

Duluth Township Newsletter

September 2026

Township website: www.duluthtownship.gov

What's Coming Up...

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The beautiful floral arrangements outside our Town Hall, taken care of all summer by Stacy LeVres and Mary Tennis. Thank you, Mary and Stacy!

SAVE THE DATE!

October 1-4: Chipper Days

Take advantage of this opportunity to clear balsam trees, reduce the risk of wildfire threatening your property, and avoid the hassle of burning large brush piles. Simply bring your material to us, and we will take care of the disposal.



October 10: Fire Department Harvest Feast

It is not your typical spaghetti dinner! Thanks to the generosity of local growers donating much of the meal (made from locally sourced vegetables and meat), every dish is made with care. And don't forget the desserts—the community brings an incredible variety of homemade pies, bars, cakes, cookies, and other treats that have become a favorite part of the event. Mark your calendars—we look forward to seeing you there!

Homesteaders

Dorothy Aho

September 2, 2026: Wednesday 12:30 pm, Town Hall. Sandwiches, salads, and bars. The famous Two Harbors Ukulele group.

October 7, 2026: Wednesday 12:30 pm, Town Hall. Sandwiches, salads, and bars. Colette Bitz Scheall will lead us with her wonderful exercises for seniors.

November 4, 2026: Wednesday, 12:30 pm, Town Hall. Potluck and turkey bingo.

Everyone is welcome!

*To see color versions of the photos in this Newsletter, visit the Town's website: www.duluthtownship.gov

Thanks to all of the contributors to this issue

Dorothy Aho, Charlene Brown, Nicole Chatterson, Bob Engelson, Mark Haselow, Laura Herzog, Beth Mullan, Ben Nordskog, Carol Surine, and Nellie Torgerson



Fire Department

Bob Engelson, Chief
Nellie Torgerson, Secretary

We recognize **Neil Igo**, who recently retired after an incredible 17 years of service to our community.

For nearly two decades, Neil has given his time and energy to helping others, responding when his community needed him, and being part of the team that makes our fire department stronger. His commitment is a great example of the dedication and selflessness that define the fire service.

Neil, thank you for 17 years of service, sacrifice, and commitment to our community. We congratulate you on your retirement and wish you all the best in this next chapter. You will be dearly missed and always welcome at our firehall.

We have been working on getting another truck ready for wild-fires. It is a brush truck and now has been painted, and most of the equipment has been installed. Clifton Volunteer Fire Department served at the July lightning fires in Ely, MN. We put in over 250 hours of manpower. We are proud to have played a part in supporting those efforts and helping the communities affected by the fires. We know that if a wildfire threatened our own community, we would hope and expect that others would be willing to come alongside us and provide aid.

Fire safety starts at home. Please make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are working properly and have fresh batteries. It is also important to have a family escape plan and practice it regularly. We encourage everyone to take a few minutes to review their home fire safety. Remember: if there is a fire, get out, stay out, and call 911.

If you've ever thought about volunteering, now is the time to give it a try. Your community needs you. We hope you'll join us! We would be happy to talk with you about what is involved. Anyone interested in joining our department is encouraged to contact the Fire Chief: Bob Engelson at (218) 341-0707 or by email at cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com.



Police Department

Mark Haselow, Chief
Paul Johnson, Officer

For medical & police emergencies, call 911.

Sign up for email police alerts and other urgent or informative notifications at the Township website:

www.duluthtownship.gov

Police Events:

Duluth Township Law Enforcement Activity – June & July 2026

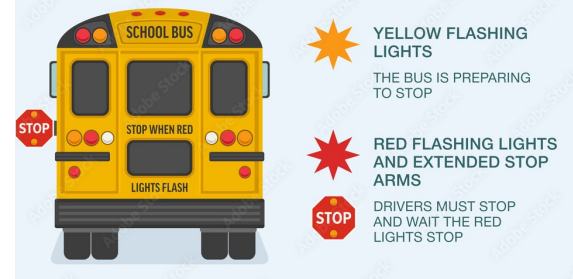
The Duluth Township Police Department responded to a variety of calls and self-initiated activities during June and July 2026. Over the two-month period, officers handled **16 medical emergencies, 14 attempts to locate careless drivers, 12 vacation home/business checks, 10 unknown trouble/911 disconnect calls, 7 traffic-related warnings/citations, 6 car-versus-deer crashes, and 4 animal complaints.** Officers also responded to **4 property damage accidents, 4 check-hazard calls, 4 fire alarms, 4 disturbance complaints, 4 mental health crisis calls, 3 assists to other agencies, 2 personal injury accidents, 2 theft/fraud-related complaints, and 2 damage-to-property complaints.** Additional activity included **health/welfare checks, civil process, suspicious vehicle complaints, neighbor trouble, and other calls for service.** The department continues to provide regular patrol, assistance, and emergency response throughout Duluth Township.

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

duluthtwppolice@lakenet.com.

Note: If you need/want/expect a police squad to respond immediately, call **911**. Other than 911, the quickest way to get a response from the Township Police Department is to leave a message on our squad phone (218-393-8407).

