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

Gnesen News

www.gnesen.org

September 2026

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

Sept 14th 7:00pm Town Board Mtg

Sept 16th 7:00pm P&Z Mtg

Sept 28th 7:00pm Town Board Mtg - Cancelled

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Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

July 13, 2026

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, July 13, 2026. The following officers were present:

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

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 with the addition of an update about Tumblebee Gymnastics was moved by Chair Nelson, seconded by Supervisor Juten. All vote in favor.

The minutes of the June 8, 2026 Town Board meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Juten, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg.

Treasurer's report:

Balance for May 2026	$133,987.60
Receipts for June 2026	+$10,601.25
	$144,588.85
Disbursements for June 2026	-$45,765.30
Balance for June 2026	$98,823.55

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

DISCUSSION:

OLD BUSINESS:

Hemlock Drive Issue – Mike discussed the two companies he has received quotes from to help with abatement. People Ready quoted $1,100.00 and Trailer Trash quoted $2,400.00. Mike said he would be comfortable going forward with People Ready as they are the lower quote. Carol asked if Mike planned to inventory everything that is removed from the property. Mike said he will not be writing things down but will use video and pictures to inventory stuff. A neighbor in attendance voiced a complaint of increased activity on the property lately including a large number of renters, aggressive actions towards neighbors like name calling, racial slurs, verbal threats, noise at all hours of the night/early morning, digging holes and burying stuff. A second neighbor at the meeting said that activity, especially late-night activity has been ramping up. Carter stated he has driven by the property and has noted a lot more vehicles and a lot of people activity. Carter said P&Z has asked for a plan from Mike as to what abatement will look like but has not received anything. Rick asked if abating the property means that Scott is allowed to retain 5 junk vehicles or does abatement mean everything goes. Chair Nelson said that Gnesen still must apply the ordinance rules even though it is an abatement. Dave Opack questioned if Gnesen is at the point of needing a law official to patrol Gnesen like the City of Rice Lake does. Chair Nelson instructed Mike to follow up with setting a date for the abatement and relay tonight's neighbor complaints to the Sheriff's Department.

Township Website – Sarah said the website has been updated. Changes included some format/cleaning house, adding a STR Renewal Application button, and creating a newsletter button to archive newsletters.

Update on Tumblebee Gymnastics – Sarah said there really is no new update as Linda is still trying to figure out what she is going to do but she is still paying the rent so at this time nothing needs to be done.

NEW BUSINESS:

Road Report – Darin reported that Needle Lane is in fair shape, but all the other roads are in good shape. 992 yards of gravel were put down on the roads and calcium chloride has been applied. Maintenance was performed on the mower and Darin will start mowing soon.

Gnesen Community Center Report – Sarah said the north gym door is in, however we are just waiting on installation. Sarah brough up the GCC Rental Contract and a few changes she proposed, one being insurance needs from

renters. Sarah said she did research and it is recommended that renters provide an insurance certificate that names Gnesen Community Center as additional insured and that renters carry $1,000,000 in general liability, $2,000,000 in aggregate, and if alcohol is served an additional $1,000,000 liquor liability endorsement. Chair Nelson said he would like to get a second opinion on this and will ask Andrew Tiede what his thoughts are. This will be put on the August agenda.

Park Drive – Two residents from Park Drive were in attendance asking about the recent extension of Park Drive. They reported that there has been nonstop work taking place on the road, lasting about two weeks, which resulted in the road being extended and a large landing put in at the end. A large amount of fill was brought in and wet land was affected. Supervisor Juten said he will look into this. This will be discussed again at the August meeting.

GCC Flagpole Lighting – Supervisor Juten brought in two additional quotes for flagpole lighting. For installing two lights Wescom quoted $1675.51. Supervisor Juten said Cedar Drive would trench the line and provide 100ft of wire for Wescom. Archkey provided a quote to install one light for $1426.00. Supervisor Juten said adding an additional light would be another $150.00. Sarah said she would like to see two lights installed as originally planned. Supervisor Juten said he would have no issues with either of these two bids, as he thought the $2600.00 bid from Benson was out of line. Carol asked for clarification from Supervisor Juten about what exactly he would be doing and the expenses with that. Supervisor Juten said he would just be trenching the line and laying the wire and that he would be donating that work. Supervisor Poppenberg made a motion to approve the Archkey quote but to install two lights, seconded by Chair Nelson. All vote in favor.

