



DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

DULUTH TOWNSHIP WEB SITE: WWW.DULUTHTOWNSHIP.ORG

MAY 2016

What's Coming Up?

Township Memorial Day Ceremony - Monday, May 30th, 11am, at Palmers Township Cemetery (see article at right)

Town Board (with assigned areas of responsibility, (see insert))

Annual Stormwater Open House—Duluth Twp, 8-11, Sat. May 21st, Town Hall (at recycling)

Planning and Zoning Commission vacancy. (see article, p4)

Youth seeking jobs (see list on pg 8)

Clover Valley High School — It is now under County supervision. No-Trespass signs to be posted and cleanup is being discussed.

Township Art and Heritage Group (see article p 9)

Support needed for D/NSSD House Bill 2390 and Senate Bill 2939. (see article p 7)

Trails Draft Plans are expected to be considered at the June Town Board meeting.

THE HOMESTEADERS

Rose Vastila

May 4th, Wednesday, 12:30pm Town Hall, Coffee and snacks. Sheila Packa on poetry, story and music about Finnish immigration and her recent collaboration with Finnish composer, Olli Kortekangas and the Minnesota Orchestra.

June 1st, Wednesday, 12:30pm Town Hall, Coffee and snacks, Walley Mattson, member and butterfly enthusiast, will teach us how to enjoy moth hunting in our own backyard.

July 6th, Wednesday, 12:30pm Town Hall, 4th of July picnic with chicken and bingo.

Everyone is welcome.

For information call Rose Vastila at 834-5281.

Join your neighbors in honoring service men and women from our Township

Township Memorial Day Ceremony

At our Palmers Lakeview Cemetery
North Shore Road just east of Homestead Road
11am on Monday, May 30th

Our Memorial Day Speaker is

Sgt, Keith Larson

7th Special Forces Group

Keith is a Two Harbors High School Grad ('69). He was selected into the Army Special Forces and volunteered for Vietnam service in 1971 and served in a highly classified Studies and Observation Group (SOG) doing reconnaissance behind enemy lines. He has received numerous honors including two Bronze Stars and the Presidential Unit Citation for Extraordinary Heroism. Keith and his wife, Jean, have two sons and four granddaughters.



Other participants include *Boy Scout Troop #162*, music led by members of the *French River Lutheran Church*, *women of French River* will provide coffee and donuts. Mark your calendar and attend this community event!

For further information, contact event organizer
George Sundstrom, 525-5655

2016 Annual Town Meeting and Election

Two Supervisors were elected to 3-year terms. 357 residents voted (out of 1,293 registered or 27.6%). Results were **Barbara Crow** (236), **David Mount** (227), **Shane Stolp** (128) and **Bruce Duncan** (94). Congratulations to Barb and Dave. Thanks to all who stepped to support our Township.

Rolf Carlson was elected moderator of the Annual Meeting. Town Clerk Ann Cox provided a handout summarizing 2015 audit and expenditures, the 2016 budget that was approved last year, and the proposed 2017 budget.

After presentation of departmental budgets, the proposed 2017 Township levy of \$352,018 was approved, a 2.3% increase over the levy approved for 2016.

Thanks to all of the contributors to this issue

Valerie Bradley, Angie Braud, Ann Cox, Bob Engelson, Kathy Johnson, Katie Kuettel, Sue Lawson, Sandy Lewis, Rondi Erickson, Duane Madison, Carolyn Marino, Janet McTavish, Beth Mullan, Shawn Padden, John Schifsky, George Sundstrom, Carol Surine, Jo Thompson, Corlis West, and Rose Vastila,

Annual Stormwater Open House Duluth Township

Valerie Brady

- Get together over coffee and chat about stormwater management in our Township.
- Learn how it applies to you whether you are a land-owner or contractor.
- **Saturday, May 21st from 8-11am at the Town Hall (during recycling).**

Police Department

Shawn Padden, Chief

Police Events. 205 police events were recorded for February and March. This included serving process (18), 12 traffic violation warnings or citations, 9 medical emergencies, 6 motorist assists, and 105 resident requested vacation home/business checks. The list is on our web site.



CLOVER VALLEY SCHOOL, now blighted property, is being addressed by the St Louis County Land Dept. They will be posting the site with no trespassing signs. If you see people on the property, call 911.

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

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

Clifton Volunteer Fire Department

Bob Engelson, Fire Chief



Volunteers have been busy in training. The proposed new bay on Fire Hall #1 is in early planning and a search for funding. Fire pumpers have been tested and re-certified as is annually required.

