**School Referendum**—Nov 6th. This is for Independent School District 381 operation bond funding. The property tax supplement to the school budget will last for 8 years. It is estimated to run about 0.11% of a home market value. **Town Hall polls are open from 7am-8pm.** Absentee ballots are available from District 381 offices.

**Planning Director Needed,** (see page 2)

**Seeking a Planning Commission Secretary,** and **a Community Center Event Coordinator** (see p2)

**Vote**

School Referendum  
**November 6th**  
7am-8pm, Town Hall

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**Thanks to all contributors to this issue:**  
Ann Cox, Bob Engelson, Dave Edbom, Helen Hendrickson, Janis Hooey, Kathy Johnson, Todd Lindahl, Janet McTavish, Wendy Meierhoff, Dave Miller, Dave Mount, Shawn Padden, Sherry Rovig, Yvonne Rutford, our Township webmaster, Linda Hollinday, and BB&K Printing for the special color in this issue.

We are looking for contributors to the Newsletter — short articles about our history, poetry, pictures, etc. that might be of interest to Township residents. If you would be willing to provide a masthead drawing or picture, leave a note for the editor at the Town Hall.

**Brian Kinn Benefit, November 27th 5-8pm at North Shore Community School.** The fundraiser for the Kinn family is a spaghetti dinner, raffle and auction. Anyone wishing to donate items for the silent & live auction or help with the event, please contact **Susie Lannon**, 525-6072 or **Gina Lemke**, 834-9281. Donations may also be made to the Brian A. Kinn Cancer Fund at the Wells Fargo Bank.

In April 2007, Brian Kinn was diagnosed with a lymphoma brain tumor. Following intensive chemotherapy, he was sent to Rochester for a stem cell transplant.

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**Railroad History**  
The 1923 Steam locomotive #2719 on its maiden run to Two Harbors in late August. Shown at Palmers Station (Homestead Road crossing) where railroad buffs awaited its arrival. Number 2719 is now owned by the Lake Superior Railroad Museum. You may have heard its steam whistle as it made “leaf color” runs on weekends this fall.

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**The Homesteaders**  
Helen Hendrickson

**November 7th**. Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall, Turkey Bingo.

**December 5th**. Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. Christmas Potluck and NSCS musical program.

**January 3rd**. Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. New Year’s Potluck. **Everybody is welcome.**

For information call Helen Hendrickson at 525-4154.

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**Police Department**  
Shawn Padden, Chief

At the September 13th Town Board meeting, the Police Department reported 101 police events for August. This included 26 requested vacation/home/business checks, 9 traffic violation warnings, 7 suspicious vehicle checks, 6 ATL careless drivers, and 6 disturbance calls, 6 serving civil process. **Crime Alerts.** Our Police Department maintains an E-mail Crime Alert service (it is also on our web site). To receive notices send your email address to PoliceOffice@duluthtownship.org.

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**Community Center Greenhouse**

The NSCS Greenhouse Committee asks for help. This summer a large piece of Lexan was broken. We have purchased the 4x10 replacement sheet and, thanks to the Dan Galyen family, we saved $200 in shipping costs. **Now we need someone to install it!** Also, we are looking for bagged leaves and a load of well-rotted manure to amend the Three Sisters Garden.

If you can help, please contact Kathy Johnson, Greenhouse Chair, at 525-0663 ext106 or Nikki Carpenter at 525-7430.

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**Open House**

Please join us in celebrating Alvin and Alvera Pier-son’s 75th birthdays. Thursday, Nov 8th, 5pm until... at the Lighthouse Restaurant. **Hosted by the Anderson and Pierson families.**
Planning Director

After more than 10 years of exceptional service to the Township, Wayne Dahlberg has announced that he will be stepping down as Township Planning Director as of December 2007. We are all very grateful to Wayne for his dedication and service over the last decade. While Wayne’s are some big shoes to fill, this is a new opportunity for someone else to rise to the challenge.