STR Ordinance – A proposed ordinance amendment was provided to the Town Board to reword the section regarding septic requirements. The proposal is as follows:

1) Permit Application is filled out in its entirety with all associated required documentation including the following:
    a. ~~A valid, current certificate of compliance for the property's septic system showing that the system is compliant. St. Louis County, as our septic authority, delineates on-site wastewater inspections into four categories: compliant, non-conforming, non-compliant, and imminent threat to public health. For purposes of this ordinance, compliant means only compliant and excludes non-conforming, non-compliant, and imminent threat to public health.~~ A valid, current certificate of compliance for the property's septic system issued by St. Louis County, our septic authority.
    b. A valid, current certificate of non-conforming for the property's septic system issued by St. Louis County, our septic authority.
        i. A certificate of a non-conforming system submitted, shall cause the Zoning Officer to establish that the septic system is eligible for a short-term rental license under current St. Louis County ordinances.

Chair Nelson said he was confused by the proposal. Rick provided some history and said that currently we have a resident operating with an illegal permit as they have not been able to renew due to their septic. Rick also said that he believed the Stewarts on Waters Edge Drive were given their permit illegally as you cannot supersede an ordinance with a resolution. Chair Nelson said he disagreed with Rick. Carter said he was royally confused with everything that has been occurring with this ordinance. There was also discussion about removing the "plus two" in Section 8 number 4 which sets the minimum number of overnight guests to two per bedroom plus two to coincide with St. Louis County's rules. Chair Nelson said instead of amending the ordinance he would like to consider governing STR's with an IUP. Chair Nelson said that using an IUP would allow more control as you would be able to place conditions on the permit. Chair Nelson said that Andrew could advise how to move the process to an IUP. Carter suggested getting two attorney's opinions.

Como Oil & Propane Contract for 2026/27 – Como provided a sales agreement for the upcoming heating season for $1.299/gallon and $1.449/gallon for employees. Supervisor Juten made a motion to accept Como's proposal, seconded by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor.

ZONING REPORT: Mike had nothing new to report. Rick discussed the permits that have been applied for this month. There was discussion about P&Z training. Sarah asked if she could just reach out to Andrew herself to set this up to which Chair Nelson said yes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Email from Abby Andrus - Firewise

Disbursement #17070 through #17111 and 6 EFTs were read, approved, and signed for payment for a total of $68,100.06 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 8:42pm with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Juten. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting is taped for transcribing purposes only.)

Visitors attending the meeting: Jay Haller, Carter Williams, Dave Opack, Kathy Buran, Carol Jacobson, Dawn Jensen, Brian (last name?), Alan Newton, Cherie Hamilton, Mike and Sara Rowe, Jill Scharold

Employees present: Mike Polzin, Darin Franckowiak, Mike Rowe, Rick Hogenson
Employees absent: Kevin Fredrickson

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

The Gnesen Community Center/Town Office will be closed September 24, 2026 through October 4, 2026

If you are needing to turn in a permit please put everything in an envelope and drop it in the locked drop box located on the front of the building. Any questions can be either emailed to clerk@Gnesen.org or call 218-721-3158 and leave a message.

Thank you!

CANCELLED MEETING

The September 28, 2026 Town Board meeting has been cancelled. The following Town Board meetings will take place as scheduled:

Monday, September 14, 2026 at 7pm
Monday, October 12, 2026 at 7pm

NORMANNA
— FIRE DEPARTMENT —
AUXILARY

NORMANNA FIRE SQUATCH 5K

SQUATCH 5K

RUN. WALK. SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT!

