

## Regular Meeting Town of Gnesen

July 10, 2017

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, July 10, 2017, at the Gnesen Town Hall.

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 David Opack, second by Supervisor Jon Nelson and unanimously approved. Minutes of the June 12, 2017 and June 26, 2017 meetings were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Nelson, second by Supervisor Opack. Minutes of the Emergency Planning Committee Meeting held at the Gnesen Community Center were approved with a motion by Supervisor Nelson, second by Supervisor Opack and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's report was read and approved. Motion by Supervisor Opack second by Supervisor Nelson, all in favor to accept the Treasurer's report. (There was one outstanding check for the month for a total of \$156.99.) Treasurer Paul Glaesemann stated that we have received our first half of the property taxes which is not reflected in the above total. Our disbursements for tonight are high because of gravel, gravel hauling, chloride, tree trimming on Lawnwood Road and the first half of the fire department contract levy.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Emergency Plan Committee-Supervisor Nelson stated they had a very productive meeting earlier tonight at the Community Center. Scott Lyons met with Dewey Johnson and reported that both the Red Cross and St. Louis County Emergency Planning would be partners with us in terms of providing things like cots, beds, expertise and assorted other things. The Committee is going to have another meeting and they are hoping to tie that meeting into having a tour where Red Cross can come out and look at the building and discuss what they can offer us and what we will need to make the building work as an emergency shelter. We will be looking for people who are willing to volunteer to be grant writers to try raise some money to get some of the necessary work done. We are working on putting a plan into writing. We would have a contract with the Red Cross that would lay out a number of things but we need Red Cross to come and look at our building and say what we will need. The biggest things would be showers; update the kitchen and we are still looking at the electrical, which John Stephen will look at. Supervisor Nelson made a motion, second by Chair Franckowiak and unanimously approved to send a letter requesting Dewey Johnson and Red Cross to come inspect the Community Center building. Supervisor Nelson will draft the letter and get it to the Town Clerk. Chair Franckowiak made a motion, second by Supervisor Nelson to put an ad in the paper looking for grant writers. Supervisor Nelson will write an article summarizing what we are doing and make the request for grant writers a part of the article and get it to Cindy Erickson. Paul suggested that they advertise this activity in the Duluth News Tribune and the Senior Reporter magazine.

Town Treasurer Position-The Town Board has put a deadline of July 15<sup>th</sup> for accepting applications for the position. Someone has requested an application. The Town Board will go over the applications and discuss this at the July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

CDBG Grant-Supervisor Nelson will fill out the forms we received and he will follow up with Steve Nelson and also ask him some questions about the flexibility of the funding.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Letter from St. Louis County on the road inspection-Supervisor Opack read the letter from Gordon Halverson which covered all their concerns on our township roads which we have discussed at previous meetings. Supervisor Opack is concerned that if we spend all the money needed to bring the turnarounds up to the County's recommendation and then they decide they won't plow, where does that leave us. Supervisor Opack will have a discussion with our County Commissioner on this issue. St. Louis County also gave us a form letter we will send to the property owners to get written permission for the County snowplows to turn around on the owner's property. We will also send out a form letter getting written permission for the township grader to turn around on the owner's property. Clerk will get a copy of the snowplowing contract to Supervisor Opack.

Island Lake Drive-St. Louis County requested we have the trees trimmed on Island Lake Drive. Supervisor Opack contacted Rick's Tree Service and Rick gave an estimate of \$8,000.00 to do the trimming. Supervisor Nelson made a motion to spend up to \$8,000.00 to trim the trees. Chair Franckowiak second the motion and it was unanimously approved. Supervisor Opack was also given permission to use the remaining funds from the Lawnwood Road project to cut the trees at the Community Center.

Tarnowski Road-We received an email from a resident stating the new road level is now several inches higher than her driveway and it is causing her driveway to wash out. Supervisor Opack met with the land owners and he is suggesting the township go with our grader and take four inches out and put a small six or eight inch culvert in and put a load of Class 5 over it. The land owners will pay for the materials. Supervisor Opack feels we have some responsibility because we raised the road bed. Supervisor Nelson made a motion, second by Chair Franckowiak and unanimously approved to rectify the situation we will use our equipment if the land owner pays for the material.