SCHOOL BUS LIGHTS



FREE SMOKE DETECTORS AND FIREWISE ASSESSMENTS

The Red Cross has provided us with more free smoke detectors for our community. **If you lack working smoke alarms in your home or existing ones are out of date, you can sign up for our volunteers to do the installation.** (We do not provide them for the homeowner to install, per Red Cross direction, as there is also an educational component in the visit.)

We are also offering Firewise assessments for Township residents. This will include a site visit with specific recommendations for ways the property can be improved for fire safety and emergency access. You can send us this form to sign up, email us at cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com, or leave a message at (218) 525-9240 with your contact information, including a phone number. We will get back to you to arrange a convenient time. Please check which service(s) you would like.

SMOKE DETECTOR REQUEST

☐

FIREWISE ASSESSMENT

☐

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NO. _____

PREFERRED TIME TO BE CONTACTED: _____

MAIL FORM TO: CLIFTON FIRE DEPT.

6092 HOMESTEAD RD., DULUTH, MN 55804



Planning Commission members: Ken Peterson (Vice-Chair), Justin Osadjan (Chair), Nate Nesgoda, Andrew Aho, and Tony Mancuso. (not pictured, Kit Grayson)



Town Board Supervisors: Saprina Matheny (Vice-Chair), Jim Ward, Angela Wilson, Stacia Grayson, and ArMand Nelson (Chair).

Summary of Planning Commission Meetings

Official minutes by Planning Secretary Beth Mullan are available on our Township website: www.duluthtownship.gov

June 25, 2026 Planning Commission Meeting. Commission members present: Ken Peterson, Tony Mancuso, Nate Nesgoda, Andrew Aho, Kit Grayson, and Megan Gummess. Also present: Liz Strohmayr, Planning Director; Angela Wilson, Town Board liaison to the Planning Commission; ArMand Nelson, Town Board Supervisor; and Beth Mullan, Secretary.

A conditional use application was heard for a farm-based café and 4 room inn by Tony Weston and Seth O'Donovan to be constructed on their property on Ryan Rd. The property is in zone district RR-1. The applicants will be living on the property and farming it in addition to having the proposed café and inn. They plan to source the food for the café from their land and from other local farmers. The café and inn will be in one building. The café will seat up to 35 and will be open to the public Thursday through Monday from 10:30 am to 4 pm. The inn will be 4 rooms and will be open the same days as the café. They will host dinners in the back field of the property up to 6 times per year.

The Commission had concerns about wastewater, but Liz said that no Land Use Permits would be issued until the County approved their waste management system plans.

Two Town residents gave public testimony. One had mixed feelings but generally supported the proposed use. He had concerns about setting a precedent, about the fact that many restaurants had opened and closed in the time he had been here, and about the importance of the Commission making a sound decision with parameters to keep the use compatible with the neighborhood if approved. The second speaker did not oppose the proposed use but had questions about the planned driveway and parking surface, especially considering snow removal, and concerns about increased traffic as he felt traffic was already an issue on the road. The applicants said they had not yet settled on a surface for the driveway and parking areas, but that it would be pervious. They are considering drifting, wind direction, and the clay soil as they look at alternatives.

The Community Participation Report showed that of 46 neighbors notified and contacted, 25 responded in support of the use, 1 responded with concerns about precedent, and 20 neighbors did not respond.

The application was approved with conditions that the applicant will adhere to all of the information provided in the conditional use application; events will be limited to 6 per year with a maximum of 50 guests per event; there will be no amplified sound from 9 pm to 8 am; and no lights will be allowed after 10 pm for outdoor events.

There was a discussion of data centers in the Township. A moratorium on them had been suggested, and the Board wanted the Commission's opinion. One of the problems is that data centers can be a variety of sizes. The Ordinance limits commercial buildings to an aggregate of 10,000 sq ft on a parcel, but someone could apply for a variance or put multiple buildings on separate parcels. There is a trend towards these smaller data centers. Data centers present a risk to first responders and place a high demand on the grid, especially water and electric. The Commission felt that data centers could be addressed in the Ordinance. It was decided to wait to see what the Board wanted to do before proceeding.

On Ordinance updates, the Commission discussed fees and penalties for noncompliance. Liz said the majority of noncompliance is building without a permit or land disturbance without a permit. She tries to be lenient and work with people to bring them into compliance, but there have been times that someone refuses to cooperate and that can cost a lot of time and money. The Commission felt that 4x the fee for an after-the-fact permit was adequate. But they felt like an additional administrative penalty could be added for someone who did not comply within a reasonable period of time. Attorney fees could also be assessed against the property owner. The Commission agreed on an administrative penalty fee of \$5000.

(continued on page 4)

Regular **Planning Commission meetings** are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at **6:30 pm** in the Town Hall

Summary of Town Board Minutes

Official minutes by Town Clerk Nicole Chatterson are available at the Town Hall and on our Township website: www.duluthtownship.gov

Town Board Meeting – June 11, 2026

The Duluth Township Town Board met on June 11, 2026. The Board approved the previous meeting minutes and financial report, with an ending balance of **\$461,552.17**.