Help prevent grass fires as ditch and field grasses dry out. **Burning permits are required.** See insert for places to get permits when they are available.

To volunteer as a fire fighter or emergency medical responder, call Chief Bob Engelson, 525-6819. Training and turnout gear are provided.

Duluth Township Art and Heritage Group

Jo Thompson

Our Township is rich in arts, culture and history. Sharing this heritage offers us an opportunity to build community. Our newly remodeled Town Hall offers space for people to gather to share experiences and memories. Poetry readings and presentations are also possibilities. Artifacts can be displayed in open floor space, and the walls offer display space for photographs, maps, paintings, quilts, and fiber art that reflect our heritage. Space might also be found not only to archive but also make available to the public other documents which reflect on the lives of Township residents present and past.

A group of community members has begun the process of identifying ways in which the Town Hall can be a resource center, display space, and gathering place and they welcome your input.

A celebration of our Arts and Heritage during the August "Come On Home Party" is being considered (stay tuned to the July Newsletter). Please contact Jo Thompson (woodfarm1785@gmail.com or 525-5854) or leave a message at the Town Hall, if you have old photos of homesteading and/or activities within the Township that you would be willing to have copied and displayed or artifacts (e.g. small pieces of farm equipment, old tools, etc.) that you would be willing to loan for inside display. Also, let us know if you are an artist (visual, musicians, fiber, quilters, etc.) who would like to perform at a community gathering or have work on exhibit at the Town Hall for set periods of time.

The Art and Heritage Group will meet on Friday May 13th at 9:30am in the Community Room.

Early Learning Sticks Like Glue!

Kathy Johnson

Play and Learn Early Childhood Program at NSCS is now accepting registrations for the 2016-17 school year.

Classes are held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Children ages 3, 4, and 5 may enroll for 1, 2 or 3 days per week. A \$30 registration fee is required. A monthly tuition is charged along with a \$25 annual supply fee.

For more information, contact: Kathy Johnson at: 525-0663 Ext 106 or 834-5429.

French River Readers Book Club

Carol Surine

The book for next month is *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce. Thursday, May 19th at 7:30pm in the Fireside Room at French River Lutheran Church on Ryan Road. Our host is Kay Libby.

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

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).



2016 Supervisors Wendy Gustofson, Dave Edblom, Travis Stolp, Dave Mount, Barb Crow

February 11th regular meeting. Attending: Supervisors Mary Anne Daniel, Dave Edblom, Wendy Gustofson, Don Sitter and Travis Stolp.

Main Actions: A motion to unfreeze \$29,895 for the NSCS security system was approved. Emergency Plan version 1.2 was unanimously adopted.

Reports: The Treasurer reported an ending balance for January of \$581,295.42 after deposits of \$4,075.91 and expenses of \$52,074.22. Claims were reviewed and bills paid. **Police:** The State mandates that police hook up to the State internet system and that we have a network security system for police in this building at Township cost. **Fire:** There was a small fire at the old Clover Valley High School. Solutions to the site need to be pursued. **Planning:** Valerie Brady is starting work on our MS4 report. The Commission is considering the commercial/industrial greenhouse that was built with no permit and is operating on the Pet Cemetery site. The Trail Plan has not been received. **Joint Use Committee:** Two statements about reasons for their votes at the January meeting were entered into the minutes. A Community Center Fund Tracker document summarized the state of various proposals. Total committed funds for improvement projects at the NSCS site is \$77,395, ABC, Inc, \$0. **Town Hall:** A maintenance plan has been developed. "Cloud" storage for Township record backup is being investigated. Some building completion items will be addressed this spring. **Personnel:** Jim Salls, the person at NSCS who arranges for Community Center rentals will be paid quarterly per his request. The Board of Appeal and Equalization training is needed for Supervisors to serve on that Board.

February 7th special working meeting. Attending: Supervisors Mary Anne Daniel, Dave Edblom, Wendy Gustofson, Don Sitter and Travis Stolp, Attorney Tim Strom and Clerk Ann Cox. The meeting discussed ABC Inc proposal for Township funding of the school camera security system. A proposal form designed to solicit needed information for a decision was discussed using this proposal as a focus. After considerable discussion it was decided that the information provided for the form was such that the proposal could be considered at the next Board meeting. On other proposals, ABC and Barry Wolff voted against the project to upgrade the school forest trails at Township expense. Written documentation of action on proposed projects by each Board (NSCS, ABC Inc, Town who are parties to the Joint Use Agreement), was requested.