The Planning Director works jointly with the Planning Commission and the Assistant Planning Director to implement the Township’s Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan, including modifying them to meet the evolving needs of the Township. It is a paid position typically requiring 20-30 hours of effort per month.

Responsibilities include receiving new land use permits (“building” permits); conducting site visits and working with landowners to help them comply with the Township’s Zoning Ordinance; coordinating the receipt and review of applications for zoning variances, conditional use permits; and attending the monthly Planning Commission and Town Board meetings.

Experience relevant to land use and/or construction is great, but not required — what’s required most is your interest, willingness to serve, and ability to work with others. The hours, structure and compensation for the position have some flexibility — what we need most is the right person for the job.

If you might be interested in the Planning Director position or if you would just like more information about what it entails, feel free to contact Dave Miller (Chair of the Planning Commission; 525-1555), Wayne Dahlberg (current Planning Director; 525-4469), or Town Board members, Dave Mount (525-7961) or Wendy Meierhoff (525-0263). Give it some thought — the Township is definitely “of the people, by the people”, and we need your involvement!

Community Education Program Coordinator

Make a difference in the community and make some spending money too!

The Township is looking for someone to coordinate our Community Education Program and other activities at the Community Center. We’ve had a great start for the Community Ed Program and want to see it develop further. The position’s primary responsibility is to coordinate the development of the Community Ed Program. This doesn’t necessarily mean teaching courses (though that’s great too), but working to identify and recruit instructors for a diverse set of offerings. As part of this, the Coordinator will prepare announcements of upcoming courses, register participants, help instructors with logistics, and coordinate use of the Community Center facilities with staff of the charter school.

We estimate the position will require 8-12 hrs per month, at a pay rate of $10/hr. The Community Education Program has a dedicated budget managed by the Coordinator. This is a chance to use your imagination, and offer unique educational opportunities to the community, building from the courses offered previously. So come on, step up to the challenge to make a real difference in our community, meet some great people, and make a little money at the same time.

If you would like to know more, questions can be directed to Wendy Meierhoff (Town Supervisor) at 525-0263. Apply for the position by sending a letter of interest and a brief resume or description of your background to Duluth Township, 6092 Homestead Rd, Duluth, MN 55804. We are anxious to fill the position, so please send your application by Nov 20.

Planning & Zoning Secretary

The Duluth Township Planning and Zoning Commission is seeking to fill a secretary position.

Location: Duluth Town Hall (may work at home periodically).

Hours of work: 4-6 hrs/month on last Thursday of the month preparing and taking minutes for Planning and Zoning meetings. 1-2 hrs/week to follow up on necessary procedures and process building permits, conditional uses, variances, filing and routine office work.

Salary: $150/month salary, plus $10/hr for unscheduled meetings or projects.

Skills Required:
- Basic computer skills such as word processing, filing, and email.
- Willingness to learn computer applications and web page procedures as they apply to Planning and Zoning.
- Ability to take minutes and handle routine correspondence.
- Interpersonal skills to effectively interact and communicate with the public, Township staff and Planning and Zoning Commission members.
- Basic knowledge of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and/or willingness to learn.

For a complete list of work responsibilities, please contact Dave Miller at 525-1555, email damiler1988@msn.com.

Interested candidates must submit a resume and brief narrative addressing required skills by Nov 16th. Send your resume to: Planning Commission Chair, Dave Miller, Duluth Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804.
Community Services Available in Duluth Township
AA meets every Monday at 8pm at French River Lutheran Church on Ryan Road.

Clifton Volunteer Fire Department
Bob Engelson, Chief

There were 2 fires and 4 medical calls in September. Water Tanker. A used chassis for our 5000 gallon water tank has been purchased at a considerable savings. We are waiting for news about our FEMA grant in for a pumper/tanker which will complete our fleet. Volunteer Fire Fighters — The Clifton Volunteer Fire Department needs residents who would like to be a volunteer firefighter. It’s a great way to serve your community. Call Chief Bob Engelson, 525-6819.