The Board discussed several cemetery concerns brought forward by the Nor-din family regarding family burial plots. The Township will continue working with the family to locate owners of nearby unoccupied plots and find a resolution.

Sue Lawson requested a moratorium on data centers to allow additional time to study their potential impacts. The Board agreed to gather additional information and explore the possibility.

The Police Department received a **\$1,500 grant from Cooperative Light & Power** toward upgrading the squad computer. The Fire Department also has approximately **\$3,000 remaining in its Firewise grant**, which will be used for tree removal around the Town Hall.

Road maintenance was discussed, including repairs needed on Torgeson Road and chloride treatment on Greenwood Road. The Board also discussed obtaining additional guidance on road maintenance and emergency road closures.

The Board approved the purchase of a **Troy-Bilt lawn mower for up to \$2,800** and hired **A1 to clean, seal coat, crack fill, and stripe the Town Hall parking lot for \$4,990**. An agreement was also approved with the DNR for a water-level observation well at the Town Hall.

The Township is seeking a **substitute recycling attendant** for the summer. The Board also accepted a cemetery donation from the Estate of John J. Rasmussen.

Valery Brady was approved as the new Cemetery Sexton, with Molly Tillotson assisting with training. The Board will revisit the sexton wage structure in June 2027.

The Board also approved a Joint Powers Agreement with the North Shore Management Board, designating ArMand Nelson as the Township's authorized signatory.

Town Board Meeting – July 9, 2026

The Town Board met July 9 and discussed several Township projects and community matters.

The Board toured property on **McQuade Road** that may be donated to the Township for public green space. Access to the property remains a concern, and the Board will continue discussions.

The **Fire Department** reported 22 calls for the month and recognized **Neil Igo** upon his retirement after 17 years of service. The department currently has three open positions.

The Board continued discussion of a possible **data center moratorium** and scheduled a special meeting for **July 15 at 6:00 p.m.** to review the proposed resolution after legal review by the Minnesota Association of Townships.

Road maintenance continues, with grading underway and chloride treatment planned afterward. The Board is also monitoring a county road treatment experiment for possible future use.

The Township changed **recycling pickup from Fridays to Wednesdays**, which may cause some scheduling and parking challenges at the Town Hall.

Other updates included cemetery maintenance and the creation of a new **Columbarium Project fund**, potential changes to the Township's fuel contract, and work toward establishing new **.gov email addresses**.

The Township's ending financial balance for the month was **\$420,280.10**.

Regular **Town Board meetings** are held on the second Thursday of the month at **6:30 pm** in the Town Hall

Summary of Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

- continued from page 3 -

Language for water-oriented structures was proposed to be changed to allow these structures to be closer to the water. The current Ordinance has conflicting language regarding their placement.

July 23, 2026 Planning Commission Meeting. Commission members present: Justin Osadjan, Ken Peterson, Andrew Aho, Kit Grayson, and Megan Gurness. Also present: Liz Strohmayer, Planning Director; Saprina Matheny, Town Board Supervisor; and Beth Mullan, Secretary.

The Commission considered zoning fees. The fees from other local governments were provided for comparison. Current fees only cover between 40% and 50% of what it actually costs to evaluate and issue permits. The Board supported raising fees. It was proposed that most fees be raised to better reflect administrative costs. Because St. Louis County has moved the inspection and regulatory compliance check responsibilities onto local government for cannabis businesses, it was decided to recommend an annual inspection fee of \$2000 to help cover that.

It was decided to recommend adding the following as not included as impervious surface area under the definition for impervious surface area: green roofs, permeable hard surfaces, permeable pavers, and plastic or concrete grid systems.

The Board passed a resolution imposing a year long moratorium on data centers. They want the Commission to make a recommendation as to whether they fit in the Township or not and to propose language to address them in the Ordinance.

Duluth Township is Hiring– Planning and Zoning Assistant/Secretary

Duluth Township is seeking a Planning and Zoning Assistant/Secretary. The minimum hours required are 5 hours a week, with the opportunity for additional hours up to 15 hours a week. Responsibilities will include preparing for and taking minutes at Planning meetings, reviewing and processing Planning applications, issuing permits, preparing for and assisting with public hearings, creating decision documents for public hearings, maintaining records and files, helping with the Planning portion of the Town website, maintaining the Zoning Ordinance, analyzing Planning data, responding to inquiries from the public, and general assistance to the Planning Director. Qualifications include proficiency in Microsoft Word and Excel, the ability to learn additional programs, personal communication skills, and attention to detail. Resume and cover letter can be mailed to or dropped off at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Rd, Duluth MN 55804 or emailed to townclerk@duluthtownship.org.

French River Lutheran Church seeking Church Organist

Job Overview

We are seeking a dynamic and enthusiastic individual to join our wonderful music and worship team at our church which is situated on the beautiful North Shore of Lake Superior, located within 15 minutes of Duluth. Our liturgy typically comes from the ELW, and our organ is a Viscount Prestige Series with Genesis technology G505-505.

Opportunities may include:

- Assisting and possibly leading the adult choir with rehearsals and scheduled performances (September through May).
 - Providing accompaniment for traditional Sunday services, youth programs, guest musicians, etc.
 - Providing music at weddings and funerals.
- Flexible scheduling, with back-up for time off.

