



**BE SURE TO VOTE IN YOUR
ANNUAL TOWNSHIP ELECTION
AND ATTEND YOUR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**
Tuesday, March 10th, Town Hall

Duluth Township Newsletter

Duluth Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org

March 2015

What's Coming Up?

Township Day

- ▶ **Town Board Election**, Tuesday, March 10th 7am to 8pm Town Hall, (see insert for candidate statements)
- ▶ **Annual Town Meeting**, Tuesday, March 10th Town Hall 8:15pm, after the election. (see page 5 for budget information and page 8 for meeting information)

Board of Equalization April 7th 6pm Town Hall (for tax valuation concerns, see your St Louis County Valuation Notice)

Youth seeking jobs (see article on page 2)

Beavers: Fascinating and Frustrating, program Monday, March 23rd, Duluth Town Hall (see article).

Two Town Board Openings

Two Town Board positions are on the March 10th ballot—one for 2 years and one for 3 years. Shortly after being elected last spring, Supervisor Dave Miller's death created a vacancy on the Board. **Jim Ward** agreed to serve and was appointed to fill the vacancy until this March election. Now incumbent, **Jim Ward**, has filed to complete the final 2-years of that term. **Wendy Gustafson** has also filed for that 2-year term.

Supervisor Mary Ann Sironen is stepping down after completing her regular 3-year term. **Michael Kahl** and **Travis Stolp** are on the ballot for this position.

Candidates were asked to provide a statement about their background and vision for the Township. These statements and a picture are on the insert page.



Thanks to Supervisor Mary Ann Sironen

This spring Mary Ann Sironen will be coming to the end of her term as Township Supervisor and Board Chair. Few have contributed as much to the Township, its business, and the concerns and needs of its residents.

Mary Ann (Skipper) has served on the Town Board for six years through some of the most challenging times requiring many extra hours of work and difficult issues and problems to resolve. Always she has met these decisions with a quiet willingness to listen to all sides and look for solutions that best serve the needs of the community she represents. In addition to serving on the Town Board, you will find her helping as well in other community groups — always willing to work hard and take on leadership responsibilities.

Thank you, Mary Ann, for your valued service for our community. We look forward to your continued future involvement.

Proposed "Data Center" by Ives Road in Lake County near Alden and Duluth Townships

An informational meeting was held February 10th. Concerns about this industrial site and its impact were discussed. The issues are reported extensively in a February 21, 2015 front page article in the **North Shore Journal**. Watch for future informational meetings about the proposal.

Thanks to all of the contributors to this issue

Val Brady, Ann Cox, Bob Engelson, Wendy Gustafson, Bruce Hauger, Kathy Johnson, Michael Kahl, Dennis Kaleta, Sue Lawson, Duane Madison, Janet McTavish, Beth Mullan, Jim Munger, Shawn Padden, Kevin Pettis, Sherry Rovig, Mary Ann Sironen, Don Sitter, Travis Stolp, Marcia Stromgren, Carol Surine, Jo Thompson, Rose Vastila, Jim Ward, and webmaster Janet Johansen.

The Homesteaders

Rose Vastila

March 4th, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. Potluck, Homesteader's anniversary cake, bingo.

April 1st, Wednesday, 12:30pm Town Hall, Sandwiches and bars, Program: Glen Laspi with acoustic guitar and song.

May 6th, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. Sandwiches and bars. Program to be announced.

Everyone is welcome.

For information call Rose Vastila at 834-5281.

Protecting Our Streams Means Protecting Our Ditches

Resident Valerie Brady, Minnesota Sea Grant

Regular readers of this Newsletter know by now that the water in our ditches runs straight into our streams, rivers, and Lake Superior with no clean-up or treatment whatsoever. Thus, keeping our ditches in good condition helps keep our streams and Lake Superior in good condition.

Most important at this time of year is to watch for ice dams and blockages in culverts so that these can be fixed before they wash our your driveway or part of the road.

Not only is this a real headache for everyone, but it puts a lot of dirt into the ditch, and this dirt gets washed into our streams...not good for stream fish and other critters.

As the snow melts, it's easy to see trash that has accumulated in ditches over the winter. Cleaning this up again keeps it from washing downstream. Finally, after the snow is gone it's easy to see areas of ditches that are eroding and moving dirt downstream to rivers. If there are large eroding areas, please notify the Town Road Supervisor if you live on a Township road; or contact the County Maintenance Supervisors for our area.

Thanks for helping protect our streams and Lake Superior!

