

## Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

July 9, 2018

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, July 9, 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 was moved by Supervisor Franckowiak, second by Supervisor Opack and Board approved.

Minutes of the June 11, 2018, and June 25, 2018 Town Board Meetings were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Supervisor Franckowiak.

Motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all voted in favor to accept the Treasurer's report. (There was one outstanding check for \$249.72.)

### OLD BUSINESS:

Seeds of Hope Conditional Use Permit- The conditions that are imposed on the CUP were gone over and Numbers 4-7 were discussed, in length, to clarify the language. After much discussion Russ and Wendy Krook were comfortable with the changes. Supervisor Opack made a motion, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all voted in favor of approving the CUP. \*See attached for updated conditions.

Grader- Supervisor Opack met with a representative from the John Deere Dealership and we are currently test driving a new John Deere grader. Supervisor Opack is still researching all our options.

Water at the Town Hall- Supervisor Franckowiak reported that Rasmussen's did a clean out under the old cap because it wasn't sealed and put on a new cap to the well, treated it and the water test came back clean and that the water is now safe to use/drink.

Community Block Grant-No update at this time.

DNR Grant Letter-We received a letter from the Minnesota Department of Administration-State Historic Preservation Office telling us that they have reviewed our project and conclude that there are no properties listed in the National or State Registers of Historic Places and no known or suspected archaeological properties in the area that will be affected by this project.

Broadband update-Chair Nelson stated that Gnesen Township is part of 2019 planning process with a 2020 implementation planned as of now.

Eagle Lake Shoreline- We received an email from Patricia Fowler, Area Hydrologist for MN DNR with answers to the questions about the shoreline. Zoning Officer Aho stated that the issues on Eagle Lake Shoreline is not a zoning issue, they would need to talk to the land owner, which is the state of Minnesota and that the rules should be regulated by the DNR not the township. Chair Nelson will follow up with this when he attends the watershed meeting.

A resident made a complaint about the continued commercial activity on the property on the Jean Duluth Road-Clerk Haller sent an email to our lawyer asking what can be done but he is out of the office until July 11<sup>th</sup>. Chair Nelson suggested that, at this point, it is in litigation, we will just let our lawyer deal with it.

Zoning Officer request for a raise-Because the Supervisors have not seen any of the follow-up information at this point. Clerk Haller talked to some other townships and they sent her emails with the information as to what their zoning officer makes. Chair Nelson will take the information and do some analysis and get the information back to the clerk to share with the other Supervisors.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Grader operator's road report- Grader Operator Tom Haller stated that 149 loads of gravel have been dispersed on township roads. All roads on Sunshine Lake, Shultz Lake, and Jacob Lake have had calcium chloride applied to them with 7 more roads need chloride applied. Mowing the ditches will be started soon. Supervisor Opack stated that we have an issue with a culvert on Boulder Lake Road, with

a chuckhole in the middle of the road and the culvert is failing. Supervisor Opack has ordered a new 32 foot culvert and Gary Juten will install it on Friday. Supervisor Opack contacted Gopher One and they will come mark any lines prior to digging. Supervisor Opack had Tom go put out a barricade and Tom went to check out the hole he noticed that the barrier had been stolen. Tom will try to do a temporary fix with the grader. Clerk Haller notified all residents on Some Quiet Place and the Silver Fox Campground of road closure for culvert replacement on July 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00 a.m. Chair Nelson asked about the culvert on Lawnwood road and Supervisor Opack stated it is still on the list to be replaced.

Gnesen Community Center- Chair Nelson asked Building Manager Toni Blomdahl if there is a timeline as to when we get the money and when we have to use it. She will check on this. Supervisor Opack mentioned that he talked to the John Deere salesman and mentioned the trails we might install and he talked about a rotary brusher and they would rent that to the township. Toni mentioned the possibility of using mulch from the Bergstrom Road tree cutting for the trails. The pickle ball court has been marked out and equipment has been purchased and will be left in a bin on the court for public use. Chair Nelson stated that an Eagle Scout has said he would to build a miniature library possibly sometime in September. Carleen Nelson will be the steward of the library and Jon and Carleen will get an article together for the newspaper.

Gnesen Community Newsletter- Editor Cindy Erickson will be updating the Township Web Site to include the complaint form, update the planning and zoning ordinance and maps, change the fee schedule and update the permit application form to reflect the new prices. The township personnel's new emails are being set up and will be ready to start using July 15, 2018.

National Night Out- National Night Out will be held on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Opack talked to Valentini's and they will cater the food for the event. Clerk met with Memorial Blood Donors and Sarah Blix, Deputy Clerk will be calling people to donate blood. Mary Bjorklund will not be able to bring her animals. A Sheriff's Deputy will be in attendance and the Fire Department will have their new truck there. Supervisor Franckowiak made a motion that up to \$200.00 can be spent on prizes for the kids games, second by Supervisor Opack, all in favor. Sarah checked on the possibility of the Zoo Mobile coming out, but we decided not to because of the expense.

St. Louis County Sheriff's report- We received the June report.

Comprehensive Land Use Plan- We received a letter from the Planning & Community Development Department reminding us about the Comprehensive Land Use Plan workshop on July 19<sup>th</sup> at the 911 Emergency Communications Building. Carter Williams, from the Planning Commission will be attending.

Stewart Camp on Berg Road-Supervisor Opack received two complaints asking what we are going to do about the campground on Berg Road. There are six units on the property. A resident questioned possible sewage issues and the fact that it is lowering their property value. Supervisor Opack made a motion, second by Chair Nelson, all in favor to contact the St. Louis County Health Department and have them inspect the current sewage situation.

Town Hall Request-We received a request asking if members from the fire department could get a reduced rate on rentals. The Board decided that there is a discount for Gnesen residents, so no additional discounts would be offered.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

Duluth Township Newsletter  
City of Rice Lake Newsletter

Two building permits were turned in for the month of June 2018.

#### Upcoming Meetings:

Groundbreaking ceremony-tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. 4289 Ugstad Road-Health and Wellness Center

Planning Commission- July 18, 2018 – 7:30 p.m.

Town Board Meeting- July 23, 2018 – 8:00 p.m.

Town Board Meeting-August 13, 2018-8:00 p.m.

Disbursements #14229 through #14257 and five electronic transfers were read, approved and signed for payment for a total of \$32,933.40 with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all in favor to pay the disbursements.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:36 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: Wendy and Russell Krook and Gil Kjorstad. Employees present were: Robert Aho, Sarah Blix, Toni Blomdahl, Cindy Erickson, Tom Haller and Kurt Blegen.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Lottie Haller, Clerk

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Mary Bjorklund, Treasurer

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Jon Nelson, Chair

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Date Approved