We are excited to receive, and review resumes from creative, qualified candidates who have a passion for varied styles of worship music and would be open and interested in options for additional music leadership roles within our church.

How to apply:

Please submit your resume/CV for review at: FRLC-councilsec@gmail.com (no phone calls please). Competitive compensation, commensurate with experience.

French River Book Club

Carol Surine

For September we have chosen another Book Club in a Bag offering, *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee. You can pick up a copy of the book from the shelf to the right of the upper doors at the church; the bag should be available by the week of 8/24. The next meeting will be September 17 at 7 pm in the Fireside Room of French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Road. Enter at the lower doors. This will be our last evening meeting; in October we will meet at 1 pm. Our hosts will be Sue Garver and Bonnie Smrstick. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Carol Surine at carolsurine@gmail.com or 218-310-8112.

Land Use Permits Are Required in the Township

The building season is here, and Planning & Zoning staff would like to remind anyone considering construction that permits are required in the Township for construction of dwellings, accessory structures, decks, and driveways, and for land disturbance over an area of 5,000 sq ft or more. Permits must be acquired before commencing construction. Failure to secure an approved permit prior to construction will result in a penalty of 4 times the original permit fee. Permit applications can be found on the Town website, www.duluthtownship.gov, or picked up at the Town Hall during business hours. Additional information regarding permits can be found in the Town of Duluth Zoning Ordinance No. 6. Land disturbance information can be found in the Stormwater, Erosion, and Sediment Control Ordinance. Both of these documents are available on the Town website. If you still have questions, please call the Clerk's office at 525-5705 during business hours.



BOOK EXCHANGE UPDATE

"That is part of the beauty of all literature. You discover that your longings are universal longings, that you're not lonely and isolated from anyone. You belong." — F. Scott Fitzgerald

A perk of belonging here in Duluth Township is the pleasure of finding great books for leisure reading. Thanks to community donations, we have many fictional titles available in the Little Free Library located in the community room at our Town Hall. Come in and explore the shelves during Clerk's Office and recycling hours.

Thank you, and happy reading!

Duluth Township is Hiring– Deputy Clerk

Duluth Township is seeking a qualified and motivated individual to serve as Deputy Clerk for approximately 15 hours per week. This is a salaried position with varied responsibilities supporting the daily operations of the Township office and elected officials.

Position Summary:

The Deputy Clerk works under the direction of the Town Clerk and provides administrative, clerical, and public service support. The Deputy Clerk also assumes the duties of the Clerk in their absence.

Primary Duties Include:

- Assisting the Town Clerk with all clerical and administrative duties
- Serving as Acting Clerk when the Clerk is unavailable
- Editing and preparing the Township newsletter for publication
- Managing and maintaining the Township website
- Coordinating and managing the Township Hall rental calendar
- Assisting with election preparation and administration
- Attending monthly Town Board meetings and preparing as needed

How to Apply

Please submit a cover letter and resume to:

Nicole Chatterson, Town Clerk

townclerk@lakenet.com

6092 Homestead Road
Duluth, MN 55804

Application Deadline: October 5, 2026

Duluth Township is an equal opportunity employer.

Qualifications:

- Strong organizational and communication skills
- Computer proficiency, including website and document management
- Ability to work independently and maintain attention to detail
- Prior administrative or municipal experience preferred but not required

Schedule & Compensation:

- Approximately 15 hours per week
- Salaried position (compensation based on experience)
- Requires attendance at monthly Town Board meetings and election-related duties as scheduled

Our Neighbors to the North

Alden Township Board Meeting 6/9/2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Supervisors Helene Hedlund, Evan Sandretsky, and Kelsey Christensen were all present along with Treasurer Meghan Cavallin and Clerk Ben Nordskog. **Approve Minutes:** The minutes from the May meeting were approved. **Finances:** Treasurer Cavallin gave her report. The General Fund had \$49,978.49, the Road Fund had \$108,351.81, the Town Hall Fund had \$7,474.39, the Fire Hall Fund had \$8,550.73, for a grand total of \$174,355.42. The treasurer's report was approved. Bills were presented by, Cavallin, Nordskog, and Sandretsky for a total of \$2,858.40. A motion to pay the bills was approved. **Correspondence:** Nordskog received an email from a resident regarding renting out town hall chairs. Sandretsky received a message from a resident requesting work to a township road. **Committee Reports:** **Town Hall:** A resident has tentatively reserved all summer weekends of the town hall, however, has stated she will let any other rental requests take priority if they occur. One other rental scheduled for June 19th-20th. The town hall kitchen stove repair is underway, the cost is estimated to be around \$1000. **Fire:** None **Roads:** Road tour completed. Two culverts on Maki road are needing repair. Estimate is \$24,940.00 to get them fixed. A motion was passed to have the work completed. **New Business:** Nordskog provided a Local Board of Appeal and Equalization update. Alden township had one appellant this year who received a reduced appraisal. Furthermore Nordskog will update the board on training required in order to re-establish our ability to host the LBAE meetings. Discussion was had on mowing the Township property. For years, resident Brian Pelander took care of this out of kindness. Tragically Brian was killed in a snowstorm last winter. The board approved a \$500.00 check to be donated to his surviving wife Sharon as a thank you and as recognition for the years of hardwork he did for this community. Moving forward, Christensen's son will be paid \$25.00 a time to mow the township property. **Old Business:** Head election judge training will take place on July 16th in Duluth in which Hedlund plans to attend as well as other board members. A motion was made and passed to hold future midterm elections from 10:00am-08:00pm as permitted by St. Louis County. Meeting was adjourned at 7:36PM.