Report problems with County road ditches to:

Gordy Halverson, halversong@stlouiscountymn.gov, 218-720-1508 or Bradley Olson, olsonb@stlouiscountymn.gov, 218-720-1509.

Report problems with Township road ditches to:

Township Road Supervisors Dave Edblom, 525-1276 or Jim Ward 525-5724

French River Readers Book Club

Carol Surine

For next month we'll have a book club in a bag offering, **Still Life by Louise Penny**. We will meet at Carol Eling's house, 5290 Pine Tree Road. The house faces the shore, but the driveway is on Pine Tree Road. The next meeting will be Thursday March 19th (3rd Thurs) at 7:30pm at Carol Eling's home. All are welcome.

For information call Carol Surine, 525-4426 or email carolsurine@gmail.com, or see www.duluthtownship.org/bookclub.

JOBS WANTED

For our Township Youth

An effort to match up residents who have work suitable for our youth with youth in the Township who may want a job.

Seeking Jobs

- Mason Stolp, age 13 years, looking for work (mowing, shoveling, yard work, cleaning, general labor). Call Mason at 525-0576.
- Young man, age 11 looking for work, including lawn mowing and general yard work. Experienced. If interested, please call Konrad, at 213-7361.
- Mature, hard working, experienced 13 year old looking for work (yard work, cleaning, mowing, pretty much any chores). Just call Bridger at 525-0090.
- Ryan, age 13, is looking for work. He is interested in yard work and babysitting. Call 525-9065.

Advertise for free: For Township youth (under 25yrs) who are seeking work and Township residents who need help with various jobs suitable for youth (babysitting, lawn, garden, maintenance, snow shoveling, house cleaning, etc.). Leave your ad & contact information at the Town Hall or leave a message 525-5705 or email: editor@duluthtownship.org.

Deadline for the next (May) Newsletter is April. 23rd

Duluth Township Recreation Corner

Kevin Pettis, Township Recreation Coordinator

What a fantastic winter season we have had! The Community Center and warming house are popular with rentals and skaters the last couple of months. I hope all enjoyed their holiday rentals and are enjoying our pleasure and skating rink this season. We average about 85 participants at any given time using this facility. *Thanks to all volunteers for flooding and keeping our rinks in good shape.*

Starting March 14th, the Duluth Township Recreation Basketball program will start at the NSCS/Community Center. Sign-ups for K through 6th start at 8am. This will be a 6-week program ending on April 25th. We will not have a weekend session Easter weekend. The 7th through adult COMPETITIVE program also starts March 14th at 10am and will go to 3pm. This will be a 4 on 4 competitive league and sportsmanship rules apply. Sign-up for both K through 6th and 7th through adult involves a \$10 sign-up fee to be paid the morning of March 14th. A waiver form signed by all parents is also required for participants under age 18. Those over age 18 sign an adult waiver form. Call 218-830-0052 if interested in signing up for these programs.

If you are interested in renting the Community Center (cafeteria, gym, etc.), please contact the Town Hall (525-5705 to leave messages) or call me at 218-830-0052.

Town Hall Improvements Update
Supervisor Don Sitter

The design package for the Town Hall addition was released for bids in mid-December. Our first round of bids came in on January 13th. As with most design projects, we started with a well defined needs assessment, along with guiding principles which drove the design of the addition. We then added certain design elements from our "wish list" which continued to expand in direct proportion with our growing excitement for this community project. Unfortunately, all of these additions caused the first round of bids to come in higher than we had hoped.

The Facilities Design Committee then met with the architect to consider several design changes that retained all of the "needs" in the design, but removed some of the "nice but not necessary" design aspects. A workable compromise was achieved and the updated design package was re-submitted for bids.

The bids were recently returned and the Facilities Design Committee has met to analyze the results and make a recommendation to the Town Board. Stay tuned as we complete the final plans for the addition. We still anticipate construction to start as soon as spring weather allows and road bans are off.

Advocates for the Knife River Watershed

Dennis Kaleta, Val Brady, Jo Thompson

The Advocates for the Knife River Watershed (AKRW) will host a program on beaver ecology presented by John Erb, PhD, wildlife biologist for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Dr. Erb has titled this program, "Beavers: Fascinating and Frustrating". He will discuss the history of the beaver in Minnesota, its ecology, benefits and conflicts. He has worked for the DNR since 1998, and is a research scientist, conducting surveys and research on wolves and furbearers. His research includes studies of muskrats, mink, otter, fisher, marten and wolves.

The presentation is on Monday, March 23rd at 6:30pm at the Duluth Town Hall, on 6092 Homestead Road. Refreshments will be served and a brief business meeting will precede the program.

