

Annual Town Election and Town Meeting
Tuesday March 9th, 2004

Election from 7am-8pm at our Town Hall.
Annual Town Meeting starts at 8:15pm, in the Town Hall



Duluth Town Hall, Winter, 2004

Duluth Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org

March 2004

Thank you to all contributors to this issue: **Jody**

Anderson, Jeff Cook, Helen Hendrickson, Janis Hooey, Todd Lindahl, Shawn Padden, Jerry Simmons, Mary Ann Sironen and Babs Strom. A special thanks to **Bob Sundstrom** for providing the Town Hall picture on this masthead.

Volunteers are needed to sketch a masthead for the top of the May and July Newsletters! Call the editor (525-0103) if you or someone you know would do a drawing.

The Homesteaders

Helen Hendrickson

Mar 3rd, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall Homestead Rd, The Homesteader's **28th Birthday** Pot Luck and Bingo.

Apr 7th, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall, Pot luck The *Lincoln Park Ramblers* will provide entertainment.

May 5th, Wednesday, 12:30pm. Program to be announced.

Everyone is welcome. For information, call 525-4154

A Note from Town Hall

If you are dropping off papers or information at the Town Hall, please **use the mail slot in the side porch door.** It is not a good idea to use the postal mailbox on Homestead Road for unstamped messages because, in addition to being illegal, your paperwork may not get to the intended person as surely or quickly. Thanks for you help.

Congratulations to Phil Strom who received the *Bobby Piper Community Service Award.*

Phil received this award for his leadership in the effort to establish our *North Shore Community School* and his leadership in the *French River Lutheran Church.*

This award exemplifies Piper Jaffray's commitment to community service. The recipient is chosen each year from a list of candidates from offices of Piper Jaffray Investments all over the USA who are nominated by other employees.

Thanks to John and Marilynn Kessler for their donation of a new flag and stand for the Town Hall.

Services Offered

Tiny Tots Daycare now has openings for all ages.
Located on McQuade Road. Call Lacy 525-2130.

We are trying out a new Newsletter feature for those who live in the Township and offer services that may be of interest to Township families. For example, Township youth or others who offer snow shoveling, babysitting, mowing, repairs, etc., may want to list their services in the May issue. If you want to place an ad, send it to the editor at the Town Hall. The cost is \$2 per line.

Zoning Ordinance Update

At their January 29th meeting the *Planning Commission* decided to extend the written comment period for the draft zoning ordinance another month, until February 26th, to allow for additional comments. Additional copies of the draft ordinance and initial comments were printed and made available at the Town Hall. The draft ordinance update is also on the Township web site. The extended comment period meant that the process of revising and updating the draft and presenting it at a Public Hearing were also pushed back to dates that will be announced once they are set.

The *Commission* sent a postcard to all residents informing them of this extended comment period. Once the Planning Commission has had working meetings to go over comments and make changes to the draft, they will announce the next stage in the approval process.

Some 43 comments had been received in the initial comment period following the public information open house in January. Approximately 29 more written comments were received during the extended comment period.

There seems to be some misinformation floating around the Township regarding the draft zoning ordinance. If you are uncertain of the information you are hearing, please take the time to read the draft ordinance. At the request of people at the Jan. 29th meeting, the Planning Commission went to considerable expense to make additional printed copies of the draft ordinance and comments available. Many copies are still available at the Town Hall during office hours. It is also available on the Township web site.

Mailed to 841 Duluth Township homes and businesses. Copies are available at the Town Hall. Please send your comments and suggestions to volunteer Newsletter editor Don McTavish at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804 or in the NewsBox on the Town Hall porch. The Newsletter is printed locally by **BB&K Printing**, and mailed for us by **UDAC.**

Storm Water Planning
Jeff Cook, Supervisor

In 2003, our *Town of Duluth* was included on the Federal List for Storm Water Planning (MS-4). The main objective for the mandate from the MPCA is to keep our waters as clean as possible by holding the local government responsible for their waters. To help implement good standards, the MPCA has six program elements that we need to include in our Storm Water Plan, if applicable.