Alden Township Board Meeting 7/14/2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm. Supervisors Helene Hedlund, Evan Sandretsky, and Kelsey Christensen were all present along with Treasurer Meghan Cavallin and Clerk Ben Nordskog. **Approve Minutes:** The minutes from the June meeting were approved. **Finances:** Treasurer Cavallin gave her report. The General Fund had \$48,154.37, the Road Fund had \$106,451.81, the Town Hall Fund had \$6,994.49, the Fire Hall Fund had \$8,487.73, for a grand total of \$170,088.40. The treasurer's report was approved. Bills were presented by, Cavallin, Nordskog, Christensen and Sandretsky for a total of \$5,740.22. Prior Authorized debit card receipts totaled \$707.03 and income generated was \$14.58 this month. A motion to pay the bills was approved. **Correspondence:** Sandretsky received a message from a resident requesting work to a township road. Cavallin received information that Frontier is working on lines and may have some down time. **Committee Reports:** **Town Hall:** Kitchen stovetop replacement has been ordered and will be installed once it arrives. **New Business:** A request was made to have Alden TWP supervisors approve a letter of support asking St. Louis County to reduce the speed limit on Two Harbors Road, App road, Fox farm road to 35mph. Discussion was had and determined more information regarding the specific ask before a decision can be made. Residents will be asked and are encouraged to show up at next month's meeting on August 12th to discuss this issue further and explain Alden Townships role in the matter. The State Primary Election on August 11th conflicts with regular scheduled board meeting, August meeting will be moved to August 12th at 7:00pm. Nordskog explained we are in need of election judges to serve for the upcoming elections. Anyone interested is asked to contact him ASAP. **Old Business:** At last month's meeting we discussed changing the poll open time for elections to be 10:00am however this cannot be implemented until a vote by residents at the annual meeting next spring. Meeting was adjourned at 7:36PM.

Alden Township is in need of election judges! If you are interested in serving in this role, please email Alden Township Clerk Ben Nordskog at Aldentwpclerk@gmail.com or visit the St. Louis County website to sign up!

2026 Fall Chipper Days: Sharing the Responsibility

You Cut and Stack - We'll Chip

This is an opportunity for your neighborhood to reduce risk to its homes by implementing wildfire prevention strategies.

Event Details

Oct. 1- 4, 2026

Woody Debris Drop-Off Option for All Residents:

When: Drop-off can happen: from Thursday through Saturday up to 4 pm

Where: Fire Hall 1 on Ryan Road & Fire Hall 3 on Laine Rd

Pile Guidelines

- Cut and pile your woody debris along the driveway
- Piles must be stacked neatly with ends facing the road
- No limit to the number of piles, please make sure they are not obstructing traffic or under power lines.

What's Acceptable?

- Woody limbs and branches and trees
- Small trees, branches, and limbs (balsam fir, spruce, and brush will be accepted)
- No construction or building materials
- Piles only, no bags allowed
- No trash, weeds, root wads, dirt, rocks, or buckthorn
- No grass clippings or bags of leaves
- No household garbage



Questions? Contact: Clifton Volunteer Fire Department 218-525-5705 cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com



Sponsored by St. Louis County Firewise Program and Duluth Township

Firewise Recording of Volunteer Hours (This counts toward the grant)

Name :

Property address:

Preferred contact information:

Number of hours spent on Firewise Project:

Please return this information to:

Sherry Rovig, Firewise USA coordinator for Duluth and Alden Townships

6092 Homestead Rd., Duluth, MN 55804

Or email : cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com

Subject: Firewise Project Volunteer Hours

Or call 218-525-9240 and leave message

THANK YOU for your participation!



Donate Blood, Get a Cookie, Save a Life!

American Red Cross Blood Drive at French River Lutheran Church

Tuesday, October 13, 2026 – 12 pm to 6 pm
French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Road, Duluth, MN, 55804

We've got another blood drive scheduled and ready for online sign-ups! All members of the Duluth Township community are welcome and encouraged to donate blood at this blood drive hosted by the French River Lutheran Church Outreach Committee. The need seems to be even greater this season--every day, blood donors help patients of all ages here in the Northland: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer. We appreciate your help!

Appointments are encouraged and may be made in one of these ways:

- Going to RedCrossBlood.org and searching in the 55804 zip code for the French River Lutheran Church blood drive. You may need to set up a username and password if you haven't donated before, but that doesn't take long.
- Downloading the Blood Donor App by searching "Red Cross Blood" on the App StoreSM or Google PlayTM store.
- Contacting Beth Luikart (call 218-525-1596, or email her at bluikart@outlook.com).

