

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

February 12, 2018

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, February 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 eight Town residents stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Vice Chair welcomed Ed Franckowiak who was appointed to fill the vacancy in a town office according to Resolution #18-04 declaring the vacancy. Ed was issued a Certificate of Appointment and took the Oath of Office earlier this evening. Vice Chair Nelson also explained that Supervisor Opack is not here this evening due to recent surgery. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Supervisor Ed Franckowiak, second by Vice Chair Jon Nelson and unanimously approved. Minutes of the January 8, 2018 and January 22, 2018 Town Board meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Franckowiak, second by Vice Chair Jon Nelson.

Motion by Supervisor Franckowiak, second by Vice Chair Nelson, all voted in favor to accept the Treasurer's report, which was submitted by the Town clerk in the Treasurer's, Mary Bjorklund, absence. (There was one outstanding check for the month for a total of \$1,289.12.)

OLD BUSINESS:

Conditional Use Permit for Property owner-Vice Chair read the findings and facts submitted by the Planning Commission and their recommendation to deny the CUP. Vice Chair Nelson asked the property owner to present his comments. The property owner stated that he did not intend to cause a ruckus in the neighborhood and asked if the Board would give him a chance to prove that he would follow any conditions imposed on the CUP. Vice Chair Nelson stated it is not about the property owner but about setting a precedent and following the rules in the Ordinance. Vice Chair asked if the neighbors present had anything to add that they hadn't heard before and they stated no. Vice Chair Nelson stated that we have a recommendation from the Planning Commission and he moved that we deny the CUP, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all in favor. Some discussion followed on other businesses in the Township that the Planning Commission is following up on that will need CUPs.

CDBG Grant Application- Vice Chair Nelson stated our \$14,000.00 request has made the final approval list. Vice Chair Nelson will speak to St. Louis County about moving the Town Hall CDBG Grant money to the GCC CDBG Grant project.

Broadband Follow-up-Vice Chair Nelson stated he is meeting Troy from CenturyLink and will check with him again on where we are at with broadband for our area.

NEW BUSINESS:

Grader operator's road report- Grader Operator Tom Haller stated that the township roads are in good driving condition. He mentioned that the County has been out scraping some of the township roads. The culverts are all frozen and he will keep an eye on them. Tom stated he may go out with the brusher to clear brush. He also said that the County has been doing a great job on keeping our roads plowed.

Gnesen Community Center-Building Manager Toni Blomdahl stated there is not a whole lot going on at the Community Center right now. Toni and Jon met with the students from UMD about the DNR grant. Toni mentioned that the water in the men's bathroom froze again and Kurt Blegen stated that we will probably have to put a heating source in the crawl space.

UMD Student recommendation-Toni Blomdahl presented the Board with a list of recommendations. Vice Chair Nelson stated that they included some of the recommendations in the DNR Grant that the students are working on: creating trails, creating a nature playscape, disc golf/Frisbee golf and expanding the current youth programming. The other recommendations would be looked at in the future.

Resolution #18-05-Vice Chair Nelson made a motion, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all in favor to adopt Resolution #18-05 authorizing application for DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant.

Resolution #18-06- Vice Chair Nelson made a motion, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all in favor to Adopt the Establishing a Policy for the Compensation and Reimbursement of Town Officers. Toni will check to see what the Federal amount for meal allowance is.

St. Louis County Crime Activity Report for January 2018-The report was received and included in the Board's packet.

Destroy Item #12-Supervisor Franckowiak made a motion, second by Vice Chair Nelson, all in favor to destroy Claims 2011; receipts 2011-2012; receipts 1990-1997; claims 1990-1997; Town elections 2012-2015; State election 11/6/12 as per the Records Retention Schedule.

Local Board of Appeals and Equalization-The Appeals Meeting will be held on May 3, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Zoning map costs-Toni Blomdahl submitted a request from the Planning Commission to purchase new zoning maps. Vice Chair Nelson made a motion, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all in favor to allocate up to \$1,000.00 to get the map revised and get some extra copies.

Letter from AEOA-AEOA intends to apply for the Minnesota Department of Transportation Grant and they are seeking applicants to help develop a plan. Clerk gave the Supervisors the information and if they are interested in being on the committee they can contact AEOA personally.

2018 Snowplowing fee schedule-We received a letter stating the County will be raising the fee to \$975.00 per mile starting in October, up from \$875.00 last year.

St. Louis County Association of Townships Meeting Minutes-Clerk made copies of the minutes and calendar. The next meeting is February 28, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in Cotton, MN

DAT Meeting-Gnesen will Chair the Duluth Area Townships Meetings for this year. At the Meeting on March 15th, we will have Doug Jensen speak on Aquatic Invasive Species.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Four pieces of correspondence were received.

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

Upcoming Meetings:

Planning Commission Meeting, February 21, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. Work meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Town Board Meeting, February 22, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

Town Board Meeting, March 12, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

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.

Disbursements #14097 through #14123 and three Electronic Transfers were read, approved and signed for payment for a total of \$13,035.27 with a motion by Vice Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all in favor to pay the disbursements.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m. with a motion by Supervisor Franckowiak, second by Vice Chair Nelson. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting was taped for transcribing purposes only.)

Visitors attending the meeting were: Carter Williams, Mike & Kelly Robinson, Todd Landon, Rob Juten, Richard Peterson, Kevin and Amanda Middleton. Employees present were: Tom Haller, Kurt Blegen and Robert Aho.