

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

September 26, 2022

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, September 26, 2022. The following officers were present:

Jon Nelson	Chair
Ed Franckowiak	Supervisor
Gary Juten	Supervisor
Sarah Blix	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 September 12, 2022 Town Board Meeting was unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Juten, second by Chair Nelson. All vote in favor.

Minutes of the June 27, 2022 Public Hearing for Proposed Communication Tower Ordinance Verbiage was approved with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Juten. Two votes in favor with Supervisor Franckowiak abstaining because he was not in attendance at the June 27, 2022 Public Hearing.

DISCUSSION: Supervisor Juten stated he was contacted by Scott Olson regarding the Boulder Lake turnaround. Supervisor Juten let Scott know that the Town Board approved to making the turnaround larger and the work will be done prior to snowfall. Supervisor Juten also stated that there was a complaint made to the P&Z awhile back from a resident on Van Road regarding logging that was taking place in the County gravel Pit off Rice Lake Road. Supervisor Juten said he was at the Land and Minerals Department and spoke with the people in the office about what had happened. Supervisor Juten was given a card that included the contact information for the person in charge of logging contracts. Supervisor Juten said that he will share the card with the P&Z Board at their next meeting and then have Sarah draft up a letter to the Land and Minerals Department requesting that the hours and days of operation be specific when logging will occur within close proximity of a residential area. Chair Nelson said that there has been discussion several times about changing the start times of the Town Board meetings. Chair Nelson asked the other two supervisors their thoughts about changing the meeting time to 7pm and whether they would want a winter/summer schedule so that it would work for everyone. Supervisor Franckowiak said he would like a winter/summer schedule with a start time of 7pm November through April and a start time of 8pm May through October. Chair Nelson asked the staff in attendance their thoughts and both Sarah and Nathan said they liked Supervisor Franckowiak's idea. Chair Nelson stated that moving forward the Town Board meetings will be held at 7pm November through April and 8pm May through October.

OLD BUSINESS:

Suzie's Greenhouse Parcel Split- Nathan advised the Town Board that what the Planning and Zoning approved regarding Suzie's Greenhouse Parcel Split was not the intent of her CUP and he does not agree that that separating the greenhouses from her primary residence is allowable. Nathan said doing this would create a commercial zone. Chelsea Helmer, the potential buyer for Suzie's Greenhouse said that Suzie's is currently a legal non-conforming use. Chelsea asked if Nathan had mentioned that when discussing the issue with the Town attorney. Suzie's Greenhouse CUP was granted in 2017 but the greenhouses were started in 1994. Chelsea said the legal non-conforming use would be the greenhouses which are no longer zoned as agricultural due to changes in the County's zoning, retail sales was what

the CUP was needed for. Nathan said the sale of the parcel isn't the issue, however separating it from the home creates an issue. Chelsea said because it is a grandfathered in use currently the decisions that are made by the Town Board or P&Z are unique to that property, however all new greenhouses in the township would need to follow the ordinance. Carter suggested that maybe a variance would be required. Nathan agreed with Carter and stated that to follow the ordinance a variance would be needed. Nathan asked Jody when the greenhouses were built on the property, to which Jody said 1994/95 and that the house was built in 2000. Nathan questioned if anyone knew when the County made the change in their ordinance to change the zoning of greenhouses as not agricultural. Nathan questioned if it was a grandfathered in use then why would the township have ever granted a CUP. Carter stated that a CUP was granted because Suzie requested to add an additional building and at that time it was determined to have her get a CUP so that conditions could be put on her business. Nathan told Suzie that if she could prove that she was operating a greenhouse at the time the County changed the zoning from agricultural to suburban residential than that would prove that it was grandfathered in. Suzie said she would check her tax statements to see when her agricultural status was changed. Sarah will check the files in the office to see when permits were pulled for both the house and the greenhouses to verify if the greenhouses were operating prior to the house being constructed.

Park Drive Resolution- Resolution 22-16 authorizing the Town Board to initiate the alteration of a town road was approved with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Franckowiak. All vote in favor.

Heated Shop for Working on Township Equipment- One quote was received from Krause Sheet Metal & Heating for \$7,555.00 to install a heater in the new garage. Jody still has not been able to get a quote for insulation so this is tabled until October.

Waterline Quote for GCC- Tabled until October.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution for Election Judges for the November 8, 2022 General Election- Resolution 22-15 appointing election judges for the General Election was approved with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Franckowiak. All vote in favor.

Minimum maintenance section on Church Road- Sarah stated that with a recent pile of garbage discovered on the minimum maintenance section of Church Road the question came up as to why the Township keeps that section of road open and if it would be better to close it off. Chair Nelson suggested for Sarah to reach out to MAT to find out what the legal rules are for closing a minimum maintenance road.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Reminder about the Couri & Ruppe Legal Seminar

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:48 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: Jay and Marcia Haller, Pete Bergman, Carter Williams, Chelsea Helmer, Carol Jacobson, Mike and Vicki Hamski

Employees present: Nathan Horyza Employees absent: None.

Upcoming meetings:

Town Board Meeting-October 10, 2022-8:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting-October 19, 2022-7:30 p.m.

Public Hearing – CUP Reviews – October 24, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

Town Board Meeting-October 24, 2022-8:00 p.m.

Signed: _____

Sarah Blix, Clerk

Jon Nelson, Chair

Date approved: _____