

Regular Town Board Meeting Town of Gnesen

The bi-monthly meeting of the Town of Gnesen was held on Monday, August 24, 2020, at the Gnesen Community Center. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Chair Jon Nelson. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Supervisor Franckowiak, second by Chair Nelson and Board approved.

Minutes of the August 10, 2020 Town Board Meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Chair Nelson, second by Supervisor Opack.

OLD BUSINESS:

iWorQ presentation: Nathan Horyza reached out to all three of the references given by Steve from iWorQ. They all had full time staff and wrote many more permits than Gnesen. He believes we should keep the topic on the table for the future but not go with this company now.

New attorney-Nathan Horyza recommended that the Town Board approve Nathan Lacoursiere's proposal. Supervisor Franckowiak made a motion, second by Supervisor Opack, Board approved to approve hiring Nathan Lacoursiere as our attorney. Clerk will invite him to our next meeting.

Berg Road-Nathan H. will talk to Nathan L. and find out how we should proceed with this issue. Clerk is waiting for a report from Steve Happy as to how often the torpedoes are pumped.

Zoning issue-Nathan H. has not heard back from Mike Couri. Nathan will have Mike send all the information on the zoning issue to Nathan L.

MATIT-Chair Nelson gave the Town Clerk the contact's name and phone number and she will try to get ahold of him.

CARES Act-Air exchange-Supervisor Opack talked with Jody Cooke and the way that the CARES Act is written up, the air exchange would not qualify. Jody doesn't think an air exchange would work in this building. He says if we put in air conditioning we should do it through the furnace and then upgrade our furnaces at the same time. Chair Nelson read some of the things that will qualify. The deadline for this is March 3rd thru November 15th when the cost must be inquired. We will put this on the agenda to discuss more at our next meeting.

Microphone-Supervisor Opack stated that we need a new microphone because you can't hear people in the gym.

Striping and crack sealing Island Lake Drive and West Pioneer Road-Clerk has not heard back from Tars & Stripes with a quote. Supervisor Opack stated that he met last Thursday with KTM and they do striping and crack sealing so he asked for a quote to do those two roads and also the parking lot at the Community Center. Supervisor Opack said it would cost \$900.00 to put a patch on the Pioneer Road and that they could get it done this week. Supervisor Franckowiak made a motion, second by Supervisor Opack to spend up to \$1,000.00 for the patchwork. We will wait for the quote on striping and crack sealing. Supervisor Opack did talk to Sinnott Blacktop and Asphalt of Duluth but Sinnott was too busy and Asphalt did not respond as of tonight.

Tracy Road-Clerk stated that Dave Marciniak, from Minnesota Power, sent an email giving us permission to put in the turnaround area. Supervisor Opack will contact Rick's Tree Service and see if they can come in and cut the trees and get a contractor to make the 70' deep x 30' wide turnaround. Supervisor Franckowiak suggested that if Rick's is too busy, to contact Jason Haller to see if he could do the tree cutting.

Pull tab shredding-Sarah Blix is waiting for a call back as to when they can come out and shred.

Cabinet for the defibrillator-Sarah has ordered it and Jody will install it when it comes in.

Cameras for our computer-Sarah has purchased three cameras so we can Zoom if need be. Chair Nelson said the cost for the cameras could come out of the CARES Act.

Water line for skating rink-Sarah wants to flood the rink as soon as possible this winter. Supervisor Franckowiak suggests that we not go under the driveway for the water line. Jody says he has a plan of where to put the line and he will do the work of installing it.

Tree trimming-Sarah has sent out the letters for the tree trimming on Church Road and Pioneer Road.

Supervisor Opack stated that Sarah should send out the letters to the property owners on Sunshine Lake Road, which we will have tree trimming done on next spring/summer.

District 10 Zoom Meeting-August 27, 2020, just a reminder.

Homeschool request-Clerk Haller sent an email to the person requesting to use the facility for homeschooling and asked for some additional information and told them the Town Hall could be available but not the Community Center.

NEW BUSINESS:

Webinar on additional reporting requirements on the CARES funding on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.-Chair Nelson will try to attend the webinar.

Attorney's fee increase-We received a letter from Mike Couri stated that his rates are going up January 1st to \$220.00 per hour for all general legal work and to \$240.00 per hour for all development work.

Extending WiFi-Supervisor Franckowiak made a motion, second by Supervisor Opack, Board approved to accept the quote of \$1,779.46 to extend our WiFi down to the gym so we can do Zoom meetings and this would be covered under the CARES Act.

MAT 2020 Fall Legislative & Research Committee Meeting-Zoom Meeting invite-September 21, 22 and 23rd. No one is able to attend.

St. Louis County Planning & Community Development Department-They are looking for people to fill three open positions for their CDBG Citizen Advisory Committee. No one from the board wishes to submit an application to be on the advisory committee..

New grant opportunity-We received a letter from the Minnesota Department of Health about a new grant opportunity to address a potential contamination source that presents a high risk to a source of drinking water as determined by them. This does not apply to us.

Training for the Board of Appeals and Equalization-Chair Nelson will take the training next year.

Avoiding Pitfalls-We received an email from the Office of the State Auditor saying that public officers authorized to make a sale, lease or contract in an official capacity must not have a personal financial interest in that sale, lease or contract or personally benefit financially from it-it is a gross misdemeanor.

Covid-19-We received an email from St. Louis County about Covid-19 relief grant for small businesses.

Four-wheelers driving through the grass in the front lawn at the Community Center-Supervisor Franckowiak will contact the two boys that are doing this and ask them to stop driving through the grass and parking lot.

Flag pole-We will get some quotes on what it cost to install a flag pole here at the Center and how we would put lights on it.

Snow blower-There was some discussion on needing a snow blower but no decision was made on this.

Boardwalk-They will finish the boardwalk this Saturday.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Fredenberg Township Newsletter

Upcoming meetings:

Town Board Meeting-September 14, 2020-8:00 p.m.

Planning Commission-September 16, 2020-7:30 p.m.

Town Board Meeting-September 28, 2020-8:00 p.m.

No further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m. with a motion by Supervisor Opack, second by Supervisor Franckowiak. No objections, meeting adjourned. (This meeting is taped for transcribing purposes only.)

Visitors attending the meeting: None.