The six required elements for the plan are the following:

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Participation/Involvement
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
4. Construction Site Runoff Control
5. Post Construction Runoff Control
6. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping

At this time, the plan only covers the southwest tip of our Township. Within five years, the entire Township will be included in this plan. The *Storm Water Mandated Plan* will be expensive to implement, and difficult to enforce. It will include hours of training, which may be difficult considering we have only part-time employees. The plan will not only be a hardship on our Township government but also effect everyone that lives within it's borders. Yet we will have to persevere with limited finances and staff members.

In future *Newsletters*, the six elements will be explained further concerning what is to be expected of us.

Township Police Department

Shawn Padden, Chief:

There were **969 police events** this past year, up 25% from 2002. The table below groups a long list of

Call Category	Year 2000	Year 2001	Year 2002	Year 2003
Medical emergency	31	31	18	38
Deaths	2	0	4	0
Fire alarm	18	15	13	25
Personal injury	11	4	7	6
Assault/disputes/threats	22	19	22	28
Arrests	7	8	1	9
Traffic violations	152	105	152	157
Other violations	0	2	6	3
Drug incidents	0	1	4	4
Property damage/theft/burglary	85	67	71	110
Disturbances/harassment	50	68	64	72
Assistance provided	59	46	57	61
Requested checking/patrol	677	244	314	395
Permits (handgun, explosives)	16	20	14	29
Information requests	11	9	10	13
In-service training/classes	6	4	1	0
Other (unknown trouble)	0	11	6	19
Totals	1170	654	773	969

different types of calls into 17 categories. These are listed from the more serious, urgent calls in the Township, down to those more routine requests for assistance that can be scheduled, at least to some extent. Some calls require considerable time during the event and in required documentation afterward. Data for 2000 through 2002 are provided for comparison.

Duluth Township budgets for 160 hours of policing per month by our 3 officers who know the Township and live in the area. Each of our officers is also a full-time officer in the Duluth or Hemantown Police Department. This helps us because officers receive special training and access to information and specialized equipment through their full-time job. Each has training in somewhat different specialties. We pay less for policing compared to townships that contract with the county for policing.

Our Police Department maintains an **email Crime Alert** service (it is also on our web site). If you would like to receive the occasional notices by email, send your email address to PoliceOffice@duluthtownship.org.

There have been a number of complaints of garbage/appliance/furniture dumping in the Township. Police are interested in finding a newer black Honda car with Wyoming license plates. A construction trailer was broken into on Wahl Road in Lakewood and burglars recently entered two more homes in Gnesen Township.

If you have **information about suspicious or illegal activities** in your neighborhood, you can send an email to our Police (license plates and descriptions are helpful). This may aid our officers in their investigations. However, for emergencies, call **911**.

Needed: Two Volunteers for Community Center/NSCS Committee

The Township is looking for 2 residents of Duluth Township to serve as **liaison** on the **North Shore Community School Communications Committee**. The time commitment for this collaboration involves attending a 2-hour meeting one evening during the months February and September. The purpose is to discuss information regarding Community Center building and grounds expenditures by both the Township and North Shore Community School, and to publish an article reporting the information in the Duluth Township Newsletter. If you are interested, please call Steve Dahl at 525-4679.

Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District

Mary Ann Sironen

D/NSSD activities are getting "personal" now. Beginning at the western end of the district, near Lester Park, residents are having visits from engineers, construction crews and others that will be implementing the connection of homes and buildings to the sewer line.

John Miller of Liohn Consulting has been making visits to property owners to gain their permission for the easement(s) needed to bring the lateral lines from the main sewer into their building(s). In many cases, this requires a review of ownership, property lines and an assortment of other individual situations that are discovered as each visit is made.

Jeff Cook has been doing inspections of building drains to insure that groundwater (I&I-Inflow and Infiltration) is separated from the sewage flow. This is extremely important because the D/NSSD allocation to the Western Lake Sanitary District (WLSSD) is based on the projected sewer volume generated by each property...not rain or other storm water that may find its way into the system.

(continued on page 3)

(DNSSD, continued from page 2)

Property owners whose buildings do not meet the requirements will soon receive letters informing them of their need to upgrade their foundation drains or other plumbing before the sewer connections are made. If the improvements are not made before the buildings are connected to the main sewer line, a significant daily penalty fee will be applied to the monthly bill.

