

**BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – August 9, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

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

Roll call was taken with Supervisor Oberlin, Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson, Trustees Franzene and Bobnock were present. Also in attendance were Water/Sewer Superintendent Benson; ZA Oberlin; PC- Nelson; Pat & Brad – Park Hosts; County Comm Brennan; Ernie Schmidt-ICRC; Jim Stolberg-WICFD; Mike Golas-Sunset Lake Assn; Residents. Assr Erhart was absent.

ATTENDEES

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

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of July 2017 was submitted. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. A full report will be kept on file for audit.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 125,019.98
Sewer Fund:	\$ 92,975.16
Water Fund:	\$ 338,598.00
Road Fund:	\$ 197,095.01
Liquor Law:	\$

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT** – Comm Brennan was present. He stated that the County Board meeting is postponed until Tuesday August 15<sup>th</sup>. He reviewed the countywide results of the election stating that the senior center millage passed with 85% of the vote. Overall 9 ½ % of the county turned out to vote. Bates had a 17% voting turnout which was good overall.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Road Projects – Ponozzo Rd – Supervisor Oberlin stated that crushing will begin in about 2 weeks.

ROAD PROJECTS/  
PONOZZO RD

Wagner Lake Rd – Ernie Schmidt questioned if this road would be blacktopped. Supervisor Oberlin stated that the Twp would have to think about waterline replacement before a road project can be done.

WAGNER LK

Chip Seal – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the County has been sealing the cracks in preparation of the project. / Oberlin stated that with the County’s advice we will hold off on East & West Park Drives until next year because as part of the Sunset Lake Rd project the first 100’ of these roads will be included in the County project. / Oberlin stated that he is waiting on a bid for 1/3 mile of Demboski Rd. Schmidt stated that this part of the road was in good condition at the time of the previous blacktop project and that is why it wasn’t done then. / There was discussion regarding Wickstrom Rd and how bad it gets in the spring between Wildwood Drive and Cooks home.

CHIP SEAL PROJECTS

Anderson Rd Waterline – There was a discussion about the options and the cost. Trustee Franzene proposed that the Twp put in the first 700’ of line off of Anderson Rd and the 4 shutoff valves and let the homeowners do the rest. Employee Benson stated that doing that would completely change the bid because the bid was for the whole project with the help of the Twp employees. Clerk Benson-Stafford wanted to hear feedback from the audience on what they thought. Some felt the Twp should just give the 2 year break on the water bill and let the residents get wells. Larry Nelson questioned if the 2” line would be sufficient. There were mixed opinions. It was decided that Oberlin would bring a couple of options to the residents. Action was tabled until next meeting.

ANDERSON RD WTRLINE

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Zoning Update – ZA Oberlin gave his report. There were 2 new permits issued. 4 new inquiries. 0 new violations. Continuing to work with old violations and making some progress. He was unable to complete the bar inspection because the bar was closed until further notice. Permits issued to date in 2017 = 20. A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ZONING  
UPDATE

Master Plan – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the PC has recommended that the Twp approve this draft of the MP. A motion was made by Franzene to put the final document out to the public for a 63 day review period. Supported by Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried. It was noted that any public comments should be directed to the Planning Commission. Clerk Benson-Stafford will get a copy uploaded to the website and provide a copy to the library and township hall for public review. / Oberlin also stated that the balance due to WUPPDR is \$3750 but they have proposed a price reduction of \$1250 due to the problems that the Township experienced with the previous WUPPDR personnel that was assigned to the project. The general concession was that Oberlin should try to get a larger price reduction.

MASTER  
PLAN

Hall/Shop LED Lighting – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the project has been completed and the paperwork has been submitted for the rebate.

LED  
LIGHTING

Bates School Acquisition – Nothing new to report. Bobnock did question if the Twp was going to get the school forest back. Oberlin stated that if it is no longer used as a school forest

BATES  
SCHOOL  
ACQUISIT.