The Advocates for the Knife River Watershed is a non-profit organization committed to learning about the river and promoting policies and practices that enhance the Knife River ecosystem. AKRW serves as a forum for citizen voices in the private and public land use decisions that affect the watershed ecosystem. Visit our "Facebook" page. For more information on this event, call 348-3658.

Future AKRW meetings are planned for April 27th and May 18th in our Duluth Town Hall, with presentations given on bugs and fish habitat in the Knife River.

Police Department
Shawn Padden, Chief



Police Events. There were 197 recorded police events in December and January. There were 85 vacation home/business checks (*plus 4 requests for extra patrols and 1 health and welfare check*), 23 traffic violation warnings or citations, 11 medical emergencies, 9 permits to acquire or carry handguns, 9 locating careless drivers (*and 5 hotrodder complaints*), 8 suspicious vehicles checked, 7 public or motorist assists, and 6 animal complaints.

Good News! Shawn reports that we have moved from 16 residential/business burglaries in 2013 to ZERO in 2014.

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

Go to the Township web site:
www.duluthtownship.org
to sign up for online police alerts and other urgent or informative notifications.

Note: If you need/want/expect a police squad to respond immediately, call 9-1-1. Other than 9-1-1, the quickest way to get our police response is to leave a message on our squad phone (393-8407). We may work 5 days in a row, but may not always get into the office during that time. Our main office where we spend 90% of our time is in our squad vehicle.

Recorded Police Events

2014	1166
2013	1165
2012	1265
2011	1208
2010	1164
2009	1028
2008	1034
2007	1088
2006	881
2005	972
2004	1057
2003	969

Clifton Volunteer Fire Department
Bob Engelson, Fire Chief

Todd Gremmels and **Neil Myrdal** are retiring from our Fire Department. **Dave Dahlberg** has moved and is now on the Two Harbors Fire Department so he will be resigning from our Department. *Thank you all for your many years of service to our Department and Township. Best wishes in your future pursuits!*

We welcome back former member **Pat Halverson**, who is assisting with training and administrative duties for our First Responders.

To Volunteer, call Chief Bob Engelson, 525-6819
Fire fighters and first responders are needed and welcome. Training and turnout gear are provided.

Check your home carbon monoxide (CO) detector (do you have one?). Also check wood fire chimneys. Avoid chimney fires.

Emergency fire/EMS entry key boxes are available by calling the Town Hall.



Supervisors Jim Ward, Dave Edblom, Chair Mary Ann Sironen, Vice Chair Don Sitter, and Mary Anne Daniel.

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

January 8th regular meeting. Attending were Supervisors Mary Anne Daniel, Dave Edblom, Mary Ann Sironen, and Don Sitter, Town Clerk Ann Cox, and Treasurer Janet Johansen. **Main Actions:** A motion was approved to use a Lake Bank 1.5% CD for the \$200,000 Township reserve fund. A resolution to make a COLA wage increase for Township employees was approved. The 1.7% COLA does not include Supervisor stipends, the Police Dept (a separate contract), or Planning Commission stipends.

Discussion: The Treasurer reported \$198.00 deposits, \$15,333.27 expenses, the \$200,000 reserve, for an available balance of \$940,640.90. **Reports:** *Police:* People are forgetting to stop at the Ryan/Lismore new stop arrangement. The draft Emergency Plan was distributed to Supervisors for review and comment. *Fire:* Comments on the role of the Fire Department in the Emergency Plan draft were discussed. A memorandum of understanding on use of the DNR French River Hatchery hydrants in emergencies will go to the Town Attorney for review.

Planning: The Commission is working on wording of required MS4 Stormwater amendments to our Zoning Ordinance. **JUC:** The "matrix" of uses benefiting Township residents was tabled until February. Neither ABC Inc nor the school should be charging the Township and JUC does not deal with the recreation program. **Town Hall:** Tuning or getting rid of the old piano will be discussed with Homesteaders. Dave Edblom and Wayne Dahlberg will be discussing land adjoining the Town Hall with Mr. McCarrison. Election Judges were approved. The bid deadline on the proposed Town Hall addition was postponed to January 20th. It is a prevailing wage rate bid. **Communications:** The Township web site is progressing with anysitehosting.

February 10th budget meeting. Attending were Supervisors Mary Anne Daniel, Dave Edblom, Mary Ann Sironen, and Don Sitter, Town Clerk Ann Cox and Treasurer Janet Johansen. Department budgets were proposed and discussed. A final proposed 2016 budget was adopted. This will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting on March 10th and copies will be provided for those attending. See page 5 for an overview of 2016 and prior Town budgets.

