

Town of Duluth

Town Board Meeting January 8, 2026

Call to Order: The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:31 p.m. Supervisors Rolf Carlson, ArMand Nelson, Stacia Grayson, Saprina Matheny, and Jim Ward were present. Police Chief Mark Haselow and Fire Chief Bob Engelson were present. Planning Director Liz Strohmayer, and Deputy Clerk Hannah Jurek were also present.

Approve Minutes: ArMand moved to approve the December regular meeting minutes. Jim seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Agenda: Items were added to the agenda, election judges and a personal matter under personal, solar update under own hall, and MS4 and annual MAT meeting under supervisors report.

Finances: Treasurer Melinda Peulen provided a report with a beginning balance of \$580,854.96, deposits of \$183,015.10, expenses totaling \$49,489.69, resulting in an ending balance of \$714,380.37. ArMand moved to approve the financial statement and payroll. Saprina seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The payroll net pay account distributions and the claims list for approval were approved and signed.

Public Comment: Resident Jon Luikart was in attendance, following up on past discussions regarding a columbarium for the cemetery. He had new numbers, but wants to know if the interest is still there. The Board informed Mr. Luikart, that they will discuss this at the budget meeting in February, and if he could get the new numbers to Nicole by February 1. Mr. Luikart will work on those numbers and send them Nicole's way.

Department Reports

Police: Quiet in the Township. ArMand asked if the numbers on the monthly report the supervisors are given include Sheriff calls were included in the count, they do.

Fire: No news on FEMA grant. 151 calls in 2025, 7% was in Alden Township.

Planning and Zoning: Judge reverse their decision on Zucher. There are a lot folks building without permits. There is a variance hearing at the end of January regarding the property next to Tom's Logging Camp. Ordinance updates have stalled out for now.

Legal: Nothing to report

Roads: All is quite.

Town Hall: Solar update: the contract has been signed. No update for when work will start at time of meeting.

Materials Management: All good.

Cemetery: All quiet

Communications: January newsletter hitting mailboxes end of week.

Emergency Management: Meeting next month.

Supervisor Report: MS4: Meetings regarding MS4 have been put on hold. But will still use the firm to help with current language in the ordinance regarding stormwater. MAT annual meeting was educational. They discussed paid leave which ArMand gave information about that to Nicole. They did a rural living study. And discussions regarding that. The conference will have a new location next year. The event will be held in Nisswa at the Grandview Lodge. The North Shore Community School is hosting its Candlelight Ski fundraiser February 6, 2026 from 6-8 pm.

Personnel: A resident reaching out to ArMand, Liz, and Saprina regarding the conduct of a Planning and Zoning Commission Member. It was advised by lawyers to have a separate meeting with a closed part of the meeting to discuss the how to move forward to reprimand. That meeting has been set for January 14, 2026 at 6:30 pm.

The Board was given a list of elections judges and were ask to approve the list, a motion was made by ArMand to approve Resolution 01082026 appointing election judges, seconded by Stacia. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: NO old business.

New Business: No new business

Correspondence

- Letter from St. Louis County
- Letter from State of MN Pollution Control Agency regarding MS4 no more
- Gnesen Township Newsletter
- Card from Hanft Fride
- Canosia Township Newsletter
- CLP Newsletter

Calendar Events and Meeting Schedule

- Wednesday, December 30, 2025- 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Candidate Filing Period
- Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Morning Office hours closed. Office hours will be from 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
- January 14-15, 2026, Candidate Withdrawal Period
- Annual Budget Meeting: **February 11, 2026 6:30pm** Budgets are due Feb 1 Nicole will have the budgets to the department heads by the middle of January.
- February 8, 2026- March 9, 2026, Absentee Voting
- February 12, 2025, 6:00 p.m. Board of Audit Meeting
- February 12, 2026, 6:30 p.m. Town Board Meeting
- March 10, 2026, Township Elections 7:00 a.m.-8 :00 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. Annual Meeting
- Tuesday, March 17, 2026, Bad weather date for Township Elections and Annual Meeting, times will be the same.
- Thursday, March 12, 2026, 6:00 p.m. Board of Canvass
- Thursday, March 12, 2026, 6:30 p.m. Town Board Meeting

Adjournment: Stacia moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m. Jim seconded. The motion passed unanimously.