

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – October 14, 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 Wtr/Swr Superintendent Benson; Zoning Admin-Constable Oberlin; PC Franzene & Nelson; Pozniak – BOR/ZBA; and Residents. Assessor Erhart & Attorney Atanasoff were absent.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Nelson to approve the minutes. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of September 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:	\$ 90,567.08
Sewer Fund:	\$ 135,709.71
Water Fund:	\$ 262,285.35
Road Fund:	\$ 204,877.82
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Brennan was present and gave an update on County issues. He stated that the County budget is being worked on. Revenues will drop but they are making goods cuts but may have to go after more cuts. / Regarding DICSA and stated that he has some concerns about our senior’s however the Iron River Senior Ctr is doing well. / Regarding the EDC he doesn’t see anything on the horizon. One of the options could be merging the EDC with the Chamber or consolidation of some sort. / On the table is the hospital still wants a millage for the ambulance. This must go through the county commissioners. They want clear ballot language no this will not end up on a November election. / Brennan mentioned the temporary displacement of the Veterans office due to the flooding and damage that occurred at City hall. He stated it’s been a tough year for them also with the retirement of Joy DeNicola. He said that there is a new worker coming on this is promising.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects – Supervisor Helgemo stated the chip seal could not be completed this year because the State has deadlines. Farnher is going by the requirements but they will hold the prices for the spring. Treasurer Nelson commented that she didn’t think Sunset Shores Rd looked completed or acceptable. Helgemo will look at it.

ROAD PROJECTS

Dust Control – Supervisor Helgemo stated that he recommends no dust control now for this year. The Road Commission has to concentrate on washouts over the next couple of weeks. The Township will save about \$12000.

DUST CONTROL

Ordinance Public Hearing - The public hearing date is set for October 14th @ 5:30pm. This will be review/discussion of the changes to the ordinances which included a “re-numbering system” and a few changes to the water & sewer ordinances.

ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARING

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – ZA Oberlin stated that there were 4 permits issued, 2 inquiries, 0 new violations, 1 violations resolved. He inspected the bar. Permits issued to date = 20. A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

Cemetery Tree Removal – There were two bids received; James Nordstrom - \$4200 and Limb Walkers - \$3900. There was some discussion. The Board felt it was hard to remove the trees because they have been there so long however they are dead and dying and they need to come down before they come down on the head stones or people. A motion was made by Nelson to accept the Limb Walkers bid of \$3900. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

CEMETERY
TREE
REMOVAL

New Truck – There two bids received. Lindwall's Option 1=\$34630, Option 2=\$42205, Option 3=\$44335. Big Valley Ford \$42147.45. The actual purchase would be split between the 3 townships departments, general, water & sewer. The action was tabled until the next meeting. Helgemo suggested the Board should take another look at the budget.

NEW TRUCK
BIDS

Twp Hall Grounds Expansion/Cleanup – Helgemo stated the cleanup will begin September 10th.

TWP HALL
GROUNDS

Cub Cadet – Due to another break down of one of the lawn mowers the ad to sell them was not published. The ad will now be changed to calling for bids on 2 mowers, one running and one for parts. They will not be separated and there will be no minimum bid required. Bids will be reviewed at the October meeting.

CUB CADET
SALE

Krist / Sunset Lake Land Division – Helgemo stated that he got the information today and it seems in order but he will have Surveyor Pisoni review the legals.

KRIST LAND
DIVISION

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report - Atanasoff stated that he reviewed the citation & court process with Dennis Yackel. Some revisions to the citation form will be made. The DOB must be on the form and there will be a slight change in the language. Atanasoff stated that the Township has to have an Enforcement Officer. The Board reminded Atanasoff that the Zoning Administrator-Constable position was authorized as the Enforcement Officer a few years ago. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to reaffirm that Jon Oberlin, Zoning Administrator & Constable does have the authority to be the Enforcement Officer on behalf of the Township. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Wodzinski, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ATTORNEY
REPORT

Assessor Report – The Assessor was not present but submitted the following report; The AMAR meeting occurred and there was discussion about sales, parcels in override, land values and more. Tax Mgmt Assoc has begun site inspections. Assr Erhart provided them with copies of sketches that the township had for buildings on sites. / She processed the Byczek Tribunal Settlement with Treasurer Nelson. / TMA will provide the state with their report and the Twp should hear from the State on our AMAR by the end of the year. / She provided ZA Oberlin with maps & names regarding zoning issues. / A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ASSESSOR
REPORT

WUPPDR - The 47th Annual Mtg will be held at the Paint River Landing on 9/21 @ 5PM. Keynote Speaker is Wendy Gehlhoff.

WUPPDR
MEETING

IC Firefighter Ad – A motion was made by Nelson to support the recognition of the Volunteer Firefighters. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ICVF AD

Cemetery Decoration Removal – Clerk Benson-Stafford will publish the notice that all cemetery decorations need to be removed no later than October 15th.

CEMETERY
DECO
REMOVAL

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Park Pavilion – The Park is closed for the season. The winterization will be done prior to colder weather.

PARK
PAVILION

GIS Mapping / Water System – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to have GEI to the Water System mapping at a proposed cost of \$3620 with a breakdown of \$1920 for data collection; \$1200 for mapping/data management; \$500 onsite training. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Helgemo, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

GIS
MAPPING /
WATER
SYSTEM

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall – Nothing new to report. / Water – Benson said the inspection of the Chicagon Mine Rd tank was completed. There is slight deterioration and within the next 3 years it should probably be repainted inside and outside. Estimated cost could be \$40,000. It was originally done in 1995 with a painting touch up in 2008. Also a “light” is going to be installed on the “heat tape.” In addition, UP Logon will have to move their communications equipment away from the ladder. / Sewer – 3 manholes were done on Bates Gaastra Rd in preparation of the chip seal that the County was having done. A motion was made by Helgemo to approve a budget of \$1000 for Benson to get some inventory to replace stock that was used on the manhole projects. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Helgemo, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – Nothing new to report. / Park Nothing new to report. / Backhoe – Nothing new to report.

Park & Cemetery Leaf Removal – Benson will provide a cost estimate on a “rake” for the next board meeting.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Mike Golas, Sunset Lake Homeowner’s Assn pointed out the typo in the August minutes. (bandit changed to banded)

CORRESPONDENCE

- MSU Workshop on Shoreline Planning & Zoning.

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 7:35pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, October 14, 2015 @ 6:00 PM.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date approved: _____