The Next regular Town Board meetings:
 (2nd Thurs, 7pm in the Town Hall) are **Mar. 12th and Apr. 9th.**
 Residents are encouraged to attend these public meetings.

Preschool Registration is Underway
"Early Learning Sticks Like Glue"
 Kathy Johnson

We are now accepting registration for the 2015-2016 school year! Both morning and afternoon classes are offered for 3-5 years olds on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Thursdays. Your child may attend 1, 2 or 3 days per week. A monthly tuition fee is charged and there is a \$30 non-refundable registration fee to hold your spot.
 Please contact Kathy Johnson at 834-5429 or 525-0663 x106 for further information.

Summary of Planning Commission Meetings
 (Official minutes by Planning Secretary Beth Mullan are available on our Township web site www.duluthtownship.org)

January 22nd regular meeting. Attending were Commissioners Wayne Dahlberg, Jerry Hauge, Brigid Pajunen, John Schifsky, Jo Thompson, Chair Paul Voge, and Larry Zanko, Planning Director Sue Lawson and Secretary Beth Mullan. **Main Actions:** Dave Pierson's request for a side yard variance along the boundary next to the former Nokomis restaurant property was discussed and relevant Ordinance provisions were reviewed. An earlier variance at the property was voided and the requested variance was approved. Other business: New owners of the Nokomis property are proceeding with development plans and arrangements are expected for a public hearing in April. The extent of notification for the Community Participation Report will be decided by the Commission.

The Commission determined that the area of notification for an upcoming DeLeo short term rental request (property adjacent to the French River Fish Hatchery) extend to Ryan Road, the Expressway and a quarter mile to the east.

The 2016 budget request was discussed and will be presented to the Town Board (estimated \$20,405, assuming fee receipts of \$9,500). There will be more inspection and paperwork due to MS4 requirements. Work is proceeding on amendments to our Zoning Ordinance required by MS4 requirements. The Township Brochure had a final review before printing.

Land Use Permits		
<i>Beth Mullan</i>		
	<i>Single Family</i>	<i>Total Permits</i>
2014	0	29
2013	4	25
2012	3	17
2011	6	24
2010	8	28
2009	9	30
2008	10	39
2007	3	28
2006	10	44
2005	20	67
2004	23	70
2003	24	69
2002	18	57
2001	18	66

The Next Planning Commission meetings
 (4th Thurs, 7pm in the Town Hall)
The next meetings are Mar. 26th and Apr. 23rd.
 Special hearings are posted at the Town Hall.
 Residents are encouraged to attend these public meetings.

Township Departments	Actual Expenditures for 2010	Actual Expenditures for 2011	Actual Expenditures for 2012	Actual Expenditures for 2013	Actual Expenditures for 2014	Approved Budget for 2015	Proposed Budget for 2016
Police Department ⁽²⁾	\$45,199	\$45,331	\$44,096	\$70,952	\$50,913	\$55,315	\$56,315
Fire Department ⁽²⁾	53,166	114,163	44,287	45,784	93,328	\$52,650	58,020
General Township	140,346	136,113	145,671	116,212	98,073	108,091	112,425
Planning & Zoning	20,811	21,153	22,217	22,994	22,744	22,550	21,605
Cemetery	10,599	8,245	8,943	5,689	7,198	7,000	7,000
Road & Bridge ⁽²⁾	96,156	89,111	144,437	102,086	92,790	90,000	85,000
Community Education	1,795	4,796	5,835	6,744	—	—	—
Community Recreation	—	6,695	9,244	8,495	15,174	8,900	3,700
<i>Total expenses⁽¹⁾</i>	\$368,072	\$425,607	\$424,730	\$378,954	\$380,220	\$344,506	\$344,065
<p>Listed Below are (approved and the proposed 2016) Tax Levy Budgets <i>These exclude income from non-levy sources such as permit fees, various grants, funds from WLSSD for recycling expenses, Taconite Relief, Community Center and other non-levy sources.</i></p>							
Approved/proposed levy	\$360,295	\$352,765	\$390,400	\$343,496	\$362,616	\$344,506	\$344,065⁽³⁾
Approximate average annual cost per household⁽⁴⁾ <i>(using 740 households, depends on assessed property value.)</i>	\$487	\$477	\$528	\$464	\$490	\$466	\$465

Footnotes:

