Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

May 13, 2024

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, May 13, 2024. The following officers were present:

Jon Nelson Chair

Gary Juten Supervisor

Nancy Poppenberg Supervisor

Sarah Blix Clerk

Mary Bjorklund Treasurer

Hannah Jurek Deputy Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Nelson. Board Members and residents stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. A motion to approve the agenda was moved by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor.

Minutes of the April 22, 2024 Town Board Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Juten, second by Supervisor Poppenberg.

Minutes of the May 3, 2024 Road Review Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Juten, second by Supervisor Poppenberg.

Treasurer’s report:

Balance for March 2024 $371,058.60

Receipts for April 2024 +$6,401.43

$377,460.03

Disbursements for April 2024 -$21,129.01

Balance for April 2024 $356,331.02

There are no outstanding checks for the month. Motion by Supervisor Juten, second by Supervisor Poppenberg to accept the Treasurer’s report. All vote in favor.

**DISCUSSION**:

**OLD BUSINESS**:

Normanna Road Update – Rick was absent from tonight’s meeting, so no update was given.

Hemlock Drive Issue – Mike said he recently stopped at this property and had a conversation with the homeowner. Mike said he did notice some progress; however, it was not very significant. Mike will work with Sarah to draft the second violation letter which will start accessing fines. Carter suggested giving a specific list of things that need to be cleaned up first such as removing all vehicles/junk from the road right-a-way. It was also suggested adding limiting evening/overnight noise and immediate cease and desist on all burning activity.

CTC Quote for the GCC– Supervisor Juten made a motion to accept the quote from CTC to provide internet and phone at the GCC, second by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor.

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

Road Report – Darin has been working on spring grading. The road crew is asking for permission to purchase a transfer pump for the plow truck so they can refuel the mower, snowblower, and grader without having to travel back to the old town hall each time. Beau got a quote of $3035.00 from United Truck Body for a transfer pump and a weather guard toolbox. Supervisor Juten said he would like to see another quote. This topic was tabled until the next meeting to provide the road crew time to obtain a second quote. Road reviews were completed May 3, 2024. It was determined that approximately 95 loads of gravel will be put down on the roads this year. A winding road sign on W. Pioneer Road needs to be replaced. Chair Nelson made a motion to approve the purchase of the sign, second by Supervisor Juten. All vote in favor.

Gnesen Community Center Report – The playground installation will be starting May 15th with site prep and installation happening May 16th and 17th. Chair Nelson made a motion to provide lunch to the volunteers both Thursday and Friday, second by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor. CTC will be holding an information session at the GCC so that residents have a chance to attend and ask questions about the new fiber install. The event will be held Thursday, June 6, 2024 from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

News Rules Regarding Remote Meetings – Because we are no longer in a state of emergency the rules for holding virtual meetings have changed. Sarah provided the supervisors with an informational handout laying out the new rules. Supervisor Poppenberg will relay this information to the Planning Commission at their next meeting.

**ZONING OFFICERS REPORT**: Mike said he visited Stewart Camp on Berg Road and spoke with one of the landowners who happened to be there. Mike said they discussed some of the history of the property and was told that the landowners are open to working with the township and finding a resolution as what they are doing is not permitted by the Gnesen Ordinance. It was noted that MIG has been recently clearing more trees/brush. Mike said from what he understands, MIG is just clearing to get rid of deadfall. Chair Nelson suggested Mike speak with the group and encourage them to plant trees and to screen the west side to provide privacy for adjacent neighbors. AJ Jensen mentioned that she is still willing to meet with MIG and discuss their intentions.

**CORRESPONDENCE**:

Duluth Area Townships Annual BBQ Flyer

Letter Mark Munger - Running for MN House Seat 3B

Disbursement #16200 through #16234 and 5 EFTs were read, approved, and signed for payment for a total of $18,437.68 with a motion by Supervisor Juten, second by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor of paying the disbursements.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. with a motion by Supervisor Juten, second by Supervisor Poppenberg. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting is taped for transcribing purposes only.)

Visitors attending the meeting: Jay and Marcia Haller, Pete Bergman, Carol Jacobson, Al Werner, AJ and Kyle Jensen, Stacy Spicer, Joe Pucuski, Sue Poirier

Employees present: Darin Franckowiak, Carter Williams, Mike Polzin

Employees absent: Rick Hogenson, Bruce Smith, Beau Halverson

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**Upcoming meetings:**

P&Z Meeting – May 15, 2024 - 7:00pm

Town Board Meeting – May 28, 2024 – 7:00pm (Tuesday)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sarah Blix, Clerk Mary Bjorklund, Treasurer

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Jon Nelson, Chair