

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – September 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Supervisor Helgemo called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken with Supervisor Helgemo; Clerk Moncivais, Treasurer Nelson; Trustees Wodzinski & Bobnock present. Also in attendance were Assr Nelson; Water/Sewer Benson; ZA-Constable Stowell; Atty Atanasoff; Pozniak-ZBA & BOR; County Commissioner Brennan; Residents.

ATTENDEES

There were no requests for changes to the minutes; Supervisor Helgemo noted them as “stand as read.”

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of August 2014 was submitted. A motion was made by Bobnock to accept the report. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Moncivais, yes; Helgemo, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. A full report will be kept on file for audit.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 57,695.28
Sewer Fund:	\$ 110,817.07
Water Fund:	\$ 263,055.52
Road Fund:	\$ 160,075.55
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – County Commissioner Brennan stated that the county voted to pay off the county bond of \$180,000. There is already about \$130000 in the checking account which means they will need about a \$50000 transfer. The result will be that the tax bills will go down a little. / The next issue is that he asked for support for the 911 bond on the ballot. He stated that the 911 needs all new equipment totaling about \$400000. If the equipment is not updated then Iron County will have to hook up to the State. Brennan is hopeful that the voters will approve so that local people will be working 911 who know the area. He said that there could be a potential job loss of 12 jobs. He said that downstate people will not have the local knowledge of the area. ZA Stowell disagreed. He stated that the current local 911 staff doesn’t know the area that well. They should know it better.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the 3 year road plan has to be submitted to the ICRC by October. His proposal is as follows: 2015 – Gravel on Nelson Rd, Chicagon Mine Road, Helgemo Rd. W Lake Emily Rd, Wicklund Rd. / 2016 – Double Seal Coat on W. Lake Emily Rd, And) learned that Crystal Falls & Stambaugh Twp may participate / 2017 – Trybom Drive and Demboski (partial). / Mike Golas questioned the Sunset Lake Rd project. Helgemo explained that the ICRC will be doing it in 2 Phases. / Property owner Koski questioned what was going to be done yet on Parks Farm Rd. Supervisor Helgemo stated that the graveling was still supposed to be done this October.

ROAD PROJECTS

Rogers Location – 1st Street – There was a Resident complaint that a Resident in the location continues to drive on 1st St with a loaded logging truck and it’s tearing up the road. They wanted to know what the location streets were not restricted under the recent Road Restriction Ordinance. Helgemo suggested that the Board Members take a ride on the location streets. Action tabled until next meeting. / Another Resident stated that she saw loaded log trucks on Section 16 Rd.

ROGERS LOCATION BLACKTOP

DEQ Sewer Discharge Permit – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the township received the permit and is all set for the next 5 years.

DEQ SEWER DISCHARGE PERMIT

Dust Control – Supervisor Helgemo stated that there will not be any this year. It’s too late to do.

DUST CONTROL

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Zoning Administrator Stowell his August report which included 2 permits and 5 property violations. He said that something needs to be done with 2 of the violations. 3 of the violations are working on them. He did his monthly bar inspection, attended the board meeting and stated that he checked on 2 places on Trybom Rd. (A copy of the report will be kept on file with Clerk Moncivais).

ZONING
UPDATE

Water Ordinance Workshop – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the Board is working on re-indexing the ordinances. The next workshop is set for the 23rd at 5:00pm.

WATER
ORDINANCE

Water Project – The water leak on Bates Amasa Rd was repaired. We are now pumping about 35000 less gallons per day. There is one more leak to repair.

WATER
PROJECT

DNR Park Project – Supervisor Helgemo reminded everyone that the Open House will be Thursday, September 18th @ 4:00PM. Pozniak questioned the donations. Helgemo stated that Wildlife Unlimited donated \$3000 for the fishing pier. The Board has thanked them at numerous meetings and through the media. They also received a thank you letter from the Sunset Lake Assn.

DNR PARK
PROJECT

Water Tank Maintenance – Supervisor Helgemo stated that he will get estimates on both tanks. The Chicagon Mine Rd tank was last inspected in 2006. Action tabled until next meeting.

WATER TANK
MAINT.

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Attorney Atanasoff stated that he and ZA Stowell are working on junk car ordinance violators. There are only 2 showing resistance. There is a meeting coming up with one of them. Otherwise quiet.

ATTORNEY
REPORT

Part-time Employee Wage Increase – Supervisor Helgemo stated that Jim Nelson was an excellent employee but has had to step back from his part-time position. This has moved Franzmeier into the original part-time position. A motion was made by Nelson to increase his wage from \$12 to \$13/hour. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. Helgemo added that Franzmeier is an excellent employee.

PART TIME
EMPLOYEE
WAGE
INCREASE

Part-time On call Employee – Since Nelson will only be doing the meters a motion was made by Nelson to publish an ad seeking another part time on call employee. Some of the duties will be flagman, wash vehicles, clean office, clean lawn mowers, but not limited to. This position may only be one or two days a week. Supported by Moncivais. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PART TIME
ON CALL
EMPLOYEE
AD

Winter Season Water Meter Reading – A motion was made by Nelson to skip 2 months of the winter season meter reading at the discretion of Benson & Nelson based upon conditions. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

WINTER
SEASON
METER READ

Recycle Drive – A motion was made by Nelson to allow the Iron County Soil & Conservation District hold a recycling drive at the Bates Township Hall on Saturday October 11th. Supported by Moncivais. All ayes. Motion carried.

RECYCLE
DRIVE

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall – Nothing new to report. /Water – Benson thanked the board for their support. / Sewer – Nothing new to report. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – Decoration removal by Oct 15th, ad will be published. / Park –The Park is closed for the season. The boat wash will be on until late in the season. / Backhoe – Nothing new to report. / Property – Benson thanked the Board for the generator. It's already been a big help on a few jobs.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Resident Larry Nelson stated that he disapproves of the restrictions of some of the roads. Why would logging trucks be banned but cement trucks be allowed? He feels like the township is going after the logging industry. He has been a logger for 35 years and it is the lively hood of many residents. Supervisor Helgemo stated that he has the authority to allow exceptions. Clerk Moncivais said that when the ordinance was passed it was not her intent to hurt the loggers. She felt that there was an alternative route and there has to be a way to protect the new blacktop on these roads which all residents are paying for through their tax dollars. Treasurer Nelson said that her concern is that someday if there is a new Supervisor on the Board that Supervisor might not be so understanding and might not allow exceptions. Supervisor Helgemo said that the Board can revisit the ordinance and that every comment will be taken under consideration. Resident Schmidt agreed with Nelson and added that he can agree with the Board on Reiman Rd and Sunset Shores Rd but not on Section 16 Rd.
- Schmidt also stated that chip seal coat will be busted up by the trucks. He wondered if the Board had considered recycled blacktop.
- Property owner Koski asked what would happen if Parks Farm Rd doesn't get done in 2014. Helgemo stated that it's up to the ICRC to get out there. Helgemo stated that it would be on the list again for 2015.
- Pat Teranishi reminded everyone that there was a seminar at the Windsor Ctr on 9/13/14 for Veterans to learn about availability of assistance.
- Schmidt questioned the details of Proposal A on the ballot.

CORRESPONDENCE

- WUPPDR – Invitation to Keweenaw Lodge meeting.

INVOICE APPROVAL

A motion was made by Nelson to pay the township invoices. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:08pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, October 8, 2014 @ 6:00 PM.

Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: _____