

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Supervisor Helgemo called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken with Supervisor Helgemo; Clerk Moncivais, Treasurer Franzene, Trustees Wodzinski and Bobnock were present. Also in attendance were Sewer & Water Dept's Konoske and Benson; Assessor Nelson; Attorney Atanasoff; Zoning Administrator Stowell; Zoning Board of Appeals Pozniak; Residents. Constable Demboski and Commissioner Wills were absent.

ATTENDEES

Franzene moved to accept the minutes of the March 11, 2009 regular meeting. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Treasurer's report for the month of March was submitted. A full report will be kept on file for audit.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$	89,354.45
Sewer Fund:	\$	99,147.06
Water Fund:	\$	234,504.88
Road Fund:	\$	98,456.36
Liquor Law:	\$	

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Wills was absent.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Sons of American Legion – Al Perlongo made a request for the usual donation to replace tattered flags. A motion was made by Franzene to donate the \$500 (same amount as in 2003). Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION

Sewer Grant – Supervisor Helgemo stated that he spoke with Aecom and it appeared that stimulus monies might be released around April 20th and we'd have more information then regarding our Sewer grant.

SEWER GRANT

Sunset Lake Pump house – Helgemo stated that UPPCO says that we're receiving power within their range. There was discussion on purchasing a recorder. That way when we're back on line at least the problems would be recorded. The cost would be approximately \$700 installed. At this time the township doesn't know which way to go. Do we file an insurance claim or go after the power company. All the experts say that the power company is not giving us enough power. Atanasoff stated that there might be some power surges. Helgemo stated that maybe the Public Service Commission will put pressure on UPPCO if that's where we need to go. Atanasoff advised all township parties involved should keep written documentation of events. Helgemo stated that the employees have been keeping a chronological record of events. We'll know more by the May meeting.

SUNSET LAKE PUMPHOUSE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Zoning Administrator Stowell noted that he had one noise complaint. Robbie Baumgartner wants to rebuild a garage that was lost in a fire. He'll use the same slab. Helgemo and Stowell measured a garage on Sunset Lake Road. It appears Rybicki issued a permit and shouldn't have been issued. It's a safety hazard at VonWojicks. Atanasoff stated that the Zoning Administrator could draft a letter. Stowell questioned what will a letter do? Atanasoff stated that it puts a written record in place. Maybe have the Owner sign and give back. The township should have a hold harmless agreement and could make it into a recordable document so that the next owner is made aware of the violations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS(cont'd)

Cemetery/Park Cleanup – Atanasoff will have Aubrey (Senior) contact Bob Konoske to let him know if the Senior Class is interested in doing the cleanup for the \$500 like the Senior Class of 2008.

CEMETERY
PARK
CLEANUP

Chicagon Mine Pumphouse/Hall Repairs – Helgemo contacted a couple of local builders to bid. Nobody knew what the other bid. Atanasoff stated that these were small enough jobs that bidding need not apply. Hohensee's bid was \$3850 for the pumphouse and Timber Ridge was \$6825. Hohensee's bid for the hall was \$2523.65 and Timber Ridge was \$3760. Pozniak questioned if the bids were apples to apples because the large dollar difference. Assessor Nelson questioned if both were licensed and insured. Helgemo stated that he was sure they both were because Hohensee does MSHDA work. Assessor Nelson stated that Timber Ridge does a beautiful job, he owns property in the township and she did not want to influence the Board's decision and that she would respect that the Board has to pick the low bid. A motion was made by Franzene to accept both bids from Hohensee but to give a deadline for the jobs to be completed. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes; Wodzinski, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. Helgemo would meet with Hohensee to explain the deadline and to make sure he was insured. Konoske is supposed to make sure that Clerk Moncivais gets a copy of Hohensee's proof of insurance.

CHGN MINE
PMPHS &
HALL
REPAIRS

Digital Mapping – Franzene and Assessor Nelson attended a presentation by WUPPDR . Franzene stated that plat books will eventually become obsolete. Assessor was for it because of the state requirements and the 14 point review. A motion was made by Moncivais to go forward with the project with the township's portion being \$2887.84. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Franzene, yes; Moncivais, yes; Helgemo, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

DIGITAL
MAPPING

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Helgemo gave an overview stating that the Board wanted to review the need for the Attorney at every meeting. Atanasoff stated that last year was a very active year. He stated that there are many times that he answers questions and does not charge for the time. Helgemo mentioned that perhaps he would consider a flat fee for the meetings as the township wants to cut expenses. Atanasoff stated that his attendance at the meetings was important and that as much time could be spent relaying info to him. He would consider maybe only charging 1 hour worth of time for the meeting. Or maybe the Board could conduct the business that he would need to know about in the beginning of the meeting and then he would leave. Helgemo asked for comments. Assessor Nelson stated there have been many times when Atanasoff was able to answer questions right away and she felt it may have saved the township from future problems. Clerk Moncivais stated that she felt he had been around longer than any Board member next to Franzene and herself. She felt that having to relay the information if he was absent could lose something in the translation. She thought it would be great though if he could change his monthly meeting fee in the interest of saving the Board some money. Bobnock stated that he didn't realize that Atanasoff was being used so much outside of the just the monthly meeting. No action was taken.

