

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

January 13, 2020

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, January 13, 2020, at the Gnesen Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Chair Jon Nelson. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Opack and Board approved.

Minutes of the December 9, 2019 and December 23, 2019 Town Board Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Supervisor Franckowiak, second by Supervisor Opack.

Treasurer's report was given. There were no outstanding checks. Chair Nelson made a motion, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, Board approved to accept the treasurer's report as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

GCC projects-Appliances for the kitchen-Chair Nelson made a motion to approve ordering a wind oven, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, all voted in favor to purchase a wind oven for \$3,190.00. We will wait on purchasing a work table; a freezer and NSF racks for the refrigerator. Sarah will follow-up with Stacey Harter about the big vent in the "little room" door which we thought the contractor said he would do. Bulkhead-We did not approve the installation of the bulkhead that the contractor installed. The contractor said he would give us the bulkhead but he would have to charge for the taping. Chair Nelson will follow-up on this when we see the bill. Timeline-The contractor said he would be done by January 22nd. We will do a punch list walk through on 1-22-2020. We are going to hold back on the contractors check until the brick work is finished on the front of the building. Chair Nelson stated that the gym sock heat ducts were put up today. The contractors stated they will store the old gym lights down stairs. A sub-contractor will come in and do a cleanup and Sarah will find someone to help do a more in-depth clean up of the building before we move our office over there.

Playscape Open house-Chair Nelson talked to a community member about being the point person for the playscape committee and they are considering it. Gil Kjorstad offered to help on the committee also.

DNR Grant-Chair Nelson signed the Deed Restriction which states we won't convert any portion of the park area without prior written approval from the DNR.

Comprehensive Land Use Plan-Chair Nelson mentioned some people were having trouble getting the survey up on their phones and Clerk Haller stated that some people were having trouble if a couple wanted to take the survey it would only let one person take it. We have gotten 121 responses so far.

Broadband-Chair Nelson stated they are supposed to announce on January 21st who got the grant.

Skating rink-Ed and Steve Franckowiak flooded the rink this afternoon and they have got us some hose for flooding it ourselves going forward after the fire department puts down the first load of water.

Office project-Sarah has the ceiling tiles taken down and the walls painted.

Janitor position at GCC-Chair Nelson talked to Kurt Blegen about the additional hours that will be needed once we move the offices over there and he doesn't think his work schedule will work with this new schedule at the Center. Chair Nelson and Sarah will get together with Kurt and work on a job description and bring it to our next meeting. We will post the position when we have more information on hours and job description.

Rental fees-We discussed the rental fees and the damage deposit fee and the Board feels they need to be raised. Supervisor Opack feels we need to make the building available to the residents. Sarah will do a little more research on what other places are charging and we will discuss this again.

Candidate filing period ends January 14th -Ed Franckowiak filed tonight but no one else has filed for the position.

Collecting money for traffic fines-The Board decided that we won't be collecting it at this time.

Applying for the grant to purchase a DS200-The Board decided to stay with our M100 for now.

ISD 709 decision-We will have to go to Lakewood Town Hall to vote if the School Board needs to hold an election not during a regular election. They are checking on whether we will need to provide our own judges.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appeal of property owner-The Board set the date of February 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Gnesen Town Hall to hold a Public Hearing on property owner's appeal appealing the decision of the Zoning Board.

Email and letter from the Teamsters-The Teamsters have notified the County of their intent to go on strike if a labor contract settlement is not reached. The Board instructed the clerk to tell the County they are expected to fulfill their contract with Gnesen.

Minnesota Power rate increase-They are filing a general rate case seeking an annual rate increase.

Grader operator's road report-Tom Haller, grader operator, reported that he travelled the township roads today and they are in good winter conditions. There was discussion on the need to get a list of names of people who would be willing to drive our township truck to snowplow if we have to plow ourselves. A couple resident's names were suggested. They would be hired as part-time employees. We also need to get someone trained to drive the grader if Tom is unable to. Tom stated that he will need to go over and use the grader to widen the lanes over by Eagle Lake.

Gnesen Community Center Building Manager-Sarah asked the Town Board if they would waive the fee for an upcoming rental and Supervisor Opack made a motion, second by Ed Franckowiak, board approved to waive the fee.

Gnesen Community Newsletter-Clerk Haller stated that she had the newsletter at the printer a couple weeks ago but it just got mailed out this weekend.

DAT Meeting Minutes-The meeting minutes and agenda for the DAT Meeting on January 16th were included in the Supervisor's packets. Chair Nelson and Clerk Haller will attend the DAT Meeting.

St. Louis County Sheriff's Office Crime Activity Report for November and December-There was 14 crime activity records printed for two months.

Liquor License-Supervisor Opack made a motion, second by Supervisor Franckowiak, board approved to approve the requests for 2020-2021 renewal of Combination On/Off-Sale/Sunday On-Sale Intoxicating for Cabuma Properties L.L.C d/b/a Boondocks Saloon and Grill; Watters LLC d/b/a Island Lake Inn; RNC Sportsman Inn, Company d/b/a Sportsmens Inn; and 2020-2021 renewal for Off-Sale Intoxicating for Gnesen Convenience Store, LLC d/b/a Gnesen Convenience Store, LLC; and 2020-2021 renewal for On/Off Sale 3.2 Percent Malt Liquor for Vernon Skoglund d/b/a Silver Fox Lodge.

Zoning Officer's Report:

Zoning Officer Nathan Horyza gave a summary of all the zoning issues that he addressed this past month.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Two pieces of correspondence were gone over.

Upcoming meetings:

Planning Commission-January 15, 2020-7:30 p.m.

DAT Meeting-January 16, 2020-6:30 p.m.

Town Board Meeting-January 27, 2020-8:00 p.m.

Town Board Meeting-January 13, 2020-8:00 p.m.

Disbursements #14742, which was written on December 18, 2019 for \$70,000.00 and disbursements #14743 through #14769 with five electronic transfers, which were written today, were read, approved and signed for payment for a total of \$70,000.00 plus tonight's checks for \$180,399.38 with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Opack, all voted in favor to pay the disbursements.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m. with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Franckowiak. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting is taped for transcribing purposes only.)

Visitors attending the meeting: Gil Kjorstad. Employees present: Tom Haller and Nathan Horyza.