Turner Road beaver problems-Supervisor Opack got a call from Scott Olson, St. Louis County Highway Maintenance Supervisor, stating that Scott had gotten an email from a resident about the water level in the culvert on Turner Road. Supervisor Opack went and measured and the water is 4 inches from the top of the culvert. The water is right up to our road on little Schultz Lake and Supervisor Opack feels if we get another good rain, the water will be over our road. Scott Olson gave Supervisor Opack the name of a contractor out of Grand Rapids that the County uses to trap beavers and destroy the dam. Supervisor Opack will contact the contractor and get back to the Town Board on what this will cost.

Wires on Howard Gnesen Road-Supervisor Opack observed that the wires from Century Link do not appear to be at legal height. Kurt Blegen said that Century Link is not done with whatever they are doing. We will keep an eye on this.

Grader operator's road report-Tom Haller stated that the roads are in good shape since we put gravel on; dressed up the roads and put chloride on them. Bergstrom Road was full of potholes, so he and graded it again. He has started to mow the township roads. Supervisor Nelson mentioned that there is a blind spot that needs brushing on the NW corner of the intersection of Emerson and Howard Gnesen Road. Supervisor Opack will make Scott Olson aware of the problem. The town clerk mentioned that Scott Olson stopped at the Town Hall today when he was out looking at the culvert at the bottom of West Pioneer Road and Howard Gnesen Road. He said the culvert was rotted out on the bottom. Scott stated that the culvert is back 90 feet, which wouldn't be in their right-of-way but because they put the apron on the road back that far, it could be a county culvert and he will check with his Supervisor to find out. Tom also noticed some spotted nap noxious weeds in the old gravel pit off the Tracy Road. Supervisor Nelson said to contact the noxious weed

person and report it. Tom found garbage again on the minimum maintenance part of Church Road and the Supervisors told Tom to contact 911. Someone also dumped a dead bear in that area also. Gnesen Community Center Building Manager report-Toni Blomdahl was absent.

Gnesen Newspaper-Cindy Erickson was absent.

Resolution #17-08-Supervisor Nelson made a motion, second by Chair Franckowiak and unanimously approved to appoint judges for the School board Election to be held on September 12, 2017.

Records Retention Schedule-Supervisor Nelson made a motion, second by Chair Franckowiak and unanimously approved to destroy the 2015 Preliminary Public Test, the Public Test and the Purchase Order Receipt Book for 1989-2011 per the Records Retention Schedule.

Board of Appeal & Equalization online training-Clerk gave the Board the information about the online training and Supervisor Nelson will take the training before February 1, 2018 as his training expires in 2018.

Planning issues-Gil Kjorstad gave an update on the variance for the boathouse and an update on a complaint awe received on another boathouse. Gil also gave an update on another zoning issue issue and Gil feels the property owner is doing what he promised by planting a significant amount of trees.

Gil Kjorstad-Gil said it has been a pleasure to work with this board. He said we watch our purse strings but when something needs to be done, we do it. Chair Franckowiak thanked Gil for all he has done for the township.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

Three pieces of correspondence were received.

Nine building permits were turned in for the month of June 2017.

#### Upcoming Meetings:

P&Z Commission Meeting-July 19, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Public Hearing on Ordinance changes-July 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Town Board Meeting-July 24, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

National Night Out-August 1, 2017 at the Community Center 5:00 p.m.

Town Board Meeting-August 14, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

DAT Meeting-August 17, 2017-Rice Lake City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

District 10 Meeting-August 24, 2017 more info to come

Town Board Meeting-August 28, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

Disbursements #13906 through #13938 and four Electronic Transfers were read, approved and signed for payment for a total of \$76,836.28 with a motion by Supervisor Nelson, second by Supervisor Opack, all in favor to pay the disbursements. Bank Balance after tonight \$231,212.53.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m. with a motion by Supervisor Nelson, second by Supervisor Opack. 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.