

**BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – March 10, 2015 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 Moncivais, Treasurer Nelson; Trustees Bobnock & Wodzinski present. Also in attendance was Assessor Nelson; Wtr/Swr Superintendent Benson; Atty Atanasoff; PC Oberlin, Franzene & Nelson; County Comm Brennan and Residents. ZA/Constable Position - Vacant.

ATTENDEES

There were no requests for changes to the minutes; Supervisor Helgemo noted them as “stand as read.”

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of February 2015 was submitted. A motion was made by Bobnock to accept the report. Supported by Moncivais. Roll call vote: Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. A full report will be kept on file for audit.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 109,857.19
Sewer Fund:	\$ 122,714.83
Water Fund:	\$ 298,077.64
Road Fund:	\$ 136,229.32
Liquor Law:	\$

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT** – Cty Comm Brennan stated that a number of Residents are paying taxes by credit card or e-check. He stated that this saves tax payer money because they don’t have to send their payment via overnight mail to get it in prior to the deadline. He just wanted everyone to know these options were available. He said that the County audit would be done in March, otherwise things were pretty quiet.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Road Projects – Supervisor Helgemo stated there is nothing new to report. The budget is still up in the air and everything will depend on graveling and chip seal.

ROAD PROJECTS

Water Ordinance Workshop – No new workshop date scheduled at this time.

WATER ORDINANCE

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Zoning Update – Supervisor Helgemo and the Board acknowledged the recent passing of Zoning Administrator Stowell. He did a very good job for the Township. When he applied there were two applicants and Gale was chosen because of his experience handling this position in another municipality. He will be greatly missed.

ZONING UPDATE

Board Budget Workshop – The Board will hold the workshop on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00pm.

BOARD BUDGET WKSHOP

**NEW BUSINESS**

Attorney Report – Atty Atanasoff stated that he is just continuing to work on the tax tribunal case along with Assr Nelson. There will be a hearing in May at the Courthouse.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Zoning Administrator – With the recent passing of Gale Stowell, Supervisor Helgemo pointed out that the other Applicant at the time of Gale’s appointment was Jon Oberlin. Because Jon has experience through being on the Twp’s Planning Commission and still expressed an interest in being the ZA/Constable a motion was made by Helgemo to appoint Jon Oberlin to the position of Zoning Administrator/Ordinance Enforcement Officer/Constable effective immediately. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Moncivais, yes; Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ZONING ADMIN. APPTMENT

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Planning Commission Resignation / Appointment – Jon Oberlin gave a verbal resignation from his position as a PC Member. A motion was made by Helgemo to move Larry Nelson from a PC Alternate to a PC full time Member. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PC  
APPNTMENT

Sunset Lake Well – Currently the Sunset Lake well is shut down. Ed blows it out every once in a while. The Twp has paid Kleiman to work with a testing company to come up with a solution to the problem. The proposal is to acid treat the well at an estimate of \$9035. The annual treatment estimate is \$1500. A motion was made by Nelson to go forward with this treatment as a method to try and resolve the issues. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

SUNSET  
LAKE WELL

Chicagon Mine Tank – The DEQ requires inspections on the tanks every 10 years. Atanasoff stated that its money well spent. Helgemo added that when you have a water system you have to maintain it. An estimate was received from St. Germain Sandblasting of \$1800 for a complete coating inspection of the Chicagon Water Tower, \$29850 for the Otto Rd Tower, \$5890 for a pressure pallet roof vent on Otto Rd Tank. Benson added that he hasn't had one complaint from Residents since he switched everyone over to the Chicagon Mine Tank. A motion was made by Nelson to go forward with the St. Germain proposals. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Moncivais, yes; Helgemo, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

CHGON MINE  
TANK

Nelson Road Waterline Thaw – There was some discussion about the line. It's going to have to be down deeper. It is a 2" line. Nelson said that with the wing plows plowing a wider lane the waterline is close to the road and isn't protected much anymore. The cost to thaw the main was \$2180. A motion was made by Bobnock to have Supervisor, Benson & the Clerk meet with the Nelsons to discuss a sharing if any of the invoice. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Motion carried.

NELSON RD  
WTRLINE

City of Iron River – A motion was made by Moncivais to do a letter of support for the COIR's grant application for improvements at Ice Lake Park. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Motion carried.

COIR GRANT  
SUPPORT

Hematite Twp – A motion was made by Moncivais to do a letter of support for Hematite Twp's grant application for a Hemlock River Park DNR grant project. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Motion carried.

HEMATITE  
TWP GRANT  
SUPPORT

Budget Hearing – The Board of Trustees will hold the Budget Public Hearing on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm.

BUDGET  
HEARING

Veterans Memorial – Supervisor Helgemo researched and found that Norway Granite would add names to the Memorial at a cost of \$150/name. (Jacobs was \$250/name). Norway Granite will be adding additional names to the Veterans Memorial prior to the Memorial Day.

VETERAN  
MEMORIAL  
NAMES

Board Salary Resolutions - All Board Members declined any type of pay increase. A motion was made by Nelson to give a \$.50 increase to full time worker Benson and part time worker Franzmeier. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Moncivais, yes; Helgemo, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

BOARD  
SALARY  
RESOLUTION

Assessor Position – Assr Nelson has done a wonderful job for the township and has been underpaid for a long time. She will be retiring and will make herself available for a transition period. The Board will advertise for an Assessor beginning June 1 but Nelson would stay on until Sept 1 if needed. Steve Mussato is somewhat familiar with Bates because he has worked with Nelson on the BS&A transition. A motion was made by Nelson to advertise for a replacement Assessor. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ASSESSOR  
POSITION

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

**Water** – Benson said that the hydrant tags are done. Valve markers have arrived and they will be put in as soon as snow melts. / **Streets** – The new street signs have been put up and look real nice. / **Sewer** – The lift stations require 18 locks for 12 lift stations. Willard Olsen is the most economical. / The lift stations also need start replacements at an estimated cost of \$4000. A motion was made by Nelson to get the locks and upgrade the starters. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Moncivais, yes; Helgemo, yes; Wodzinski, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** - Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report. / **Backhoe** – Nothing new to report.

Water & Sewer Systems Con-Ed – A motion was made by Helgemo to pay expenses for Benson to attend continuing education in Gladstone for the water systems and in Negaunee for the Sewer Systems. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

GUEST COMMENTS

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CORRESPONDENCE

- UPPCO – Usage Rates Letter. No action taken.

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:28pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 @ 6:00 PM.

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Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

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Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: \_\_\_\_\_