

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

January 13, 2025

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, January 13, 2025. The following officers were present:

Jon Nelson	Chair
Gary Juten	Supervisor
Nancy Poppenberg	Supervisor
Sarah Blix	Clerk
Mary Bjorklund	Treasurer

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 Juten. All vote in favor.

The minutes of the December 9, 2024 Town Board Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Poppenberg, second by Supervisor Juten.

Treasurer’s report:

Balance for December 2024	\$199,261.54
Receipts for December 2024	+\$130,866.42
	\$330,127.96
Disbursements for December 2024	<u>-\$51,970.98</u>
Balance for January 2025	\$278,156.98

There were five 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:**

Hemlock Drive Issue – A public hearing to start the abatement process was scheduled for March 24, 2025 at 6:30pm with a motion by Supervisor Poppenberg, second by Chair Nelson. All vote in favor.

Using Drones for Zoning Issues – Wade Rasch from St. Louis County Sheriff’s Department attended tonight’s meeting to discuss drone usage with specific zoning issues.

FEMA – The proposed ordinance is currently being reviewed by the DNR. Chair Nelson made a motion to schedule a public hearing for February 24, 2025 at 6:30pm, second by Supervisor Juten. All vote in favor.

Stewart Camp – Mike spoke with Tyler Lampela from St. Louis County regarding the septic. No new information at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Road Report – Darin reported that with the warmup, Musolf Road had some water on the road and both Needle Lane and Berg Road had considerable slush that needed to be plowed off. All roads are now in good condition.

Gnesen Community Center Report – Sarah asked the supervisors if they wanted her to do a membership letter again this year, to which all three supervisors said yes. To save on printing and mailing costs, the membership letter will be added as an extra page in the newsletter. Sarah said she had Sell Hardware come and look at the front door as there are sections where the finish is failing.

Clarification on Township Attorney – Sarah questioned who the township was planning on naming as its attorney for 2025. There was discussion on how a certain attorney is dedicated as township attorney each year at the Annual Meeting and whether that is required. Sarah will reach out to MAT for further guidance.

Resolution 25-01 Appointing Election Judges for 2025 – Supervisor Juten made a motion to approve Resolution 25-01 as presented, second by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor.

Resolution 25-02 Appointing Absentee Ballot Board for March Township Election – Supervisor Juten made a motion to approve Resolution 25-02, second by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor.

Resolution 25-03 Adopting Schedule of Regular Meetings – Supervisor Juten made a motion to approve Resolution 25-03, second by Supervisor Poppenberg. All vote in favor.

Schedule Board of Audit Meeting – Chair Nelson made a motion to schedule the Board of Audit meeting for February 10, 2025 at 6:00pm, second by Supervisor Juten. All vote in favor.

**ZONING OFFICERS REPORT:** Rick reported that St. Louis County will be holding a variance hearing regarding the Island Lake Inn short term rental septic system. Rick said that the MPCA has designated the Hemlock Drive house as an illegal landfill but is choosing not to enforce any action. Mike discussed Stewart Camp further and will reach back out to St. Louis County.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Email from Gloria Erickson, Firewise

Disbursement #16460 through #16498 and 5 EFTs were read, approved, and signed for payment for a total of \$28,116.89 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 8:21pm 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: Jay and Marcia Haller, Carol Jacobson, Carter Williams, Pete Bergman, Kathy Buran, Wade Rasch

Employees present: Darin Franckowiak, Mike Polzin, Rick Hogenson

Employees absent: Beau Halvorson

**Upcoming meetings:**

P&Z Meeting – January 15, 2025 - 7:00pm

Town Board Meeting – January 27, 2025 – 7:00pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sarah Blix, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Bjorklund, Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jon Nelson, Chair

Date approved: \_\_\_\_\_