

**Town of Gnesen Planning Commission  
July 20, 2022 Minutes**

Members Present: Pete Bergman, Kathy Buran, Matt Thibodeau, Joe Ferguson, Sherri Underthun, Kevin Middleton, Dick Delano, Carol Jacobson, Nathan Horyza, Zoning Officer; and Sarah Blix, Planning and Zoning Secretary.

Members Absent: Carter Williams

Others Present: Jay Haller, Marcia Haller, Gil Kjorstad, and Gary Juten

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A motion was made by Kevin to approve the agenda, second by Kathy. All vote in favor.

**APPROVAL OF THE ADDENDUM FROM JUNE 15, 2022 TO THE MAY 18, 2022 PFINGSTEN VARIANCE PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES:** A motion was made by Joe to approve the addendum to the May 18, 2022 Pflingsten Variance Public Hearing minutes, second by Carol. All vote in favor.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15, 2022 REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING:** A motion was made by Joe to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2022 regular Planning Commission Meeting, second by Sherri. All vote in favor.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION:** None

**CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

**Communication Tower Moratorium Subcommittee:** Sherri had sent out the revised ordinance electronically prior to the meeting. Sherri said she made the corrections that the Town Board had asked her to make and now the revised ordinance will be sent back to the Town Board prior to being reviewed by an attorney.

**Ullands Hot Mix Plant:** Matt Thibodeau stated that he had sent Ulland Bros a letter reiterating what was discussed at a previous meeting in regards to the things Ulland Bros agreed they would try to implement to resolve the odor and noise issues. Matt also requested Ulland Bros to send documentation on what they have done to date and the results to the town office. Sherri said she believes the neighbors who have complained should be sent a copy of Ullands results so they can see that Ulland is attempting to resolve the issues. Matt stated that Ulland Bros requested to see the complaints that residents have made. Joe made a motion to provide Ulland with the substance of the complaints made to date and going forward regarding the hot mix plant with their personal information redacted, second by Carol. All vote in favor.

**Ordinance Review:** Joe provided the Commission with verbiage for the ordinance so that when higher up governmental entities change things that we reference in our ordinance Gnesen is not required to take them to a public hearing in order to change them in our ordinance. The verbiage Joe suggested was as follows, "In the event any governmental or regulatory agency adopts laws, rules or regulations which are in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance such adopted laws, rules or regulations shall be adopted without any action on the part of the Town Board or Planning and Zoning Commission." Joe made a motion to incorporate this verbiage in all current and future ordinances, second by Dick. All vote in favor.

**Short Term Rental Update:** Gary gave an update from the July 11, 2022 Town Board meeting. Gary said the main hold up is still the cap vs. distance and what those numbers should be. Nathan read through the proposed changes from the Town Board meeting. Joe suggested sending the proposed changes back to the STR subcommittee group. Sherri said she disagreed with Joe's suggestion because the ordinance verbiage

needs to keep moving forward not go back to the subcommittee. Since Carter was absent tonight, Matt read the email that Carter had sent into the office on July 18, 2022 for Sarah to forward to the Commission in regards to STR's (please see attached email). Sherri thanked Nathan for his work on the STR ordinance verbiage.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Gravel Pit Inspections:** Gravel pit inspections have been set for August 8, 2022 with a rain date of August 10, 2022. Sarah will get letters sent to all gravel pit owners.

**Logging Concerns:** Gil Kjorstad stated that he has concerns with logging contracts and how they are handled in Gnesen Township. Gil stated that starting mid May there was a lot of noise coming from the St. Louis County Twin Pines pit on Rice Lake Road. Gil said the noise started at 7am and continued all day 7 days a week. Gil said he had contacted the town office and Sarah called the representative of the pit and found out that the noise was due to a St. Louis County logging contract that was occurring on the East end of the pit. Gil said he believes Gnesen Township should have something in the ordinance to regulate days, hours, times, ect. Discussion took place on how to regulate this issue. Gary suggested talking with the county and seeing if they could step up their enforcement due to resident complaints.

**ZONING OFFICERS REPORT:** Nathan talked about the road vacate question that a resident had on Park Lane. Nathan also gave a brief update on both the Normanna Road and Hemlock Drive issues.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

- The next P&Z Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 7:30 pm.

A motion was made by Pete to adjourn, with a second by Kathy. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sarah Blix, Planning and Zoning Secretary

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Matt Thibodeau, Planning Commission Chair

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Date

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Date