March 10th regular meeting. Attending: Supervisors Mary Anne Daniel, Dave Edblom, Wendy Gustofson, Don Sitter and Travis Stolp.

Main Actions: Approved New Scenic Café request to serve alcohol in their yurt and garden space. A motion to set aside funds (\$3,250/yr for 20yrs or \$65,000) for skating warming house lights/portable toilet/some repairs failed (see minutes on web site for details). Motion was approved to provide up to \$2,000 for permanent Emergency Planning supplies, establish an annual \$1,000 budget to maintain equipment and replenish supplies, and let the EOC use the second floor space. **Reports:** Treasurer: \$35,507.70 deposits, \$31,212.86 expenses for an ending balance of \$585,590.26. Fire: We will continue to provide fire service to Alden Township. Planning Director Lawson will activate the building committee to consider the fourth bay on Hall #1. Fire trucks were in attendance at NSCS Winter Frolic. They used to come out for Fire Prevention week for preschool and kindergarten classes by invitation. Planning: The Commission is considering the issue of a large greenhouse put up without a permit. Legal: The State Auditor's Office will send a memo regarding Township relationships with charter schools. Under MN Statute transfer of funds to charter schools is not permitted. Materials Management: The WLSSD grant is being submitted. There is an ordinance that garbage service is mandatory but there are no enforcement guidelines. Cemetery: The storage building needs some work. Clover Valley School is now tax forfeit and managed by the County. It would be good to have the Township and County work together to get IRRRB funding too help with clean-up of the property. The Board thanked Don Sitter and Mary Anne Daniel for their service to the Township.

NOTE: *The May, 2016 Town Board meeting will start earlier than the usual to accommodate possible applicants for the Planning Commission vacancy (see article page 4).*

The May, 2016 meeting will start at 6:30pm. If two people should happen to apply, the meeting will start at 6pm to accommodate their interview. If no one applies by meeting time, the meeting will still start at 6:30pm. This scheduling arrangement is being posted at the Town Hall. Thanks for your help in this matter.

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



Summary of Planning Commission Meetings

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

February 25th regular meeting. Commissioners Wayne Dahlberg, Jerry Hauge, Brigid Pajunen, John Schifsky, Jo Thompson, Paul Voge and Larry Zanko attended plus Planning Director Sue Lawson, Secretary Beth Mullan & Board Liaison Don Sitter.

Main Action: Decision on 3 greenhouse use categories and their definition (ICOGH, FMGH, RGH).

Discussion: An operating commercial/industrial greenhouse was built on Clover Valley Drive at the Restlawn Pet Cemetery without the required land use permit. It is a 30x60 foot hydroponic greenhouse. There have been complaints about lights at night. Operators said in January that the structure is temporary and a commercial use. It is an off-shoot of a commercial operation in the industrial park in Silver Bay. The issue was discussed at the last Planning meeting and a study group formed to determine how to proceed. The Ordinance does not currently have a designated greenhouse use. Three greenhouse definitions were proposed and discussed:

- Industrial/Commercial Greenhouse (ICOGH)
- Farmstead Greenhouse (FMGH)
- Residential Greenhouse (RGH)

These differ in intended purpose and impact. ICOGH, for example, would be limited to commercial areas and require a conditional use permit, as do other commercial enterprises. RGH would be over-the-counter permits with performance standards (lights, noise, etc.) in all but the commercial districts. For details of the careful Commission deliberations and the many factors that were considered, see the Commission minutes on the Township web site.

The draft Trail Plan is expected at the next meeting. The Commission's work plan for 2016 might consider lot size compliance issues of SMU-8 zone district.

March 24th regular meeting. Commissioners Brigid Pajunen, Jerry Hauge, John Schifsky, Jo Thompson, Paul Voge and Larry Zanko attended plus Planning Director Sue Lawson, Secretary Beth Mullan.

Main Action: A motion to approve the three greenhouse uses and the zones in which they apply was unanimously approved. Our Attorney agreed that these new uses and standards can now be included in the Zoning Ordinance (see website for minutes and details)

Discussion: The 3 greenhouse use categories developed in the February meeting and allowed zone districts in which they applied were further discussed. Performance standards for each were also discussed. A conditional use permit had been formerly approved for the pet cemetery and crematorium. There have been concerns by neighbors of smell and noise from the site.

