

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – April 11, 2018 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, Deputy Treasurer Franzene and Trustee Franzene present. Also in attendance were Water/Sewer Superintendent Benson; ZA Oberlin; Larry Nelson-PC; Jim Stolberg, WICFD; Mike Golas & Mike Stafford-Parks & Rec; County Comm Brennan; Residents. Treasurer Nelson, Trustee Bobnock and Assr Erhart were absent.

ATTENDEES

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

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of March 2018 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:	\$ 218,183.42
Sewer Fund:	\$ 107,069.95
Water Fund:	\$ 328,954.59
Road Fund:	\$ 192,166.77
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Brennan was present and gave his report. He stated that there are 2 opening on the Parks & Rec Committee and he encouraged anyone interested to apply. / He stated that County Treasurer Camps had encouraged the county to keep the foreclosures local. Sometimes with the expenses of cutting the grass, paying water/sewer, etc., it sometimes didn’t work out well. There are 35 houses in the county that will be demolished, none in Bates. In some instances adjacent property owners have expressed interest in purchasing the lots once the homes are torn down. / There are two millages up for renewal this fall: IC Medical Care Facility at 1.5 mills and the IC Youth Camp at ½ mill. / The County 911 system will be getting an upgrade to Smart 911. / He gave the Twp a 2018 IC Equalization Report. (A copy is on file with Clerk Benson-Stafford).

COUNTY COMM REPORT

Mike Carey / For State Senate – Mike Carey was present and gave a brief overview of his platform running for Tom Casperson’s State Senate seat. Carey is running as a Republican. (A copy of his information is on file with Clerk Benson-Stafford.).

CAREY FOR STATE SENATE

SPECIAL PROJECTS

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

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – ZA Oberlin gave his report. There were 2 new permit application returned and both will require variance meetings. No new inquiries. No new violations. He was unable to complete the bar inspection because the bar was closed. Permits issued to date in 2018 = 4. A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Master Plan – Supervisor Oberlin stated that there is nothing new to report at this time.

MASTER PLAN

Bates Twp Park Ordinance – The Park Ordinance changes were reviewed. A motion was made by Oberlin to adopt the changes to the Park Ordinances. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

BATES PARK ORDINANCE

Street Lighting – Supervisor Oberlin stated that each Board Member has a review of the street lights and the proposed lights that he/Franzene propose to be eliminated. Copies were provided to the public in attendance. Tabled until next meeting.

STREET LIGHTING

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

UP Championship Rodeo – A motion was made by Franzene to contribute \$50 to the sponsorship of this event that benefits many in the community. Supported by Oberlin. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Motion carried.

UP RODEO

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY
REPORT

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was absent but provided a report. There were 39 petitions processed at the BOR; 10 were Disabled Veterans Exemptions; 4 were improper property splits that were lacking the Land Division application; 1 petition was for PRE, 3 petitions were Assessor requested corrections; remaining were Owner's questioning the change in their property value. She requested that the Board grant the parcel split between Harkness & Koivunen and to require the property owner to have the new westerly corners of the split marked by a Surveyor and have the Surveyor write up the formal legal descriptions of both Lots 1 and 1A. / Supervisor Oberlin pointed out that the split was approved at the last meeting pending the following: signature of Seller on the land division form, payment received by the Twp Board and he added that they will have to comply with the requests regarding the Surveyor and legal description. Both Harkness and Koivunen were present at tonight's meeting and agreed.

ASSESSOR
REPORT

MDOT Performance Resolution – A performance resolution is required by the MDOT for purposes of issuing to a municipal utility an "Individual Permit for Use of State Highway Right of Way", or an "Annual Application and Permit for Miscellaneous Operations within State Highway Right of Way." A motion was made by Oberlin to adopt the MDOT Performance Resolution. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MDOT
RESOLUTION

Dust Control – A motion was made by Oberlin to use Van Damme (the same Vendor as last year) for 2018 dust control. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

DUST
CONTROL

2017-2018 Audit – A motion was made by Franzene to accept the audit bid from Haukkala & Co., PC at the same price as last year. It was noted that DS Rostagno CPA PC has done the township audits for nearly 20 years and that Haukkala is the same firm with a new owner. Supported by Oberlin. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. Supervisor Oberlin stated that next year he would like to publish looking for other bidders just to see how the price lines up. Jim Stolberg mentioned that the WICFD has advertised for auditors in the past with no response.

2017-2018
AUDIT

Memorial Day Ceremony - A motion was made by Oberlin to allow a budget of \$300 (which has been the amount for the past several years). Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried. Benson-Stafford stated that Gail Passamoni and her crew will host the brunch at the hall. Oberlin stated that we have a speaker in place.

MEMORIAL
DAY

Campground Camping Rates – A motion was made by Oberlin to increase campsite fees from \$10 to \$12/night effective this year. The park pavilion fee will remain at \$50 for 2018 but will increase to \$60 for 2019. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

CAMPGRD
FEES

Bates Township Signage – No action taken. Benson-Stafford will look in the cost to add the 2018 Olympic Games to Nick Baumgartner's recognition portion.

BATES TWP
SIGN

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

WAGE
INCREASE

Bates Township Clean Up Day – Supervisor Oberlin stated that he would like to see a day when Bates Township Residents coordinate and participate in a community clean-up day. Mike Golas stated that the Sunset Lake Assn has done this in the past so he will talk to them. No date set at the meeting.

Project Graduation – A motion was made by Oberlin to contribute \$50 to the program. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

Bates Cemetery Veteran’s Memorial – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to get the names engraved prior to Memorial Day (of the recent burials of those who served). The cost is \$90 each for 9 names. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried. Ed Benson asked about the Buy A Brick program. Benson-Stafford stated that we have to have a minimum of 10 bricks to place the order and so far the minimum has not been reached.

PART TIME
WORKER

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall/Shop–Nothing new to report. / Water – There are several conflicts with the MDOT 2019 road project from Ice Lake Rd to the hall. Benson had received two bids for the whole project which was FAI at \$700,000 and Hebert at \$470,000. The Township doesn’t have that kind of money and to go for a USDA grant/loan there would have to be a substantial increase in water rates. Research will be done to see about a local loan to cover just the main areas that are conflicts. No action taken. / Sewer – A motion was made by Oberlin to purchase electrical safe packs for all 12 lift stations at a cost of \$6720. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – Nothing new to report. / Park – Nothing new to report.

Bates Twp Board 2018-2019 Meeting Schedule – A motion was made by Franzene to adopt the meeting schedule of the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm, excepting November 2018 will be the 1st Wednesday. Supported by Benson-Stafford. All ayes. Motion carried.

GUEST COMMENTS

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CORRESPONDENCE

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INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Franzene. The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, May 9, 2018 @ 6:00 PM.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk
Date Approved: _____