

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

October 28, 2024

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, October 28, 2024. The following officers were present:

Jon Nelson	Chair
Nancy Poppenberg	Supervisor
Gary Juten	Supervisor
Sarah Blix	Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Nelson. A motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a DAT meeting update under New Business was made by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Juten. All vote in favor.

Minutes of the October 14, 2024, Town Board Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Juten, second by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor.

DISCUSSION: There was discussion on zoning officers looking into complaints of a violation on private property and what happens if the property owner will not allow access to their property. Carol said she thought a court order had to be issued to access private property without owner permission. Chair Nelson mentioned what Sheriff Ramsay has said about zoning and use of drones and how for zoning purposes drones can be used whether the property owner gives permission or not. Supervisor Juten will reach out to Sheriff Ramsay for further clarification.

OLD BUSINESS:

Hemlock Drive Issue – Chair Nelson, Mike, and Rick all met with Gunnar Johnson to discuss moving forward with the abatement. Gunnar suggested the abatement focus on unlicensed vehicles only and that the water issue, fire and noise be dealt with separately. Gunnar suggested that all noise complaints be called into 911. Chair Nelson said Gunnar told them if he wins the election for the Judge position, he will not continue working with Gnesen. If Gunnar does not win the election, he will work with Gnesen on this abatement but is requesting to be kept up to date/involved throughout the entire process. Chair Nelson questioned how the board would like to proceed considering the uncertainties of Gunnar's future. There was discussion about continuing with Gunnar, looking into Couri & Ruppe, or Andrew Tiede. Sarah will reach out for further information and costs and bring them back to the next meeting before the board makes a decision.

GCC-Security-Connecting Smoke Detectors to Security Panel – Sarah got an additional quote from Viking Automatic Sprinkler which was \$1860.00 for a cellular dialer, installation, antennae, and testing then \$440.00 per year for monitoring. Supervisor Juten questioned if we would get a cut on our insurance by installing this. Sarah will reach out and bring that back to the next TB meeting. Supervisor Poppenberg made a motion to accept the quote from Viking Automatic Sprinkler, second by Supervisor Juten. All vote in favor.

Hidden Falls Plat – Supervisor Poppenberg reported that the plat is ready for Gnesen signatures. This is set to be done at the next Planning and Zoning meeting which will be held November 20, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS:

FEMA- Adopting New Ordinance Verbiage and Flood Map – This needs to be done by March for Gnesen to receive FEMA funding/assistance in the event of a flood. The DNR is working on drafting some forms for Townships to adopt. Carter will reach out to the DNR for more information. The planning commission will work on reviewing and plan to hold a public hearing in January or February.

St. Louis County Aquatic Invasive Species – Supervisor Poppenberg said a supervisor from Fredenberg reached out to her regarding a grant that St. Louis County has available to fund information boards and signs at public boat launches to educate people on aquatic invasive species. Fredenberg is looking to partner with

Gnesen for a better chance of getting funding as Gnesen has nine public boat landings. There was discussion about who would be expected to maintain these information boards. Supervisor Poppenberg said she doesn't really believe this should be a township issue but wants to look into it more as something should be done to protect our lakes.

Email from Linda Lenard – Linda sent an email asking if the four carts of chairs at the Old Town Hall could be removed from the building. Sarah said we don't really need the chairs at the Community Center but could store them in the empty classroom. Sarah will talk with Beau and see if he can move the chairs.

DAT Meeting Update – Supervisor Juten said Kevin Commnick gave a MAT update and reported that past issues with MAT are improving. There will be a Veterans Day Memorial held in the City of Rice Lake on November 11th. Supervisor Juten received information on bystander training which was discussed at a past meeting. This would be free AED and CPR training funded by the Victory Fund that would be offered to any resident who was interested in taking it. Supervisor Juten said he put Gnesen on the list of townships interested in hosting the training.

P&Z BOARD MEMBER REPORT: Discussion about CUP's and the progress Carol and Kathy have made while sorting through the paperwork.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT: Rick reported that there have been two new STR's permitted. Rick said there needs to be clarification/added verbiage in the ordinance as to how the distance is measured between STR's. Carter said at the public hearing it was determined it would be from building to building. This will be sent to the planning commission for their ordinance changes review.

Mike mentioned that his battery on his laptop is not holding a charge and questioned if he can get it looked at by Downtown Computer to which the supervisor's agreed it should be done.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:11pm with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Poppenberg. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting is taped for transcribing purposes only.)

Visitors attending the meeting: Jay Haller, AJ Jensen, Carol Jacobson, Bruce Smith, Carter Williams, Nate and Stacy Spicer

Employees present: Darin Franckowiak, Rick Hogenson, Mike Polzin

Employees absent:

Upcoming Meetings:

Town Board Meeting – November 12, 2024 – 7:00pm - Tuesday

P&Z Meeting – November 20, 2024 - 7:00pm

Town Board Meeting – November 25, 2024 – 7:00pm

Signed: _____
Sarah Blix, Clerk

Jon Nelson, Chair

Date approved: _____