

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – July 14, 2021, 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 & Adams were present. Also, in attendance were County Comm Stafford; Margee Brennan, ZBA/BHPS; Ernie Schmidt, ICRC & WICFD; Krist Atanasoff PC/ZBA; Mike Golas, Sunset Lake Assn/P&R; Betty Stromberg, BHPS; 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 Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer's report for the month of June 2021 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 176,346.58
Sewer Fund:	\$ 96,697.96
Water Fund:	\$ 363,290.12
Road Fund:	\$ 159,134.83

FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated that the county announced the winner of the plat cover photo contest, Mary Rogacki. Bates Trustee Jane Adams had entered a photo that was the courthouse favorite.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Supervisor Oberlin stated that the boat launch area & Kofmehl Rds were complete, as well as dust control. Gravel will be done later this year up north on Ponozzo Rd and that area.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Supervisor Oberlin gave his report with 3 new permits issued. / He has answered various zoning questions. / Violations: Permit # 20 violation – additional documentation has been submitted, and the IC Construction Code office has joined the suit with building permit violations. It was determined that Gasperini had violated a previous garage permit. The garage was supposed to be 15-30' from the property line and he placed it 9' from the property line. / Permits to date: 13. / A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

Bates Hall Preservation Society - Margee Brennan/BHPS stated that the rummage sale netted \$2300. She thanked the Board for allowing the use of the school gym for the sale. She stated that they are having trouble finding Contractors to give estimates. She stated that they will be working of the lighting, chair rail and baseboards. She questioned if the Board was ready to go forward with purchasing the gutters, which resulted in a discussion about the hall roof needing ventilation. It was decided that the Board would wait a little longer on the gutters. / Krist said that he was prepared to have dirt hauled in when the project is ready.

BHPS

EGLE Sewer Lagoon – Supervisor Oberlin stated that we are waiting on two engineering firms to provide proposals.

EGLE/SEWER LAGOON

Chicaugon Lake Assn Milfoil Money Request – Supervisor Oberlin provided for the Board to review, the example of the policy for management of invasive species document from Crystal Falls Township. No action taken.

CHICAUGON LAKE MILFOIL \$ REQUEST

MDNR Trust Project /Dock Issue – Due to changing water levels, there is a need to extend the dock. Two estimates were received from American Dock, the original Vendor. It was decided to go with them because the dock extension will match the current dock. Also, the State agreed to re-open the grant and provide 70% coverage of the extension project. A motion was made by Oberlin to approve the project up to \$2500. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Adams, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MDNR TRUST PROJECT /DOCK EXTENSION

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

GIS Mapping – Oberlin stated that he preferred the mango map system over Colligo. He will contact the other Supervisors to see what they will be going. He stated that Crystal Falls Township will not give out their information for free, but Mike Stafford, ICBC said that he learned that Iron River Township would provide their information for free.

**GIS
MAPPING/
COUNTY-
WIDE**

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Nothing new to report.

**ATTORNEY
REPORT**

Assessor Report – The report was an explanation of capping and uncapping, notice assessments, PRE's, assessed value and taxable values. This report was designed to be a handout.

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

Principles of Governance – This is a document that the MTA encourages every township board to deliberate on and adopt. Treasurer Nelson discussed her concerns and opposition to adopting the document. Larry Nelson stated that the MTA should be a resource for townships. Trustee Franzene stated he agrees with Nelson. After further deliberation the board decided to take no action.

**PRINCIPLE
OF
GOVER-
NANCE2**

DIHD Sunset Lake Bacteria Levels – The health department received a grant to monitor these levels. Sunset Lake was one of the lakes chosen. Per the report, Sunset Lake had very low levels and was high on the list of one of the cleanest lakes tested.

**DIHD
TESTING
SUNSET
LAKE**

ZBA Vacancy – The recent passing of Bob Pozniak left another vacancy on the ZBA. Supervisor Oberlin stated that the Board currently has three members. The Township could revert to a 3-member board instead of a 5-member board if they wanted at this time. Margee Brennan stated that she felt it was better if it remained a 5-person board. Ernie Schmidt agreed. Oberlin had received one letter of interest and made a motion to appoint Kyle Detterbeck to the Board. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried. / The Board will advertise to fill the remaining vacancy.

**ZBA
VACANCY**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **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** – Inspection report was turned in and will be turned over to PW Benson for review and repairs. / **School** – Inspection report was turned in and will be turned over to PW Benson for review and repairs.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Oberlin received compliments from a Supervisor in another community about how nice our cemetery looks. Thank you to Ed & John.
- There was discussion about the invasive species along the roadsides.
- Jimmy Dennis had a variance request & was redirected to ZA Oberlin.
- Margee Brennan wanted to know if the Township applied for the ARPA \$.
- ICECA monthly newsletter.

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. The meeting adjourned at 7:09pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, August 11, 2021.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____