Considerable work could be needed to bring buildings up to the required standard and the D/NSSD will work with individuals to identify the best way to accomplish that. D/NSSD has extended the scope of the project to include lateral lines, electrical connections and abandonment of the current septic system but property owners are responsible for the improvements that are needed within their buildings that bring them up to the required standard for I&I handling.

Eric Appelwick of *Northeast Technical Services* will be the liaison between the D/NSSD board, engineers and Frontier Pipeline, the contractor installing the lateral lines. Eric can be reached at **624-8042**. Minutes of board meetings and other current information is available on the web site – www.dnssd.org.

Clifton Volunteer Fire Department

Jerry Simmons, Fire Chief

Our Fire Department has just purchased a new heart defibrillator for use in medical emergencies. It comes with a training manikin and training materials. It will be used in the newly donated Fire Department rescue vehicle.

A committee has been working on updating the Department's bylaws. At the end of March members will be attending training workshops at the DECC. Members maintain equipment and train at their regular meetings.

Several members will be attending March classes to become certified first responders.

Early Logging in Duluth Township

Todd Lindahl

The first logging that took place at the head of the lakes was adjacent to the first sawmills that were established. Before long the timber close to the mills was depleted and longer hauls were required in order to keep the mills supplied with enough logs. The mills increased in size and capacity as the population grew. By the 1880's logging operations had moved up the north shore where logs could be dumped into the lake and rafted to the mills in Duluth or elsewhere.

Within Duluth Township during 1891 Duncan & Brewer Lumber Company logged along the Sucker River and Knife River as well as other locations all the way up the shore to Grand Marais. This timber was all rafted to their new big sawmill at 39th Avenue West in Duluth. This mill had a capacity in excess of 40,000,000 board feet per year.

The Lesure Lumber Company had a very interesting sleigh road that began at their landing near the mouth of the French River and proceeded inland to Nomanna Township in section 52-13. The road had long downhill grades of which several were dangerously steep. Men were stationed here to throw hay onto the ice road to slow the sleighs down if they were going too fast. Hay created

(continued on page 4)

Township Calendar

See updates on www.duluthtownship.org

-----March 2004-----

- Mar 2, Tue, 7-9am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church lower level.
- Mar 2nd Tue, Political Party caucus night, NSCS.
- Mar 3, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's** meet Town Hall
- Mar 3, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept:* business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Rd
- Mar 6, Sat, 10-12am Office is open, absentee ballots.
- Mar 9, Tue, 7am-8pm, Township Election, Town Hall**
- Mar 9, Tue, 8:15pm Annual Town Meeting, Town Hall** (open after the election-please wait outside)
- Mar 10, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept:* maintenance
- Mar 11, Thu, 7:30pm TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- Mar 11, Thu, 8:00pm Board of Canvas (*Board certifies election results*).
- Mar 16, Tue, 6:30pm, **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library
- Mar 16, Tue. 8:15pm Town Hall (*alternate bad weather Town meeting day*)
- Mar 17, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept:* training
- Mar 25, Thu, 7:00 Planning Commission** meeting, Town Hall.

-----April 2004-----

- Apr 1, Thu, 7:30pm **Planning Commission** working meeting, Town Hall
- Apr 6, Tue, 7-9am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church lower level.
- Apr 7, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's** meet Town Hall
- Apr 7, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept:* business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- Apr 8, Thu, 7:30pm TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- Apr 14, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept:* maintenance
- Apr 20, Tue, 6:30pm, **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library.
- Apr 21, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept:* training
- Apr 22, Thu, 7:30pm Planning Commission**, Town Hall
- Apr 23, **Deadline** for news for the May *Newsletter*

-----May 2004-----

- May 4, Tue, 7am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church lower level.
- May 5, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's**, Town Hall
- May 5, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept:* business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- May 12, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept:* maintenance
- May 13, Thu, 7:30pm TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- May 18, Tue, 6:30pm **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library.
- May 19, Wed, 7:00pm *Volunteer Fire Dept:* training
- May 27, Thu, 7:30pm Planning Commission**, Town Hall

(Early Logging, continued from page 3)

friction between the runners and the ice. The men that were posted here were recruited from those who were known to be teetotalers. The company wanted to be sure these men were sharp and not drunk or suffering from a hangover. On the surface this seems to be a noble gesture, but in reality they were probably more concerned about losing an expensive horse team and sleigh than a teamster.

