

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, March 8, 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, Treasurer Nelson, Trustees Franzene & Adams present. Also, in attendance were PW Benson; County Comm Stafford; ZA Shankleton; Assessor Erhart; Larry Nelson, Michael Thibodeau, PC; Jim Dennis, ZBA; Sue Passamani & Directors, BHPS; Ernie Schmidt, ICRC; Mike Golas, P&R; Residents.

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 February 2023 was submitted. A motion was made by Trustee Adams to accept the report. Supported by Trustee Franzene. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

General Fund:	\$ 234,622.12
Sewer Fund:	\$ 141,057.56
Water Fund:	\$ 349,665.50
Road Fund:	\$ 157,660.36

FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Comm Stafford stated the County Board promoted Lynette Lorenz to County Administrator. / The DIHD finalized the purchase of the Crystal Falls Professional Building. They hope to move in June. / The County board is working on a proposed 2nd Amendment resolution. / The old Health Dept building was offered to the WICPS; if they don't want it then it might come on the market.

COUNTY COMM REPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Road Projects- Oberlin stated that the Helgemo Rd bid from US2 to the top of the hill was \$72022.15 with possible participation from the ICRC of \$15000. A motion was made by Nelson to approve the bid. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / 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 couldn't participate until 2025 and he doesn't 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 stated that assessments were mailed 2/24/2023. / BOR will be held on March 15th & 16th. All protests must be on paper; email is not accepted. / The taxable value for the 2023 roll is \$67,449,866. Last year's taxable value was \$61,249,801.

ASSESSOR REPORT

Zoning Update – ZBA Shankleton presented the board with governing bylaws to oversee the process of the planning commission as well as the zoning board of appeals. A motion was made by Oberlin to adopt the bylaws. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Adams, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / He stated that there were 3 new permits issued so far this year. / The ZBA will hear a variance request on Thursday, March 16th. / Shankleton is now a licensed Citizen Planner, Master Planner and Zoning Administrator. / A copy of the report on file with the Clerk.

ZONING UPDATE

WIDL Report – Trustee Adams stated that the staff has all been CPR trained. / They have 7 new computers. / A Vox Box is now available; it reads to the children.

WIDL

Bates Hall Preservation Society Update – Passamani stated they did not receive the substantial grant that they had hoped for. They will continue to seek out grants and have fund raisers. Breaking ground is moved to 2025. / The contractors are still onboard. / Marcia Cornelia audited the BHPS records. / They are going to do a fund raiser sale of hats, T shirts & license plates. / Sold 197 bricks to date. / 4/15 Craft show at Windsor / Rummage sale at hall on 6/30 & 7/1.

BHPS UPDATE

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

UPEA Sewer Lagoon– PW Benson said that UPE is waiting for the report from White Water.

UPEA SEWER LAGOON

NEW BUSINESS

UPSET – A motion was made by Oberlin to pay \$500. Supported by Adams. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

UPSET

Board Salary Resolutions – The Board Members declined an increase.

BOARD SALARIES

Budget Hearing Date – The budget hearing date was set for Thursday, March 30, 2023, at 4:00m. Clerk Benson-Stafford will publish the date.

BUDGET HEARING

Poverty Exemption Guidelines – A motion was made by Nelson to adopt the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Supported by Oberlin. All ayes. Motion carried.

POVERTY EXEMPTIONS

Public Notice of Meetings – A motion was made by Franzene to approve the Public Notice of Township meeting dates for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Supported by Adams. All ayes. Motion carried. / Clerk Benson-Stafford will post.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Township Property Sale Resolution – A motion was made by Oberlin to adopt a resolution giving the Township Board the authority to sell township property. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes, Nelson, yes; Oberlin, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP PROPERTY SALES

Financial Institution Deposit Resolution – A motion was made by Nelson to adopt a resolution to continue to keep/use the accounts that the township currently has through the Miners State Bank; and reserve the right to use a second depository. Supported by Adams. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Oberlin, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

DEPOSIT RESOLUTION

Planning Commission Appointment – A motion was made by Oberlin to appoint Mike Stafford to the vacant seat on the planning commission. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMM APPTMENT

North Country Website Proposal – A proposal was received from the current website host for an upgrade. Benson-Stafford will look at a few items to refresh but overall a full website upgrade is not needed. No action taken.

WEBSITE PROPOSAL

Park Signage – A motion was made by Oberlin to purchase two new signs for the park/campground at an estimated cost of \$151.74. Supported by Adams. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes; Oberlin, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PARK SIGNAGE

Park Host – Clerk Benson-Stafford stated that there is a possibility that last year's host might not be able to return this summer. She will know more in the next few weeks.

PARK HOST

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Hall-Nothing new to report. / **Shop**– Nothing new to report. / **Water** – A motion was made by Franzene to purchase the materials to complete the Wagner Lk Rd project at an estimated cost of \$22000. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Oberlin, yes; Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / **Sewer** – Nothing new to report. / **Cemetery** – Nothing new to report. / **Park** –Nothing new to report. / **School** – Nothing new to report.

GUEST COMMENTS

- Ernie Schmidt – Thanked the BHPS for all of their hard work. It was determined that the front entry will need a temporary fix. Oberlin/Franzene will pursue contractors/ideas.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ICECA
- Clean Kill Spring Reservations
- The Reporter Salute Ad / A motion was made by Adams to do the ad for \$75. Supported by Nelson. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Adams, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

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; Nelson yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Nelson made a motion to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:29pm. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, April 12, 2023.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk
Date Approved: _____