

## Summary of the January 11, 2015 Gnesen Town Board Meeting Minutes.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Chair George Franckowiak. The Town Board and Town Employees stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Supervisor Nelson, second by Supervisor Opack and unanimously approved. Minutes of the December 16, 2015 Regular Town Board Meeting were unanimously approved as presented with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Supervisor Nelson.

Motion by Supervisor Nelson, second by Supervisor Opack, all in favor to accept the Treasurer's report. (There were three outstanding checks for a total of \$610.50.)

### OLD BUSINESS:

Filing for office-The filing opened on December 29<sup>th</sup> and will close on January 12<sup>th</sup>. The office will be open tomorrow from 1-5 p.m. for filing. Supervisor Opack has filed for the position.

Planning & Zoning violation-There was much discussion of a zoning violation and it was decided to take our attorney's advice and add an Ordinance that requires the property owner to pay all costs of ordinance enforcement plus the Township's cost of bringing the property into compliance, including attorney's fees. Supervisor Nelson made a motion, second by Supervisor Opack, all in favor to get an ordinance written up. The Deputy Clerk will work on the Ordinance; we will present it to the Planning & Zoning Board at their January Meeting and schedule a Public Hearing to pass this ordinance and the updated fee schedule changes. If the property owner does not pay, the Township can certify the costs to the property taxes.

Aquatic Invasive Species-Supervisor Nelson and Planning & Zoning Inspector Gil Kjorstad attending a meeting on aquatic invasive species. Supervisor Nelson, talked with Scott Campbell from Canosia Township and they are going to apply for one of the grants that the State is funding to the County to do public inspections at the boat landing and to get some funds for signs, Supervisor Nelson made a motion, second by Supervisor Opack, all in favor to approve Resolution 16-3 authorizing Supervisor Nelson to apply for a County Program Aid grant in connection with the Town of Canosia. Supervisor Nelson will work with Scott and get the grant done by the deadline of January 27<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Nelson will also try to contact some of the lake associations in our area to get some input and support for the grants.

Como Oil-The Town Clerk contacted Como Oil and they sent the township a new contract to sign for a reduced rate on our propane purchase through April 30<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Nelson made a motion, second by Supervisor Opack, all in favor to accept the new contract.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Grader operator's road report-Tom Haller reported that he received a call from St. Louis County requesting that he cut some of the branches that are hanging over the road and hitting the lights on their trucks. Tom went out with the brusher and cut the branches they referenced. Tom stated that the roads are in pretty good shape. Supervisor Nelson stated that he contacted Ulland Brothers and they will sell us the Class 5 we need for our roads.

Gnesen Community Center Building Manager report-Toni Blomdahl reported that there are a number of basketball groups using the gym. Toni will put up signs requesting that the groups playing in the gym remove their street shoes on the carpet and put on basketball shoes. There was discussion about the pipes freezing in the boy's bathroom and some discussion on what we can do to prevent this. The septic line was replaced and insulated to help prevent freezing.

Gnesen Community Newspaper-Chair Franckowiak asked how many people have requested the Newspaper and Toni stated so far over 200 want it mailed and over 30 want it emailed.

Meeting with the Gnesen Volunteer Fire Department-Chair Franckowiak will contact the Fire Department about meeting on February 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Audit-We will meet on February 22, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. to audit the books, review the budget for 2016 and develop a proposed levy for 2017.

Duluth Area Townships Meeting-January 21, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at Rice Lake City Hall.

CVII Meeting-CenturyLink will hold a meeting to share their plans for internet access on February 11, 2016 at Gnesen Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Resolution #16-01-Appoint election judges for March election- Supervisor Nelson made a motion, second by Chair Franckowiak, all in favor to appoint Lottie Haller, Kathryn Neff-Dawson, Barbara Pucuski and Rita Sherepa as election judges.

Resolution #16-02-Absentee ballot board for March election-Supervisor Nelson made a motion, second by Chair Franckowiak, all in favor to appoint Lottie Haller, Kathryn Neff-Dawson, Barbara Pucuski and Rita Sherepa as the absentee ballot board.

Township election and Annual Meeting-Supervisor Nelson made a motion, second by Chair Franckowiak, all in favor if the office for Supervisor is running unopposed, the polls will be open from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with the Annual Meeting starting at 8:30 p.m.

State Tax Forfeited Land-We received a courtesy letter from St. Louis County about proposed sale of State Tax Forfeited Land by Thompson Lake.

Workshop-There will be an educational, informational workshop on controlling pollution, protecting healthy streams and supporting a thriving Lake Superior on Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> 3:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the Duluth Heights Community Center.

Liquor License Renewals-Chair Franckowiak made a motion, second by Supervisor Opack, all in favor to approve the liquor license for A. P. Liquor, Boondock's Saloon and Grill, Gnesen Convenience Store, Island Lake Inn, Silver Fox Lodge and Sportsmens Inn.

Crack sealing, striping and gravel crushing-We received an email from St. Louis County inviting us to participate in these programs. The board decided not to go with the program but we will contact St. Louis County to see who was awarded the striping contract and we will contact them directly.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

Five pieces of correspondence were received.

No building permits were turned in for the month of December 2015.

Disbursements #13406 through #13429 and four Electronic Transfers were read, approved and signed for payment for a total of \$11,604.66 with a motion by Supervisor Nelson, second by Chair Franckowiak, all in favor to pay the disbursements.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m. with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Chair Franckowiak. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting was taped for transcribing purposes only.)

Disclaimer Statement-The minutes of the meeting published in this paper are not official as they have not been read and approved by the Town Board.

Lottie Haller, Clerk