- (1) Note that the **actual** expenditures include expenses that may be partially covered by fees (e.g. permits), grants (e.g. FEMA road grant and Alden Township's contract for fire coverage, grant for fire truck), or carry-over funds. **Budgeted** levy amounts are reduced by expected income from fees. Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar.
- (2) Some Departments designate funds for special projects: Road and Bridge emergencies (\$35,000), Fire and Police to replace aging vehicles. These funds are included in the year end balances shown in our Clerk's report at the Annual Meeting.
- (3) The budget amount we approve may be reduced, when levied, by State or County aid to local governments (*cut in recent years*).
- (4) The average annual cost per household uses 740 as the number of households for comparisons here. The *Newsletter* is currently mailed to about 1000 addresses, 790 are households in the Township (the U.S. Census counted 750 occupied homes in Duluth Township in 2010).

Township Expenses and Budget

The table above shows actual expenses for 2010 through 2014, the budget for 2015 (*which was adopted at last year's Annual Town Meeting*), and the proposed budget for 2016. In some cases, actual expenses include income from various sources other than the tax levy, such as permit fees, grants (*e.g. FEMA for storm damage to roads*), and carryover from budget savings in a prior year. Part of the carry-over is for escrow (*e.g. fire and police vehicle replacement*) and emergency funds (*e.g. roads and MAT recommended reserve*).

The proposed 2016 budget DECREASED by \$441 from 2015, and is down by 5.1% from the 2014 budget. All 2016 proposed budgets are similar to those approved for this year.

Detailed information will be distributed at the Annual Town Meeting where each budget will be presented.

Your total property tax includes County and State levied budgets, and special assessments (*e.g. school district, sewer*), in addition to the Township levy, less any homestead credit or State aid for local governments.

The 2016 budget will be voted on at the upcoming **March 10th Annual Town Meeting**. Plan to attend!

**LOOKING FOR A HOME TO RENT? or
LOOKING FOR A RENTER FOR YOUR NICE HOME?**

Call **Apartment & Home Advisors** – we can help!
We specialize in properties of distinction and we help
“take the stress out of moving”.
Call Susie Lannon at 218-720-3987

Paid Advertisement

Country Kids Day Care, 525-1073
Infants to School Age, Licensed
Bus to NSCS & Lakewood Schools
Accepting Full and Part Time

Paid Advertisement

NORTH COUNTRY
LAND SURVEYOR, INC.

Anthony Lueck
Surveyor

GPS
Drafting
Mapping
Property Lines

Minnesota/Wisconsin
MN.LIC. 24587 / W.LIC. 2566
BUS. TELE. 218-348-8037
anthonylueck@northic.com

609B Ryan Road
Duluth, MN 55804

Paid advertisement

Reading Help!
Personalized tutoring for any age using the *Orton
Gillingham Method.*
Connie Carlin, B.S., M.Ed. 525-4723

Paid Advertisement

LOCAL SNOW PLOWING
Larry Nesgoda—call: 525-1305 or 393-2863

*Others? There is no charge for listing your plowing
service in the May Newsletter (deadline April 23rd).*
Send your listing to: TownHall@duluthtownship.org,
or leave a message at the Town Hall, 525-5705.

Annual Tree Sales
Marcia Stromgren, Supervisor
South St Louis County Soil and Water Conservation District

A variety of trees and shrubs at affordable prices are available through the SWCD. For information about types check online at www.southstlouisswed.org or call 834-8370. Order deadline is April 17th. Pick-up dates are between May 14th and 16th. Pre-payment in full is required prior to pick-up. Send order forms and payment to: South St. Louis SWCD, 215 North First Ave, East, Rm 301, Duluth, MN 55802.

Trees and shrubs are a valuable asset to your property in a variety of ways including: preventing soil erosion and excessive storm water run off, providing habitat for wildlife, wind breaks around buildings or along roads and driveways (especially nice as living snow fences), shade and cooling for homes, buildings and streams, beauty, firewood, etc.

Sandy's Play Care Center (New! Now Open)
Licensed Family Day Care located near French River
On busline to NSCS and Two Harbors Schools
525-2602 or Shagglu57@centurylink.net

Paid Advertisement

218-834-3310

Stay at Home
Pet care in your home.
Daily • Weekends • Vacations • Holidays

www.stayathomepetcare.com

Paid Advertisement

Email: robin@stayathomepetcare.com

THE LIGHTHOUSE
Casual Riverside Dining AT Emily's

Open
Starting Jan. 8th
Thu. thru Sat. 11-8
Sunday 11-4

Live Music Friday and Saturday evenings

Check out our Daily Specials!

www.lighthouseatemilys.com 834-2501 • 218 Scenic Drive, Knife River

Paid Advertisement

Community Youth
Groups

Clifton 4-H Club: call
Kate Edblom, 525-1276
Cub Scouts: call David
Hooey, 525-6617
Boy Scouts: call Chris
Roningon 525-5308
Girl Scouts: call Tracy
Mandelin, 525-4148

(Note: If other community service groups should be listed, please contact the Editor at the Town Hall.)

