

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

June 27, 2022

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, June 27, 2022. The following officers were present:

Jon Nelson	Chair
Ed Franckowiak	Supervisor
Gary Juten	Supervisor
Sarah Blix	Clerk
Nathan Horyza	Zoning Officer

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

Minutes of the June 13, 2022 Town Board Meeting was unanimously approved with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Juten. Board approved.

DISCUSSION: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Community Center-Johnson Wilson repairs-Johnson Wilson has repaired the caulking on the exterior trim around the gym and will be back Wednesday, June 29, 2022 to repair the duct work in the gym.

Update on Pioneer Road Project- Supervisor Juten stated that last year the project was quoted at \$5700.00 which included removing the old blacktop, bringing it to Ulland's pit, and trucking back class 5 to repair the spot. Supervisor Juten said that this year there will be a \$1400.00 increase to include loader costs plus fuel price increases. Supervisor Juten said that the only difference as far as the actual work being done is that he is hoping to truck the blacktop to Dirt Work's pit rather than Ullands Pit to save money on trucking costs. Supervisor Franckowiak made a motion to approve the \$1400.00 increase in costs, second by Chair Nelson. All vote in favor, with Supervisor Juten abstaining.

Calcium Chloride- Jake's Companies is lined up to do Calcium Chloride once gravel work is done. Supervisor Juten stated that they are planning on doing gravel later this week.

Stripping-Tars and Stripes gave a quote of \$2000.00 to re-stripe the center line on W. Pioneer Road. Chair Nelson made a motion to accept the quote, second by Supervisor Franckowiak. All vote in favor.

Quote from Downtown Computer for Dual Monitors-Sarah got a quote from Downtown Computer for two new monitors for the office. The quote was \$379.90 for two 22 inch monitors and \$459.98 for two 24 inch monitors with \$300.00 labor costs to install both monitors. Supervisor Juten made a motion to accept the quote for the 24 inch monitors, second by Supervisor Franckowiak. All vote in favor.

DNR Grant Update-Chair Nelson stated that Gnesen was not picked to receive the grant they had applied for from the DNR but that we can reapply next year.

Leak in Janitor's Closet-Jody stated the caulking was cracked on the roof right above the janitor's closet. Jody said he redid the caulking and will wait and see if the leaking stops.

Update from MAT on road vacate-No update at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Potential New Broadband Project- Chair Nelson gave a brief discussion on a potential new project that could get broadband to some residents in Gnesen Township. Chair Nelson said he will get more information including costs and will provide that at the July 11, 2022 Town Board Meeting.

Quote from Faster Solutions to Re-design our Website-Faster Solutions provided a quote of \$2850.00 to redesign the Gnesen website to provide a more user-friendly design with more information for users.

Yearly hosting and SSL costs would be \$485.00. Chair Nelson made a motion to accept the quote, second by Supervisor Franckowiak. All vote in favor.

Short Term Rental Draft-Carter gave a brief update on the draft short term rental ordinance and all the work and discussions that have taken place between Subcommittee members and Planning and Zoning thus far. Discussion between Supervisors and residents in attendance. Questions that arose were: Section E – Enforcement, Complaints and Substantiated Violations – Chair Nelson stated that there needs to be more of a process in place rather than just fining STR owners and revoking their permit. Chair Nelson suggested maybe when a 1st time a complaint is made you get a strike, then the 2nd you get fined. Section B #8 – Applicant is a Gnesen Registered Voter – Sherri stated she believes that saying the STR owner needs to be a registered voter of Gnesen is denying personal property rights of others who may not be registered voters of Gnesen. Sherri said she believes the 30 minutes response time that is required in Section F # 2 covers the need for a responsible person to be close in the event of a neighbor complaint and feels like Section B # 8 should be removed. Nathan stated that he is in favor of Section B # 8 because it limits big corporations from buying up homes with the sole purpose of turning them into STR's, Supervisor Franckowiak and Supervisor Juten agreed. Pete reminded all in attendance that the ordinance needs to protect all residents' rights including those who may have no interest in STR's and don't want them allowed in Gnesen Township at all. Joe stated we need to find middle ground. Section B # 7 – regarding STR density – There was much discussion as to how to limit density. Currently the draft states, "no other short-term rental exists within 1000ft of a dwelling being applied for short term rental use on riparian property and 300ft on non-riparian property and the Township has not met its cap of 40 short term rentals for the entire township." Section B #2b – MN Department of Health Lodging License – Nathan questioned the need for this. Chair Nelson asked if this was a common requirement. Sherri said that in the research the subcommittee performed this came up in many other area's requirements. Carter stated that it is similar to a septic permit, the work lands on the STR owner and they just need to provide the Township the paperwork stating it was completed. There was discussion about the timeline for receiving this permit from the State. Based off of tonight's discussion, Chair Nelson asked Nathan to work on Section E to create a better process for enforcement based off other processes that Gnesen Township already has in place. For Section B # 7 Chair Nelson asked Nathan to research other area's STR ordinance verbiage and find a comparable with supporting language. Supervisor Juten also asked Nathan to work on rewording Section B # 8. Nathan will also contact the MN Department of Health about their timeline for getting a Lodging License.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m. with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Juten. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting is taped for transcribing purposes only.)

Visitors attending the meeting: Carol Jacobson, Marcia & Jay Haller, Jayson Stolp, Jeremy Stolp, Eric Bruckelmyer, Keller Stolp, Cory Stolp, Mike Polzin, Jack Singler, Kathy Buran, Sherri Underthun, Dave Opack, Sue Lyons, Chad Bruckelmyer, Joe Ferguson, Kevin Middleton, Matt Thibodeau, Mark Myles, Carter Williams, Dick Delano, Pete Bergman.

Employees present Jody Cooke and Nathan Horyza.

Upcoming meetings:

Town Board Meeting-July 11, 2022-8:00 p.m.

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

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

Signed: _____
Sarah Blix, Clerk

Jon Nelson, Chair

Date approved: _____