James Gitemeir distributed the draft **Trails Plan**. The plan looks at each proposed trail, type of trail, what it connects to infrastructure needed, projected cost and priority and funding possibilities. Anything on a roadway would be roadway authority liability and that outside the roadway would be a Town liability.

Suggestions for the Commissions work plan for 2016 included revisiting minimum lot sizes for SMU-8 where most lots do not currently meet standards. The Ordinance PUD standards could be clarified. Hockey arena lights at the school are very bright and not downlit. The old Clover Valley School property is now tax forfeit land and the County and Town are looking at ways to get rid of that structure (*it has been severely vandalized, burned, and is a source of safety and police concerns*). Zoning for the property may need to be revisited.

Brigid Pajunen was thanked for her two terms of service on the Commission (*term limit is 2*).

The Next Planning Commission meetings:
(4th Thurs, 7pm in the Town Hall) are **May 26th & June 23rd**.
Special hearings are posted at the Town Hall.
Residents are encouraged to attend these public meetings.

Vacancy on the Township Planning and Zoning Commission

Planning Director, Sue Lawson

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

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



LOCAL SNOW PLOWING

Noel Walter — Lawn mowing, call: 834-1101 or 849-7913.

LOCAL PRODUCE

Farm Fresh Eggs — call: 525-7415

Other listings? No charge to list local seasonal items such as these. Send your listing to: Editor@duluthtownship.org, or leave a message at the Town Hall, 525-5705.



Town Hall Community Room

It is a beautiful area to meet friends, browse the library, use the wifi computer area, etc. Small groups could meet and share the area.

See the notice board on the porch for open hours. So far Community Room hours are:

- Monday — (closed)
- Tuesday — 7am—noon and 2pm-6pm
- Wednesday — 9am—noon
- Thursday — 2pm-6pm
- Friday — 9am—11am
- Saturday — 8am—noon
- Sunday — (closed)

There is a sign-up list for volunteers who are willing to keep the Community Room open for more hours.

We'd like to keep it open full days on Tuesday and Thursday. Please contact the Town Hall office if you can help out (messages 525-5705).

So far, you need to bring your own makings for coffee and snacks (coffee maker and microwave are available) in the Community Room! Donations welcomed!

Community Youth Groups

Clifton 4-H Club:

call Kate Edblom,
525-1276

Cub Scouts:

call David Hooey,
525-6617

Boy Scouts:

call Chris Roningen
525-5308

Girl Scouts:

call Tracy Mandelin,
525-4148

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

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

Paid Advertisement

218-834-3310



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Pet care in your home.

Daily • Weekends • Vacations • Holidays

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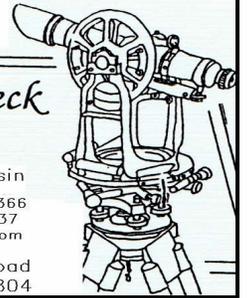
Anthony Lueck
Surveyor

GPS
Drafting
Mapping
Property Lines

Minnesota/Wisconsin

MN.LIC.24587/WI.LIC.2366
BUS.TELE.218-348-8037
anthonylueck@northlc.com

6098 Ryan Road
Duluth, MN 55804



Paid Advertisement

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

Ground Breaking at Kiviranta

Rondi Erickson and Sandy Lewis

Please join us Thursday June 2nd at 4pm to celebrate ground-breaking for Kiviranta, a community of 8 homes to be built at 5593 North Shore Drive (former site of Nokomis)

(Ed: This is our Township's first planned unit development, PUD).



Building Something? Save Yourself (and your new neighbors) Some Time and Money

Valerie Brady

It's spring, and for many folks that means thoughts turn to new building projects. If you have one in mind, or notice that you have new neighbors who are building, be aware of the new land disturbance regulations. Almost all land-disturbing work that adds up to 1 acre or more of cleared land on a property will now trigger several new, and probably expensive, requirements. (Note: there is also a new permit required for land disturbing work that adds up to greater than 5,000 square feet but less than 1 acre).

These requirements are from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and are designed to help control stormwater runoff from construction sites. For sites that disturb greater than or equal to 1 acre the property owner must get a permit from both MPCA and our Township (\$150), and must submit a stormwater management plan to both MPCA and the Township. Development of these plans is complicated and may mean that the property owner has to hire a consultant who is familiar with the computer software and stormwater management procedures required by MPCA. For those who aren't prepared for this, it can mean extra money, time, and probably construction delays.

