

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – May 13, 2015 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 Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson and Trustees Bobnock & Wodzinski present. Also in attendance was Assessor Nelson; Wtr/Swr Superintendent Benson; Atty Atanasoff; Zoning Admin Oberlin; PC Franzene & Nelson; Jeff Bal-GEI; IC Treasurer Camps; County Commissioner Brennan; Mike Golas-Sunset Lake Home Owners Assn; Mark & Laura Erhart, Assessor Applicants; and 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 April 2015 was submitted. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. A full report will be kept on file for audit.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 83,538.30
Sewer Fund:	\$ 123,476.52
Water Fund:	\$ 297,896.40
Road Fund:	\$ 136,275.46
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Brennan stated that County Administrator Clisch’s term will be finished in December and the County will not be renewing her contract. He stated that there has been some inaccurate information regarding her benefits and she will not continue to receive health benefits once her term is done. He also gave an overview of the county health insurance benefits and the opt out programs as well as the employee committee that was researching options. He stated that at the May 12th Board Mtg of the ICC there was a 5-0 vote and “opt out” failed. Many Employees will be looking at big insurance bills. / Helgemo stated that he followed through on a complaint regarding garbage being dumped off of the Bates-Gaastra Rd/Wagner Lake Rd Rec Trails. / Brennan stated that there was a new sink hole on trail #6 in Dober right on off the trail.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects – Supervisor Helgemo stated there is nothing new to report. He said the Township will probably have to do dust control. Maybe 1 tanker at a possible cost of \$5000-\$6000.

ROAD PROJECTS

Water Ordinance Workshop – Next workshop is Thursday, May 28th @ 5PM.

WATER ORDINANCE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – ZA Oberlin stated that there were 2 permits issued, 3 inquiries, 1 violation (verbal warning), 2 violations resolved. There was a bar inspection. There was a variance meeting on 5/12/15 for permit # 02-2015. A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Master Plan – WUPPDR will be doing the master plan. There is nothing new to report at this time.

MASTER PLAN

Sunset Lake Well – The well/tank projects are completed. The samples are good.

SUNSET LAKE WELL

Chicagon Mine Rd Tank – The inspection is scheduled for June.

CHICAGON MN RD TANK

UP Logon – UPPCO came and inspected the electric meter to make sure it’s working correctly. So far the renter has paid \$1500 for the 1st half of this year. The Township will stand firm on the tower rental amount of \$3000 for the year.

UP LOGON TOWER RENT

BATES TOWNSHIP

May 13, 2015

Page Two

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

Assessor Position – Supervisor Helgemo stated that some of the response's from Assessor's were that they wanted to wait on the results from the State Audits. There were 2 applications received. Thomas J. Novascone, Bessemer – Bid \$22600; Laura Erhardt, Watersmeet – Bid \$16250. The Board decided to table any action and review the applications.

ASSESSOR
POSITION

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Atty Atanasoff stated that he is just continuing to work on the zoning violations. He has had promises from 2 to clean up. Helgemo stated that he wants them taken care of. Issue a citation, take them to court and get it done. It's not right for some to comply and others don't.

ATTORNEY
REPORT

Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment- Supervisor Helgemo made a motion to appoint Darin Barry of the Planning Commission as the PC representative to the ZBA. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Helgemo, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ZBA
APPOINTEE

Wellhead Protection – Supervisor Helgemo invited Jeff Bal from GEI to talk about the grants available. Bal stated that the last several years there have been 50/50 grants available. He reviewed the items necessary to apply such as develop a plan that the DE will accept, do a contaminate source inventory, put up signage, do a management plan to preserve and protect areas, public outreach-education, create a Team comprised of representatives of the township board, health dept, fire dept, agriculture or logger; business or industry, school system, planning & zoning, general public. The grant would be \$11400 plus the township would put in \$11400 for a total of \$22800. Deadline to apply this year is June 15th. The Board decided to take no action at this time.

WELLHEAD
PROTECT
GRANTS

Memorial Day Ceremony – A motion was made by Nelson to approve a budget of \$300. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. Assistant Pastor Kraig Tass will lead the prayers, Jessica Holroyd will be the vocalist, Alex and Austin Atanasoff will do roll call. A Speaker will be present.

MEMORIAL
DAY
CEREMONY

Audit – DS Rostagno submitted a three year bid. Supervisor Helgemo stated that he would rather the board accept a one year bid only at this time. A motion was made by Nelson to have DS Rostagno do the audit for the 2014-2015 fiscal year at the price of . Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Wodzinski, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

AUDIT

Project Graduation – A motion was made by Bobnock to give \$50. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PROJECT
GRADUA-
TION

Township Website – Clerk Benson-Stafford gave an overview of doing a website upgrade with North Country Website Design. A motion was made by Nelson to allow an initial budget of up to \$500. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

TWP
WEBSITE

Ask the Lawyers – Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that Ask the Lawyers would be at the township hall on Wednesday May 20th at 6:00pm. She encouraged everyone to spread the word and attend.

ASK THE
LAWYERS

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall – Nothing new to report. / Water – Benson said that he is working on the shut off valve info. / Sewer – The contactor have not been installed yet. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – The employees will make prepare the cemetery for the ceremony. / Park – Brad and Pat Nicholson are the new campground Hosts. / Backhoe – Nothing new to report. Lawn Mower – A motion was made by Bobnock to purchase a zero gravity mower with a budget of up to \$5000. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Nelson, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Mike Golas – Sunset Lake Home Owners Assn / He stated that the MI DNR is having a boat landing blitz. They will provide educational materials on invasive species the last Friday, Saturday & Sunday of June and the first Friday, Saturday & Sunday of July. Sunset Lake, Chicagon Lake and Fortune Lake are involved. / Also the Lake Assn did a clean up again this year. He said that there are many people to thank but he especially wanted to mention Tony Bongji, Mike Henschel, Geof Sitkoski, David Koski and many more who worked tirelessly.
- Iron County Treasurer Melanie Camps thanked the township for converting to BS&A. She said through a team effort the settlements were done early. They are also now accepting credit card payments online. / She also thanked Bates Twp Assessor Nancy Nelson for her many years of dedicated service.
- John Fritsche – He wanted to reopen the discussion on the alley abandonment between his property and the Ron Lewis property. He stated it measures approximately 20' wide by 164' long. He said that his research through the Register of Deeds showed that basically there would be an agreement, a vote is necessary and then it is recorded, notarized. No survey or no re-plat is necessary. Then he homeowner will have their portion added to the tax roll. Supervisor Helgemo said that he will research it further. He believes that all alleys would have to be looked into.

CORRESPONDENCE

- The Township received a small rebate from Michigan Par Plan.
- Crystal Falls Contemporary Ctr-Donation Request. No action taken.

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:28pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, June 10, 2015 @ 6:00 PM.

Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date approved: _____