Gnesen Town Office and
Gnesen Community Center
6356 Howard Gnesen Rd
Duluth, MN 55803
721-3158
Office Hours:
Mon & Wed - 7:00-3:00pm

Upcoming Dates to Note:

- April 13th 7:00pm Town Board Mtg.
- April 15th 7:00pm P&Z Mtg.
- April 27th 7:00pm Town Board Mtg.
- April 28th 10:00am Board of Appeals

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Gnesen News

Gnesen Website http://gnesen.org **April 2026 Newsletter**

TOWN OF GNESEN
IMPORTANT INFORMATION
REGARDING ASSESSMENT and CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY.

This may affect your 2027 property taxes.

Notice is hereby given that The Board of Appeal & Equalization of the Town of Gnesen shall meet at the Gnesen Community Center-6356 Howard Gnesen Road on April 28, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and to determine whether corrections need to be made.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the local board of appeal and equalization. The board shall review the valuation, classification, or both if necessary, and shall correct it as needed. Generally, an appearance before your local board of appeal and equalization is required by law before an appeal can be taken to your county board of appeal and equalization.

Sarah Blix, Clerk
Town of Gnesen

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

February 9, 2026

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, February 9, 2026. The following officers were present:

Jon Nelson	Chair
Gary Juten	Supervisor
Nancy Poppenberg	Supervisor
Sarah Blix	Clerk
Mary Bjorklund	Treasurer
Sara Rowe	Deputy Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Nelson. Board Members and residents stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. A motion to approve the agenda was moved by Chair Nelson, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor.

The minutes of the January 26, 2026 Town Board meeting minutes were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Poppenberg, seconded by Chair Nelson.

Treasurer's report:

Balance for December 2025	$184,927.65
Receipts for January 2026	+$7,813.36
	$192,741.01
Disbursements for January 2026	-$17,937.04
Balance for January 2026	$174,803.97

There were four outstanding checks for the month. Motion by Supervisor Juten, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg to accept the Treasurer's report. All vote in favor.

DISCUSSION: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Hemlock Drive Issue – No new updates.

MATIT – There was discussion on building values as they were presented by the insurance company and whether the Supervisors wanted to lower the replacement costs on certain buildings. At the old town hall location, it was decided to value the small leased garage at $10,000, the big grader garage at $147,848 and the old town hall at $176,531. For the community center location, the garage will be valued at $100,000 and the community center at $1,616.663.

NEW BUSINESS:

Road Report – Darin reported that the majority of the roads are in good condition. The gates on Church Road have been opened for the winter since there were complaints about the rocks that were placed on each side of the gates are blocking residents from getting around the gates. Sarah said she had sent a letter to the landowner and did get a response back stating that they will have the rocks removed by May 1, 2026.

Gnesen Community Center Report – Sarah said she has been busy with rentals. The membership letter was sent out in the February newsletter.

Schedule Reorganization Meeting – The Reorganization Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2026 at 6pm.

Quotes for Salting Equipment – Kevin reported that an inbox unit would cost around $7000.00. Chair Nelson

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said there was discussion at the Board of Audit Meeting that was held earlier tonight about purchasing a larger plow truck. The decision was to wait on purchasing salting equipment until the township decides if they are purchasing a larger truck or not. More information on this will be brought to the February 23, 2026 TB meeting.

ZONING SUPERVISOR REPORT – Supervisor Poppenberg said the P&Z training that was scheduled for February 6, 2026 was postponed but will be rescheduled. Carter said a subcommittee has been created to work on the ordinance and will be going through it paragraph by paragraph.

ZONING REPORT: Nothing new to add from either zoning officer.

CORRESPONDENCE:
St. Louis County – Public sale of tax forfeited land on Schultz Lake Road – This is a non-conforming 2-acre lot on Locust Road. The parcel is described as mostly wetland and is also land locked.
St. Louis County – New Release: Updates to Hazard Mitigation Plan – The County is looking for public input on their hazard mitigation plan. Sarah will put this information in the March newsletter.
Dave and Marcella Stewart STR – Email from attorney – Chair Nelson asked both Supervisor Juten and Supervisor Poppenberg if they were ok with him bringing this to the township attorney. Both Supervisors agreed that Chair Nelson should share the correspondence with our attorney.

