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:

- Jan 12th 7:00pm Town Board Mtg.
- Jan 21st 7:00pm P&Z Mtg.
- Jan 26th 7:00pm Town Board Mtg.

Township Filing Notice 1

Minutes 2 4
-

Ads, newsletter feed-back 5

Open walking, ads, short term rentals, Ulland's hot mix com-plaint line/email 6

Ads, skating rink, exer-cise class offered at the GCC 7

Ads 8

Teen services, church services, homeschool open gym, puzzle ex-change 9

Staff 10

Gnesen News

Gnesen Website http://gnesen.org January 2026 Newsletter

NOTICE
TOWN OF GNESEN FILING NOTICE
TOWN OF GNESEN, MINNESOTA

Notice is hereby given to qualified voters of Gnesen Township, St. Louis County, State of Minnesota, that filing for Town Office will be held for a two-week period beginning December 30, 2025 and ending on January 13, 2026.

Affidavits of Candidacy shall be filed with the Town Clerk at the Gnesen Town Office, 6356 Howard Gnesen Road, Duluth, MN 55803.

To file please contact the Town Clerk at 218-721-3158 to set up an appointment.

The days for filing will be Monday through Friday
Dec. 30th - Jan 13th between the hours of
7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, January 13th 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Filing will close on January 13, 2026

Filing fee is $2.00

Office to be filled as the Annual March Elections is:
One (1) Supervisor for a three-year term.

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

November 10, 2025

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, November 10, 2025. The following officers were present:

Gary Juten	Supervisor
Nancy Poppenberg	Supervisor
Sarah Blix	Clerk
Mary Bjorklund	Treasurer

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

The minutes of the October 27, 2025 Town Board Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Poppenberg, seconded by Supervisor Juten.

Treasurer's report:

Balance for September 2025	$164,564.62
Receipts for October 2025	+$7,813.09
	$172,377.71
Disbursements for October 2025	-$18,573.40
Balance for October 2025	$153,804.31

There were two 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 – The court hearing was Monday, October 6, 2025 and the Judge took the case under advisement there are still no new updates at this time.

Church Road Gates – Informational – in 2022 Resolution #22-17 was signed that closes Church Road until the Town Board determines it necessary to reopen.

Firewise 2026 – There was discussion about new fire numbers for all the residents in Gnesen. At this time, it is unknown if there are grants that could help with this cost. Fire numbers are available for residents to purchase from St. Louis County for $35.00. Sarah will put this information in the next newsletter. There was also discussion about hosting another Firewise event in 2026. It was decided that since the event in 2025 was such a success the Township will proceed with planning another one for 2026.

Cannabis Ordinance – Sarah discussed the need to create the forms that the Township needs for Cannabis retail businesses as they were not done when the ordinance was adopted. Sarah said there are several questions that have come up regarding cannabis retail licenses. The questions are:

- Will both low potency and high potency be governed by an IUP?
- How will we handle the high potency 30-day timeline from the state with the townships IUP process timeline?
- How many high potency licenses are allowed in the township?
- We are required by the state to conduct age compliance checks. How will this look?
- Township application?
- Do we want to put restrictions on cannabis events?
- Can we delegate just one township employee as the Office of Cannabis Management point of contact and specialist on this topic?

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Supervisor Juten stated he would like to see both low and high potency retail businesses governed by an IUP. Sarah presented the Supervisors with a sample application but mentioned that it is meant to be a working document and there will be changes made to it before it is finalized. Supervisor Juten made a motion to go forward with the application taking into consideration input from P&Z and the zoning officers, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Road Report – Darin reported that Park Drive has some wash boarding that needs to be fixed. Pruning has been done to appease St. Louis County's request before snowfall. Supervisor Juten said that two culverts have been replaced on Musolf Road to help with water issues.

Gnesen Community Center Report – Sarah said that Ken Gilbertson has revamped most of the bog bridges on the long loop but needs 6 more 2X10X10's and another box of deck screws. Supervisor Juten approved the expenditure, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor.

Adam Marzolf – 4471 Carey Road – Adam attended tonight's meeting asking for consideration in allowing him to operate his property on Island Lake as a short-term rental. Adam said he is 1,311ft from the nearest short-term rental which does not meet the 1500ft requirement. After some discussion, Supervisor Juten referred Adam to the Planning Commission meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

Paid Leave – Mary discussed what she learned about paid leave and what it will look like for the township.

Sample Nuisance Ordinance – Supervisor Poppenberg presented a sample nuisance ordinance that was suggested to her by one of the attorneys who presented at the workshop she attended in Cotton in October. Supervisor Poppenberg said this sample ordinance has a lot more enforcement within it and she believes it would be better for our township. The sample ordinance will be sent forward to the Planning Commission for them to review and compare to our current nuisance ordinance.

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

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Disbursement #16804 through #16831 and 4 EFTs were read, approved, and signed for payment for a total of $23,184.10 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 7:58pm with a motion by Supervisor Juten, second by Supervisor Poppenberg. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting is taped for transcribing purposes only.)