During the latter part of the 1890's E. L. Bradley Lumber Company logged near the mouth of the Sucker River. These logs were all rafted to their sawmill in Duluth.

The huge Alger-Smith Lumber Company, a newcomer to the area, started a railroad named the Duluth & Northern Minnesota Railway at Knife River in May 1898 and quickly began logging operations in Duluth Township. By 1899 they were conducting extensive logging along the Sucker River watershed. Their "Mud Branch" crossed the central part of Duluth Township and continued on to the outskirts of Duluth. They were the first true logging railroad in the area. The Duluth & Iron Range Railway had been involved in hauling logs and had its own logging spurs since 1892, but their main interest was of course in mining.

During 1892, 1893, and 1894 forest fires swept through the remaining timber stands along the south shore and Nemadji River. This accelerated the logging operations there so the dead standing timber could be cut before it rotted. As a result of this, many new logging operations shifted from the south shore to the north shore by 1896.

By 1900 there were 13 huge sawmills in Duluth and Superior. Most of their timber was destined to come from northeastern Minnesota.

Around 1909 another logging railroad, the Minnesota & Northern Wisconsin Railway, penetrated the northern part of Duluth Township with its logging spurs. They logged there until 1912 and then abandoned their track. This was just about the last of the big companies and from then on smaller operators or individuals took over.

By 1917 and the start of World War I, most of the big timber was gone from northeastern Minnesota. Scott - Graff Lumber Company, the last of the big sawmills in Duluth, shut down for good in 1925. The emphasis shifted to pulpwood during the 1920's and it has remained the primary commodity ever since.

Looking back over the years it is evident that there was a great diversity in the forest products that came from Duluth Township. These included saw logs for lumber, railroad ties, poles, posts, and pulpwood just to name a few. Many times we feel a sense of sorrow over the loss of some of these important natural resources. On the other hand, these resources helped to build the great nation, in which we live. A nation built with the help of forest products from Duluth Township.

North Shore Community School Update

See pages 7 and 8 for NSCS news and a calendar of events at the school. Note especially Board Chairman Phil Strom's article about **school finances** and their relationship to the Township.

Summary of Town Board Meetings

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

December 10th meeting. Supervisors present: Jeff Cook, Steve Dahl, George Sundstrom, and Corlis West. Minutes and agenda were approved. Treasurer Janet Johansen reported expenses of \$40,111.03, deposits of \$130,498.28 for an ending balance of \$230,944.84.

Department reports were given. Police Chief Padden reported there were numerous false security alarms at the school. Fire Chief Simmons reported a medical call and that an ambulance had been donated to the Department. Steve Dahl reported on the Community Center. The Fire Marshall had not set a return date. Repair items were noted. A motion was made to create a citizen's advisory committee to provide input and assistance in taking care of the Township side of the Community Center. Motion passed. Attorney Tim Strom reported on the school rent agreement. Steve Dahl reported on Town Hall need for a "heat off" phone call device to replace the light in the window. George Sundstrom will summarize the impact of decreased State aid on our Township. Wayne Dahlberg reported that Planning Commission received the review of the proposed zoning ordinance update from the consultants and had a meeting with them to go over their comments page by page and discussed their revisions. A draft will be given to the Planning Commission members for the first time. A public open house on the draft was scheduled. Caroline Marino reported a busy recycling. Donine Dunphy would like to extend Wildwood Road to access their property. Attorney Strom will check into her request. There was no Cemetery report.

There will be a storm water public hearing at 7pm Feb 12th to get citizen comments on the State's required storm water management plan. (See the article on the storm water issue in this Newsletter) With no new business, the meeting was adjourned.