Red Cross employees have implemented added precautions to ensure blood drives and donation centers are safe for donors and staff. Current COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed.

Further information about the blood donation process can be found online at RedCrossBlood.org. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!



Columbarium Proposal for Palmers Lakeview Cemetery
Informational Meeting
Wednesday, October 21, 2026
6:30 pm
Duluth Township Hall
6092 Homestead Road
Duluth, MN



As you may have heard, Duluth Township is considering the addition of a columbarium at Palmers Lakeview Cemetery. A columbarium is an above-ground granite structure with niches for holding cremation urns. There have been several informational meetings and a recent article in the *North Shore Journal* about this proposal. A summary of the project was in the May and July issues of the *Duluth Township Newsletter*.

The deadline to purchase a columbarium niche at the Early Purchase Discount Price of \$1600 is **October 31, 2026**. After that date, the price of a double niche with two urns and the first engraving will be at least \$2000.

To take advantage of this discount, please complete an application and submit it along with a check for \$1600 made payable to "Duluth Township," with "Columbarium" noted in the memo line on the check. Applications are available at the Duluth Town Hall.

There will be another informational meeting about the project and your options on **Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 6:30 pm**

If you are unable to attend this meeting but would like more information or an individual or group presentation, please contact Jon Luikart at 218-464-2625 or jluikart@outlook.com.



Reminder: Deadline for Early Purchase Discount on a Columbarium Niche is OCTOBER 31, 2026.

Harvest Dinner

Come out and support our
Clifton Volunteer Fire Department
and all our hardworking volunteer firefighters
and medical first responders.



Saturday, October 10, 2026

5-7 pm

Duluth Town Hall

6092 Homestead Road

\$12 Adult, \$6 Child

Children 2-under eat for free

All are welcome!

**2027 Clifton Fire Calendars will be available at the
Harvest Dinner!**

If you can't attend, calendars will be available to pick up at the Town Hall during office and recycling hours.

Spread the word!

What's in the Kitchen?

Nicole Chatterson

Summer is drawing to a close, the kids are getting ready to head back to school, and we are busy enjoying and preserving the bounty from our gardens. We do our best to freeze our produce so we can enjoy a little taste of summer during the long winters we have here in the Northland.

Now that our days are getting shorter, I read somewhere that we won't see another sunset after 8 pm until the end of March! Our nights are getting cooler, making a campfire even more inviting in the evenings.

For our family, Labor Day weekend has become a special tradition. Every year, our family gathers for one last family camp to celebrate a wonderful summer together. All of my cousins and their families, along with my aunts and uncles, join us for a weekend filled with food, laughter, and plenty of time around the campfire.

And, of course, we make enough food to feed a few armies! There are pasta salads, dips, copious amounts of BBQ meats, snacks, fancy s'mores, and plenty of baked goods. There is always an abundance of food, and somehow, we never seem to run out of people willing to eat it!

One special treat I make for every family camp is my grandmother's famous blueberry bars. She swore me to secrecy and made me promise that I would never share her recipe with anyone. Now that she has passed, those blueberry bars have become an especially meaningful tradition for our family. Every Labor Day, everyone looks forward to that special treat, and it is a wonderful way to keep a little piece of her memory alive. If you are lucky, you may even get the opportunity to taste these special bars at an event here in our community—but the recipe remains a family secret!

While the blueberry bars are an old family tradition, this year I'm introducing a new treat to our family camp: S'mores Bars! Some of you in the community may have already tried these, as I have served them at a couple of events. Now, you can make them at home, too! They are relatively quick and easy to prepare and have all the delicious flavors of a campfire s'more without having to wait for the marshmallows to roast.

So, as summer winds down and we prepare for cooler nights, I hope you enjoy this new treat as much as our family does. And who knows—maybe S'mores Bars will become a new Labor Day tradition of their own!

I am always looking for new recipes to test in my kitchen. If you have a recipe you would like to share with the community, email the Town Clerk, townclerk@lakenet.com. Happy cooking!

S'mores Bars!

Ingredients

- 9 graham crackers
- ½ cup melted butter
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 1 ½ cup chocolate chips (I use half regular chips and half mini chips)

Instructions

1. Gather all ingredients. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Line an 8x8-inch square pan with aluminum foil, leaving a 1-inch overhang on sides.
2. Crumble graham crackers in a bag; pour into a bowl. Stir in butter and brown sugar until well mixed. Press graham cracker mixture into bottom of prepared pan to form crust.
3. Bake in the preheated oven until crust is lightly browned and smells toasted, about 7 minutes.
4. Remove the pan from the oven; cover crust evenly with marshmallows. Sprinkle chocolate chips over marshmallows.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until chocolate chips are melted and marshmallows are browned, about 3 minutes.
6. Let s'mores rest in the pan until cool, about 30 minutes. Refrigerate until set, about 45 minutes. Remove from the pan and cut into squares.

Duluth Township is Hiring—Substitute Recycling Attendant

Duluth Township is currently seeking a Substitute Recycling Attendant to provide fill-in coverage as needed at the Township recycling center. This is an on-call position ideal for someone dependable and able to work flexible hours.



