have comments or concerns, please contact Anne Miller at 525-0663 x208 or by email at EventCoordinator@duluthtownship.org.

High Speed Internet
Kevin Olson, Coop Light and Power, reported that they have upgraded their system with hardware that helps provide for better sharing of the bandwidth of the wireless internet system by avoiding a few users from "hogging" the system (as in heavy internet gaming, etc.). This should result in higher average speed of access for most users.
If you have trouble with your high speed wireless connection, call Kevin (834-2226). CLP can remotely check the connection to your home or business and suggest things you can check on your internal system.
The new CLP electricity substation on Homestead road will be turned on sometime around November 1st.

Christmas Shopping Without the Crowds
Janet Lampi
Remember grandma's hand woven rugs? They are here and a lot closer than you think. Available in Knife River at the Lake County DAC (Developmental Achievement Center).
They have taken grandma's hard woven rugs and turned them into conversation pieces. Using all recycled fabric, these rugs come in any color or combination of colors, length and fabrics.
You may find a wool rug for the cold cabin floor,
(continued on page 7)

(DAC Christmas, continued from page 6)

pastels, pinks and blues for a baby's room; or one that would look perfect in front of the fireplace or to welcome guests into your home.

So, if you are struggling to find a unique gift for that hard to buy for person, with over 200 rugs you won't be disappointed.

We are a private, non-profit organization and look forward to your visit.

Our hours are 8-8:30 Monday through Friday. If you have questions, call 834-5767 or 525-4842 or stop in at 204 Central Avenue across from the Knife River Post Office. We look forward to hearing from you.



McQuade Harbor project – October, 2006

Summary of Planning Commission Meetings

July 27th meeting. All members attended. *Audience concerns:* Larry Nesgoda raised concerns about enforcement of the junk car ordinance and required screening. A letter will be sent. *Other business:* An off-site sign violation was discussed and the owner will be contacted. Concern about a possible commercial business in a residential area will be pursued to determine if a conditional use permit is required. A setback from a County highway will be clarified for the resident. A concern about short term rental in residential areas was also discussed (excessive noise and partying). Potential zoning strategies were discussed and prioritized. The top two were development and enforcement standards, and evaluation of commercial development priorities on the North Shore corridor. Safe shoulders for Homestead Road was also mentioned.

August 24th meeting. Attending: Dave Miller (chair), Dave Chura, Adam Hendrickson, and Sue Lawson. A hearing was held on Brian Hennessey's request for a road setback variance on Bergquist Road. After discussion, the variance was approved with the condition that an approved "shelterbelt" screening design be submitted. A concern was raised about enforcement of the junk car ordinance. Steps to be taken were agreed upon. Odyssey Development will submit a new Planned Unit Development (PUD) proposal. The sign issue and the business in a residential area issue raised at the last meeting have been resolved (signs have been removed and the resident was parking some equipment but not operating a business at the residence). The LIU group and the Enforcement group will be meeting. Proposed Conditional Use and Variance application forms will be discussed at the September meeting. The proposed rental policy was deferred to the September meeting.

September 28th meeting. Members attending: Chair Dave Miller, Janet Green, Michael Kahl, Sue Lawson, and Seth Levanen. Minutes and agenda were approved. Odyssey Development (Stoney Point) submitted new PUD

(Planned Unit Development) application. A letter will be sent to request additional material to complete their application. The Light Industrial Use (LIU) zone district group met Sept. 7th. The Enforcement Guidelines group met on August 28th. There was a concern raised about short term rental in the Township. Legal advice will be sought and policies will be reviewed. Jan Green reported on a Storm Water workshop she attended and raised the question of how it would be known that someone has a stormwater permit. A motion was approved to send a copy of permit applications to the PCA.

-- There have been 37 building permits issued this year.--

**Next Planning Commission meetings: (4th Thursday)
Nov. 30th (no Dec. meeting) and Jan. 25th at 7:00pm,
Town Hall**

Residents are invited to attend these meetings.

Light Industrial Use (LIU) Districts Group

Michael Kahl

Questions have been raised about the need for performance standards for LIU areas. The Planning Commission discussed these concerns and started a discussion group of interested parties to gather suggestions. Some 104 letters were sent, inviting those who own property in or near LIU districts in the Township to join in dialog about LIU regulations. About 12 people attended an early meeting and 6 attended the October 5th meeting. An attempt will be made to kindle broader interest. The group has developed a number of possibilities. Further meetings will be announced. Suggestions will go to the Planning Commission. For information, contact Michael Kahl through the Town Office (a note or message at 525-5705).



Letters to the Editor:



"In the September Newsletter there was a picture of us with two fine little fellows. They had come to visit us and we were on our August vacation. We're back now and would like to introduce ourselves. We are Hansy and Gertie – we are Gnomes, not trolls. Trolls can get a little cranky and we are generally very pleasant. The house and wonderful white pine tree stump are our home and place to watch the coming and goings on the Old North Shore and meet happy children. We also have many forest friends and they are all very busy preparing for winter.

We sure do like company so if any parents, grandparents and children want to meet us, they are very welcome. Gotta go, chipmunks and chickadees are visiting!

Sincerely Hansy and Gertie
PS Our cousin Karl is visiting us. He is from the old country but likes it here pretty good.

DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2006

Inside this Issue:

- ? Township **Calendar**
- ? **Nov 7th election information**
- ? School District 381 operating levy
- ? Transportation amendment
- Town Board & Planning meetings
- Police & Fire information
- Maintenance job opening
- What's coming up?



Duluth Township Newsletter
6092 Homestead Road
Duluth, MN 55804

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If your name and address are in error or you know of someone who is not receiving a Newsletter, please send a note to the Newsletter Editor at the Town Hall (News box on the Town Hall porch). Extra copies are also available in the Town Hall.

Vote, November 7th, Duluth Town Hall, 7am - 8pm

Job Opening

Town of Duluth Maintenance Position

Ann Cox, Town Clerk

Responsibilities: Sweep/clean floor as needed (at least once per week). Change lights and handle routine maintenance of Town Hall. Keep steps and handicap access ramp shoveled in winter and areas near recycling where snowplow does not reach. Mow grass at Town Hall and at Fire Hall on Ryan Road. Fill in low areas around older gravesites, spread topsoil on new graves when settled, plant grass seed and water. Also raise smaller markers as necessary or when requested. Paint trim and buildings at Town Hall, fire hall and cemetery. Other general maintenance duties as requested.

Requirements: Able to lift a minimum of 50 pounds. Should have some painting, plumbing, wiring and general carpentry skills. Willing to follow directions and be courteous to all Township employees. Capable of using 28 foot ladders safely. Must be 18+ years old.

Salary: To be discussed. **Hours:** Flexible, depending upon tasks. Estimate a minimum of 10 hours per week.

Send qualifications to the Town Hall 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804.