Disbursement #16908 through #16936 and 4 EFTs were read, approved, and signed for payment for a total of $14,861.45 with a motion by Supervisor Juten, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor of paying the disbursements.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:29pm with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Juten. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting is taped for transcribing purposes only.)

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Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

February 23, 2026

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, February 23, 2026. The following officers were present:

Jon Nelson	Chair
Gary Juten	Supervisor
Nancy Poppenberg	Supervisor
Sarah Blix	Clerk
Sara Rowe	Deputy Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Nelson.

Motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Stewart STR was made by Chair Nelson, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor.

Minutes of the February 9, 2026 Board of Audit Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Juten, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg

Minutes of the February 9, 2026 Town Board Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by

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(Continued from page 3)

Supervisor Juten, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg.

DISCUSSION: None

OLD BUSINESS:
Hemlock Drive Issue – No new updates.
MATIT – After reviewing the new premiums and the agreed upon building values and then comparing them with both $250.00 and $1000.00 deductibles, Supervisor Juten said he would like to sit down with office staff to figure out why there is less than a $300.00 difference when the deductible is at $250.00 vs. $1,000.00.
P&Z Training – This has been rescheduled for Friday, April 10, 2026 at 1pm. Chair Nelson reported that our attorney Andrew Tiede said he would be willing to provide a free training for planning and zoning.
Stewart STR – Chair Nelson said that after the attorney reviewed our STR ordinance he recommended that we approve the Stewarts STR application as our ordinance does not clearly state the rational for requiring a compliant septic. Chair Nelson said that since the septic is non-conforming that we need to clarify with St. Louis County what they would recommend as an occupancy limit and that upon renewal of the application the Stewarts would also be required to install a fully compliant septic system. Chair Nelson made a motion to approve the attorney's recommendation and approve the Stewarts STR application after verifying with St. Louis County what the recommended occupancy should be capped at and that upon renewal the Stewarts must have a fully compliant system installed, seconded by Supervisor Juten. Two in favor, one abstaining. The attorney's recommendation will be sent to the Planning Commission for review so that they can reword the STR ordinance section regarding septic requirements and provide a recommendation back to the Town Board.

NEW BUSINESS:
Levy Discussion – Kevin provided a quote for replacing 22 windows at the community center. Both quotes included all material and labor. The quote for Andersen windows was $36,118.48 and Walsh windows were $29,426.16. Supervisor Juten discussed the price for purchasing a new plow truck and salting equipment and said that for $20,000.00 to $40,000.00 the township should be able to purchase the new equipment. After some discussion Supervisor Juten made a motion to propose raising the levy to $75,000.00 for the year 2027 which would increase the capital improvement fund from $6,000.00 to $81,000.00 for replacing plowing/road equipment and replacing windows at the GCC, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg. All in favor.

P&Z BOARD SUPERVISORS REPORT: The February meeting was cancelled due to weather, so Supervisor Poppenberg had nothing to report.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT: Rick said he was contacted about an old helipad located on Minnesota Power land in Fredenberg Township that may be reopened. Rick said this is just informational and he was contacted because if the helipad is reopened it could cause increased traffic along Boulder Dam Road. Mike said he is working on completing second visits.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

No further business. A motion was made by Chair Nelson to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg. No objections, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm. (This meeting was taped for transcribing purposes only.)

TOWN OF GNESEN-BOARD OF AUDIT MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2026

The Board of Audit Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Gnesen Community Center/Town Hall by Jon Nelson, Chair of the Gnesen Town Board. This meeting is to propose the levy and budget for the Town of Gnesen for the year 2027. The proposed levy will be presented and voted on at the March 10, 2026 Town of Gnesen Annual Meeting.

