

**BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – June 14, 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; Assr Erhart; Brad & Pat – Park Hosts; Jim Stolberg, WIFD; Residents. County Comm Brennan was absent.

ATTENDEES

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

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of May 2017 was submitted. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Franzene. 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:	\$ 151,549.56
Sewer Fund:	\$ 89,653.24
Water Fund:	\$ 302,748.25
Road Fund:	\$ 185,502.17
Liquor Law:	\$

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

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Road Projects – Wagner Lake Rd - Supervisor Oberlin stated that we received a blacktop bid for the final mile of this road. Stambaugh Twp is planning to finish the road in their municipality. Wtr Superintendent Benson expressed some concerns because of the waterline. It is an older line and if we need to fix breaks it could damage new blacktop. It is a mile of waterline. Action is tabled for further discussion.

ROAD PROJECTS/  
WAGNER LK

Ponozzo Rd – The original contact person for the Vendor was released from the company and the new contact person had no idea there was a job to do for Iron County. The project was supposed to begin in spring. Now the crushing has been pushed back until fall because of the Vendor which means the gravel might not get on the road until next year. Supervisor Oberlin will let the Perch Lake Assn know as soon as he receives more definitive information from the road commission.

PONOZZO RD

Chip Seal – The estimates to do West Park Dr., East Park Dr., Section 16 Rd & Sec 22 Rd came in at about \$45000 (8/10's of a mile). We may drop Sec 22 Rd because of the budget. Oberlin stated that the County says that the chip seal extends the life of the road 5-10 years. The ICRC will match up to \$15000 on the project.

CHIP SEAL PROJECTS

Dust Control – Oberlin stated that this was scheduled for 6/23 but the County needs more time to grade the roads so this has been pushed out until 6/29. The County will fix Erickson Rd.

DUST CONTROL

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Zoning Update – ZA Oberlin gave his report. There were 3 new permits issued. 1 new inquiries. 0 new violations. Continuing to work with old violations. He was unable to complete the bar inspection because the bar was closed until further notice. Permits issued to date in 2017 = 13. A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)**

Master Plan – Supervisor Oberlin stated there was nothing new to report.

MASTER  
PLAN

Hall/Shop LED Lighting – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the supplies should arrive within the next week or so.

LED  
LIGHTING

Bates School Acquisition – Supervisor Oberlin stated that there is nothing new to report. There are several scenarios as to how this could work. The majority of the school board is in favor of the Township acquiring the building.

BATES  
SCHOOL  
ACQUISIT.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY  
REPORT

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was present and gave her report. There were two cases that could go to the Tax Tribunal from the March BOR but the Township settled one case and the other had a hearing in May and was dismissed by the MITT. / July 19<sup>th</sup> is the next BOR meeting. / Erhart found some structures that have been built and were not on the assessment rolls. / The AMAR follow-up meeting will be July 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in Watersmeet. She encouraged one or more of the board members to come. Oberlin stated that he will be there. / Erhart stated that she is implementing a safer practice regarding address changes to the tax roll. They will no longer be accepted by telephone calls. They must be written requests.

ASSESSOR  
REPORT

Assessor Contract – There was some discussion as to the terms of the contract. A motion was made by Oberlin to accept a 5 year renewable contract subject to annual reviews; pending a final review of the contract and it's terms. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ASSESSOR  
CONTRACT

DNR Grant / Bates Rec Plan – Supervisor Oberlin stated he was contacted by the Basso's who had an interest in updating. They stated that they also had experience helping entities with various projects and they were aware of another municipality that acquired a school building and received a grant to work on the building. Our current rec plan is expired and would need to be updated in order to be eligible for the grants. A motion was made by Nelson to authorize Oberlin to contact GEI to get an estimate of what it would cost to update our current plan since they were involved with the first plan. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

DNR  
GRANT/REC  
PLAN

Summer Tax Collections – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to have Treasurer Nelson collect the summer taxes on behalf of the schools with the same terms that have been in place for over a decade. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

SUMMER TAX  
COLLECTION

Park Pavilion Rentals/ Park Hosts – Brad & Pat Nicholson were present to give a report on the park. / The geese are a big problem. The Board has allowed the purchase of an environmentally friendly spray for the grass to see if that will keep them away. / There has been a couple of incidents where people don't want to use the boat wash. Oberlin stated that they should call the Police and not put themselves in harm's way. / Some of the campsites can get unsightly if there isn't a time limit to at least get the site mowed. The State parks have 7 day limits. / The last wedding pavilion rental went well, there were no problems and no damage. However, there could be issues with music being too loud, and the setup-tear down of the tent. It was determined that the charge will be daily for each day the tent is up. There will need to be an equivalent security deposit and a contract signed. / Campsites – Trustee Franzene stated that he would like to see more campsites. Ed/Jon and Franzene will make a plan. Jim Stolberg said it is a good idea for a time limits staying at a campsite. Clerk will check with Health Dept on campground limits/requirements with restrooms.

PARK  
PAVILION  
RENTALS /  
CAMPSITE  
DISCUSSION

**NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)**

Principles of Governance – A motion was made by Franzene to approve the Resolution of the Principles of Governance in which the township states that the township to maintain the highest standards and traditions of Michigan Townships will embrace the principles. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. Clerk Moncivais will keep a copy of the signed Principles of Governance on file.

PRINCIPLES OF GOVERN.

Rogers Location Chip Seal – Resident Brian Rippey was present and gave the board a signed petition to keep on file. The Residents of Rogers Location do not want chip seal on their streets. There was some discussion regarding technology and the best methods to preserve our roads. Oberlin stated that we can't allow the roads to deteriorate. Rippey stated that tar & patch would be better than chip seal. The chip seal stones are just too sharp. The Board will keep the petition on file.

ROGERS LOCATION CHIP SEAL

Rogers Location Lawn Mowing – There was a neighborhood complaint regarding an un-mowed lawn/absent owner. Oberlin set the process in motion and contacted the owner and gave a deadline when the lawn was to be mowed by. If the lawn doesn't get mowed the township will mow it at a very large price and add the bill to the utility billing.

UNMOWED LAWN – BLIGHT

Bates Hall Benefit – Clerk Benson-Stafford received a request from a family to use the hall for free for a benefit. At this time rent is even when the hall is used for a funeral meal. The Board determined that this would set a precedent so the answer was no. However, at this meeting there were a few anonymous donations that covered the cost of the hall rental for this benefit. Benson-Stafford will let the family know.

FREE USE OF TWP HALL

Westside Veterans Council- Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that she thought the Township should increase it's donation for many reasons. The Veterans put up the flags at the cemetery for Memorial Day; they provide flags to the Township at no cost when our flags are tattered; they take our old flags and property dispose of them. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to donate \$250. Supported by Oberlin. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

WESTSIDE VETERANS COUNCIL

Iron County Fair Book Ad – A motion was made by Oberlin to support the IC Fair with the ad of \$62.73. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

IC FAIR BOOK

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

Hall/Shop– Nothing new to report. / Water – Discussions are underway with the Anderson Rd residents. No action taken at this time. More research into costs will be done. / Sewer – Annual samples have been taken at the lagoon, results are not back yet. One pump is done. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – The new information center (board) is up. / Park – Excessive rains caused a washout at the park. / Backhoe – Nothing new to report. /

**GUEST COMMENTS**

- Greg Lund questioned the county gravel crushing specs. Oberlin stated that it is the county's responsibility to make sure it's to county specs. / There was another comment about a Sunset Lk road washout close to the blacktop where the county patched one side and not the other.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

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**INVOICE APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson 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 7:40pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, August 9, 2017 @ 6:00 PM.

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Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

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