Sewer Lagoon – The lagoon is in need of repair to keep wildlife out and people out. Helgemo stated that it's currently a liability issue. Konoske stated that the way it's been repaired in the past just doesn't work. Helgemo stated that this repair could mean less maintenance in the future. Benson did some research and presented an estimate of \$3530.90. A motion was by Helgemo to go forward with the repair. The township employees would be doing the work. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes; Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

SEWER
LAGOON
REPAIR

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Memorial Day – Moncivais questioned as to whether anyone had given any thought to the program. Jean Lindbeck has not wanted to coordinate the program for the last few years. Last year she was assisted by Avie Powell who isn't currently in the area. Moncivais stated that in the past Evelyn Javoroski handled the food at the hall. Franzene suggested that maybe Sue Passamani would be interested in supervising the program. Helgemo stated that the Board should be certain that Lindbeck doesn't want to do it this year. A motion was made by Moncivais to allow a \$200 budget for the Continental Breakfast. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MEMORIAL
DAY
PROGRAM

DS Rostagno Audit Bid – Moncivais stated that Rostagno does a good job and knows the township well which already saves the township a lot of money. Moncivais felt that the State continues to put extra requirements into the audit year after year and that Rostagno has been fair with her bid. She also answers miscellaneous questions throughout the year without charge. Franzene stated that Rostagno gets in and gets out. A motion was made by Franzene to accept the bid for the audit of \$5800 which was the same as last year with a cap on the SAS part of the audit of an additional \$2000. Supported by Moncivais. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Franzene, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

DS
ROSTAGNO
AUDIT BID

Right to Sell Township Property – A motion was made by Supervisor Helgemo to authorize the township to sell it's available property throughout the year for fair market value. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

RIGHT TO
SELL TWP
PROPERTY

Bank Depository Resolution – A motion was made by Franzene to keep all of the current accounts at Miner's State Bank, Edward Jones, and Citizen's Bank. Supported by Moncivais. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Franzene, yes; Moncivais, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

BANK
DEPOSITORY
RESOLUTION

Land Division Application – The Assessor will keep a numbered log of the land division applications. A motion was made by Franzene to charge \$100 per land division split. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Moncivais, yes; Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

LAND
DIVISION
APP FEE

Mileage Rate – A motion was made by Bobnock to increase the township's current mileage reimbursement rate of \$.40/mile to \$.50/mile. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MILEAGE
RATE

Assessor Salary – Moncivais stated that the township has a valuable asset in Nelson and she is grossly under paid. Nelson stated that she would like to be able to have a family member come along sometimes for leg work and for safety reasons. A motion was made by Moncivais to raise Nelson to \$15000/year. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Franzene, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. Nelson will pay her helper out of her salary.

ASSESSOR
SALARY

Hall Coordinator – No action taken.

Constable – No action taken.

Zoning Administrator – A motion was made by Moncivais to raise the position from \$225/month to \$300/month. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Moncivais, yes; Helgemo, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ZONING ADM
SALARY

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Zoning Board & Zoning Board Chairpersons – A motion was made by Franzene to raise the chair positions from \$75/meeting to \$85/meeting. Supported by Moncivais. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Board of Review – No action taken.

Employee Raises - There was a discussion to increase the employees to 3%. Helgemo recommended "rounding it up". A motion was made by Franzene to increase Full Time Employee Konoske from \$16/hour to \$16.50/hour and Part Time Employee Benson from \$13.75/hour to \$14.25/hour. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

GUEST COMMENTS

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall – Helgemo noted that he is waiting on a bid from Hohensee for the Chicagon Mine Pump House just to get a rough idea what it will cost. / Sewer - Nothing new to report. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Park – Nothing new to report. / Water – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – Attorney Atanasoff will talk with his daughter. Maybe the Senior class will help with the cemetery clean up again this year. Last year the township donated \$500 to the class for the cemetery/park spring cleanup.

CORRESPONDENCE ...

- Project Graduation Request – A motion was made by Franzene to donate \$40. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.
- Wellhead Protection Program – Table until next meeting.

INVOICE APPROVAL

A motion was made by Franzene to pay the township invoices. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Because of the early meeting date a motion was made by Franzene to allow Moncivais to pay all additional regular bills that come in after the meeting. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes; Wodzinski, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Franzene to adjourn. Supported by Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held at the Township Hall on Wednesday – May 13, 2009 @ 6:00 PM.

Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: _____