DNR Grant / Bates Rec Plan – A motion was made by Oberlin to have GEI update our Rec Plan for a cost of \$1000. Supported by Benson-Stafford. The plan will be good for 5 years. It will be good to have an active plan in the event the Twp wants to apply for grants.

DNR GRANT  
/REC PLAN

Street Lighting – The Board will review the street lighting again and talk to residents and find out where the bus stops are. It can be expensive to turn the lights off and then back on again, so the decisions should be certain. Also it was determined that it would not be cost effective to do a "lights out" at the Bates Park. No action taken. Tabled until next meeting.

STREET  
LIGHTING

Park Ordinance – It was determined that working on this would be too much for the regular board meeting so Trustee Franzene will hold a sub-committee meeting with the park hosts, Mike Golas-Sunset Lk Assn and Trustee Bobnock. They will take the research and information done by the park hosts and Clerk Benson-Stafford and try to bring recommendations to the Board. Then Attorney Atanasoff will be consulted when the ordinance is ready to be updated.

PARK  
ORDINANCE

Election Results – Clerk Benson-Stafford thanked the voters for renewing the 2 mill road millage 108 yes to 30 no.

ELECTION  
RESULTS

**NEW BUSINESS**

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY  
REPORT

Assessor Report – No report was submitted.

ASSESSOR  
REPORT

Eagle Mine LLC – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the Twp received correspondence from the DNR stating they received a metallic minerals lease request in the northern part of Bates Twp. This is nothing new. A public notice was published in the July 24<sup>th</sup> Iron County Reporter. So far they have done some Ariel photos, no exploratory drilling.

EAGLE MINE  
LLC

MDEQ Water Asset Mgmt. Plan Requirements – Supervisor Oberlin stated that it has been determined by the MDEQ that we are exempt from this mandate due to our population at this time.

MDEQ WTR  
ASSET MGMT  
PLAN

**NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)**

Street Signage – Road signage is the township’s responsibility and because much of the current road signage is in poor condition a motion was made by Nelson to replace the township’s road signs (paid for by the road fund). Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

STREET  
SIGNAGE

Park Address– The park hosts pointed out that it would be nice if the park/campground actually had a fire number/address especially in the event of an emergency/911 calls. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to obtain an address from the Iron County Construction Code office and to put up a mailbox. Supported by Benson. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PARK/CAMP  
GROUND  
ADDRESS-  
MAILBOX

IC MTA Meeting – Clerk Benson-Stafford reminded the board of the IC MTA meeting to be held at the Mastodon Twp Hall on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30.

IC MTA MTG

ICECA Update – Mike Stafford was present to give the Board an update. Paul Schytuma has been brought on as the Executive Director. He will be at the IC MTA meeting to meet Township officials. / There will be an Economic Summit on October 29<sup>th</sup> at George Young’s. More information to come. / The ICECA has been working on a 5 year strategic plan. / The ICECA board visited the Camp Ottawa prison to assess possibilities for future use. / Dan Beneshek, Jim Chihak are working with an Airport Committee to look into a possible airport. They are meeting with the MDA on September 13<sup>th</sup>. There is federal money available and the airport could be managed by the state. / The ICECA regarding local businesses, they are gathering expertise to assist businesses in financials, business planning, internet presence, etc.

ICECA  
UPDATE

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

Hall/Shop– Nothing new to report. / Water – DA shutoff was fixed at the Mapleton Inn. / A new tap in was done on Little Finland Rd. / Sewer – Nothing new to report. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – Nothing new to report. / Park – See above. / Backhoe – Nothing new to report. / Dump Truck – It has issues. Discussions were about looking for a new unit. Bobnock suggested looking into a dump trailer. More information is needed, no action taken.

**GUEST COMMENTS**

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**CORRESPONDENCE**

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**INVOICE APPROVAL**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:25pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 @ 6:00 PM.

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Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

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