January 8th meeting. All supervisors were present. After the minutes were approved John Abrahams spoke on concerns about ATV usage of the North Shore snowmobile trail. It was suggested that he submit a resolution for the Board to consider. The Army Corps of Engineers notified the Township that the McQuade harbor project will begin in 2004.

The Treasurer reported expenses of \$33,587.11, receipts of \$19,318.83 and an ending balance of \$226,840.74 and recommended changing banking services from Wells Fargo to Lake Bank in Two Harbors.

Department reports were heard. Police calls were noted. There were two medical calls and no fires. Four new members passed fire fighter tests. Gold Cross donated an ambulance which is now our rescue unit. A response has been made to Fire Marshall comments on the school building. A proposal to include Township residents on the NSCS Communication Committee was made. Its purpose would be to discuss information regarding Community Center building and grounds expenditures by both the Township and NSCS.

The Attorney reported that the Township's recorded interest in Wildwood Road extends to the middle of section 33. A motion to purchase a temperature alarm for

the Town Hall was approved. The Zoning Administrator reported that the draft ordinance was distributed to the Town Board and Steering Committee and will be released to the public at the informational open house Jan 13 4:30-9pm. It was moved and agreed to accept a \$3,000 grant from the Duluth-Superior Community foundation to produce a brochure on zoning for our Township residents and hold community-wide forums on zoning topics by December, 2004. Denise Connolly, cemetery sexton, submitted her report and bill. She is in the process of indexing record cards.

George Sundstrom made motions to contact the State Auditor and independent auditors about auditing our books and procedures for 2003. Up to \$5,000 was authorized and he will make arrangements with the appropriate organization. Motion passed. Bills were paid and the meeting adjourned.

February 25th budget meeting. Supervisors Cook, Dahl, Sundstrom, and West were present; Corlis West presided as Vice Chair in Bruce Aho's absence.

The purpose of this special meeting was to hear requests for department budgets for 2005. Each request was discussed in some detail. There were concerns about anticipating increased fuel cost. The impact of reduced State aid to townships stemming from budget cuts at the State level was also discussed. Retroactive cuts in State aid to Duluth Township have been absorbed out of reserve funds without asking for increased taxes.

Most department budgets were kept the same or reduced from their 2004 levels (see the proposed budget for 2005 in *Newsletter insert*). The total budget to be presented at the Annual Town Meeting on March 9th is \$243,374, down some \$22,438 from 2004. Part of the budget is covered by income from fees and grants.

The Next Town Board meetings: (2nd Thursday) Mar. 11th, Apr. 8th, May. 13th at 7:30pm in the Town Hall. Residents are urged to attend these public meetings.

Summary of Planning Commission Meetings (Official minutes are available at the Town Hall)

January 29th meeting. Members present: Chair Sue Lawson, Dave Edblom, Toni Fladmark, Adam Hendrickson, Janet McTavish, Dave Miller. Also present were Secretary Caroline Marino, Zoning Administrator Wayne Dahlberg and an audience of about 65 people. Ann Cox agreed to take minutes on comments at the meeting. David was thanked for his dedication in serving two 3--year terms on the Commission. Two people have applied for this vacancy and informal interviews will be held at the February meeting. Cindy Hale sent a letter stating we may be able to apply for grant funds for an intern to help with a zoning brochure for our Township. It was moved, seconded and passed to research the intern possibility.

The original purpose of this meeting was to review comments received during the comment period. These had been date stamped, read and sorted into categories by Sue and Wayne. A method of reviewing was discussed but a motion was made by Dave Edblom and passed not to make decisions on the document at this meeting. It was noted that a petition addressed to the Town Board has been circulating in the Township.

Audience comments were heard and several people spoke on various aspects of the draft zoning ordinance including the SENSO overlay, impervious surface coverage, storm water runoff, and the McQuade area commercial zone. George Sundstrom suggested that the comment period be extended. A motion was made, seconded and passed to extend the comment period a month until February 26th. More copies of the draft and comments were requested and will be printed and available in the Town Hall. Discussion of comments and decisions about changes will be deferred to the March meeting.

So far this year, 5 building permit requests have been received.