WAGGIN' Tails
Boarding Kennels
Long & short term
boarding

Reservations
Required

218-525-4842
7002 App Rd.
Two Harbors

Paid Advertisement

For Internet Updates
Lake Connections' (fiber optic service) web site is www.lakeconnections.com. 218-834-8500. See the article in the November Newsletter. An application must be completed to get connected. Call to check.
Lakenet (wireless internet) Contact Kevin Olson at Coop Light and Power, 834-2226 or email to: kolson@clpower.com.

Duluth Township Information — 2015

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

Town Office Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9am-noon
 Thurs 2-6pm, Fri 9-11am

Planning Office Hours: No posted hours

Call the Town Hall for an appointment: 525-5705

Supervisors:

- Mary Anne Daniel**, (2013-2016) 260-9122 or Email:
MaryAnneDaniel@duluthtownship.org
(Primary contact for Fire, Cemetery, Emergency Preparedness, Police, Joint Use Committee).
- Dave Edblom** (2014-2017) 525-1276 or email
DaveEdblom@duluthtownship.org.
(Primary contact for Roads; Co contact for Personnel, Town Hall, Banking, Insurance)
- Mary Ann Sironen**, (2012-2015) **Chair** 525-2010
 or Email: MaryAnnSironen@duluthtownship.org
(Primary contact for Communications, Senior Hsg, Intergovernmental Relations, Materials Mgmt; Co-contact for Recreation, Finance, Insurance; Alternate: JUC).
- Don Sitter** (2013-2016) **Vice Chair** 525-4138
 or Email: DonSitter@duluthtownship.org
(Primary contact for Planning and Zoning; Co-contact for Town Hall, Recreation, Personnel).
- Jim Ward** (2014-2015) 525-5724 or email
JimWard@duluthtownship.org
(Co-contact for Roads.)

Town Clerk: **Ann K. 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 Sexton: **Molly Tillotson** 218-525-6933
 or Email: Cemetery@duluthtownship.org

Planning Director: **Sue Lawson** messages: 525-5705

Planning and Zoning Secretary: **Beth Mullan**
 Email: PlanningZoning@duluthtownship.org

Planning and Zoning Commission: **Wayne Dahlberg**, **Jerry Hauge** (Mar2015), **Brigid Pajunen** (Mar2016), **John Schifsky** (Mar2016), **Jo Thompson**, (Mar2016) vice chair, **Paul Voge**, chair (Mar2014), **Larry Zanko** (2016)
 Email: PlanningZoning@duluthtownship.org

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

Fire Department: **Chief Bob Engelson**,
Assistant Chief Rob Peldo, President **Shane Kerby**
 Email: FireHall@duluthtownship.org

Burning Permits are available online at mndnr.gov/permits or the **Town Hall** (office hours), or from **Fire Wardens:** Jay Zink (525-5589), Jeff & Carolyn Marino (525-6431), or **DNR Two Harbors**, 1568 Hwy2, 834-1418.

Recreation Coordinator: **Kevin Pettis** 218-830-0052
RecreationCoordinator@duluthtownship.org

Note: Where possible, email is forwarded to the person, otherwise it is sent to the Town Hall where it is picked up. Many Departments have a web page. See our web site (above).



Township Recycling Center
 At the Town Hall, on Homestead Road
 Staffed by Carolyn Marino, Patrick Kelly,
 David Hooley and Roger Beck.

Nov.-March: Tues. 7-11am, 2-6pm, Thurs. 2-6pm, & Sat. 8-noon.

April-Oct: Tuesday 7-11am & 3-7pm, Thurs. 3-7pm, Saturday 8-12.

(Recycle drop off only during recycling hours and no household garbage, please.)

Aluminum cans should be recycled with plastics/metal cans.
 Curb recycling pickup service is available south of the freeway.
 Surveillance cameras have been installed around the Town Hall because of recent vandalism and garbage dumping.

Township Calendar

See calendar updates on www.duluthtownship.org.
 Our Official Calendar is posted at the Town Hall.