The ONLY way out of these requirements is to ensure that the land disturbing and dirt disturbing activities do NOT add up to 1 acre or more. Unfortunately, on a house site with a long driveway, a new septic system, a house, and a garage, it's very easy to disturb an acre or more of dirt. The easier route: You can save yourself (or help your new neighbors avoid) time, headaches, and fees by changing the plans to ensure that the 1-acre limit is not reached. Land disturbing activities that disturb more land than 5000 square feet but less than 1 acre still require a permit from the township (\$50), but not from MPCA, and (most importantly) do NOT require a post-construction stormwater management plan. This makes things much simpler for everyone. Staying below the 1-acre limit will cost less time and money, and the building site will have less stormwater runoff and be less susceptible to erosion, which is good for our streams and Lake Superior.

For more information about the new permits, follow these links:

http://www.duluthtownship.org/Planning_Zoning/Stormwater_Ordinance_1.pdf

<http://www.duluthtownship.org/township/permits-forms/>

What is "land disturbance"?

This is any activity that removes the vegetation and exposes bare dirt.

The key factor is whether or not vegetation is left in place to cover the dirt and protect it from rain, water, and erosion.

Use "your" Ditch to Feed Butterflies and Bees

Valerie Brady

Sure, they are just ditches, but the ones that run along our property feel like they are ours. So we were pretty upset with the damage to the soil and vegetation that happened with all the work going on the past year or two (and I've seen plenty of ditch damage when I'm driving around, too). But I'm trying to look at this as an opportunity. I never have enough room to plant wildflower seeds (which have a bit of a tendency to take over my other gardens). Here's my chance! So this spring I will be seeding the disturbed dirt with wildflower seeds that can feed bees and butterflies. To this wildflower seed mix I will add a bunch of seeds of native ornamental grasses. These have deep roots that will stabilize the soil so it won't slump and erode. I hope just an afternoon of seeding and raking in the seed will provide us with a ditch area whose edge provides me with pretty flowers, interesting grasses, and feeds bees and butterflies with no maintenance on my part. The bonus is that ditches that have lush native vegetation growing in them and along their edges help keep our streams clean and healthier for fish.

Clover Valley Tractor Show

Saturday and Sunday, June 25-26

Corlis West

This years Clover Valley Tractor Show will be held on Saturday and Sunday, June 25 & 26, and is **free to the public**.

Special events will include a tractor parade both days at 1 pm, and a tractor starting contest at 11am on Saturday. Food and beverages are available to help off set some of the cost. New this year will be a tractor ride before the show, on Friday June 24, starting at 3pm from the show grounds, with a pot luck meal to follow.

The tractor show is held at the farm of Corlis and Pam West located **at the north end of the Homestead Rd.**, across the street from the old Clover Valley Store.

We hope to see you there for food, fun and tractors.

For more information call Corlis at 525-7719.



GEORGE WHO? AND WHAT WAS HE DOING ON THE NORTH SHORE IN 1861?

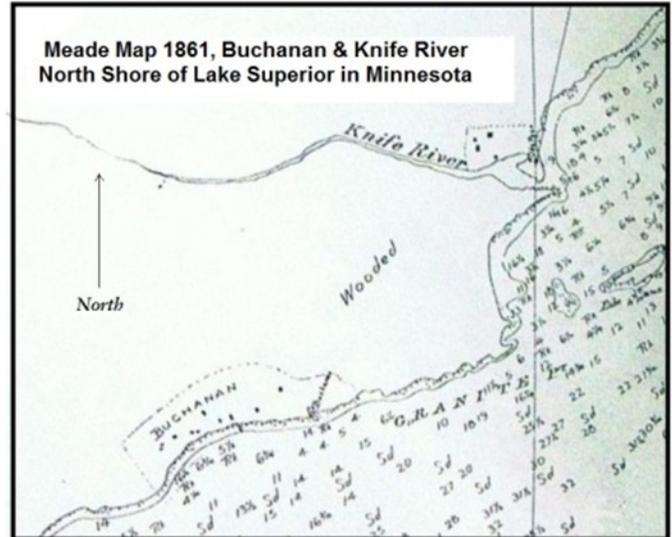
Duane Madison

In 1841, eight years before Minnesota became a territory; the USA started the *United States Lake Survey* to chart the great lakes for development and for the safety of commerce. In 1857, George, a forty-one year old Army lieutenant was advanced to captain and was put in charge of the survey as *Superintendent Engineer, Survey of the Northern & North-west Lakes*. George was to take charge of mapping lake shores and navigation hazards, charting lake bottoms for hazards and mapping for future ship channels and harbors. This daunting endeavor involved over 6,000 miles of shoreline. Also included was the finding of sites for future lighthouses, beacons and buoys. (He had previously engineered the construction of lighthouses in difficult areas of Florida.) In 1859, in addition to the surveys and depth soundings, George set up 19 weather stations on the 5 lakes and developed methods to predict weather and issue warnings.