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

(Minutes for the August 23rd and September 27th meetings were unavailable at publishing time but will be reported later)
The Next Planning Committee meetings: (usually the 4th Thursday) 7:00pm in the Town Hall. The Nov. meeting will be posted at the Town Hall. The first 2008 meeting is Jan 24th. Residents are urged to attend these meetings.

1935 Train Wreck
Todd Lindahl

Business had slacked off dramatically on the railroad following the first year of the great depression. As a result of this, the volume of train traffic was adversely affected and had become just a fraction of what it was in the good old days. Accordingly, the number of serious train wrecks had decreased too, and happily became fairly rare events.

Then at roughly 11:30 A.M. on December 23, 1935, a westbound freight running from Two Harbors to Duluth hit a broken rail on the first curve east of French River. In an instant, engineer E. T. McGowan’s locomotive left the rails and headed off into the ditch. Luckily the engine somehow managed to stay upright saving the engine crew from certain injury or death. Behind the locomotive, the next 17 cars piled up in a narrow cut, which totally blocked the railroad. Pulpwood was scattered everywhere and the tracks were torn up for over 300 feet. Two of the freight cars involved were all but completely destroyed by the force of the crash.

In the days following the wreck, two passenger trains met here with each being on opposite sides of the wreck. Passengers, mail, and baggage were "portaged" around the wreck in both directions until the mess was finally cleaned up and the track repaired. It had been an unpleasant reminder of a bad day in the good old days.

Public Water Source Restored to Town Hall
For many years, there was a water hydrant located in the wellhead at the Town Hall, between the Town Hall and the Fire Hall. Many residents used this as a source for occasional water needs. Earlier this summer, this hydrant was removed as part of several changes needed to bring the Town Hall well into compliance with the County. In October a sillcock was installed at the Town Hall on the North wall of the building (the side facing the Fire Hall), behind the side entry into the kitchen. Citizens are welcome to use this sillcock if they need small quantities of drinking water.

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

September 13th meeting. All Supervisors attended. Highlights: Our August ending balance is $796,646.97. Police contract wage increase of $0.60/hr was approved. Fire: Purchased used chassis for a tanker. Roads: to be graded early October. Community Center: repair work: replaced toilets/sinks, water softener, music room insulation, flooring in pre-school room; septic system will have new pipes/renovation of the mound with Matrix accepted as the consulting firm. Walt Carter’s bid for an emergency road was accepted. BAT: there is no funding for a large addition project without considerable outside funding. Other stepwise options should be discussed. Community Education: looking for a coordinator (see p2).

Planning: Odyssey Stoney Point development is discussing a subdivision rather than a PUD. In either event, the Township will be involved. Recycling: Roadside recycling below expressway has started. Old south shed will not be moved due to cost. Carolyn Marino was appointed to take Jeannie Anderson’s position on the NSCS Endowment Board. Possible grant for bike paths and extension of Community Center trail was discussed.

Harvest Dinner 2007
A Benefit for our Volunteer Fire Department
Thanks for this year’s Harvest Dinner go to many: Jody Anderson, MaryAnn Daniel, Judith Torrance, Pat Halverson, Sherry Rovig, Barb Crow, JoAnn Norgren, Tricia O’Keefe, Stacy LaVres, Janet Lampi, Jason Rovig, Rita Bergsted, Ann Cox, Bill Hartman, Inez Wild-wood, Carol Leppala, Deb Shubat, Helen Hendrickson and Terri Carl from Northshore School.


The musicians, Louisa and Bob Fabbro along with Duane Madison, had people tapping their toes. Jody Anderson, Barb Crow, Deb Shubat and Sherry Rovig filled in during breaks.

The Clifton Fire Dept. and First Responders thank the community for its fine response. See you next year!
Building Assessment Team (BAT)
Steve Dahl, Co-Chair

The team meets the first Tuesday at 7pm (but no meetings in November and the January meeting is the 8th, not the 1st). Wayne Dahlberg and Kevin Holm have volunteered to work up options for phased steps to meet space needs at the Community Center.