For more information, please contact the Town Clerk at **218-525-5705** or townclerk@lakenet.com.

Recycling Reminder:

The Recycling Center hours are:
Tuesday Morning: 7-11 am
Tuesday Afternoon: 3-7 pm
Thursday Afternoon: 3-7 pm
Saturday Morning: 8 am-noon



Hall Rental

The Town Hall is now available for rental. Contact the Clerk's Office to make reservations.

The Community Room is also available for public use during office and recycling hours. The hours are posted on the Town's website: www.duluthtownship.gov and on page 11 of this Newsletter.



CONDO & HOME ADVISORS LLC

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CELL: 218-340-1284
condoandhomeadvisors@gmail.com
condoandhomeadvisors.com

Paid Advertisement

13-year-old girl and her 10-year-old brother are looking for work. They are willing to do most things, from cleaning, babysitting, yard work. Call or text Cortney Sundberg (218) 590-5468.

Two Harbors Area Food Shelf



Our Mission: To reduce hunger and improve the health of those in need.

Serving Lake & St. Louis County residents.

Food Distribution on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 3:45 pm.

Call 218-391-8191 with any questions.

Paid Advertisement

WAGGIN' Tails
Boarding Kennels
Long & short term boarding



Reservations Required
218-525-4842
7002 App Rd.
Two Harbors



SolFed Farm

Support local food production and get to know where your food is grown! Seasonal farm stand. For more information check out our website or follow us on Facebook.

www.solfedfarm.com

solfedfarm@gmail.com

Paid Advertisement

For our Township youth: Advertise for **FREE!** Any youth seeking work or **Township residents** needing help with various jobs suitable for youth (babysitting, lawn and garden maintenance, house cleaning, etc.) can submit an ad by email, by phone, or by dropping it off at the Town Hall to be published in the next edition of the Newsletter. We've had calls looking for workers!

The deadline for the next Newsletter is August 11, 2026. Call 525-5705 or email deputyclerkduluthwp@gmail.com.

Duane Madison

218-525-5645

North Shore Historian-Genealogist
revmadison@lakeconnections.net

All absolute truths have an ambiguous margin of error.



Duluth Township Information 2026

Duluth Town Hall
6092 Homestead Road
Duluth, MN 55804
Phone 218-525-5705
(Voice message)

Email: See note below on using our
Township website.

www.duluthtownship.gov

Town Office Hours: Tues. 9 am-12 pm, Wed. 10 am-4 pm,
Thurs. 9 am-5 pm, Fri. 9 am-12 pm

Planning Office Hours: No posted hours
Call the Town Hall for an appointment: 525-5705

Supervisors: (See website for email contacts).

ArMand Nelson (2026-2029) 612-247-7197 Chair

Primary contact: Materials Management, North Shore
Management Board
Alternate: Cemetery, Planning, Town Hall,
Intergovernmental Relations

Saprina Matheny (2024-2027) 715-296-9429 Vice-Chair

Primary contact: Business Management, Communications,
CC Liaison/NSCS Foundation Board
Alternate: Personnel, Intergovernmental Relations

Stacia Grayson (2022-2025) 612-239-2292 or 525-5705

Primary contact: Cemetery, Town Hall
Alternate: Arts & Heritage, Communication, Materials Management,
Intergovernmental Relations

Jim Ward (2022-2025) 218-260-5689

Primary contact: Roads/Invasive Weeds, Public Safety, Arts &
Heritage
Alternate: CC Liaison/NSCS Foundation Board, North Shore
Management Board, Intergovernmental Relations

Angela Wilson (2026-2029) 218-216-9098

Primary contact: Planning and Personnel
Alternate: Business Management, Public Safety, and
Intergovernmental Relations

<u>Town Clerk:</u>	Nicole Chatterson	525-5705 (Town Hall)
<u>Deputy Clerk:</u>	Hannah Jurek	525-5705 (Town Hall)
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mel Peulen	525-5705 (Town Hall)
<u>Attorney:</u>	Scott Witty	722-4766 (Office)
<u>Cemetery Sexton:</u>	Molly Tillotson	218-626-7005
<u>Planning Director:</u>	Liz Strohmayer	525-5705 (Message)
<u>Planning Secretary:</u>	Laura Herzog & Beth Mullen	525-5705 (Message)

Planning Commission: Justin Osadjan, Tony Mancuso, Nathan Nesgoda,
Ken Peterson, Andrew Aho, Kit Grayson, Megan Gumness

Peace Officers: Chief Mark Haselow, Officer Paul Johnson

Emergencies 911, Messages 525-5705 or 218-393-8407

Clifton Volunteer Fire/EMS Department: Chief Bob Engelson,

Assistant Chief Mark Herman, President Ken Peterson,
Secretary Nellie Torgerson
Email: cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com

Emergency Operations Department: ArMand Nelson

Burning Permits are available online at: mndnr.gov/permits or at
the Clerk's Office at Town Hall (office hours), or from **Fire Wardens:**
Jeff & Carolyn Marino (525-6431) or **DNR Two Harbors**, 568 Hwy 2
(834-1418)

Website Manager: Hannah Jurek 525-5705 (Town Hall)

Community Center Rental Coordinator: Jim Salls 600-9015

Township Historian: Duane Madison

To Email Township Officials and Departments

See Township website, www.duluthtownship.gov/contacts for a dropdown list of personnel and departments you can use to send emails. Note that copies of all emails go to the Town Hall for Township records. If the person does not have email access, your communication is sent to the Town Hall to be picked up. Department information is also on our website.

