

## Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

March 12, 2018

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, March 12, 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 three Town residents stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Vice Chair Nelson took a moment to honor George Franckowiak, former Town Chair, who passed away on February 26th and to thank George for all he did for the Township. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Supervisor David Opack, second by Supervisor Ed Franckowiak and unanimously approved. Minutes of the February 26, 2018 Town Board meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Vice Chair Jon Nelson.

Treasurer's report was given. Motion by Vice Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all voted in favor to accept the Treasurer's report. (There was one outstanding check for the month for a total of \$40.00.)

### OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion on Gnesen Community Center-Much discussion followed on the potential to use the Center as the Town Hall in the future. Vice Chair Nelson gave some information to bring Supervisor Franckowiak and the audience up to current days on why this is being discussed as something for the future. Vice Chair Nelson mentioned the grant we had received last year to upgrade the front entrance to the Town Hall, which we have not done yet. Supervisor Opack talked about the Long Range Plan the UMD Students conducted at the Center. There was some discussion on what to do with the present Town Hall. Vice Chair Nelson asked if he could talk to CDBG about the possibility of using the grant money over at the Community Center instead of the Town Hall and he was given permission by the other Supervisors to talk to the CDBG Board.

Vacancy on the Town Board-Clerk Haller emailed the lawyer at MAT to see how we handle the vacancy now, and they stated that based on the resolution we used to appoint Ed Franckowiak; Ed can fill the vacancy until the term is up in 2020 and then he would have to file and run for the position. Ed was okay will filling out the rest of the term.

Beavers-We received a letter from St. Louis County Public Works Department clarifying the SLCAT Meeting Minutes-the new pilot beaver control program is not available to townships. Supervisor Opack is getting some legal advice as to how we will handle beaver problems in our Township.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Grader operator's road report- Grader Operator Tom Haller stated that he did a road review after the last big wind storm and he found a lot of branches on the road but no trees. Tom stated that there is water over the Lawnwood Road. The Clerk emailed the County to steam the culverts on Lawnwood Road when they are in the area. Supervisor Opack requested that we contact Canosia Township to see how it worked to have Asphalt of Duluth do their snowplowing. Tom stated he needs to change oil & filters on our machines.

Gnesen Community Center-Building Manager Toni Blomdahl stated once Duluth Electrical gets our check for the down payment on the generator, they can get that installed at the Center. Toni stated that we have a baseball group that wants to use the gym two nights a week. Supervisor Opack asked Robert Aho if he has done anything on the architectural stuff on the building and Robert stated he has not. Supervisor Franckowiak asked if we can find a way that the batting cage can be taken down when not in use. Toni will look into this.

Gnesen Community Newsletter-Cindy Erickson, Editor, reported that she has had requests from residents to have something about George Franckowiak in the paper. Supervisor Franckowiak will get the information to Cindy to put in the paper.

St. Louis County Sheriff's Office Crime Activity Report for February-13 Crime Activity Records printed.

Resolution #18-07-Supervisor Opack made a motion, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all in favor to adopt Resolution #18-07 Designating official posting places-we removed Porky's Truck Stop.

Resolution #18-08- Supervisor Opack made a motion, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all in favor to accept a donation to the Community Center.

Classification of State Tax Forfeited land-We received a letter from St. Louis County Land and Minerals Department to change the classification to non-conservation. The Town Board has no objections nor do we wish to acquire the parcel.

Town Law Review (formerly Legal Short Course)-April 19, 2018 in Burnsville, MN.

Gravel Road Maintenance and Design Workshop-April 10, 2018. Clerk will register Dave Opack and Tom Haller for the workshop.

Letter from the Minnesota Department of Health-They have detected total coliform bacteria in our drinking water supply at the Town Hall. The department asked Tom Haller to change the filters, flush the system with chlorine and then contact them and they will come back and re-test.

Agenda for the Annual Meeting-Broadband update; UMD Student's suggestions-disc golf, trails, more youth activities; DNR Grant; moving the Town Hall operations to the Community Center; and snow plowing the Town roads. The Moderator that is nominated to run the meeting will get \$55.00 for running the meeting.

Planning Commission appointment-Supervisor Opack made a motion, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all in favor to reappoint Tim Cernohous and Gunnar Johnson to the Planning Commission for another three year term ending in 2021. Gary Juten has stated that he does not wish to be re-appointed.

Zoning concerns-Carter Williams was present at the meeting to ask the Town Board how they feel about expanding the Commercial Zones. Supervisor Opack stated that when this was discussed previously people wanted some commercial areas and that was the criteria that the previous Planning Commission used to determine the commercial zones that we presently have. There was no desire to expand the commercial zones. The Town Board Supervisors agreed they would like to preserve the commercial zones for commercial use only. The Board wants to maintain consistency on all commercial property in the township

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

Two pieces of correspondence were received.

No building permits were turned in for the month of February 2018.

#### Upcoming Meetings:

Annual Election-March 13, 2018 Polls open at 5:00 p.m. Close at 8:00 p.m.

Annual Township Meeting-March 13, 2018 at approximately 8:30 p.m.

DAT Meeting-March 15, 2018 6:30 p.m. Rice Lake City Hall-Aquatic Invasive Species speaker-Doug Jensen.

Zoning Commission Meeting-March 21, 2018 7:30 p.m.

Town Board Meeting-March 26, 2018 8:00 p.m.

Spring Short Course-April 6, 2018 9:00

Disbursements #14124 through #14145 and three Electronic Transfers were read, approved and signed for payment for a total of \$14,459.62 with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all in favor to pay the disbursements.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. with a motion by Supervisor Franckowiak, second by Supervisor Opack. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting was taped for transcribing purposes only.)