February 26th meeting. All members were present and an audience of some 15 also attended. Minutes were corrected and approved. The agenda was set and Wayne Dahlberg, Zoning Administrator reported that there are increased inquiries for sub-division development in the Township, especially along the shore now that the sewer line is nearing completion.

Dave Edblom's 6 years service on the Planning Commission was recognized with a special plaque of appreciation. His second term ends in March.

Some 29 new comments on the draft zoning ordinance update were received by the extended deadline (Feb 26th) and plans to organize these for use by the Commission were discussed. It was proposed that a spreadsheet be organized to lay out the decision-making steps so the Commission and, later, the Town Board will have information, by issue area raised, on current and proposed ordinances, the rationale for any change, a summary of public comments, and the resolution that is to be worked out. The Commission planned a special working meeting on April 1st at 7:30 to go over the comments.

The scheduled interviews for a person to fill Edblom's position on the Planning Commission were conducted. A set of standard questions was asked of the two volunteers who applied, Kris Giles (Bergquist) and Seth Levanen (McQuade). After each candidate responded, the Commission members voted by ballot. A ballot counting committee from the audience was used and Kris Giles was announced as the person who will be recommended to the Town Board for appointment. Both candidates were thanked for their willingness to volunteer for the position and Seth was encouraged to apply for the next opening.

Mark Bruckelmeyer asked about the potential use of his property (the old Clover Valley School on Homestead Road) as a topsoil processing and storage area for wholesale and retail sale. This usage appears to be within the scope of its current "Light Industrial" zoning designation. That district currently has some specified performance standards (hours of operation, etc.) that would apply. Dave Edblom noted that the Planning Commission needs to address any potential attendance issues as well. Audience concerns were also heard.

Next Planning Commission meetings: (4th Thursday) Mar 25th, a special working meeting on April 1st, Apr 22nd, and May 27th at 7:30pm, Town Hall. Residents are invited to attend these public meetings.

The Duluth Town Annual Meeting

You should attend! The meeting starts at **8:15 pm** on Tuesday, **March 9th** (March 16th if it has to be called because of weather). State regulations set this as the date for all annual township meetings. Residents are asked not to enter the Town Hall until 8:15, after voting ends at 8pm.

Citizens who attend elect a resident (not the Supervisors) to preside at the meeting. Last year Phil Strom served in this capacity. Minutes are read and approved. The budget for 2005 will be discussed and adopted, perhaps with changes.

Results of the Town election are announced and other business of the Township is raised and discussed. The meeting is usually suspended rather than adjourned. This permits a special meeting to be called in August in case there is other business that needs to be conducted by Township residents.

This meeting is good, grass-roots democracy but it depends upon the participation, respect and good ideas of all of our citizens. The Annual Meeting is also a good chance to meet some of your neighbors and to discuss important issues for the good of the Township.

Proposed Township Budget for 2005

The proposed 2005 Duluth Township budget is shown in the table below along with the actual expenditures for 1999-2003 and the budget for 2004 which was approved at our annual Township meeting last year.

The 2005 budget proposal is based on requests developed by our Township departments and reviewed by our Township Board. The total is **down 8.4% from the 2004 budget** approved last year (see Table below). Recycling expenses are covered by a grant from WLSSD. Some costs are covered by fees and grants. According to the State Auditor's Office our Township is below the average per capita expenditures for all townships. In 2001 our per capita expenditure was \$185 compared to \$330 for other St Louis County townships and \$222 for all townships in the State.

Overall, the 2005 average yearly cost per household for Township services (fire, police, road, governance, etc.) is about \$329 or \$27.44 per month, **down** nearly \$2.48 per month from 2004 (more for expensive homes and businesses, lower for less expensive homes and businesses, and lowered by State homestead credits, etc.). Details of the budget will be available at the Annual Township meeting, 8:15pm on March 9th, then we will vote on the proposed 2005 budget.