The main tool in George's craft was the new steel steamship SEARCH. SEARCH was launched in 1856 with a 105 ton displacement. It was 143 feet long, a beam of 21 feet and depth of 8.5 feet. In early August 1861 George with his ship and crew were sounding depths and surveying on the West end of the North Shore of Lake Superior when the Civil War started. In mid-August, George being an officer and a strong union advocate went to Washington to volunteer his talents to the Northern cause. In spite of some of his survey officers already being drafted into the cause, George, to his dismay, was sent back to Lake Superior to continue his superintending of the survey work. During that period, utilizing his crew and ship, he was also able to do some depth soundings, surveying and rough field maps of the Knife River outlet and shore line including Buchanan. He also did the same at the Sucker River outlet.

That was likely the last work that George did in the survey as he was interrupted on Aug 31 with a summons to report to Washington, DC for duty in the war. George was replaced on the survey and work increased in scope through the war and in years to come with others replacing him.

The aim of this article is to convey a bit of local history but I would be remiss if I didn't finish a bit of George's story in Washington: Upon arriving there he was advanced to brigadier general of volunteers and assigned as a commander in the division of Pennsylvania troops under Major General McCall. In less than a decade of starting his work building light houses and taking command of the Lakes Survey, he advanced to Major General and commander of the Army of the Potomac. Almost 3 years from his war enlistment General George Gordon Meade on July 3 1863 won the battle at Gettysburg over General Robert E Lee and brought about the subsequent end of the Civil War between the states. Think of him fondly when you drive the shore between Knife River & Palmers.



DULUTH NORTH SHORE SANITARY DISTRICT NEWS

Katie Kuettel and Angie Braud, D/NSSD Board

Your help is needed to support legislation that was recently introduced in the State of Minnesota House of Representatives and the Minnesota Senate. Passage of this bill would reduce the debt in our sewer district servicing residents on the shore. The bill in the House, H.R. No. 2390, was authored by Representatives Mary Murphy and Rob Ecklund. The bill in the Senate, S.F. No. 2939, was authored by Senators Tom Bakk and Roger Reinert. Both bills read:

DULUTH NORTH SHORE SANITARY DISTRICT DEBT RELIEF APPROPRIATION
\$2,440,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the Public Facilities Authority for a grant to the Duluth North Shore Sanitary District to retire debt of the district in order to bring the district's monthly wastewater rates in line with those of similarly situated facilities across the state.

Letters and emails to your legislative representatives showing your support for this legislation would be very helpful. Please show your gratitude to Senator Bakk for moving the bill in the Senate. Sewer District representatives testified on April 11, 2016 about the debt situation. Encourage your neighbors to voice their gratitude and support also. Spread the word so that we will be successful in getting debt relief to our sewer district.

Representative **Mary Murphy** can be reached at rep.mary.murphy@house.mn. She represents House District 3B.

Representative **Rob Ecklund** can be reached at rep.rob.ecklund@house.mn. He represents House District 3A.

Senator **Roger Reinert** can be reached at sen.roger.reinert@senate.mn. He represents District 07.

Senator **Tom Bakk** can be reached at 95 University Avenue W.; MN Senate Bldg, Rm 3113; St Paul, MN 55155.

He represents District 03.

(Ed: DNSSD is located along the shore of Duluth Township and services our neighbors in the City of Duluth and the Town of Lakewood in addition to residents in our Township. This bill is very important for our Township residents.)

DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

MAY 2016

Inside This Issue

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**Save the Town Information Sheet
On the insert, page 10.**

Duluth Township Newsletter
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Duluth, MN 55804

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DULUTH, MINN.

If your name or 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 (email: editor@duluthtownship.org). Extra copies are also available in the Town Hall.

1023 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 News-Box 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**.

Clover Valley Tractor Show June 25 & 26, 2016

9:00 am - 5:00 pm Sat.
9:00 am - 3:00 pm Sun



Free Admission
June 24 - Tractor Ride starting @ 3:00 pm
Pot luck dinner to follow
June 25 - Hand Cranked Tractor Contest @ 11:00 am
June 25 & 26 - Tractor parade @ 1:00 pm
Food and Fun
Located @ the north end of Homestead Rd.

