

## **BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – December 14, 2022, 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, Treasurer Nelson, Trustees Franzene & Adams present. Also, in attendance were PW Benson; ZA Shankleton; Margee Brennan, ZBA/BHPS; County Comm Stafford; Mike Golas, P&R; Larry Nelson, PC; Residents. Absent: Assessor Erhart.

**ATTENDEES**

A motion was made by Trustee Adams to approve the minutes from the previous month's meetings. Supported by Trustee Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MINUTES**

Treasurer's report for the month of November 2022 was submitted. A motion was made by Clerk Benson-Stafford to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Adams. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

General Fund:	\$ 106,647.36
Sewer Fund:	\$ 124,521.41
Water Fund:	\$ 325,763.30
Road Fund:	\$ 14,702.57

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT** – Comm Stafford stated that there is an opening on the Iron County Medicare Board. / Jim Marcell has been hired as the new Iron County Building Inspector.

**COUNTY COMM REPORT**

### **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Road Projects- Nothing new to report.

**ROAD PROJECTS**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was absent. Clerk Benson-Stafford gave an overview of the report. / December BOR was held December 14<sup>th</sup>. / There were recent Tribunals. / BOR members would like to be appointed for another 2 years. / (A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.)

**ASSESSOR REPORT**

Zoning Update – ZBA Shankleton stated that he has been working with compliance issues. / There was a conference call with the Attorney & the Clerk regarding alley abatement process. / He sought counsel on violations, maybe get a court judgement before daily violations begin. / Two new zoning requests will be granted this month. / Permits to date: 23. / A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk.

**ZONING UPDATE**

WIDL Report – Appointee Adams stated that the library does a monthly stats report. / Financially they are in great shape. / They offer wonderful programs.

**WIDL**

Bates Hall Preservation Society Update – Brennan stated that they are continuing to fund raise. Not all estimates are in yet. / Ernie Schmidt has requested that the BHPS, Building Committee and the Board of Trustees have a meeting. A meeting was set for Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 5:00pm.

**BHPS UPDATE**

Water Meter Reader – Hydee Newby will be the meter reader effective for December 2022.

**WATER METER READER**

UPEA Sewer Lagoon– Chris Holmes of UP Engineers is reporting to EGLE on behalf of Bates. Nothing new to report at this time.

**UPEA SEWER LAGOON**

Bates Township Rec Plan 2023-2028 – A few small revisions will be made for review at the January board meeting.

**REC PLAN 2023-2028**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Board of Review Appointments – A motion was made by Oberlin to appoint Judy Girard, Bonnie Puskala & Fay Whitehead to the Board of Review for a 2-year term effective January 1, 2023. Supported by Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

**BOR APPOINTMENT**

**NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)**

Employee Christmas Bonus – A motion was made by Oberlin to give Full time Benson a \$200 bonus & part time Franzmeier a \$150. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Adams, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**EMPLOYEE  
CHRISTMAS  
BONUS**

Leave of Absence – A motion was made by Oberlin to accept Zack Powell’s request for leave of absence for personal reasons until on or before March 1, 2023. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / PW Benson stated that Powell did pass his water operator’s test.

**LEAVE OF  
ABSENCE**

Pallet Jack – A motion was made by Adams to approve the purchase of a pallet jack for an estimated cost of \$562.00. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford yes; Franzene, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**PALLET JACK**

Bates Amasa Rd Waterline Abandonment – Oberlin talked to the new homeowner in the Mathews property. He did not talk to the property owner by the Paint River. He asked to table any action until the next meeting.

**WTLNE  
ABANDON-  
MENT**

Three Year Road Plan – Oberlin stated that his plan is 2023-Helgemo Rd from US2 to the top of the hill, prep Andreski Plat-possible scarify & dust control; 2024-Finish prep and pave Andreski Plat & dust control; 2025-Midsummer Dr/Bates portion & dust control.

**THREE YEAR  
ROAD PLAN**

Shop Floor Drain – PW Benson stated that they will be doing some concrete work to open up the floor drain again which has been clogged for some time.

**SHOP DRAIN**

GEI/ MDNR Spark Grants – A motion was made by Franzene to pass the Resolution of Authorization for GEI to apply for the 2023 Sparks Grant on behalf of Bates Township. The submission of the Sparks application is for \$668,500. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**MDNR  
SPARKS  
GRANT**

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Hall**-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**– Nothing new to report. / **Water** – Nothing new to report. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** –Nothing new to report. / **School** – Nothing new to report.

**GUEST COMMENTS**

- ICECA – Brett thanked those who shopped local. / There were 29 floats in the Christmas in Light parade.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- ICECA
- BHPS December 16, 2022, letter
- Emergency Svc Ad – A motion was made by Nelson to approve a \$45 ad. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

**INVOICE APPROVAL**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Treasurer Nelson made a motion to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:50pm. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, January 11, 2023.

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Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk  
Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_