

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

April 11, 2022

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, April 11, 2022. The following officers were present:

Jon Nelson	Chair-via zoom
Ed Franckowiak	Supervisor
Gary Juten	Supervisor
Lottie Haller	Clerk
Sarah Blix	Deputy clerk
Mary Bjorklund	Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Chair Nelson. Board Members and six residents stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Juten. All voted in favor.

Minutes of the March 28, 2022 Town Board Meeting and the March 28, 2022 Reorganizational Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Juten, second by Supervisor Franckowiak. Board approved.

Treasurer's report:

Balance for February 2022	\$423,864.42
Receipts for March 2022	<u>+ 13,899.55</u>
	\$437,763.97
Disbursements for March 2022	<u>-14,350.83</u>
Balance for March 2022	\$423,413.14

There were two outstanding checks for the month totaling \$515.00. Motion by Supervisor Juten, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all voted in favor to accept the Treasurer's report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

LED lights in the Senior's Room-Sarah Blix is waiting for a quote.

First aid kits-Jody Cooke stated that the fire department has everything ready to go but they are just looking for the cases to display them. Jody said that the kits they are making up will have more user friendly items than other fire kits.

Red Cross-Chair Nelson talked with Owen, from the Red Cross and Owen stated that they will be setting up a time to come out and go through the Community Center with a check list to see if we could be listed as an emergency shelter. Chair Nelson also stated that the Red Cross usually provides a shelter for people's pets and he asked about the garage, whether it could be heated or not. Jody stated that the furnace that was in there is no good and he is working to dispose of it. Sarah Blix suggested the warming house as a possibility. Carol Jacobson stated that Minnesota Power is closing out their cafeteria and she asked if it would be okay if she worked with Sarah Blix and Minnesota Power to see what Minnesota Power would be willing to donate to our kitchen. The Board approved Sarah and Carol working on this project.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Road grader operator's road report-Jody Cooke stated that he drove the township roads today and they have pot holes in spots. He stated that the culvert on Bergstrom Road was frozen. Clerk Haller contacted St. Louis County and they came out and steamed it today. Jody stated that Needle Lane has

muddy areas throughout the road where water can't run off. Chair Nelson asked how the gravel looks that we put on that road last year and Jody said where it is sunny, the gravel looks good. Supervisor Juten received a call reporting that a hole had opened up on Turner Road. He went out to look at it and found that both of the culverts are in very bad condition (rusted out on sides) allowing gravel to be washed out. He filled the hole with six 5 gallon pails of Class #5 and left 5 other pails of gravel there to refill the hole when it is needed and we will have to discuss replacing the culverts at our next meeting. Supervisor Juten had a discussion with Jesse from Ulland Brothers and Jesse stated that they could crush a pile of gravel in their Palmer Pit for us but we would have to bring in a loader. There will be no retail sales in their Oscar Pit. The Board instructed Clerk Haller to get the quantity of gravel that we have purchased in the last few years to Supervisor Juten so he can have another discussion with Ulland on what we might need for our gravel needs this summer, and we will discuss it at our next meeting.

Gnesen Community Center report-Sarah Blix stated that she contacted Johnson Wilson and they stated that we are on their agenda to come out and fix the molding around the outside of the gym when it dries up so they can drive around to the back of the building with their equipment. Sarah stated rental are picking up. Jody said the cupola will be re-installed this summer. The new gym doors are all painted and Jody is waiting for warmer weather to install them as he has to remove the middle part between the exiting doors.

Letter from the Minnesota Department of Health-There were less than .05 mg/L nitrate + Nitrite Nitrogen in the water tested here. (This is in addition to the no coliform bacteria report last month.)

Liquor License renewal for Gnesen Convenience Store and Island Lake Inn-Supervisor Franckowiak made a motion, second by Supervisor Juten and Board approved to approve the renewal liquor license for both places.

GCC rental-Clark Garthwait, from the Boy Scouts, would like to use the GCC again this year for the Day Camps and he is asking for a reduced fee-last year for both days we charged \$250.00 plus \$100.00 deposit. They would be using it June 23 and 24, 2022 and their theme this year is Wild, Wild West. There are between 50 to 75 people in attendance. Supervisor Juten made a motion to waive the fee in lieu of the Boy Scouts volunteering to do some work around the Community Center this spring/summer but to collect the \$100.00 deposit. Chair Nelson second the motion and all voted in favor.

Park Drive-Dennis Campbell had some questions about vacating Park Drive and the Town Board said to put it on the May agenda for discussion.

Zoning Officers Report-Nathan Horyza stated he sent an email to the DNR about Needle Lane but he has not heard back from them yet. Supervisor Juten suggested that he get in touch with R.C. Boheim to discuss this. Nathan has asked Tim Grahek to attend the May Planning Commission Meeting to talk about the hot-mix asphalt plant. Nathan asked Tim to provide him with several reports that he would like to see about the HMP. Ulland Brothers are trying to do something about the smell. Nathan said that building permits are starting to come in, and that the sub-committee on short-term rentals met last week and they will be meeting every other week and plan to have a proposal by May 31<sup>st</sup> for what should be put in our ordinance regarding short-term rentals. He did get a call from Powder River Development about fiber-optics and he has to call them back to get more information.

Feedback from the Supervisors to the Planning Commission-Nothing tonight.

Chair Nelson asked if there was any other business. There was some discussion on the upcoming Board of Appeals and their process for determining taxes and it was suggested to discuss these concerns with the County Commissioners when they meet here on May 10, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Disbursement #15464 thru #15486 and 5 EFT's were read, approved, and signed for payment for a total of \$20,978.15 with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Juten, all in favor to pay the disbursement. Additional disbursement not on tonight's agenda #15487 for Minnesota Power for a total of \$363.00 was also read, approved, and signed for payment

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m. with a motion by Supervisor Juten, second by Supervisor Franckowiak. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting is taped for transcribing purposes only.)

Visitors attending the meeting: Clark Garthwait, Dennis Campbell, Gavin Campbell, Kevin Middleton, David Stewart, and Carol Jacobson. Employees present Jody Cooke and Nathan Horyza. Employees absent None.

Upcoming meetings: in-person

Local Board of Appeals & Equalization Meeting-April 19, 2022-10:00 a.m.to 11:00 a.m.

Planning Commission Meeting-April 20, 2022-7:30 p.m.

AWAIR Meeting-April 25, 2022-7:00 p.m

Town Board Meeting-April 25, 2022-8:00 p.m.

Reconvened Annual Meeting-May 23, 2022

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lottie Haller, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Bjorklund, Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jon Nelson, Chair

Date approved: \_\_\_\_\_