Comparison of Actual and Proposed Duluth Township Budgets (1)							
<i>Expenditure Area</i>	<i>1999 (actual)</i>	<i>2000 (actual)</i>	<i>2001 (actual)</i>	<i>2002 (actual)</i>	<i>2003 (actual)</i>	<i>2004 (budgeted)</i>	<i>2005 (proposed)</i>
Roads & Bridges(2)	\$85,389	\$59,793	\$110,751	\$85,720	\$63,818	\$50,000	\$50,000
General Township	\$63,019	\$56,151	\$87,883	\$108,877	\$89,439	\$106,413	\$85,430
Fire Department(2)	\$44,878	\$51,740	\$50,520	\$47,875	\$73,907	\$56,428	\$53,970
Police Department(2)	\$31,415	\$38,470	\$26,903	\$33,248	\$58,399	\$36,971	\$37,974
Township Cemetery	\$4,180	\$6,454	\$4,590	\$7,075	\$4,425	\$4,000	\$4,000
Planning & Zoning	\$5,239	\$6,346	\$29,426	\$17,849	\$18,657	\$12,000	\$12,000
Recycling Centers(3)	\$8,056	\$7,966	\$8,880	\$9,269			
5% Contingency Fund(4)							
Total Expenses	\$242,176	\$226,920	\$318,953	\$309,913	\$308,645	\$265,812	\$243,374
<i>Approximate average YEARLY cost per household for all Township services (5)</i>	<i><u>\$327</u></i>	<i><u>\$307</u></i>	<i><u>\$431</u></i>	<i><u>\$419</u></i>	<i><u>\$417</u></i>	<i><u>\$359</u></i>	<i><u>\$329</u></i>

- 1 Note that the **actual** expenditures include expenses that may be partially covered by fees (e.g. permits, etc.), grants (e.g. zoning consultants), escrowed funds (e.g. replacement of the police vehicle). Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar.
- 2 The Township also maintains escrow accounts for Road and Bridge emergencies (\$35,000), and escrow accounts to replace aging fire and police vehicles when that is needed (currently \$5,000 and \$0).
- 3 All Recycling Center costs are covered each year by a grant from WLSSD.
- 4 The contingency fund is for unanticipated expenses, particularly for the first 6 months of each year before County levy funds are available.
- 5 The average annual cost per household uses 740 as the number of households. The Newsletter currently is mailed to 755 households.

Candidates Running for Township Offices

Two candidates have signed up to run for the two Town Board positions. They each have 3-years experience on the Board and both have been active Board members who have taken on a wide range of Township responsibilities. It has been a busy time. Our school was saved and chartered; our Police and Fire Departments have upgraded equipment and are better organized. There are more volunteer fire fighters and first responders. The Township adopted its Comprehensive Plan vision and is working on an updated zoning ordinance. The Township has been successful in getting grants to help offset some expenses. There are also increasing Federal and State requirements that have taken study, time and effort.

Each of the candidates was invited to provide a brief introduction statement for *Newsletter* readers.

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Corlis West

I have worked closely with our volunteer Fire Department to improve our fire ratings so homeowners insurance can be reduced. As Supervisor I represented the Township on the *Duluth Area Township Association* and served on Township committees, and Vice Chair of the Board and support careful use of Township funds.

I grew up in the outskirts of the Twin Cities, my parents still live there and I went to college in Bemidji. One of the things I discovered about myself was that I enjoyed the outdoors and living in a non-congested area. That's why I have chosen to drive the 19 miles into town to work, instead of living in town. Like many of you, I enjoy our Township with its wooded areas, open fields and pastures. And like many of you, that is why I chose to live here.

Some in our Township would like to see more development, housing subdivisions, perhaps a Wal-Mart or a strip mall. They believe that more development would lower taxes. I'm here to tell you that I have seen what development brings, and it isn't lower taxes. What development or the ability to develop brings is an increase in property value, because every chunk of land would then have the potential to have several homes or a business put on it. With more homes, a sewer system and city water must be made available with no choice as to whether you will use it or not. More residents means more crime, so a full time police department will be needed. More people going to work will mean more traffic and will require wider roads and stop lights. If you don't believe me, go look at Hermantown. The same thing happened in the Cities twenty years ago, and their taxes are through the roof.

I believe that our Township has room for new residents, but that our growth should be planned and it shouldn't destroy the very things we love best about it. I

believe that it should remain a good place to live, raise children and do a little farming or enjoy the woods if we want.

If you would like to save our Township from excessive development, please vote for me for Town Board Supervisor March 9th, I will work hard to preserve the things we love best about our Township.