Senior Housing Initiative
Dave Edblom, Chair

The Committee is exploring options for creating affordable housing alternatives for local senior citizens who would prefer to live in the Township near friends and family.

The Committee is looking for suitable land for purchase or trade. An ideal would be 20-40 acres in a central or accessible area. If you have land that you would be interested in having used for this purpose, please contact Chair Dave Edblom (525-1276), or Supervisor Wendy Meierhoff (525-0263).

Regular meeting times are the second Monday each month at 7pm in the Town Hall. Interested residents are welcome. There will be no meeting in December.

Notes on Zoning
Dave Miller, Chair, Planning Commission

This is the first in a monthly series on our Township’s Zoning Ordinance. The intent is to explain, educate and clarify for residents various aspects of our Ordinance. This first is about recent changes that have been made. A copy of the Zoning Ordinance is available for review and/or purchase at the Town Hall and it can be acquired for free on our web site: www.duluthtownship.org.

At the August Town Board meeting the Board passed an Amendment to the existing Ordinance that was recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Amendment clarifies specific sections in the Ordinance and adds two new sections that were not covered but have become necessary to deal with emerging issues. Following is a summary of the Amendment (specific language is available at the Town Hall).

1. SHORT TERM RENTAL OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES
   There is no section in the ordinance that covers short term rentals which is becoming more prevalent in the Township. The intent and effect of the change is to restrict short term rentals to specific zones and define short term rental as 30 days or less with appropriate conditions and performance standards.

2. MODIFICATIONS OF TIMBER HARVEST IN RIPARIAN AREAS
   Existing language was revised to clarify timber harvest in the Shoreland Overlay zone.

3. MODIFICATION — SUBORDINATE RESIDENTIAL DWELLING
   The intent and effect of this change is to clarify and define what is permitted and standards for a subordinate residential building in addition to the primary residence. This will limit occupancy to family members only.

4. SUB DIVIDING PARCELS OF PROPERTY FOR SALE
   The intent and effect of this new language is to insure that maximum lot requirements are maintained on the parcels split off. This will affect the impervious surfaces allowed on the split off parcels.

5. MODIFICATION AND REORDERING OF ARTICLE XII — PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD)
   The intent and effect of this change is to clarify the administrative process of applying for a PUD and to divide the process into two separate parts with a separate public hearing required for each part. The first public hearing will be on the “Preliminary Concept Plan”, and the second is on the “Final Plan”.

6. SECTION XIII — THE PLANNING COMMISSION
   The intent and effect of this change is to clarify who hires Planning and Zoning Commission staff. The new language gives the Commission the authority to hire staff rather than the Town Board.

7. MODIFICATION TO LIGHT INDUSTRIAL USE (LIU) DISTRICT
   Section 17 of the Ordinance is repealed in its entirety and replaced with new language. The intent and effect of this change is to strengthen the review process for an LIU when ownership changes, strengthen performance standards required, and minimize conflict between dissimilar uses.

Please note that the Korkki-Nordic Ski Trail is non-motorized. Snowmobiles and ATVs should not use these trails.

Duluth Township Thank you

Thank you to all the many kind friends and neighbors who brought greetings, cards, dinners, and desserts while we were unable to do for ourselves. This was a very sudden change for us when we couldn’t so easily do for ourselves. Thank you to all of you wonderful people. Jerry and Harriet Driscoll.
NSCS News insert here
NSCS News Insert Here
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 & 1-7pm
Thursday 9:00-12:00 & 4:00-7:00

