

**BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – October 13, 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, Trustee Adams were present. Also, in attendance were Larry Nelson, PC; Mike Golas, Sunset Lk Assn/P&R; Yvonne Andersen, ZBA; Jim Dennis, ZBA; Residents. Absent: Trustee Franzene, Cty Comm Stafford & Assessor Erhart.

**ATTENDEES**

A motion was made by Supervisor Oberlin 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 September 2021 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Supervisor Oberlin. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

General Fund:	\$ 137,550.94
Sewer Fund:	\$ 108,983.19
Water Fund:	\$ 340,787.49
Road Fund:	\$ 143,535.46

**COUNTY COMM REPORT**

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT** – Comm Stafford was absent.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Road Projects- Nothing new to report.

**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 – Arbitration was held. (Refer to Attorney Update) / Permits to date: 23. / A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

**ZONING UPDATE**

Bates Hall Preservation Society - Margee Brennan/BHPS gave her report stating that the hall windows had been cleaned, approximately \$300 was spent on table/chair leg floor protectors, they are still seeking estimates on the foundation project, they are waiting to hear on a grant that would provide matching funds, the BHPS is always looking for volunteer help, they have been receiving positive feedback and there is much work left to do. / Regarding the gutters, they wanted to wait until they see if they get the matching funds grant. A decision will be made in November. /There was also discussion about the new lights in the hall not providing adequate lighting. The BHPS committee will work on resolving that.

**BHPS**

EGLE Sewer Lagoon – PW Benson stated that he had talked to them on Monday, and they are working on a proposal. Tabled until next month.

**EGLE/SEWER LAGOON**

Mansfield Township Donation for Bates Hall Project – Oberlin reminded the audience that Mansfield Township had made a \$200 donation towards the hall renovation project. After the fact, they determined from information received from MTA that they were not allowed to do that. Bates returned the check to Mansfield Township. / The Mansfield Township Board members felt bad about this, so they each individually contributed their own money and send a personal check for \$200 back to Bates Township. A motion was made by Oberlin to wait until the grant comes through that will match funds (November) and turn the \$200 over to the BHPS for renovations. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**MANSFIELD TWP HALL RENO DONATION**

Planning Commission/ZBA Member Education – Nothing new to report. Still researching educational opportunities.

**PC/ZBA MEMBER EDUCATION**

Bates Park/Sunset Lake Vandalism – Oberlin stated there is nothing new to report. He is waiting on the State Police.

**PARK VANDALS**

**NEW BUSINESS (cont’d)**

Attorney Report – Attorney Atanasoff was present to give an overview of the current status of the case. A mediation was held before a retired circuit court judge who is a licensed mediator.

**ATTORNEY REPORT**

**NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)**

Attorney Report (cont'd) - An offer had been presented to Gasperini/his Attorney with a deadline of Monday, October 11, 5:00pm. As of this moment there has been no response. / Clerk Benson-Stafford questioned about giving future permits to the violator. Atanasoff stated that while he is in violation the township does not have to issue permits to him; however, he cannot be barred from getting permits in the future for any amount of time once this case is resolved. / There were residents' comments that he is a chronic violator, he will violate again in the future, the township should pursue the process and not give in. / Attorney Atanasoff will make further contact regarding the offer that was on the table.

**ATTORNEY  
REPORT**

Assessor Report – No report received.

**ASSESSOR  
REPORT**

Miskwaagamiiwiziibi Park Update – Rich Sloat and Maggie Scheffer gave an update on the progress of the shelter. They thanked numerous volunteers for their time and donations. They stated that this is a real asset to Bates Township. There has been overwhelming support from the community. There have been 110 volunteers that have worked on the project with 45 of them being repeat volunteers. Judy Hemeleski is donating a stained-glass window for the shelter. The project will be completed next spring. / Sloat reminded everyone that it was Herb Larson's vision years ago that this property be used for the public's enjoyment. Scheffer said that this a place that should be celebrated. / There was some discussion about the project being presented as a river access only shelter and it may be turned into something else, when being advertised as Iron County's newest campground. / Oberlin stated that he hopes there won't be problems and he trusts that if problem occurs it can be quickly resolved and let the property be enjoyed for what it was designed for. / A copy of Scheffer's report has been kept on file with the Clerk.

**PAINT RIVER  
SHELTER**

Bates Park/Sunset Lake – PW Benson stated it is officially closed/winterized for the season.

**PARK  
CLOSED**

Bates Cemetery – PW Benson stated there are a couple of site openings in the next few days and the cemetery will be officially closed by the end of the month.

**CEMETERY  
CLOSED**

November 2 Election – Clerk Benson-Stafford reminded everyone that if they need an absent voter ballot application, they should get one as soon as possible. The polls will be open from 7:00am-8:00pm. The ballot question is a renewal of the 2 mills for road maintenance and repairs.

**NOV 2  
ELECTION**

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Hall**-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**– Nothing new to report. / **Water** – PW Benson stated the new valves were installed. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Constable** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** – Nothing new to report. / **School** – Still waiting on the glass for the broken window repair.

**GUEST COMMENTS**

- 

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- ICECA monthly newsletter.

**INVOICE APPROVAL**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. The meeting adjourned at 7:07pm. All ayes. Motion carried. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, October 13, 2021.

---

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

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