MARCH 2015

- 3, Tue,** 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Rd
- 4, Wed,** 12:30 **Homesteader's**, Town Hall
- 10, Tue,** **Township Day—Supervisor Election 7am-8pm Annual Town Meeting 8:15pm, Town Hall**
(see the insert candidate information and page 5 for budgets)
- 12, Thu,** 7pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- 17, Tue,** **7am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 17, Tue,** 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept** training, Hall #1
- 26, Thu,** 7pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall

APRIL 2015

- 7, Tue,** 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- 7, Tue,** 6pm, **Board of Equalization**, Town Hall
- 8, Wed,** 12:30pm **Homesteader's** meet, Town Hall
- 9, Thu,** 7pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall.
- 21, Tue,** **7am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 21, Tue,** 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept** training Hall #1
- 23, Thu,** 7pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall
- 23, Thu,** **Deadline for the May Newsletter**

MAY 2015

- 5, Tue,** 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- 6, Wed,** 12:30 **Homesteader's** meet, Town Hall
- 14, Thu,** 6:30 pm Twp Stormwater meeting, Town Hall
- 14, Thu,** 7pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- 19, Tue,** **7am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 19, Tue,** 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** training, Hall #1
- 28, Thu,** 7pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall

DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2015

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- Town Board & Planning Meetings
- Township **Calendar**
- Town Hall Improvements Update
- Police and Fire Information
- Jobs wanted by Township Youth
- **Township Day Tues, March 10th**
 - Election 7am—8pm
 - Annual Town Meeting — 8:15pm
- *Candidate statements (see insert)*
- *Budget Information (see page 5)*



Duluth Township Newsletter
6092 Homestead Road
Duluth, MN 55804

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1020 Newsletters are mailed to Duluth Township homes, businesses and on request. Copies are available at the Town Hall. Please send your comments and suggestions to the volunteer *Newsletter* editor, Don McTavish at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804 or use the *NewsBox* on the Town Hall porch. Our Newsletter is printed locally by Bob Sundstrom, **BB&K Printing**, and mailed for us by the folks at **UDAC**.



What Happens at our Annual Town Meeting Township Day, Tuesday, March 10th

For those who may not have attended a Town meeting, here's a bit of background. We gather in our Town Hall on Homestead Road after the polls close (8:15pm). Our Town Clerk, by law, calls the meeting to order and we nominate and elect a resident to lead the meeting.

Our Town Clerk, Ann Cox, provides a packet, including minutes from last year's meeting plus summary information provided by various Township departments—2014 activities and expenses, the previously approved 2015 budget and the proposed 2016 Township budget (see page 5).

Those attending this meeting vote on our budget for 2016...a year away because our figures have to be included with County and School District figures for tax statements you receive in 2016. In 2015 we are operating on the budget adopted at our 2014 Town Meeting.

Last year's minutes, official bank and posting places are voted on. The proposed 2016 budget with any adopted amendments is discussed and the overall budget is approved. Other Township business is raised and discussed and results of the Supervisor election are announced at the end of the meeting.

The Town Meeting is also a good place to meet your neighbors and to discuss important Township issues. This meeting is grass-roots democracy that depends upon the participation, respect and good ideas of all of our citizens.

Be sure to VOTE Tuesday, March 10th in the Town Election.

Polls are open from 7am to 8pm at our Town Hall. Two positions are on the ballot, one for 2 years and one for the regular 3 year term. Candidate statements are provided on the Newsletter insert.

Wanted: Missile Inn History *Bruce Hauger*

I am interested in all/any photographs, memorabilia, and stories pertaining to the **Missile Inn Tavern** that was located on the Bergquist Road. I am also interested in information/photographs, etc. of the Air Force missile base.

Please contact me at 218-590-2768.

*Each candidate was asked to provide a statement and picture for the Newsletter.
These statements are presented as written to provide residents with background information.*

2-Year Position



Jim Ward

Greetings everyone, my name is **Jim Ward** and I am a lifelong resident of Duluth Township for the last 50 years.

I volunteered to fill the vacancy of Dave Miller and upon doing so I have learned a lot about township government and it's challenges.

I feel I am a good representative for the people of the Township as I am familiar with local and state statutes and laws from serving in my current position with the MN Department of Transportation for the last 18 years. I am experienced in problem solving, finances, keeping within budgets and being a good steward of taxpayer's dollars. I would like to continue in the position to move the Township forward in a positive direction representing the interest of all residents.

I see the biggest issue facing the Township as of right now is to bring the school and the Township together in a positive direction. The future of the Township is only growing and we need to maintain and remember our rural heritage that keeps this Township a great place to live as we know and help our neighbors.