Persons present:

Jon Nelson	Gnesen Town Board-Chair
Gary Juten	Gnesen Town Board-Supervisor
Nancy Poppenberg	Gnesen Town Board-Supervisor
Sarah Blix	Gnesen Town Board-Clerk/GCC Building Manager
Mary Bjorklund	Gnesen Town Board-Treasurer
Darin Franckowiak/Kevin Fredickson	Gnesen Road Personnel
Kevin Fredrickson/Darin Fredrickson	GVFD Personnel
Visitors	None

The Board of Audit met and studied the receipts and disbursements for 2025, the budget/levy for 2026 and the

proposed budget/levy for 2027.

There was discussion about foreseeable future expenses. Supervisor Juten talked about the need to upgrade the plow truck with a larger truck. Supervisor Juten said that there are municipality auctions that auction off trucks so that would be an option. There was also talk about purchasing salting/sanding equipment. Sarah mentioned replacing the windows in the community center and doing some maintenance on the facia and soffits.

After careful consideration and study regarding each budget/levy item and future expenses and estimated future income of the Township, the Board proposed the following budget/levy:

GENERAL FUND-Total Levy for 2025 was $104,000.00; beginning balance was $56,902.79; actual expenses paid in 2025 were $334,766.68 of which the expenses for the Planning & Zoning, Community Center, Fire Department and Town Hall were included. Levy for 2026 is $104,000.00. The proposed levy for 2027 is $104,000.00 plus $66,000.00 budgeted for the Fire Department Contract for fire services, totaling $170,000.00. Revenue for the General Fund for 2025 is $358,972.04 which includes the taxes, liquor licenses, building permits/variance/conditional use permits/additional fees, community center rentals/deposits/security, newspaper ads, interest, GCC membership/donations/ private donations. Ending balance for the General Fund was $122,389.90.

ROAD FUND-Total Levy for 2025 was $100,000.00; beginning balance was $1,750.43; actual expenses paid in 2025 were $66,150.03 which includes: culverts, snowplowing, gravel, chloride, tree removal, etc. Levy for 2026 is $100,000.00. The proposed levy for 2027 is $100,000.00. Revenue for the Road Fund was $119,180.70. Ending balance for the Road Fund was $54,781.10.

CAPITAL PROJECT FUND-Total Levy for 2025 was $6,000.00; beginning balance was $31,719.29 actual expenses paid out in 2025 were $101,159.13 which included the bond principal and interest. Levy for 2026 is $6,000.00. Proposed levy for 2027 is $6,000.00. Revenue for the Capital Projects Fund is $77,196.49. Ending balance for the Capital Project Fund $7,756.65.

Total Balance for all funds $184,927.65. Bond will be paid off in 2029.
Chair Nelson stated that the total proposed levy for 2027 would be $344,000.00, which is the same as 2026. This proposed levy will be discussed and voted upon at the Annual Meeting to be held on March 10, 2026.
The Board increased the pay rate schedule for the year 2027 by 3% and all meeting rates except for the all-day meeting, the Supervisor's and the Planning Commission's meetings increased by $5.00/meeting.

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PAY RATE SCHEDULE	2026	2027
Board Chair	$80.00 per mtg.	$80.00 per mtg.
Supervisor	$75.00 per mtg.	$75.00 per mtg.
Clerk	$95.00 per mtg.	$100.00 per mtg.
Deputy Clerk	$23.89 hourly	$24.60 hourly
Treasurer	$90.00 per mtg.	$100.00 per mtg.
Labor and Clerical	$25.20 per hour	$25.95 hourly
Road Labor	$24.24 per hour	$24.96 hourly
Grader Operator and Brusher Operator	$30.74 per hour	$31.66 hourly
Mileage	Fed. Rate	Fed. Rate
Planning and Zoning Inspector	$25.20 per hour plus mileage	$25.95 per hour plus mileage
All day meetings (If the meeting is out of town, then it would be hourly because of time spent travelling.)	$125.00 per meeting in town	$125.00 per meeting in town
Janitor for GCC/general cleaning/maintenance	$22.19 hourly	$22.85 hourly
Building Manager	$300.00 monthly+	$375.00 monthly+
P&Z Secretary	$95.00 per mtg.	$100.00 per mtg.
GCC Newspaper Editor	In House	In House
Election judges	$15.87 hourly	$16.34 hourly
P&Z Chair	$60.00 per meeting	$60.00 per meeting
P&Z Board Member	$40.00 per meeting	$40.00 per meeting

Rates listed are for current employees. New employees pay rates will be determined on an individual basis. We will take into consideration their level of training in their position and other qualifications to determine their starting pay.