Township Recycling Center

Carolyn Marino

November-March: Tues. 7-11 am & 2-6 pm

Thurs. 2-6 pm

Sat. 8 am-noon

April-October: Tues. 7-11 am & 3-7 pm

Thurs. 3-7 pm, Sat. 8 am-noon

Located at the Town Hall, on Homestead Road

Household plastic bags accepted in ORANGE bin ONLY.

**Please do not put black plastic bags, tarps, or plastic feed bags
in the plastic bag recycle bin.**

Aluminum cans should be recycled with plastics/metal cans. Curbside
recycling pickup service is available south of the freeway.

Surveillance cameras have been installed around the Town Hall because
of vandalism and dumping of household garbage.



Township Calendar

See calendar updates on www.duluthtownship.gov

Our Official Calendar is posted at the Town Hall

September 2026

September 1: Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm; Fire Business Meeting 7 pm

September 2: Homesteaders 12:30 pm

September 3: Recycling 3-7 pm

September 5: Recycling 8 am-noon

September 8: Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm

September 10: Recycling 3-7 pm; Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm

September 12: Recycling 8 am-noon

September 15: Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm; Fire Training Meeting 7 pm

September 16: D/NSSD Volunteer Board Meeting at French River Lutheran Church
7 am

September 17: Recycling 3-7 pm

September 19: Recycling 8 am-noon

September 22: Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm

September 24: Recycling 3-7 pm; Planning Commission meeting 6:30 pm

September 26: Recycling 8 am-noon

September 29: Recycling 3-7 pm

October 2026

October 1: Recycling 3-7 pm

October 3: Recycling 8 am-noon

October 6: Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm; Fire Business Meeting 7 pm

October 7: Homesteaders 12:30 pm

October 8: Recycling 3-7 pm; Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm

October 10: Recycling 8 am-noon; Harvest Dinner 5-7 pm

October 13: Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm; Fire Training Meeting 7 pm

October 14: D/NSSD Volunteer Board Meeting at French River Lutheran Church
7 am

October 15: Recycling 3-7 pm

October 17: Recycling 8 am-noon

October 20: Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm

October 21: Columbarium Informational Meeting 6:30 pm

October 22: Recycling 3-7 pm; Planning Commission meeting 6:30 pm

October 24: Recycling 8 am-noon

October 27: Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm

October 29: Recycling 3-7 pm

October 31: Recycling 8 am-noon

DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

September 2026

1096 Newsletters are mailed to Duluth Township homes, businesses, and on request. Copies are available at the Town Hall. Please send comments and suggestions to Newsletter editor, Hannah Jurek, at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth MN 55804, or use the white mailbox at the Town Hall or email on the website. Our *Newsletter* is printed and mailed locally by ProPrint.

Inside This Issue

- **Homesteaders**
- **Police Report**
- **Calendar**

Duluth Township Newsletter
6092 Homestead Road
Duluth, MN 55804

For a color version of this Newsletter, visit the Township website: www.duluthtownship.gov



If your name or address is in error or you know of someone who is not receiving a Newsletter, please send a note to the Newsletter editor by using the contact list on our website (www.duluthtownship.gov). Extra copies are also available in the Town Hall.

Town Services

Please check the website for any developments, updates, or changes to Town services.

Town Clerk's Office: Open to the public during regular office hours. If you would like, you can conduct your business via email, phone, U.S. mail, or the drop box under the public posting at the Town Hall entrance.

Town Board Meetings: Open to the public.

Planning and Zoning Department:

Land Use and other Permits: Submit applications and fees for Land Use Permits to the Town via email, U.S. mail, at the Clerk's Office during office hours, or in the drop box under the public posting board at the Town Hall entrance. On-site review for Land Use Permits will be conducted by the Planning Director.

Variances and Conditional Use Permits: Submit applications and fees for permits to the Town via email, U.S. mail, at the Clerk's Office during office hours, or put them in the drop box under the public posting at the Town Hall entrance. Hearings for the permits are open to the public, following state guidelines. Submit comments regarding applications to the Town via email or U.S. mail.

Questions for the Planning Director: Contact the Town Clerk.

Police Department: For emergencies call 911.

Fire Department or Emergency Medical Responders: Call 911.

Town Roads: See contact on Town website.

Recycling: Open during regular hours (posted on the Township website www.duluthtownship.gov).

Town Hall Community Room: Open to the public during office and recycling hours.

Town Hall Rentals: Contact Clerk's Office to reserve Town Hall facilities.

Palmer's Lakeview Cemetery: Contact Molly Tillotson, Cemetery Sexton, at 218-626-7005, or the Town Clerk for more information.

