

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

January 8, 2018

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, January 8, 2018, at the Gnesen Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Vice Chair Jon Nelson. The Town Board, Town Employees and four Town residents stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Supervisor Dave Opack, second by Vice Chair Jon Nelson and unanimously approved. Minutes of the December 11, 2017 Town Board meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Vice Chair Jon Nelson.

Treasurer's report was read. Motion by Vice Chair Nelson second by Supervisor Opack, all voted in favor to accept the Treasurer's report. (There were no outstanding checks for the month.)

OLD BUSINESS:

CDBG Grant Application- Vice Chair Nelson stated the CDBG five minute grant presentations would be on January 9, 2018 at 11:20 a.m. in Mt. Iron and he will attend and make the presentation. Then he goes back on the 17th to answer any questions they may have. The money that we were awarded in 2017 has not been spent yet. Vice Chair Nelson stated that we need to get a packet together for the contractors with Prevailing wages and Fair Labor Standards Provisions and he has asked Deputy Clerk Blomdahl to check with City of Rice Lake to see how they have done this and then he will follow-up with the contractors. The work could still be done this spring.

Broadband Follow-up-Vice Chair Nelson stated he has not heard back from Troy from CenturyLink but will check with him again.

P&Z matter- Robert Aho, Gnesen Zoning Officer stated he met with the property owner to tour his property to see if he has complied with the signed agreement. The property owner has made a lot of progress and he will get a permit to build more buildings and put up some privacy fences. The property owner has put licenses on a lot of the antique cars. The property owner stated that he is not selling cars there. Robert will meet with him again. Supervisor Opack asked if the shipping containers are considered structures and Robert stated they are.

Filing for Town Office-The filing opened on January 2, 2018 and will close on January 16th.

Comp Plan Sub-committee-Deputy Clerk Blomdahl will supply the Planning Commission with copies of our current comp plan for everyone to review it; then there will be a discussion on it. Supervisor Opack stated that Gunnar Johnson made the suggestion to see if the UMD students might be interested in doing this. Robert Aho stated that St. Louis County is working on finishing up their Comp Plan and we could just adopt theirs or tweak it to meet our township needs. Vice Chair Nelson stated that we want to make sure that our 2015 survey results of what the people in Gnesen Township want is what our Comp Plan says.

NEW BUSINESS:

Grader operator's road report- Grader Operator Tom Haller stated that the township roads are in fair to good driving condition. He mentioned that there was drifting on the lanes and Supervisor Opack will contact J & C Snowplowing about cleaning up the lanes. Jackson Road has not been plowed but the County has pushed back some of the roads. We have not had any water problem yet this year. Supervisor Opack said the water problem from the beavers on Turner Road has gone down considerably and shouldn't be a problem this spring.

Gnesen Community Center-Building Manager Toni Blomdahl stated that the fire department has flooded the rink and it is ready for use. Toni is talking to someone about running the warming house a couple nights a week. Gunnar Johnson has volunteered to run the pickle ball games one day a week. Supervisor Opack made a motion, second by Vice Chair Nelson, all in favor to allow Toni to purchase a net and some pickle ball paddles and balls for indoor/outdoor pickle ball. Toni will put an article in the Gnesen Newsletter about pickle ball. Kurt Blegen, janitor at GCC stated that the pipes in the bathroom froze and we might need to put some heat in the crawl space. Supervisor Opack suggested that we look at what Robert Aho has found for needs at the Community Center and then prioritize which one we want to tackle first. Toni stated that she emailed John Stephen the contract and he has placed the order for the generator and he will let us know when he gets it.

Board of Audit Meeting-The Board of Audit Meeting will be during our regular Town Board Meeting on January 22, 2018 at 8:00 p.m. Clerk will notify the Gnesen Volunteer Fire Department, township employees and Town Board Members.

Resolution #18-01-Vice Chair Nelson made a motion, second by Supervisor Opack, all in favor to adopt Resolution #18-01 designating the Town Hall as the polling place for the calendar year.

Liquor License-Supervisor Opack made a motion, second by Vice Chair Nelson, all in favor to approve the renewal of Liquor License for A.P. Liquor, Boondocks, Gnesen Convenience Store, Silver Fox Lodge and Sportsmen's Inn.

Schedule of Meetings the Town Board will be in attendance at-There will be a change to the Board of Audit Meeting date on the schedule to January 22, 2018 and the Board of Appeals will be set when we get the information from St. Louis County. We will also cancel the May 28th and December 24th meetings because of the holiday. The schedule will be corrected and posted at the Town Hall.

2017 Annual Township Report on noxious weed control-The report is due on January 30, 2018. Clerk will have the Local Weed Inspector sign the form along with the Town Board Chairperson and submit the report.

Safe Route to School Program-The Town Supervisors will look over the draft language regarding the program and submit any comments to the Clerk to forward to St. Louis County Planning & Community Development Department if they have any suggestions, concerns or comments.

St. Louis County Crushing and Striping Program for 2018-The Town Supervisors decided not to go with the program but will contact St. Louis County to see who they have hired and talk to the contractor about doing the Island Lake Drive and West Pioneer Road striping.

Zoning Inspector's Office hours-Robert Aho's office hours will be 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. when needed.

Congressman Rick Nolan-Hannah Alstead has asked the Town Board to set up an hour constituent meeting with Congressman Nolan. Clerk will notify Hannah that we could hold a meeting at the Gnesen Community Center and we could advertise it in the Gnesen Newspaper and our website.

St. Louis County Crime Activity Report for December 2017-The report was received and included in the Board's packet.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Five pieces of correspondence were received.

No building permits were turned in for the month of December 2017.

Upcoming Meetings:

Planning Commission Meeting, January 17, 2018 at 7:30 pm

DAT Meeting, January 18, 2018 6:30 p.m. in Rice Lake City Hall-Gnesen will Chair the meeting.

Town Board Meeting, January 22, 2017 at 8:00 pm

Disbursements #14074 through #14096 and six Electronic Transfers were read, approved and signed for payment for a total of \$8,773.42 with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Vice Chair Nelson, all in favor to pay the disbursements.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m. with a motion by Vice Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Opack. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting was taped for transcribing purposes only.)

Visitors attending the meeting were: Jay, Marcia and Clay Haller and Angel Peluso.

Employees present were: Kurt Blegen and Robert Aho.