

**BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – August 10, 2016 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 Trustee Bobnock present. Also in attendance were Wtr/Swr Superintendent Benson; PC Franzene; Atty Atanasoff; and Residents. Trustee Wodzinski, ZA Oberlin, Assr Erhart & County Comm Brennan were absent.

ATTENDEES

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

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of July 2016 was submitted. A motion was made by Benson to accept the report. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Helgemo, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. A full report will be kept on file for audit.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 110,742.83
Sewer Fund:	\$ 158,224.22
Water Fund:	\$ 342,873.67
Road Fund:	\$ 248,105.35
Liquor Law:	\$

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT** – Comm Brennan was absent.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Road Projects – Supervisor Helgemo stated there is nothing new to report.

ROAD PROJECTS

Dust Control – Supervisor Helgemo stated the project is completed. The Bates portion of Ponozzo Rd will not be done until it’s been graveled.

DUST CONTROL

Chicagon Mine Water Tank – Supervisor Helgemo stated there is nothing new to report, the project will begin any day.

CHICAGON MN RD WATER TANK

Otto Road Waterline – Supervisor Helgemo stated that GEI indicated that this line will boost the pressure to the residents on the hill. The Township is currently working on funding for the project.

OTTO RD WTRLINE

Rogers Location – There was one bid to clean out the lots and make them into a lawn mowing condition. The bid from G & G was for \$9500. A motion was made by Bobnock to accept that bid. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / As a side note Mr. Reitmeyer (audience) questioned where Stambaugh Twp got the money to do the bike trail along Cty Rd 424. Supervisor Helgemo stated that the money came from the DNR grant. / Then there was a question as to where the money came from for the sidewalks along west US 2. Helgemo stated that was an MDOT project.

ROGERS LOCATION PROJECT

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Zoning Update – ZA Oberlin was absent, Supervisor Helgemo reviewed Oberlin’s report. There were 0 permits issued, he answered questions for several people that are considering buying homes in the Township, he continues to work on violations. There were no new violations. He was unable to complete the bar inspection because the bar was closed until further notice due to medical reasons. Permits issued to date in 2016 = 15. A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Bates Park Signage – Discussion tabled until next meeting.

BATES PARK SIGNAGE

Planning Commission Vacancy – Still looking to fill a vacancy.

PC MEMBER

**NEW BUSINESS**

Attorney Report – Attorney Atanasoff stated there was nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY  
REPORT

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was absent but submitted a report stating the July BOR went smoothly. In the last three months there were 3 illegal land splits. She gave an explanation of the process of land division. Clerk Benson-Stafford also mentioned that the Township was very grateful for BOR Member George Holm who had recently passed away. A copy of the report will be kept on file by the Clerk.

ASSESSOR  
REPORT

Three Year Road Plan – Supervisor Helgemo presented the Board with the potential road plan that the County requests each year. It is subject to change. 2017- Single Chip Seal - Reiman Road, Rogers Location. Balance of Funds – Perch Lake Area. 2018 - Blacktop - Shoquist Road; Single Chip Seal -16 Road; Balance of Funds – Perch Lake Area. 2019 - Single Chip Seal - Forsberg Road, Demboski Road; Balance of Funds – Perch Lake Area.

3-YEAR  
ROAD PLAN

Clean Kill – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to hire Clean Kill to spray the hall and shop for flies. Last year some hall renters experienced the flies landing in their food. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to have this done. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Helgemo, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

CLEAN KILL

Township Hall Floors - Clerk Benson-Stafford requested permission to have the Township Hall floored waxed and buffed to help preserve their life. A motion was made by Nelson to have this done by Advanced Clean Care. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Helgemo, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

HALL  
FLOORS  
WAX-BUFF

Iron County Economic Chamber Alliance – Sheriff Mark Valesano and Adam Holroyd were present to give a brief overview of their progress so far. They stated that Stambaugh Twp was going to support the project with a \$3/capita. They thanked Bates Twp for their indicated support and encouraged everyone to come to a presentation that was going to be held at the Windsor Center on Monday August 15<sup>th</sup>.