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Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

November 24, 2025

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, November 24, 2025. The following officers were present:

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

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

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

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Chair Nelson, seconded by Supervisor Juten. All vote in favor.

Minutes of the November 10, 2025 Town Board Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Juten, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg.

DISCUSSION: Supervisor Juten reported that Darin and Kevin have done more tree branch trimming on Island Lake Drive to appease St. Louis County's request.

OLD BUSINESS:
Hemlock Drive Issue – Chair Nelson reported that the Judge sided with the township and issued an order to abate the property. The order states that a Sheriff Deputy must be present while the property is being abated. There is a 3-week period to abate the property. Chair Nelson and Mike have been working together to finalize the cleanup plans.
P&Z Training – Sarah heard back from the attorney from Couri and Ruppe about training for the P&Z Commission and other township staff. The training would be a 2–3-hour training. Cost would be $3000 for in-person training or $1500 for virtual training. After some discussion it was decided to do a virtual training, and it will be scheduled for a Friday in February.
Cannabis Ordinance – Sarah provided a packet of information in regard to the Cannabis Ordinance. Sarah and Chair Nelson will meet to review the proposed changes and the applications, etc then present them to the Planning Commission and TB at the December 8, 2025 meeting.

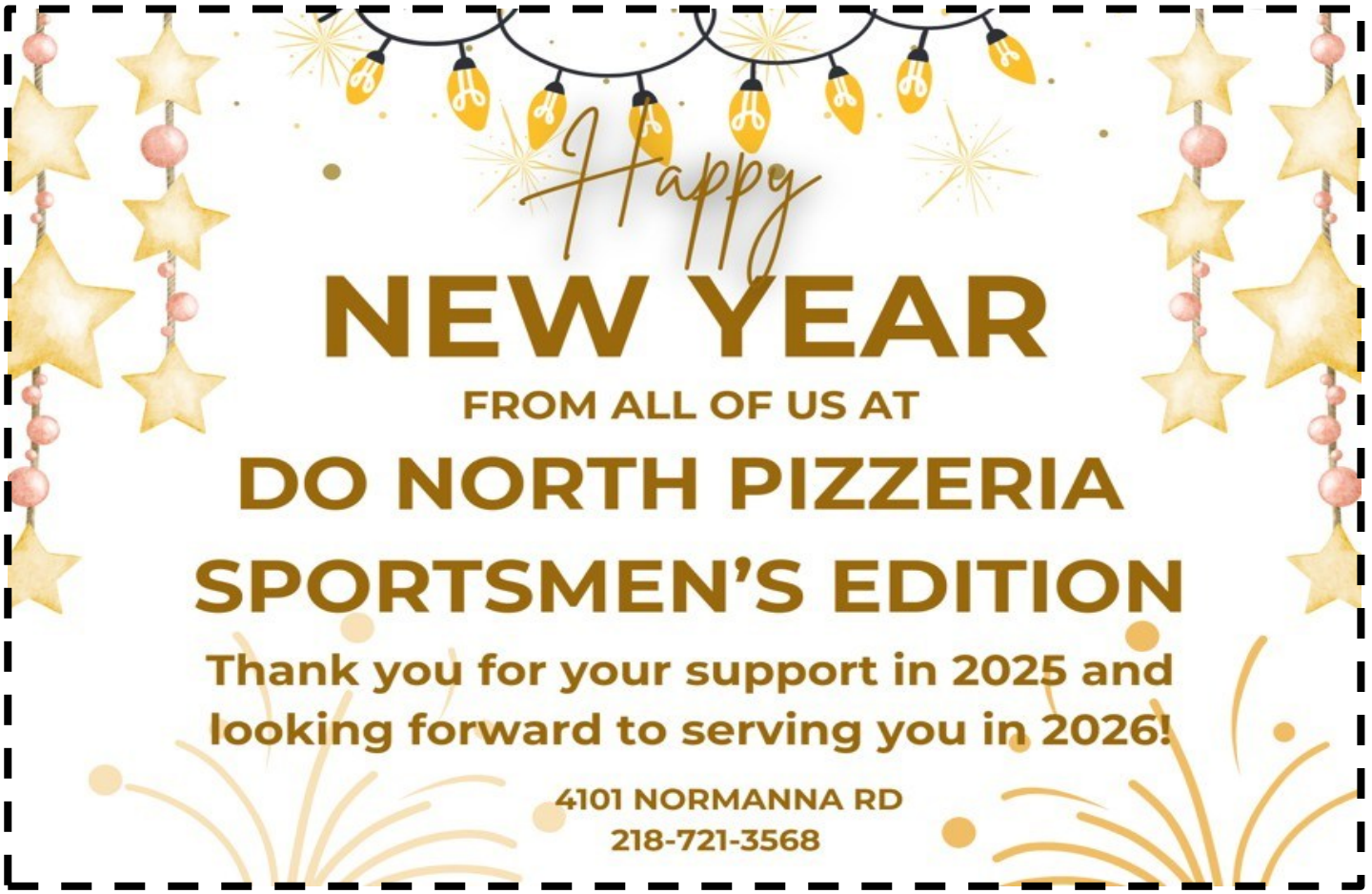
NEW BUSINESS:
Establishing Higher Fines for Permit Violations – Supervisor Poppenberg said that the Planning Commission discussed higher fines for building violations but ended up tabling the topic until their next meeting. Sarah had provided two comparables, one from Duluth Township and one from Lakewood Township, both townships charge 4x the fee for permit violations.