Motion by Chair Nelson, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg, all in favor, to pay the annual dues to the Minnesota Association of Townships and Duluth Area Townships for 2026.

Motion by Supervisor Juten, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg, all in favor, to pay expenses of Town Officers to attend meetings relating to Town business-including meeting of Town Association.

The ledger books of the Treasurer showing receipts and disbursements for 2025 as well as bank balances were checked over and signed by Chair Nelson, Supervisor Juten, and Supervisor Poppenberg. All three Supervisors took part in pulling four random receipts and four random disbursements to verify the accuracy of each.

No further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m. on a motion by Chair Nelson and seconded by Supervisor Juten. No objections. Meeting adjourned.

Do North Pizzeria Sportsmen's Edition

Happy Easter!

We will be closed Sunday, April 5th

Skillet of the Month - Gyro Skillet

Pizza of the Month - Chicken Carbonara

Watch our Facebook Page for other upcoming events this month!

SEE YOU SOON

4101 Normanna Rd 218-721-3568

Now Hiring For All Positions - Apply Online at: sportysinn.com

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Driveways, Trails & Dirt Work

218-260-5787

Waters of Life LUTHERAN CHURCH

Easter Services

Sunday, April 5 at 10:00am

Join Us for Easter Breakfast

8:30 - 930am

Everyone is Welcome!

Waters of Life Lutheran Church

218-721-4476 | 6221 Rice Lake Rd. Duluth, MN 55803

Open Walking at the Gnesen Community Center

Want a safe, warm place to get some steps in this winter? Come walk laps in our gym during our open walking time.

Mondays - noon - 3pm
Wednesdays - 2 - 3pm

Please wear clean, dry shoes.

Want to know what is going to be discussed at the Town Board and P&Z Meetings?

Go to Gnesen.org and look under both Town Board and Planning & Zoning Public Notices for links to agendas for the upcoming meetings.

Please note that these agendas are tentative and are subject to change.

Please see our website for a complete list of approved short term rentals and contact information.

NOTICE

In an attempt to reduce printing costs we are asking that if you currently receive the newsletter by mail and are willing to switch to email please email the clerk at clerk@gnesen.org

Please make sure to include your name, address that you currently are receiving the printed newsletter at, and then an email address that you would like to receive the newsletter at in your email.

Thank you!

NOTICE:

If you are experiencing issues with smells relating to Ulland Brother's hot mix plant located at 6246 Rice Lake Road please call their hotline number at 218-288-4660 to report or if you are not comfortable calling the hotline number, Gnesen has set up an email specific for Oscar Pit complaints. These complaints will come straight to the Clerk who will share with the appropriate township personnel and then forward on to Ulland's.

Complaint email:
gnesen6356@gmail.com

marigold lane farms
6165 Howard Gnesen Road
Duluth, MN 55803

Marigold Lane Farms, LLC
Pet Sitting Services

Experience with a large variety of both farm animals and household pets.

Contact Sarah for more information at 218-341-7945

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SAVE THE DATE

The 5th annual Gnesen Community Center Fundraiser Farmers Market/Craft Show will be opening registration next month for this years fall event.

Date:
Saturday, September 12, 2026
9am to 3pm

Both indoor and outdoor space will be available.

Watch the April newsletter for a flyer and information on how to register.
Registration will be open for residents of Gnesen first so don't wait to register.

www.TraceyTellor.com
Broker
MN & WI
Tellor Realty LLC

218-390-3851
Tracey Tellor
TraceyTellor@gmail.com

BULLDOG
COLLISION
Ryan Underthun
ryan@bulldogcollision.com
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www.bulldogcollision.com

Overom Law

Estate Planning should not be stressful!