Supervisors:
Jeff Cook, (2006-2009) 525-4010
or Email: JeffCook@duluthtownship.org
(Responsibilities: Road & Bridge, McQuade Harbor, DNSSD, North Shore Mgmt Board, RSPT Stormwater, MPCA, Annual SSSP)
Stephen Dahl, (2007-2010) Vice Chair 525-4679 or Email: SteveDahl@duluthtownship.org
(Responsibilities: Recreation Facilities, Duluth Assn of Townships, BAT, Community Center, North Shore Community Assn)
Dan Tanner (2005-2008) Board Chair 525-4087 or Email: DanTanner@duluthtownship.org
(Responsibilities: Town Board Chair, Cemetery, Fire Dept, St Louis County Assn of Townships, Board of Adjustment)
Wendy Meierhoff (2005-2008) 525-0263
or Email: Wendy@duluthtownship.org
(Responsibilities: Police, Senior Housing, Newsletter, Web site, Community Education, Personnel, Community Center)
Dave Mount (2007-2010) 525-7961
or Email: DaveMount@duluthtownship.org
(Responsibilities: Town Hall, Personnel, Planning & Zoning, BAT)
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, Email: JohnKessler@duluthtownship.org
Town Hall hours: 3:30-6:30 Wed. or by appointment.
Planning and Zoning Secretary: 525-4166 (position open)
Email: PlanningZoning@duluthtownship.org
Fax: 525-3374
Planning and Zoning Commission: Dave Miller (Chair), Dave Chura (Vice Chair), Jan Green, Adam Hendrickson Michael Kahl, and Seth Levanen and Yvonnie Ruford.
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 Bob Engelson, Assistant Chief Will Hartman Email: FireHall@duluthtownship.org
Community Education Coordinator: (position open)
Email: EducCoordinator@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 2007
6, Tue, 7:00 BAT committee (no meeting)
6, Tue, 7am-8pm Referendum Election, Town Hall
7, Wed, 12:30 Homesteader’s, Town Hall
7, Wed, 7:00pm Volunteer Fire Dept: business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
8, Thu, 7:00pm TOWN BOARD, Town Hall
12, Mon, 7pm Senior Housing group, Town Hall.
14, Wed, 7am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District meeting, French River Lutheran Church
19, Mon, 6:30pm North Shore Community School Annual Meeting, NSCS Cafeteria.
21, Wed, 7:00pm Volunteer Fire Dept: training, Hall #1 21-23 Thanksgiving, no school, no Town Hall closed
3, Thu, 7:00pm Planning Commission, (date of next meeting to be posted at the Town Hall)

December 2007
4, Tue, 7:00 BAT (Community Center building assessment) committee meets at NSCS.
5, Wed, 12:30 Homesteader’s, Town Hall (note article)
5, Wed, 7:00pm Volunteer Fire Dept: business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Rd
6-7 NSCS students performing "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas"
10, Mon, Senior Housing (no meeting this month)
12, Wed, 7am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District meeting, French River Lutheran Church
13, Thu, 7:00pm TOWN BOARD, Town Hall
15, Mon, 6:30pm North Shore Community School Board meeting, NSCS Library
18, Wed, 7:00pm Volunteer Fire Dept: training, Hall #1
23, Thu, Deadline for January Newsletter
27, Thu, 7:00pm Planning Commission, (no meeting)

January 2008
2, Wed, 12:30 Homesteader’s
2, Wed, 7:00pm Volunteer Fire Dept: business meeting Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
8, Tue, 7:00 BAT committee, NSCS
9, Wed, 7am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District meeting, French River Lutheran Church
10, Thu, 7:00pm TOWN BOARD, Town Hall.
14, Mon, 7:00pm Senior Housing group, Town Hall
16, Wed, 7:00pm Volunteer Fire Dept: Training Hall
21, Mon, 6:30pm, North Shore Community School Board meeting, NSCS Library.
24, Thu, 7:00pm Planning Commission, Town Hall

Township Recycling Center
North site – at the Town Hall, on Homestead Road
Staffing by Carolyn Marino and Al Anderson, Marlys Livingston, and Kathy Peer Tuesday 7-11am, 2-6pm, Thursday 3-7pm, and Saturday 8-12 noon.
Below freeway has curb recycling pickup service available.
(Drop off only during recycling hours)
Inside this Issue:

- Township Calendar
- What's Coming Up
- Town Board & Planning Meetings
- Police and Fire Information
- Seeking a Planning Director and two other openings.
- Notes on Zoning

DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

N O V E M B E R  2 0 0 7

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.