

Town of Duluth

Town Board Meeting July 9, 2026

Special Meeting – 5356 McQuade Road

The Special Meeting at 5356 McQuade Road was called to order at 5:23 p.m. Supervisors ArMand Nelson, Saprina Matheny, Stacia Grayson, and Jim Ward were present. Clerk Nicole Chatterson and resident Wayne Dahlberg were also present.

Wayne explained the history of the property and how his family came to the decision to consider donating the land to the Township for use as public green space. Following his explanation, the Supervisors, Clerk, and Wayne walked the property using the existing trails to view the land and better understand what the Township would acquire if the donation were accepted.

The Special Meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m. The Supervisors and Clerk then returned to Town Hall to continue the Regular Town Board Meeting.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order: The regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:32 p.m. Supervisors Angela Wilson, ArMand Nelson, Saprina Matheny, Stacia Grayson and Jim Ward were present. Police Chief Mark Haselow and Fire Chief Bob Engelson and Ken Peterson were present. Deputy Clerk Hannah Jurek and Clerk Nicole Chatterson were also present. Planning Director Liz Strohmayer arrived late.

Approve Minutes: Jim moved to approve the Regular Town Board Meeting from June 11, 2026. Stacia seconded. The motion passed. Saprina abstained.

Approve Agenda: Add old business property donation

Finances: The Treasurer provided a report with a Beginning Balance of \$461,552.17, with Deposits of \$31,964.92, and Expenses of \$73,236.99, for an Ending Balance of \$420,280.10. **Motion:** Saprina moved to approve the financial statement and payroll. Angela seconded. The motion unanimously passed. The payroll net pay account distributions and the claims list for approval were approved and signed.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Department Reports

Police: Nothing to report

Fire: The Department had a busy month, with 22 total calls, including 17 medical calls, 7 fire calls, and 3 deaths. T & T Timber completed the cleanup behind the Town Hall. Ken has been working diligently on the new brush truck, which is currently being painted. All necessary parts have been received. The Department also had one retirement. Neil Igo retired after 17 years of service. The Town Board thanked Neil for his many years of dedicated service to the community. The Fire Department currently has at least three open positions.

Planning and Zoning: A public hearing was held for a Conditional Use Permit, which was approved by the Planning Commission. Liz reported that there are individuals who have previously caused the Town to incur significant legal fees and are now building again. Liz will be addressing the property.

Liz also reported that the Planning Commission believes the data center issue can be addressed through the Commission as part of an update to the Township's ordinance and that a moratorium may not be necessary. The Commission will research the issue, determine what regulations may be appropriate, and make recommendations for inclusion in the ordinance.

Moratorium on Data Centers – Resolution 07092026: The Board discussed the proposed moratorium resolution and agreed to meet again after the Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) legal team has reviewed the resolution.

Motion: Angela moved to set a Special Meeting for July 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss Resolution 07092026. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Legal: Nothing additional to report.

Roads: Bob is currently out grading the roads. The Township will have the chloride delivered once the grading has been completed. St. Louis County recently applied a hardening agent treatment to Fox Farm Road as an experiment. Jim will monitor the condition of the road to determine whether this treatment may be a viable option for some of the Township's more heavily traveled roads in the future. The Clerk will publish a notice for the Winter Snow Removal Contract Review. The Board will review the submitted bids at the September meeting.

Town Hall: Superior Fuel reached out to the Township and provided a quote for fuel service. Stacia and Nicole will follow up with Como to determine whether Como will match the quoted price.

Motion: Angela moved to authorize Stacia to accept the offer from Superior Fuel if she determines that the proposal is more favorable than the Township's current contract with Como. Stacia is authorized to enter into a contract for a term of up to five years. Saprina seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Materials Management: There has been a significant amount of plastic film accumulating. The recycling pickup day has been changed from Fridays to Wednesdays. This may create challenges on the first Wednesday of each month due to the Homesteaders, who fill the parking lot. Wednesdays in July also have events scheduled at the Town Hall, which may further complicate recycling pickup.

Cemetery: The Township received a thank-you card from Terrance Jobin, whose wife was recently buried in the Township cemetery. Mr. Jobin expressed his appreciation to Molly and the Clerk's Office for their assistance, noting that he is from out of state. There has been additional interest in green burials. Several monuments also need to be raised, and brush is beginning to overtake one side of the cemetery. Molly will address these issues and arrange for Gruff's to complete the necessary cleanup.

Motion: Saprina moved to create a new CTAS fund, "406 Columbarium Project," to track deposits made toward the project. Angela seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Communications: AnySite is working on creating the .gov email addresses for the Township.

Personnel: Nothing to report

Old Business: The Board's primary concern regarding the potential property donation is access to the property, as the proximity to a stream may make access difficult. Liz will look into the access requirements and options. ArMand has a call scheduled with Scott Witty for next week to follow up on the property donation. The Board will continue the discussion at next month's meeting. State Demographic Center: The Township received a correction letter from the State Demographic Center regarding the annual population and household estimates. The letter received last month listed the incorrect year.

New Business: Nothing new to report.

Correspondence

- Gnesen Township Newsletter
- TC Energy
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- CLP Powerlines

Calendar Events and Meeting Schedule

- Wednesday, July 15, 2026, Special meeting
- Thursday, July 16, 2026, Office Closed for election judge training
- Wednesday, July 22, 2026, Election Judge Training
- Wednesday, July 29, 2026, 10:30 a.m. Public Accuracy Test
- Saturday, August 8, 2026, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Come on Home Party
- Tuesday, August 11, 2026, 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Minnesota Primary Election
- Tuesday, August 11, 2026, Clerk's Office closed for Elections
- Thursday, August 13, 2026, 6:30 p.m. Town Board Meeting

Adjournment: Motion: Angelea moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. Jim seconded. The motion passed unanimously.