If voters would like to discuss issues concerning the Township or my views, please call me at 525-7719. If I am not home, please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

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Steve Dahl.

My name is Stephen Dahl. Some of you may be familiar with me as I have been one of your Township Supervisors for the past three years. Three years which I feel have seen considerable positive change for our community. Change, which I have been grateful to participate in and help advance.

The most notable is that this community was able to save its school. I'm sure most folks in the Township are aware of the innovative strategy involving the Township purchasing North Shore Community School and then leasing it as a charter school. One of my responsibilities as Township Supervisor has been overseeing the buildings and grounds at North Shore Community School and being the liaison between the two entities. It has been a learning experience for me and one I've certainly enjoyed. I would like to continue working to strengthen the relationship between the Township and our community school.

A second responsibility of mine has been supervision of the Town Hall. I feel strongly that good maintenance is cost effective. Fresh paint, a partition wall to provide a secure office and replacing the old furnace are some of the upgrades that have occurred. Now that we have "caught up" with maintenance needs, I would like to turn my attention to some energy conservation measures. One simple measure that can be taken is replacing the old window shades with energy saving shades.

During my tenure, an updated Comprehensive Land Use Plan was passed unanimously by the Town Board. I felt that the process by which this occurred was open and honest. A broad spectrum of township residents participated on the steering committee. The review of the zoning ordinances is still a work in progress. I believe that residents of the Township have spoken clearly that it is important we maintain the rural character of our community while still allowing for some growth. I have been involved in this process and would like to see it through to its conclusion.

I feel I have been an effective Town Supervisor and I would like to serve another three years on the Town Board. I would appreciate your support in the election March 9th ! If you have any questions please contact me at 525-4679.

DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 0 4

Inside this Issue:

- Proposed 2005 Budget
- Information on Board Candidates
- Annual Town Meeting
- Township **Calendar**
- *Town Board* meetings
- *Planning Commission* meetings
- *Zoning update*
- *Fire and Reserve* news
- *Police Report*
- Community School news
- DNSSD sewer line update
- Early Logging in Duluth Township

Duluth Township Newsletter
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Duluth, MN 55804

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

Duluth Township Information for 2004

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. 12:30-3:30
Thursday 9:00-12:00 and 4:00-7:00

Supervisors:

Bruce Aho 525-4033 or email:
BruceAho@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: Board Chairman, roads, NSCS)

Jeff Cook 525-4010 or email:
JeffCook@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: Planning Commission, DNSSD,
liaison to many area boards and agencies)

Stephen Dahl 525-4679 or email:
SteveDahl@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: Town hall, NSCS)

George Sundstrom 525-5655 or email:
GeorgeSundstrom@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: cemetery, Police, DNSSD, mtgs)

Corlis West 525-7719 or email:
CorlisWest@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: Fire Dept, Storm Water, other
meetings)

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

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

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

Cemetery: **Denise Connolly** 525-7161 or 392-8511
or email: Cemetery@duluthtownship.org

Planning and Zoning Administrator: **Wayne Dahlberg**
728-4293 (office) or email:
WayneDahlberg@duluthtownship.org

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

Planning and Zoning Committee: **Sue Lawson** (chair),
**David Edblom, Toni Fladmark, Cindy Hale, Adam
Hendrickson, Janet McTavish and Dave Miller.**
email: PlanningZoning@duluthtownship.org

Peace Officers: **Chief Shawn Padden,**
Steve Peterson, Tom Wick
email: PoliceOffice@duluthtownship.org

Fire Department: **Chief Jerry Simmons**
Assistant Chief Bill Cox
email: FireHall@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 Recycling Centers

North site – Town Hall, **Bob Abrahamson** staffs the
center Tuesday 2-6pm and Saturday 8-12noon.

South site – McQuade & Scenic Hwy, **Caroline Marino**
staffs the center Tues 7:00-11:00, Thurs 3:00-7:00,
and Sat 8:00-noon. (Phone: 525-4592)

(Leave items only when Recycling Centers are open.)
Note that all sites recycle InkJet cartridges. Proceeds
benefit our NSCS