

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – September 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Supervisor Jon Oberlin called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with Supervisor Jon Oberlin, Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson & Trustees Franzene & Bobnock were present. Also, in attendance were County Comm Stafford; Mike Golas, P&R & Sunset Lk Assn; Yvonne Andersen, Sunset Lk Assn VP; Margee Brennan, ZBA; Jane Adams, BOR; Residents. Absent: Assessor Erhart.

ATTENDEES

A motion was made by Trustee Franzene to approve the minutes from the previous month’s meeting. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer’s report for the month of August 2020 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 112,612.78
Sewer Fund:	\$ 89,604.56
Water Fund:	\$ 261,135.35
Road Fund:	\$ 203,758.49
Liquor Law:	\$

FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated there was nothing new to report at this time.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Supervisor Oberlin stated that Larson Rd is just about done. Pw Benson said that there is an issue with one main value; waiting ICRC is waiting for signage. / Oberlin said that Ponozzo Rd gravel will be spread next year.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report with 10 permits issued in July/August. No zoning questions pending currently. He is planning to send out junk car violation letters but was on hold due to recycling yard being closed. Permits to date are 25. A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk. / A Resident questioned if Oberlin was working with the Paquette property to get junk cars removed. Oberlin stated that he was not aware of that problem. That was being handle by previous Zoning Administrator Stowell. / A question was raised again about the number of propane tanks allowed on a property on Sunset Lake.

ZONING UPDATE

Paint River Project – The project has begun. FAI will start grading soon and hopefully paving before the snow comes.

PAINT RIVER PROJECT

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was absent but her report stated that there is some confusion on PRE’s. She gave a definition. There was information regarding the July and December BOR’s and their purpose. She gave an Agricultural Reappraisal Project report. / A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ASSESSOR REPORT

Township Hall Office Roof Bid – There were 3 bids received: 1 verbal-2 written. Verbal/Hohensee \$5500; Stik Bilt Construction \$4845; Oberlin-Franzene \$3900. There was some discussion about whether to have “board members’ do the project. The bid was not meant to undercut anyone but to save the township money. A motion was made by Oberlin to accept the Stik Bilt bid and they would complete the project by the end of September. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, abstain; Franzene, abstain. Motion carried.

OFFICE ROOF

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Planning Commission Appointment – One letter of interest was received from a qualified applicant. At the recommendation of Supervisor Oberlin, a motion was made by Nelson to appoint Krist Atanasoff to the Planning Commission. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PC APPOINT.

Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment – There was discussion as to whether the Township should revert to a 3 member ZBA instead of the current 5 member ZBA. Since there were two letters of interest received from qualified applicants, at the recommendation of Supervisor Oberlin, a motion was made by Oberlin to appoint Yvonne Andersen and Krist Atanasoff to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Supported by Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ZBA APPOINT.

Zoning Board of Appeals Retro Appointment – Supervisor Oberlin stated that Margee Brennan had been appointed to the ZBA around January 2018. Brennan stated that her first hearing was the Detterbeck hearing. Oberlin requested that Brennan be appointed retroactively since there appeared to be no appointment in the minutes. A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to appoint Brennan retroactively to January 2018. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ZBA RETRO APPOINT.

Bates Park/Sunset Lake – The park will be closed on September 15th. The raft, and buoys are in. PW Benson says he will pull in the fishing pier near the end of September. / Supervisor Oberlin noted that Wildlife Unlimited has agreed to donate 50% of the cost of the new boat launch. They will also donate \$4500 towards a new boat launch dock in the spring.

**BATES PARK/
SUNSET LK**

Cemetery Decorations – Clerk Benson-Stafford will publish the cemetery decoration removal by October 1st ad.

CEMETERY

Payroll Tax Deferral – Clerk Benson-Stafford pointed out that it is the Employer's choice to defer. The Township will opt not to defer the taxes.

**P/R TAX
DEFERRAL**

Public Works Interviews – Supervisor Oberlin stated that Jim Nelson/Meter Reader has retired. Trustee Franzene, Supervisor Oberlin and PW Benson will interview applicants for a new position and bring back recommendations to the Board. PW Benson asked the Board to keep in mind the knowledge and experience that current part time employee John Franzmeier has. Benson does not want to lose him.

**PW
INTERVIEWS**

WICPS Rent – WICPS asked for an exception on the August rent start date due to the \$1369 Fire alarm/smoke detector installations that they had to make to the school. A motion was made by Oberlin to make their rent start date September 1 instead of August 1. It was noted that school did not start until August 31. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

WICPS RENT

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**-Nothing new to report. / **Water** – New water service put in on Shoquist Rd. / **Sewer** – PW Benson stated he is waiting for Tunnel Vision do come and do the wet well wash. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – The modification made to the new boat launch has made an improved difference. Next year the pavement will be redone. / **School** -The DIISD had to install a washer/dryer. The Township will charge an additional \$50/month for rent due to water & electric usage.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Jim Brennan wanted to acknowledge that the cemetery & school grounds look very good.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Pauline Benson/Election Inspector – Card of thanks to the Board for acknowledging the Inspectors hard work, and for the hazard pay. (Card on file with the Clerk.
- Fay Whitehead/Bates Resident – Letter of interest to become a BOR member. Action was tabled until the next meeting.

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:03pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, October 14, 2020.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____