I am open to all comments, suggestions and concerns of local residents. You can reach me at 525-5724 or through the Township email. We have created a community to be proud of because we care and get involved.

I would like to contribute to this work and continue the tradition of service and encourage you to vote in the March 10th elections. I would appreciate your support to continue to represent you on the Town Board. I also would like you all to attend the Annual Town meeting so we can hear your concerns and ideas for the Township.



Wendy Gustafson

Greetings friends and neighbors. I probably would not have thought to run for the Township Board on my own, but being asked by a friend to do so has stirred my imagination about how I envision the Township for the future. In a nutshell, my vision is about a more engaged community.

With a son graduating this year from NSCS some might think that my interest in the school stops. NOT SO! I plan to continue volunteering and participating in the school in any way I am able. It's my firm belief that active adult participation with our youth is the best way to prevent bullying, segregation and all of the fallout that these issues cause.

This segues into another issue that is very close to my heart, that of housing for seniors. Duluth Township has some talented, vital seniors and I for one would like to see more cross-generational activity. Senior housing should (IMO) not be a place for residents to "stay", but rather, a place for them to "LIVE". Might it include a community garden, a kitchen, a library, continuing education classes for youth and seniors alike?

I'm concerned that this March election will likely have less than a 10% voter turn-out. Let's get our election dates coordinated so that electing Town Board Supervisors is done at the same time that you elect other government officials!

Engaged community. A community doesn't become stronger because it builds an elaborate town hall, it becomes stronger because it's residents share ideas and talents that become a strong foundation. We have an incredibly diverse population. Let's capitalize off of the diversity and concentrate on building an active, healthy community.

I have been a resident of Duluth Township since 1995, although my job took me away for 6 years. My husband, Gus, and I and son Daniel never sold our home here and returned in 2011. I have served on the Planning and Zoning Committee.

3-Year Regular Position



Michael Kahl

My name is Michael Kahl and I am running for the 3-year regular term for the Duluth Township Board of Supervisors.

In recent years I served six years on the Township Planning and Zoning Commission. During that time I became acquainted with many of the talented and hardworking residents who also gave their time for Township causes; as fellow committee members, those seeking to develop in the Township, others having concerns about community safety as well as those new to the community.

I'm a strong supporter of Township beliefs as identified in its Long Range Planning. Realizing that the character of the Township has deep roots and yet must also deal with the progressive nature of society and the pressures which affect our daily lives.

I am a 32 year resident of the Township, originally from Central Wisconsin then attending the University of Wisconsin Superior, Superior Wisconsin. I believe you truly haven't lived until you've remodeled and lived in a 100+ year old farmhouse, my home, through the Minnesota winters.

My involvement in the community has also involved some volunteer activities; MN firearm safety instructor for 4 years, coached a Township little league team at Lake Park League fields for 3 years.

My work career as a Biologist with a fisheries background spans 35 years. I am currently a Biologist with the US environmental Protection Agency-Duluth and have been at that location for 31 years. During the early 1990's I was on staff at the University of Wisconsin-Superior and laboratory manager for the Lake Superior Research Institute (LSRI). I am environmentally minded but also know that there are two sides to every story, and getting all the information on issues is important.

After taking a short break after my Planning Commission tenure, I'm looking forward to again serving the residents of the Township. Please support me by voting for me as one of your Duluth Township Town Board Supervisors on March 10th, 2015. If you have questions, please call me at 349-4304.



Travis Stolp

Hello, I am Travis Stolp, a Township resident on the upper Bergquist Road, where I reside with my wife Alisha and our eight children. We built our home here over ten years ago and enjoy the rural setting, small community and collaboration of the Township residents.

Several months ago, I was asked to consider running for Township Supervisor. After discussing this with my family, it was decided that I should try to do my part for the Township. As a father, I have an obvious concern for the future of Duluth Township and its direction. A Township Supervisor needs to be mindful of today's decisions and the impact those decisions have on the current residents and the upcoming generations. The best way to prepare for the future is to live responsibly now. In practice, this means being straight forward, honest and living within one's means. These values are ones I try to maintain in my personal life, and the same ones I would bring with me in a role as your Township Supervisor.

I have been a mason for over twenty years, and currently am a union bricklayer with CMI, a Township masonry business. I have been a foreman on multiple projects where teamwork was necessary and budgets had to be met. I enjoy spending time coordinating volunteers to operate the NSCS/Township skating rink, working with the NSCS PTA and being with my family.

I would be happy to visit anyone with questions or your concerns for the Township and can be reached at home at 525-0576 or stop by and visit me at 6406 Bergquist Road. Thank you for your consideration.