ICECA

**HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...**

Hall/Shop– Nothing new to report. / Water – Benson said the tank project will start soon. / Sewer – The systems power relay upgrades were installed and it went well. 1 sewer motor blew a seal. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – The property line by Nalipi’s was surveyed. Helgemo thanked Benson and the workers for their hard work. He stated the Township is lucky to have employees with their work ethic. / Park – Nothing new to report. / Backhoe – Nothing new to report.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Project Graduation Thank You was received.
- IC MTA 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr Mtg/Picnic is 8/11/16 at Bates Twp Park – Sunset Lake.

**GUEST COMMENTS**

There were several property Owner’s present from the Perch Lake Assn, Winslow Lake and Hannah Webb area. Mike O’Brien spoke questioning how their tax dollars were being spent because the roads in their area are terrible adding that there has been a terrible job done grading the roads. Supervisor Helgemo

**GUEST COMMENTS (cont'd)**

stated that the board has brought this matter before the ICRC long before this. He explained that the ICRC has not had the money to fix the roads and that they are responsible for maintaining the roads. The Township will budget for major improvements and has been working on a deal to get gravel on Ponozzo Rd for a couple of years now. The problem has been that there hasn't been a "pit" in that area. Until now it was just not cost effective to bring gravel in from other areas. It is difficult to work with the Forest Svc and the Township has no control over Forest Service Rds. Gasser has working with the ICRC on a pit on his property near Winslow Lake. The Township needed assurance that the ICRC would be participating in getting work done on Ponozzo Rd. The County is supposed to put 10,000 tons gravel on Ponozzo Rd and the Township is kicking in 5000 tons. This has been a long battle. / Another property owner questioned snow plowing. Helgemo stated that is strictly handled by the ICRC. We can put a bug in their ear but both of these issues should be brought before the ICRC not the Township. These are issues for the ICRC the Township has no control over them even though the road is in Bates Township. Helgemo stated that the ICRC meets at 8:30am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at their office on Franklin St. in Iron River. He added that he has had numerous conversation with Doug Tomasoski about gravel on Ponozzo Rd. / Tom Haight from the Perch Lake Assn thanked the Township Board for passing zoning protection on Perch Lake. Helgemo stated that the Board enjoys reading the Perch Lake Assn news letter. / Terry Reed stated that he thinks that Ponozzo Rd is a designated Forest Svc Hwy and that there may be grant money available. He also suggested that maybe Houghton Cty and Iron Cty could join efforts although sometimes counties don't like to work together. Helgemo said that he would mention that to Tomasoski/ICRC. / Dave Reitmeyer had issues with the "grading" work being done. Also that 2149 needs to be brushed back. It's like its one lane. Helgemo again stated that these are all matters for the ICRC. Perhaps the Property Owners should make a complete list of their concerns and take them to the ICRC. Thad Sartorelli stated that he thought the Township was passing the buck to which Clerk Benson-Stafford and Supervisor Helgemo stated that the Township is not passing the buck. The roads are to be maintained and plowed by the ICRC. The Township doesn't own road equipment or plowing equipment for that purpose, these matters are handled by the ICRC. The Township continues to voice their concerns to the ICRC but he Property Owners should be doing the same. Judy Sensenbrenner stated that this has an economic effect on Iron County because it is easier to go to L'Anse than to Iron River because of the roads. Helgemo said that he did believe there would be an initial amount of gravel put on Ponozzo Rd yet this fall but that this was going to have to be a continued effort over the next couple of years. / Resident Brian Rippey questioned what the township's intentions were for the 4<sup>th</sup> St. – Bates Gaastra Rd lots. He stated that we didn't need another park because there was playground equipment at the school. He had concerns about a "loitering element." Helgemo stated that it is not intended to be a park with playground equipment and park benches. It is to clean the area up, keep a mowed lawn, and protect the lift station. They are not really buildable lots.

**INVOICE APPROVAL**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 6:56pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 @ 6:00 PM.

---

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_