

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 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, Deputy Treasurer Franzene, Trustees Franzene & Adams present. Also, in attendance were PW Benson; County Comm Stafford; ZA Shankleton; Margee Brennan, ZBA & BHPS; Sue Passamani, BHPS; Ernie Schmidt, & Ron Frailing, ICRC; Mike Golas, P&R; Residents. Treasurer Nelson & Assessor Erhart were absent.

ATTENDEES

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

MINUTES

Treasurer's report for the month of March 2023 was submitted. A motion was made by Trustee Adams to accept the report. Supported by Clerk Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Oberlin, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$ 250,603.09
Sewer Fund:	\$ 147,312.74
Water Fund:	\$ 364,267.37
Road Fund:	\$ 186,017.41

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated the County's 2023 taxable value had increased by \$50M. / A copy of the Resolution Affirming Support of All Constitutional Rights, Including, But not limited to, the Right of People to Bear Arms and to Adequately Fund Mental Health services that the ICBC passed was distributed to the Board.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Oberlin stated that the County would be participating in the Helgemo Rd project up to \$20,000 which reduced the cost to the Township from \$72022.15 to \$52022.15. / Ernie Schmidt stated that the SOM does not want brine used as dust control on the roads and there is a new emulsion that would be available. He said it was recommended to scarify Andreski Plat and put the emulsion on top. Residents were in attendance from Bates, Stambaugh & Crystal Falls Township requesting blacktop on Andreski Plat. There was discussion that the road is an old railroad grade and was never intended to be a blacktop road. The residents objected to the Helgemo Rd project and stated the money should be used for Andreski Plat. Oberlin stated that Crystal Falls Township will not participate this year in a project because their funds are dedicated to Long Lake Rd. Stambaugh Township had indicated earlier that they would participate. Oberlin will run some numbers and reach out to the Townships again. Oberlin stated that the bid for Andreski plat was \$178620. Stambaugh Twp will participate but Crystal Falls Twp Will not. CF Supervisor Kenney says that they could not participate until 2025 and he does not want to obligate their board since he will not be seeking reelection. / ICRC Schmidt said that the road should be scarified this year.

ROAD PROJECTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart was absent.

ASSESSOR REPORT

Zoning Update – ZBA Shankleton stated that the ZBA heard a variance request on April 6th which they denied. The Petitioner indicated that they would appeal the decision. Shankleton will have a meeting with the Township Attorney to get clarity on the process. / He stated that there were 9 new permits issued so far this year. / A copy of the report on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

WIDL Report – Trustee Adams stated that the library has had an incredible increase in usage. / The Watershed coalition is putting in a bench to honor the late Barb Bartel & Judy Reed.

WIDL

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

Bates Hall Preservation Society Update – Passamani stated they received a \$5000 grant from Enbridge. / They are looking at an April 2025 groundbreaking. / They have approximately 200 brick orders. / They provided a copy of their upcoming activities and fundraisers. / They will be placing a “funding thermometer” at the hall. / They are looking for volunteers for the rummage sale.

**BHPS
UPDATE**

Hall Front Porch Repair – Trustee Franzene said they are waiting for the weather to improve, and they will do a temporary repair.

**HALL FRONT
PORCH
REPAIR**

UPEA Sewer Lagoon– EGLE has the report.

**UPEA SEWER
LAGOON**

NEW BUSINESS

May Roadside Cleanup – The roadside cleanup will be Saturday, May 6th. From 8:30 – 11:00. Refreshments will be available.

**MAY ROAD
CLEANUP**

Memorial Day Ceremony – A motion was made by Oberlin to approve a \$350 budget for the continental breakfast. Supported by Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MEMORIAL
DAY**

Crystal Falls MNRTF Support – Oberlin stated that the Board signed a letter of support for their project to extend the Heritage Trail.

**CF MNRTF
SUPPORT
LTR**

Water/Sewer Storage Addition to the Shop – Public Works Superintendent Benson presented the board with cost information on putting an addition on the shop. The Board will review the information. Tabled until next meeting.

**WATER/SEW
ER BLDG**

Township Hall Window Cleaning – A motion was made by Oberlin to have the windows cleaned inside and outside for \$200. Supported by Benson-Stafford. All ayes. Motion carried.

**HALL
WINDOW
CLEANING**

Project Graduation – A motion was made by Franzene to approve \$75 for the event. Supported by Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PROJECT
GRAD**

ICECA – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to approve the pledge \$2763. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Adams, yes; Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**ICECA
PLEDGE**

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

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CORRESPONDENCE

- ICECA

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Oberlin made a motion to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:25pm. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved: _____