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 3, 2026

NORMANNA TOWN HALL
6472 French River Rd.
Duluth, MN

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- PANCAKE BREAKFAST
- VENDOR & CRAFT FAIR
- RAFFLES
- KIDS ACTIVITIES

10:00 AM SQUATCH 5K

11:00 AM BABY SQUATCH 1K

REGISTER ONLINE:
https://normannasquatch.eventbrite.com

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE NORMANNA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
AND HELP PROVIDE EQUIPMENT, TRAINING,
AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE RESOURCES FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

Gnesen Community Center Fundraiser Farmers Market/Craft Show

September 12, 2026

9am-3pm

Gnesen Community Center

Join us for Gnesen's 5th Annual Farmers Market/Craft Show. Stop by to view items made by local crafters, locally grown garden produce (growing season dependent), and homemade baked goods.

Take a break from shopping and stop by the Gnesen kitchen for something to eat.

All proceeds from kitchen food sales will be donated to the Gnesen Community Center.

For more information call Sarah at 218-341-7945 or Mary at 218-391-7424

Do North Pizzeria
Sportsmen's Edition

Happy Labor Day

*We'll be Closed Labor Day to enjoy the holiday with our families

Live Music with Jake Birdseye = Sept. 19 7-10pm

3nd Annual Tractor Show = Sept. 26th 1-4pm
with Live Music from Donny Buck

September Breakfast Skillet of the Month= Normanna Skillet

September Pizza of the Month= Cubano Pizza

Now Hiring for the positions of Cook & Bartender
Apply online at sportysinn.com or in person

4101 Normanna Rd See You Soon! **218-721-3568**

GENE'S SEPTIC
You Dump... We Pump!
Serving Gnesen Township & surrounding areas!
218-721-5185

The Country Craft Shed
7016 Van Rd. • Duluth, MN 55803

SUSAN POIRIER
JOE PUCUSKI

Sat. & Sun.
10:00 - 4:00
218-721-3258

Open Walking at the GCC

The Gnesen Community Center Gym is open for residents to walk laps in all year long.

Hours are:
Mondays from noon-2pm and
Wednesdays from 2pm—3pm

Please no children or pets and 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

STEVE'S SEPTIC PUMPING
STEVES
218-721-4039
SEPTIC PUMPING
TOILET RENTALS
DULUTH, MINNESOTA
STEVESSEPTICDULUTH.COM
DAVE HAPPY 218-213-1233

BULLDOG
COLLISION
Ryan Underthun
ryan@bulldogcollision.com
218.721.5341
5082 Miller Trunk Hwy
Hermantown, MN 55811
www.bulldogcollision.com

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

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Town of Gnesen is looking for an individual interested in working part time as the township Deputy Clerk/Deputy Treasurer. This job entails working closely with the planning commission and zoning officers to process permits, work on zoning issues, record keeping, and preparing for and attending one P&Z meeting a month which includes taking minutes. Other duties include assisting the clerk/treasurer and acting as their backup when needed.

If interested or wanting more information please contact Sarah at 218-721-3158 or at clerk@gnesen.org.

You do not need to be a resident to apply!

Gnesen Convenience Store&Liquor

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

FILIPINO AUTHENTIC FOOD
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 Waterfudge Drive
Duluth, MN 55803
(218) 348-4394
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED

Licensed in MN & WI
my place REALTY
Sherri L. Underthun
Direct Line: 218-390-3184
SherriU@MyPlaceRealtyINC.com
Thank you for the opportunity to help you with your real estate needs

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6148 Howard Gnesen Road • Duluth, MN 55803

Jim Kampa
Repairs & Renovations
Over 30 years of Experience
218-348-1892
3573 Normanna Road
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 homeschoolopen gym time.

Come play in the gym and meet new friends!

Every Wednesday from 10am—12pm

TEEN SERVICES

Amelia Blix - 13
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

Ben Sundland -17
218-348-8020
Lawnmowing

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!!

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
No Sunday School for the summer

Looking Ahead

Tuesday, August 4, 5:30 p.m.
National Night Out at Rice Lake City Park

Wednesday, August 5
Senior Lunch with Kenwood Lutheran
11:30 a.m. at Boomtown, 4483 Martin Road

August 12, 6 p.m.
Joint Worship & Meal at Rice Lake City Park

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

Sundays, August 9 & 23
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 GnesenRoad
Duluth, MN 55803

PRSRT-STD
U.S. POSTAGE
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DULUTH, MN
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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
TBD 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 Rick Hogenson	218-390-6207 zoningofficer1@Gnesen.org 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.