See article on page 6



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 14 years, looking for work (mowing, shoveling, yard work, cleaning, general labor). Call Mason at 525-0576.
- Mature, hard working, experienced 14 year old looking for work (yard work, cleaning, mowing, pretty much any chores). Just call Bridger at 525-0090.
- Cameron Nelson, age 13, lawn mowing, snow shoveling, general yard work, general labor. Call Cameron at 525-0208
- Ryan, age 15, is looking for work. He is interested in yard work, lawn mowing and babysitting. Call 525-9065.
- Young man, age 11 looking for work, including lawn mowing and general yard work. Experienced. If interested, please call Konrad, at 830-9514.

Advertise for free: For Township youth 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 (messages: 525-5705).
Deadline for the next (July) Newsletter is June 23rd

Township Road Work, 1913 - 1923

John Schifsky

In **1914**, Duluth Township Road and Bridge disbursements totaled \$3,833.60, a sizable expenditure (\$91,720 in today's dollars). That work included grading, brushing, gravelling, rip-rap, cutting trees, grubbing, lumber for



bridges, and more. The payments appear in a carefully itemized, typewritten listing, unusual in both format and detail from the other Township handwritten records from the early 1900's. But the list's purpose is quite clear; it provides a careful accounting of goods and services purchased as well as a listing of those persons paid, how much each of them received, and what was the service each provided. The list is one of hundreds of paper records – verified account packets, cancelled checks, petitions, contracts, miscellaneous letters, and road pay roll records – all contained in a plastic bin labeled “Road Work”.

The road payroll records are of particular interest both for their appearance and their meticulous detail. Intended for accounting purposes, each cream-colored sheet is carefully ruled horizontally and vertically. The heavy-weight paper is light brown in color, roughly 16” by 17”, and multiple sheets have been rolled together into tight cylinders and tied with string. There are eight rolls in all, dating from **1913** through **1922**. Exposed ends are dark and brittle from age. Sheets resist even the most determined efforts to flatten them.

For the most part individual sheets, kept by the foreman, record work done on a particular road. The details include the foreman's name, and the names of the laborers, which men brought teams, how many hours each person worked per day, and how many days they worked to get the job done. Sometimes the work was done in a few weeks, other times it extended over several months.

In **1916** the records show work being done from April through October, but not every day. Teamsters and laborers most often worked several days out of a week which suggests they had other responsibilities, most probably at home. That work included repair to Laiti's bridge, dragging the Salmala and Laiti Roads, and repair to the Sucker River Road. The foreman was paid \$3.00 per day, those persons bringing teams \$4.00, laborers \$2.50 (\$55.00 today). In **1917**, foremen, teamsters, and laborers received \$.50 per hour more. By 1920 laborers were being paid \$.55 per hour, \$4.40 per day. Foremen signed off on each sheet, attesting the accuracy of the reports. In turn Township officials added their signatures (in **1916** those officials were **F. A. Cutliffe, M. Martinson, and H. Korkki**) and the Town Clerk notarized those signatures.

Road payroll records include some interesting bits of information: the Township provided, to individuals, hundreds of pounds of dynamite and powder, as well as fuse and blasting caps, apparently free of charge. The first notations appear in the **1913** records, and continue every other year through **1923**.

While some of that dynamite may have been used for road construction, it seems more likely area farmers were using it on their own land to clear stumps. Certainly, as World War I came to end, the government had a significant surplus of explosives which they most probably made available, at reduced cost, to local governments like townships.

The records also show the amount of road work varied from year to year. For whatever reason, much less work was done in **1919**.

And while it is fair to say wages increased over the eleven year period, for some reason they were reduced by half in **1923**, teamsters getting \$.70 per hour (\$1.25 in 1921) and laborers \$.35 (\$.55 in 1921). The amount of work done also decreased in the **1920's**.

The “Road Work” bin contains other interesting bits of information. One in particular speaks to economic hardships facing Township residents early in the Great Depression. In **1932** a letter from the Township to St. Louis County officials reads: “residents have no means, either money or credit, to obtain the necessary flour for the support of their families (we) recommend to the Poor Commission of St. Louis County that they be given the amount of flour in accordance with the size of their families.” There are 39 head-of-household signatures on the application list; the households include 164 adults and children.





