

## Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, August 13, 2018, at the Gnesen Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Chair Jon Nelson. Motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the letter from the County about gravel crushing, crack sealing and striping was moved by Supervisor Franckowiak, second by Supervisor Opack and Board approved.

Minutes of the July 23, 2018 Town Board Meetings were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Franckowiak, second by Supervisor Opack.

Treasurer's report was read. Motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Opack, all voted in favor to accept the Treasurer's report. (There was one outstanding check for \$211.88 and two of the credit card transactions had a return on them which was not noted on the statement, so we will adjust those when we make the payments tonight.)

### OLD BUSINESS:

Eagle Lake Shoreline- We received a letter from St. Louis County Land and Minerals Department addressing vacant tax forfeited properties in St. Louis County. They would convey this shoreline property to the township, if we wanted it. Chair Nelson stated that he took this issue to the Watershed Meeting but the DNR and MPCA were not at the meeting. He was able to talk with St. Louis County Rep on the DUWAC Board and told them we are not interested in the property and that we want someone to take care of the property, the DNR, and she was going to go back and revisit with the DNR.

Zoning Issue-Robert Aho has not been able to get a hold of the property owner. Robert drove by the property today and the property owner is removing stuff, so Robert is seeing progress. Robert would like to see the property owner finish the fences. He will continue to try to get in touch with the property owner.

CDBG-Chair Nelson stated that the County needs to know if we are going to use the funds that were granted for repairs to the Town Hall with matching money from the Township or return it and apply for a grant for the Community Center next year. Because of the work we are doing and planning to do at the Community Center and it seems like the direction we are heading, we hesitate to put more money into this building. Supervisor Opack made a motion to not spend the 2017 CDBG funds, second by Chair Nelson, all in favor. Supervisor Franckowiak stated we need to have more concrete discussion on the Community Center. Chair Nelson stated we will have to make a decision on that before January if we are going to apply for CDBG funds next year.

Berg Road and Park Drive complaints-Robert Aho, Zoning Officer has written letters to the property owners, which were mailed out today. The clerk will send them certified also.

Como Oil and propane locked price-Clerk Haller signed the agreement to lock in at \$1.269 thru 4/30/19.

Pickup truck-Supervisor Opack stated that the MN DNR Public auction will accept a purchase order. Because we are a government body, they can sell directly to us without going through the auction process. Dave and Tom will go to the auction. Supervisor Franckowiak asked if we could do some research on-line, with local dealers, etc. to see what kind of a deal we could get instead of rushing into this.

John Deere factory representative-There will be a demo on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in Cloquet.

Police protection-We will discuss this at the DAT Meeting to see what other townships are doing. The Town Board would like to invite Ross Litman to come to our next Town Board Meeting to get some input from him on this issue.

Plaques-Supervisor Franckowiak will check on different plaques and bring this information back to the Town Board.

National Night Out-We served around 175 people, took in \$565.00 in donations. Sarah spent \$129.85 on prizes and supplies. Lottie spent \$48.62 on ice cream treats. The Memorial Blood Center collected

13 units of blood. Discussion followed on the price Valentini's quoted us on food for 120 people because we added 50 additional people. Chair Nelson made a motion, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, with Supervisor Opack abstaining, to pay Valentini's the additional fee.

NEW BUSINESS:

Grader operator's road report- Grader Operator Tom Haller stated that all the roads, except the lanes at Eagle Lake, have been mowed. Tom will go out and grade the roads when we get some rain.

Supervisor Opack talked to Bob Abrahamson from Northern Welding about making a cattle panel to put in front of the culvert and Bob will weld it for us. Chair Nelson talked to the Watershed Group and there is no agreement whether beavers are good or bad for the streams. They suggest that we just trap the beavers if we are having problems.

Gnesen Community Center- The weed kill has been applied to the softball field.

Gnesen Community Newsletter- Editor Cindy Erickson stated everything is going good with the paper.

Rice Lake Volunteer Fire Department-We received an email asking if the town Board would waive the fee for the fire department's ad in our paper about their Halloween Carnival. Supervisor Franckowiak made a motion, second by Chair Nelson, all in favor of waiving the fee for their ad.

Crime activity report from St. Louis County Sheriff's Office-There were 25 crime activity records printed. We will discuss the report with Ross Litman when he is at our next meeting.

2019 Certified Town Aid for Gnesen-We will receive \$2,583.00 in two installments in 2019.

District 10 Meeting and Election Notice-The meeting will be on August 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Lottie will attend.

DAT Annual BBQ Invitation-August 16th at Rice Lake City Hall at 6:00 p.m. Jon, Ed, Sarah and Lottie will attend.

2018 Treatment Plan from Plunkett's-They will be treating for fall invaders in late August thru September and ask that we pass along their office number to anyone in the neighborhood interested in being treated for cluster flies, etc. It was suggested to tell them to advertise in our newsletter.

Reminder flyer-From Couri & Ruppe about the Legal Seminar-October 6<sup>th</sup> at Cotton Town Hall.

Letter from St. Louis County about crack sealing, striping and gravel crushing-We will not participate but Clerk Haller will talk to the County to see who they contracted with and talk directly with the contractor to strip the Island Lake Drive and Pioneer Road.

New rules-Robert reported on some new handicap regulations that governments will have to follow when building.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Fredenburg Newsletter

Lakewood Newsletter

2018 MN Fall Expo Educational Sessions/Curriculum

The Paw Print Newsletter from Animal Allies

Seven building permits were turned in for the month of July 2018.

Upcoming Meetings:

Primary Election-August 14, 2018 Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting-August 15, 2018 7:30 p.m.

DAT Meeting-August 16, 2018 6:00 p.m. Rice Lake City Hall

Town Board Meeting- August 27, 2018 – 8:00 p.m.

District 10 Meeting-August 30, 2018-5:30 p.m. Cotton Town Hall

Disbursements #14258 through #14293 and five electronic transfers were read, approved and signed for payment for a total of \$56,620.94 with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all in favor to pay the disbursements.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m. with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Supervisor Franckowiak. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting was taped for transcribing purposes only.)

Visitors attending the meeting were: None. Employees present were: Robert Aho, Sarah Blix, Cindy Erickson, and Tom Haller.