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Gnesen Convenience Store & Liquor

Home of Nanay's Kitchen
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(218) 721-4433

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SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLIED DUE TO THE PANDEMIC

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FACE MASKS ARE REQUIRED
SOCIAL DISTANCING IS HIGHLY APPRECIATED.

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Homeschool Open Gym

The Gnesen Community Center Gym will be open every Wednesday for homeschool open gym time.

Come play in the gym and meet new friends!

Every Wednesday from 10am—12pm

TEEN SERVICES

Olivia Blix - 15
218-341-7945
Yard work, pet sitting for house and barn pets, cleaning

Brady Gray-18
218-591-1263
Outdoor yard work year round, fall clean-up, snow shoveling, lawn mowing.

Kylan Bush—13
218-409-5177
Barn chores and yard work

All hiring and compensation for work is handled directly between the person advertising for employment and the employer. The Gnesen Community News does not perform background checks on the persons advertising above and is not responsible for any problems that arise during employment.

Are you looking for something to do in your spare time? Come check out the Gnesen Community Center puzzle exchange. Take a puzzle, leave a puzzle. The puzzle exchange is available to check out anytime the building is open. We are getting new puzzles in all the time and we even have some kid puzzles now too!!

Come Check it Out!!

Welcome to

Family of God Lutheran Church, ELCA
4097 Martin Road Duluth, MN 55803
218-724-9210
www.fogduluth.org
office@fogduluth.org

"Praising God, Strengthening Families, Serving the Community"

Welcome to All Visitors and Guests

8:45 a.m. Worship all Sundays
9:45 a.m. Coffee fellowship
10 - 10:30 a.m. Sunday School

April 2, Maundy Thursday
6:30 p.m. Worship

April 3, Good Friday
6:30 p.m. Worship at Kenwood Lutheran

April 5 Easter Sunday
Easter Breakfast 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Worship at 8:45 a.m.

Rummage and Bake Sale
Friday, April 17 & Saturday, April 18
Donations needed, no electronics please

Sundays, April 12 & 26
Open Arms Senior Living Center
10:30 a.m. Worship. Every Second & Fourth Sundays

Find worship online
on our Website: www.fogduluth.org and on YouTube

Like us on Facebook: our Facebook page
www.facebook.com/FamilyofGodDuluth

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

GNESEN

Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Pastor: Fr. Seth Gogolin

6110 Church Rd. Gnesen, MN. 55803

Parish office 218-481-7161

Gnesen Township Newsletter
6356 Howard Gnesen Road
Duluth, MN 55803

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Gnesen Township Officers & Staff

Jon Nelson Chair GCC Supervisor	218-349-7743 supervisor1@Gnesen.org
Gary Juten Vice Chair Road Supervisor	218-349-6627 supervisor3@Gnesen.org
Nancy Poppenberg Supervisor P&Z Supervisor	218-349-2129 supervisor2@Gnesen.org
Sarah Blix Clerk Editor of Newsletter Website Manager	218-721-3158 clerk@Gnesen.org
Sarah Blix GCC Building Manager and Janitor	218-341-7945 clerk@Gnesen.org
Sara Rowe Deputy Clerk Planning Commission/Sec.	218-721-3158 deputyclerk@Gnesen.org
Mary Bjorklund, Treasurer	218-391-7424 treasurer@Gnesen.org
Mike Rowe Building Maintenance	
Darin Franckowiak Grader Operator	218-348-1814
Kevin Fredrickson	218-269-5719
Zoning Officers: Mike Polzin	218-390-6207 zoningofficer1@Gnesen.org
Rick Hogenson	218-390-0651 zoningofficer2@Gnesen.org

Find all township information at:
http://gnesen.org

If your name or address are in error, please contact Sarah at 218 -721-3158 or email clerk@Gnesen.org

Want to place an ad in the Gnesen Newsletter? Our advertising submittal form can be found on the Gnesen website at:

http://gnesen.org/newsletter

Print a copy of the *Gnesen News Advertising Submittal form* and send to the Community Center address
–or–
email your information to:
clerk@Gnesen.org

Ads need to be submitted by the **15th** of the month for the next month's newsletter.