Duluth Township Information 2016

Duluth Town Hall, 6092
Homestead Road, Duluth,
MN 55804

Phone (218) 525-5705
(voice message),

Email: See note below on using our Township web site.

www.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: (see web site for email contacts)

Barb Crow (2016-2019) 525-0489

Primary contact for Public Safety, Cemetery.

Alternate for Business Management, Personnel

Dave Edblom (2014-2017) **Vice Chair** 525-1276

Primary contact for Planning

Co-Primary for Joint Use Committee, Town Hall.

Wendy Gustofson (2015-2017) 573-821-0785

Primary contact for Communications, D/NSSD and Materials Mgmt, and Intergovernmental Relations.

Dave Mount (2016-2019) **Chair** 525-7961

Primary contact for Business Mgmt, and Personnel, Co-Primary for Town Hall

Alternate for: Roads.

Travis Stolp (2016-2018) 525-0576

Primary contact for Roads, Recreation/Rental

Co-Primary for Joint Use Committee

Town Clerk: **Ann K. Cox** 525-5705 (Town Hall)

Treasurer: **Janet Johansen** 525-5705 (Town Hall)

Attorney: **Tim Strom** 722-4766 (office)

Cemetery Sexton: **Molly Tillotson** 218-525-6933

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

Planning and Zoning Secretary: **Beth Mullan**

Planning and Zoning Commission: **Wayne Dahlberg, Jerry**

Hauge (Mar2015), **vacancy** (Mar2018), **John**

Schifsky (Mar2016), **Jo Thompson**, (Mar2016) vice

chair, **Paul Voge**, chair (Mar2014), **Larry Zanko** (2016)

Peace Officers: **Chief Shawn Padden** and
Officer Steve Peterson.

Emergencies 911, Messages 525-5705 or 393-8407

Clifton Volunteer Fire/EMS Department:

Chief Bob Engelson, **Assistant Chief Rob Peldo**,
President **Jason Bruckelmyer**

Burning Permits are available online at mndnr.gov/permits or
the **Town Hall** (office hours), or from **Fire Wardens:**
Jeff & Carolyn Marino (525-6431), **Jay Zink** 525-5589
or **DNR** in Two Harbors, 1568 Hwy 2, 834-1418.

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

Town Hall rentals: contact the Town Clerk, 525-5705.

Website manager: **Janet Johansen** 525-5705 (Town Hall)

To Email Township Officials and Departments

Our Township web site, www.duluthtownship.org/contacts,
has a dropdown list of personnel and departments you can
use to send emails. Note that a copy of all emails
automatically goes to the Town Hall for Township records.

Note: If the person does not have email access, your com-
munication is sent to the Town Hall where it is picked up.

Many Departments have a web page. See our web site.

Township Recycling Center

At the Town Hall, on Homestead Road
Staffed by Carolyn Marino, Roger Beck
and Volunteers



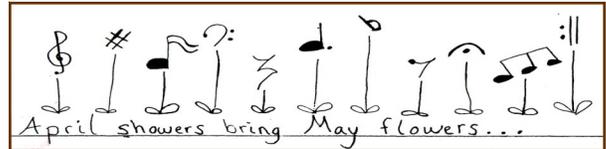
**April-Oct: Tuesday 7-11am & 3-7pm,
Thurs. 3-7pm, Saturday 8-12.**

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

(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 vandalism and dumping household garbage.



Township Calendar

See calendar updates on www.duluthtownship.org.

Our Official Calendar is posted at the Town Hall.

MAY 2016

- 3, Tue, 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting,
Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- 4, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's** meet, Town Hall
- 12, Thu, 6:30pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- 13, Fri, 9:30am **Art & Heritage Group**, Community
Room, Town Hall. **nitary District**
meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 17, Tue, 7pm **Duluth/North Shore Sam Volunteer Fire**
Dept: training, Hall #1
- 17, Tue, 7am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District**
meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 21, Sat, 8-11am **Annual Stormwater Open House**,
Town Hall, during recycling.
- 26, Thu, 7pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall
- 30, Mon, 11am **Township Memorial Day Ceremony**,
Our Palmers Lakeview Cemetery
(see article, p1, for details)

JUNE 2016

- 1, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's**, Town Hall
- 7, Tue, 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting,
Fire Hall #1, Ryan Rd
- 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, **Deadline for the July Newsletter**
- 23, Thu, 7pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall
- 25-26 **Clover Valley Tractor Show** (see p 6 & 8)

JULY 2016

- 5, Tue, 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business
meeting Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- 6, Wed, 12:30pm **Homesteader's**, 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