

**BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Clerk Benson-Stafford called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson, Trustees Franzene & Adams present. Also, in attendance were PW Benson; County Comm Stafford; ZA Shankleton; Assessor Erhart; Larry Nelson, PC; Residents. Supervisor Oberlin was absent.

**ATTENDEES**

In the absence of Supervisor Oberlin Trustee Franzene made a motion to have Trustee Adams moderate the meeting. Supported by Treasurer Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MINUTES**

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

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Treasurer's report for the month of July 2023 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; Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 177,195.89
Sewer Fund:	\$ 152,872.32
Water Fund:	\$ 379,948.28
Road Fund:	\$ 2,028.75

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT** – Comm Stafford stated the County gave a \$5/hour raise to the Sheriff Deputy's and an increase to the Sheriff and Under Sheriff as an incentive to retain them. / Discussions about an RFP for 911 were to give the voters information and a basis for comparison prior to having to vote for an increase in millage in February.

**COUNTY COMM REPORT**

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Road Projects- Nothing new to report.

**ROAD PROJECTS**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Assessor Report – Assessor Erhart stated that she was doing field inspections. / Fay Whitehead submitted a BOR resignation letter that would be effective 12/31/2022. Erhart was thankful for Whitehead's service. / There was no written report.

**ASSESSOR REPORT**

Zoning Update – ZBA Shankleton stated that he has been answering questions. / 31 permits have been issued to date. / 2 Violation letters were issued and are under the 60-day warning; being monitored. / A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

**ZONING UPDATE**

WIDL Report – Trustee Adams said there has been unbelievable use of the facility.

**WIDL**

Bates Hall Preservation Society Update – Nothing new to report.

**BHPS UPDATE**

Assessor Computer Upgrade – A motion was made by Adams to approve the upgrade of approximately \$1500. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Adams, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**ASSESSOR COMPUTER UPGRADE**

ZBA Variance Denial /Atanasoff vs Bates Township – A motion to intervene was filed with the court by the Shamions Attorney, Roy Polich. The court will review the matter on October 4, 2023. The Township has no further comment.

**ZBA VARIANCE DENIAL /ATANASOFF VS BATES TWP**

Cemetery Ordinance – Action tabled until the next meeting.

**CEMETERY ORDINANCE**

**NEW BUSINESS**

MERS Grant - Clerk Benson-Stafford said that Supervisor Oberlin had completed a grant application under the Protecting MI Pensions. The Township was awarded \$70,486 as opposed to the \$56,935 that was applied for. The Township will not get this money, but instead a deposit will be made into the MERS account for Bates Township.

**WINDSOR  
CENTER  
GRANT  
SUPPORT**

Windsor Center Grant Support Letter – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to adopt a resolution of support for the Windsor Center Improvement Project grant application, with no local support of financial commitment. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried. / The grant is being written by Wickwire.

**2023 IC  
HAZARD  
PLAN**

2023 Iron County Hazard Mitigation Plan -A motion was made Benson-Stafford to adopt the resolution. Supported by Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried.

**OFFICE  
SHREDDER**

Office Shredder – A motion was made by Benson-Stafford to authorize the purchase of a new paper shredder in the approximate amount of \$400. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Adams, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**BOR  
RESIGNA-  
TION**

BOR Resignation – Fay Whitehead, BOR member turned in her resignation letter effective December 31, 2023.

**SEWER LIFT  
STATION  
GENERATOR**

Sewer Lift Station Generator Committee – A committee was formed to assist PW Benson with the information gathering and installation of the sewer lift station generators. Members will be Mike Stafford, Planning Commission, Mike Franzene, Trustee & Corey Shankleton, Zoning Administrator. Benson-Stafford reminded the residents that this journey began due to the 2019 insurance company risk assessment audit where they recommended that the Township install the generators.

**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**

- Dennis Tousignant requested that his water permanent shut off be removed and the water be turned back on. Construction is in process at his property on W. Sunset Lake Rd.
- Earl Metzler stated that his Section 3 Rd property experience a break in. He warned people should be aware to protect their property.
- Brett Smithson, ICECA gave a brief update on area grant awards and new Chamber memberships.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- ICECA

**INVOICE APPROVAL**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Franzene made a motion to adjourn. Supported by Treasurer Nelson. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:55pm. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, September 13, 2023.

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