

Regular Meeting Town of Gnesen

March 13, 2017

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, March 13, 2017, 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 six residents stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Supervisor Dave Opack, second by Chair George Franckowiak and unanimously approved. Minutes of the February 13, 2017 and the February 27, 2017 meetings were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Chair Franckowiak.

Treasurer's report was read and approved. Motion by Chair Franckowiak second by Supervisor Opack, all in favor to accept the Treasurer's report. (There were three outstanding checks for the month for a total of \$1,329.49.)

OLD BUSINESS:

P&Z matter-Our attorney, Mike Couri, filed the case with the St. Louis County District Court. The property owner was present at the meeting tonight and submitted the paperwork to apply for a Variance.

Bonding for Gnesen Volunteer Fire Department-The GVFD is looking for Township approval to get a lease purchase or direct loan to purchase a new fire truck. The township would not be liable for the lease purchase or direct loan, but with our approval they can get a significantly lower interest rate. A Public Hearing will be scheduled for March 27th at 8:00 p.m.

P&Z matter-Mike Couri was sending the revised letter to the property owner by registered mail.

Annual Town Election-March 13th, polls open 5 to 8 p.m., Annual Meeting at 8:30 p.m. Martha Ritter will be taking Rita Sherpa's place as an election judge as Rita is unable to do the election.

Emergency plan-We will get a committee together to start work on the emergency plan at our next Town Board Meeting on March 27th at 8:00 p.m. Supervisor Nelson suggested that the Fire Department add Gnesen Township, the Supervisors and our equipment as a supporting agency.

Outdoor Recreation Grant Program-Chair Franckowiak made a motion to approve Resolution #17-04 authorizing application for the DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant, second by Supervisor Opack, all in favor. Deputy clerk Blomdahl will submit the application.

2017 Spring Short Course-The Short Course will be held in Carlton, MN on April 7th.

DAT Meeting-March 16th at 6:30 p.m. at Rice Lake City Hall.

Local Board of Appeals and Equalization Meeting-The meeting has been changed to April 27, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Gnesen Town Hall.

Community Development Block Grant Update-HUD cannot calculate 2017 funding awards until it has received a budget that covers the entire 2017 federal fiscal year and based upon HUD briefings, confirmation of St. Louis County's 2017 CDBG awards are not expected until May or June. We have been advised not to proceed with any portion of our project to upgrade our front entrance and bathrooms at the Town Hall until our award has been confirmed by notice from St. Louis County.

FEMA-Supervisor Nelson inquired if there are any monies available for a shelter through FEMA and found a Community Safe Room Program which is unfunded currently but we can go on the list.

NEW BUSINESS:

Grader operator's road report-Tom Haller stated he did a road inspection on Saturday and there were no trees over the roads blown down by the recent heavy winds. The roads are still frozen and icy in the shady spots. We may need to steam the culverts on Lawnwood Road and Bergstrom Road. The Stop Sign at the intersection of Church Road and Normanna Road is missing so the Town Clerk will send an email to St. Louis County, Vic Lund, and get that replaced. Supervisor Opack will contact St. Louis County to repair the Church Road, where the logging operation was done, to the pre-existing conditions. The concern we received from a resident not being able to see the Church Road name sign on Emerson Road has been addressed as the County came out and trimmed the trees the same day that we notified them.

Gnesen Community Center-Building Manager Toni Blomdahl has been getting calls for summer rentals, mostly for graduation open houses. Board approved sending out a supporter letter.

Gnesen Newspaper-No update.

Moderator pay for the Annual Meeting-We will pay the Moderator \$55.00 for the meeting.

Term life insurance-The Board voted to not raise the amount of term life insurance.

Lobby Days-No one is able to attend the Lobby Days on March 28, 2017. The St. Louis County Association of Townships Annual Meeting and Elections will be May 24th.

2017 Noxious Weed list-We received an email from Kristin Fogard with the list and an email regarding training and informational sessions for our weed inspector.

Minnesota Department of Health Report-The drinking water at the Town Hall and Community Center passed the tests with nitrate + nitrite nitrogen less than .05 mg/L and no coliform bacteria detected.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Three pieces of correspondence were received.

One building permits was turned in for the month of February 2017.

Disbursements #13811 through #13832 and three Electronic Transfers were read, approved and signed for payment for a total of \$9,179.51 with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Chair Franckowiak, all in favor to pay the disbursements. CTAS Balance after tonight \$338,223.45.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m. with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Chair Franckowiak. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting was taped for transcribing purposes only.)