

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

April 25, 2022

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, April 25, 2022. The following officers were present:

Jon Nelson	Chair
Ed Franckowiak	Supervisor
Gary Juten	Supervisor
Lottie Haller	Clerk
Sarah Blix	Deputy clerk

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Chair Nelson. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Franckowiak. All voted in favor.

Minutes of the April 11, 2022 Town Board Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Juten.

OLD BUSINESS:

LED lights in the Seniors Room-Sarah Blix received a quote from Wescom to do the work on replacing existing light fixtures in the Community Room for \$12,689.95. The company stated that they like to support their community and would take \$2,000.00 off of the quoted price. Clerk Haller asked about getting a quote on replacing the old tiles that are under the drop down ceiling. Supervisor Franckowiak made a motion, second by Supervisor Juten to go with Wescom with the \$2,000.00 reduction price. All voted in favor. Chair Nelson explained that we can use the ARPA money on this project. Sarah will follow up with Wescom and set up a time for them to come and do the work. Before we move forward, Sarah will have him send her the pictures of the exact lights they will be putting up.

Red Cross-Chair Nelson stated that Owen, from the Red Cross will come out in sometime June and go through the building with their checklist of things needed to declare the Community Center an emergency shelter. Chair Nelson told Jody that this would also include going through the garage with the checklist to have it as a pet shelter for an emergency. Chair Nelson will have him contact Sarah to set up the date and time.

Turner Road-Supervisor Juten stated that all the Class #5 that he had previously left to fill in the hole on Turner Road was gone and he brought more gravel up there. He stated that the culvert is collapsing from the top now. Because of the weather, replacement of the culverts is not possible right now but he would put a temporary patch of some sort over that part of the pipe. Supervisor Juten and Kevin Middleton will look at the culverts tomorrow. Gary got an estimate from Hancock of \$50.00 a foot. Supervisor Franckowiak stated that we have one culvert at the old Town Hall by the garage. Chair Nelson asked Supervisor Juten to get multiple quotes and Supervisor Juten stated that he will show the job and have the quotes sent here to the office.

Cell Tower sub-committee-Sherri Underthun, from the cell tower sub-committee presented a proposed Gnesen Township Telecommunication Tower Ordinance. There was fifty minutes of discussion on this issue. Chair Nelson asked if this information applies to 5G and Sherri stated that they have not addressed the 5G yet, they were addressing not having a cell tower farm in Gnesen. Chair Nelson stated that we may have a whole different issue when you are talking about 5G, but this is what we are talking about on the tower side. Sherri felt the sub-committee needed to present both sides of the issues, the pros and cons. She feels that they have come up with something that they feel is ready for the Town Board to look at and you can make your changes and decisions. The Supervisors have asked for some time to look over the proposal and they will submit any comments/questions/concerns to the

Planning Commission. Chair Nelson will do some research on the 100 foot height and would there be more risk of homes being impacted. He will put something in writing and get it to the Planning Commission so they can take another look at that aspect. He feels that if we are looking at this, we may need to anticipate the 5G. He said that the FCC stated that States and local municipalities are going to be very restricted on doing anything to stop 5G. He asked if the committee spent much time looking into that to find out if we are going down a path that we are not going to have the authority to do it anyway. He feels we need to spend some more time putting some questions together whether it's about 5G or about some of this State language, maybe even see if MAT has put anything out about it. Chair Nelson stated that we are not going to take any action on it tonight, so the commission will have another chance to look over it. Interim Ordinance #2021-1 to study, adoption or amendments of official zoning controls was passed by the Town Board on November 8, 2021 so they have until 11/8/22 to get this done. Clerk Haller will check with the MAT Lawyer to see if we can extend the interim ordinance to give more time to work on this. Carter Williams asked how the Town Board feels about establishing fixed penalty fees as opposed to misdemeanor fines. Supervisor Franckowiak stated that was a fair question, definitely in infancy stages right now and a discussion on that would have to include Nathan and the enforcement of it and also have our attorney look through it, but we can add it to the discussion. By our next meeting, the Board will have their questions for the Planning Commission and Sherry requested that she would like to get the questions by the 10th so the sub-committee can get together to go over them. Carter also asked who pays for the cell tower removal and Sherry said that is addressed in Section 13G, Section 14J and Section 19B in our Ordinance. Supervisor Juten suggested that the sub-committee come back to our May 9th meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Culvert by Steve Franckowiak's house on West Pioneer Road-The culvert must be blocked because the water is backing up and making a lake by Steve's place. Tom Haller and Jody Cooke will go see if they can find the end and Jody said he could bring the fire truck over to try blow the culvert out. Supervisor Juten stated he has a pump they could use also. The road is getting soft because the water is on the road. Resolution #22-12-Letter from the Planning Commission recommending Carol Jacobson to the Planning Commission. Supervisor Juten made a motion, second by Supervisor Franckowiak and board approved to accept their recommendation to appoint Carol Jacobson. Clerk will send letters out to Carol letting her know she was appointed and two the other two candidates thanking them for their interest in the position and encouraging them to get involved in things in the community and get involved/invited to be on sub-committees.

Letter from Couri & Ruppe about the Township Legal Seminar-(They usually send an agenda later. So Clerk will make copies then.) October 1, 2022 at the Cotton Town Hall.

MAT 2022 Town Law Review & Legal Short Course-May 25, 2022 in Otesgo. Clerk Haller will check to see if they will be recording this short course so the Supervisor can watch it on their own time.

Insurance papers-The board looked over the paperwork and we need to get more information on whether we are covered for cybercrimes. Supervisor Juten asked if it replacement costs or what you are insured for. Clerk Haller will check on these items. Supervisor Juten will look over the equipment side of it. The Board feels we need to increase the value of the garage here at the Community Center and they will think about what we should increase it to. It was felt that we need to keep the coverage on the old garage at the town Hall as we rent it out and if it burnt down we need coverage.

Recessed Annual Meeting-May 23, 2022 because we mentioned the time and the date at the meeting and all of our meetings are held at the Community Center it is not required that we publish it again. Clerk Haller did put the information on the front page of the May newsletter.

Needle Lane-For our May 9th meeting the Board would like an update from Nathan on what he found out from the DNR. We will also see who owns the property where we might have to turn around and any other information we might need.

Road Review-The Board set the Road Review for May 23, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Clerk will check to see when it has to be posted and she will make copies of the last few years so the board can see how much gravel we have purchased.

Class 5-Supervisor Juten stated that Ulland Brothers will not be putting up a pile for us in their pit but will do business as usual for Gnesen Township. They will have the material and if they don't have a loader in the pit, we would have to supply one. They didn't know the cost of the gravel yet.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Fredenberg Township Newsletter

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:11 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: Kevin Middleton, Darin Franckowiak, Dennis Campbell, Sherri Underthun, Carter Williams, Jay Haller, and Pete Bergman. Employees present Jody Cooke.

Upcoming meetings: in-person

Town Board Meeting-May 9, 2022-8:00 p.m.

St. Louis County Commissioners-May 10, 2022-8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting-May 18, 2022-7:30 p.m.

DAT Meeting-May 19, 2022-6:30 p.m. Rice Lake City Hall

Reconvened Annual Meeting-May 23, 2022-7:00 p.m.

Town Board Meeting-May 23, 2022-8:00 p.m.

Signed: _____
Lottie Haller, Clerk

Jon Nelson, Chair

Date approved: _____