

**BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – March 8, 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 Wtr/Swr Superintendent Benson; ZA Oberlin; Atty Atanasoff; County Comm Brennan and Residents. Assr Erhart were absent.

ATTENDEES

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

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of February 2017 was submitted. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Franzene. All Ayes. Motion carried. A full report will be kept on file for audit.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 157,599.32
Sewer Fund:	\$ 84,721.09
Water Fund:	\$ 285,505.51
Road Fund:	\$ 139,994.02
Liquor Law:	\$

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT** – Comm Brennan stated that things are quiet at the courthouse. Currently the Board is waiting to what the cost of the murder trial was. The jury fees came to about \$12000 and that has been paid.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

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

ROAD PROJECTS

Anderson Rd Waterline – Supervisor Helgemo stated that there is nothing new to report at this time. No action taken. Research is still being done. Tabled until next meeting.

ANDERSON RD WATERLINE

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Zoning Update – ZA Oberlin gave his report. There were 3 new permits issued. 0 new inquiries. 0 new violation. 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 2017 = 5. A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Bates Park Signage – No action taken. Research is still being on. Tabled until next meeting.

BATES PARK SIGNAGE

Master Plan – Supervisor Oberlin stated a new Master Plan draft was just emailed to the Planning Commission for review. The original WUPPDR person that was assigned to work with us is no longer with WUPPDR. He didn't do the job correctly. Once the PC approves the draft, it will be published for public review & comment and the 63 day period will begin.

MASTER PLAN

Hall/Shop LED Lighting – Supervisor Oberlin stated that it has been determined that some of the “fixtures” may have to be changed therefore the original estimate of \$575 may increase by approximately \$300. Action is tabled until the new fiscal year.

LED LIGHTING

Board of Review Member – Supervisor Oberlin gave a reminder that the Board of Review dates are March 15<sup>th</sup> & March 17<sup>th</sup>.

BOARD OF REVIEW

Sewer Motor Project – Supervisor Oberlin stated that Ed found some old pumps and although they had been sitting outside in the elements since 2010 it appears that a few of them can be refurbished. This could result in a savings to the township bringing the original estimate of buying new down from \$20000 to maybe \$10000-\$13000.

SEWER MOTOR PROJECT

**NEW BUSINESS**

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

ATTORNEY  
REPORT

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was absent and there was no report provided.

ASSESSOR  
REPORT

Insurance Audit – Supervisor Oberlin stated that with the recent annual audit by the Insurance Company everything looks good in the township. There was one recommendation that was not mandatory, just a suggestion that the township consider doing “new hire background checks.” This would not apply to Elected Officials or anyone already working for the Township. Treasurer Nelson thought that was a good idea. A motion was made by Nelson to start doing “new hire background checks” effective with the next new hire. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

INSURANCE  
AUDIT –  
NEW HIRE  
BACKGRND  
CHECKS

Board Salary Resolutions – Board Members did not request any salary increases for themselves. A motion was made by Nelson to increase the part time employees by \$.75/hour and full time employee by \$.69/hour.

SALARY  
RESOLUTION

Township Property – A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to give the Township Board the authority to sell township property. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP  
PROPERTY  
RESOLUTION

Deposit Resolution – A motion was made by Supervisor Oberlin to continue to keep/use the accounts that the township currently has through the Miners State Bank and First Merit Bank nka Huntington Bank. Supported by Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried.

DEPOSIT  
RESOLUTION

Budget Amendment – A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to do a final amendment the 2016-2017 budget. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

BUDGET  
AMENDMENT

GEI Scan Project – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the bid to scan the old minutes and books from the early township days was for \$1500 or \$1800 with individual pdfs. Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that the Township has a responsibility to preserve this information and technology now allows it to be saved on computers. A motion was made by Nelson to accept the bid of \$1800 allowing more separated details of the files. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

GEI SCAN  
PROJECT

Budget Hearing/Annual Meeting – Supervisor Oberlin stated that the budget will be Tuesday, March 28th at 5:00pm at the Township Hall immediately followed by the Annual Meeting to approve the budget. Copies of the budget will be available for public review.

BUDGET  
HEARING

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

**Hall/Shop**–Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Nothing new to report. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Closed for the season. / **Backhoe** – Nothing new to report.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

•

**GUEST COMMENTS**

Mike Golas stated that there will be a meeting April 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Bay College in Iron Mountain. The topic is Conversations & Coffee with DNR Fisheries Division. Interesting information about surveys of the fish. / The 2017 Michigan Lake and Stream Associations' Annual Conference will be held April 21-22 in Thompsonville. Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program training will be held on May 3 at the Windsor Center. This is a free event. They will train people on how to help protect your favorite lake. Volunteers have been doing this on Perch Lk for about 6-7 years, Hannah Webb – 3 yrs., Lake Mary about 15 years. This year Winslow, Sunset, Chicagoan and Emily Lakes have been added to the list.

**INVOICE APPROVAL**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Franzene to adjourn. Supported by Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 6:45pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 @ 6:00 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

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