P&Z BOARD SUPERVISORS REPORT: Supervisor Poppenberg reported that a subcommittee has been created to revisit the nuisance ordinance. They will be meeting on December 1, 2025.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT: Mike had nothing new to add. Rick said he has been getting a lot of inquires about a tax forfeit parcel that is for sale. Rick said that he has been dealing with a resident whose property was affected by the new floodplain mapping. Rick questioned who in the township is responsible for floodplain management as the resident needs someone to sign off on a Community Acknowledgement Form. After a lot of discussion and looking into the property in question, Nancy made a motion to appoint Supervisor Juten as the Floodplain Management Official, seconded by Chair Nelson. All vote in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

No further business. A motion was made by Supervisor Poppenberg to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Supervisor Juten. No objections, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm. (This meeting was taped for transcribing purposes only.)



Due to high costs associated with printing and mailing our monthly newsletters the township is entertaining the idea of switching to emailed newsletters only. However, before we make the switch we would like to hear your comments. If you are interested in commenting on this possible change please either call the office at 218-721-3158 or send an email to clerk@Gnesen.org.

In the meantime, if you do receive a mailed version of the newsletter or both and would like to switch to email please email Sarah at clerk@Gnesen.org.

Thank you!

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:

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

Magnum Storage Facility

Store With Us—Store With Confidence

4961 Rice Lake Road

Duluth, MN 55803

218-724-5303

24 Hour Access—Tamperproof Locks

Long Term Discounts

Gnesen Community Center
Open Skate

The Gnesen skating rink is ready for skaters!
Open skate times with access to the warming house are as follows:

Sunday – 4-6:30 pm
Monday – 5-7 pm
Tuesday – 5-7:30

During scheduled open skate times we are planning to have the warming house open and available for use, however please remember that open skate times are available because of several community members' willingness to volunteer and they are subject to change without much notice.
The skating rink is still available to use even when the warming house is not open.

Exercise Classes Offered At The GCC

50+ Total Body for Women

Designed especially for women 50 and above, this class focuses on balance, muscle control, and total-body strength to help you move with confidence and avoid falls. We'll use light dumbbells for bone and muscle health, plus gentle cardio to support heart health and endurance, so you can always keep up and enjoy the activities you love!
Dumbbells and bands are provided. Please bring a yoga mat, water bottle, and wear comfortable clothing and gym shoes.
Wednesdays & Fridays | 9:00–9:45 AM
$6 per class or 10-class punch card for $60

BULLDOG COLLISION

Ryan Underthun

ryan@bulldogcollision.com
218.721.5341
5082 Miller Trunk Hwy
Hermantown, MN 55811
www.bulldogcollision.com

Overom Law

Estate Planning should not be stressful!

Gunnar Johnson at Overom Law is here to help with creating an estate plan that is right for you.

Call Gunnar today at 218-625-8461 to schedule your free consultation.

802 GARFIELD AVENUE • SUITE 101
DULUTH, MN 55802
218-625-8463 (PH) • 218-522-4539
(FX) •GJOHNSON@OVEROMLAW.COM
www.overomlaw.com

Gnesen Convenience Store & Liquor

Home of Nanay's Kitchen
6049 Rice Lake Road
Duluth, MN 55803
(218) 721-4433

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CUSTOM ORDER AND CATERING AVAILABLE
PLEASE VISIT NANAY'S KITCHENBETH'S FILIPINO FOOD FROM THE HEART.

SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLIED DUE TO THE PANDEMIC

YOUR HEALTH IS IMPORTANT TO US!
FACE MASKS ARE REQUIRED
SOCIAL DISTANCING IS HIGHLY APPRECIATED.

Sundland
PLUMBING & HEATING, LLC
3 Generations in the Plumbing Industry
Steve Sundland
Owner
4196 Waters Edge Drive
Duluth, MN 55803
(218) 348-4394
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Licensed in MN & WI
my place REALTY
Sherri L. Underthun
Direct Line: 218-390-3184
SherriU@MyPlaceRealtyINC.com
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Duluth, MN 55803
jkrenovate@gmail.com
Insured - MN Lic.#BC682878

Brent's
SEPTIC SERVICE
729-8072
"We're #1 in the #2 business"

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.

COLD TEMPS ARE COMING!

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

Sunday, January 4
10:30 a.m. Re-gift Bingo

Quilters meet Thursdays at 9 a.m.

Sunday, January 11 and 25
Open Arms Senior Living Center
Sunday, January 11 and 25
10:30 a.m. Worship
Every Second & Fourth Sundays

Men's Breakfast
every Saturday, 8 a.m. at The Other Place

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.