

**BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday, February 11, 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; Attorney Atanasoff; Zoning Administrator Stowell; Zoning Board of Appeals Oberlin; Assessor Nelson, Marian Volek, The Reporter; Residents. Constable Demboski and Commissioner Wills were absent.

ATTENDEES

Franzene moved to accept the minutes of the January 14, 2009 regular meeting. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MINUTES

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$	89,708.46
Sewer Fund:	\$	101,306.55
Water Fund:	\$	232,030.15
Road Fund:	\$	83,227.86
Liquor Law:	\$	

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT** – Commissioner Wills was absent.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Sewer Grant – Nothing new to report.

SEWER GRANT

Zoning Update – Zoning Administrator Stowell noted that he is working on a few minor things. / A resident new to the area questioned as to if he decides to build is there a place that he can find the Zoning Ordinance so as to eliminate hearsay. He was told that the Ordinance is on the website. There are a few typos being corrected at this time.

Section 14 Road – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the issue has been resolved between the Erickson's and the Tarsi's with Tarsi's purchasing some land from the Erickson's. Resident Tarsi was present and requested his variance fee back. After much discussion a motion was made by Moncivais to return the \$400 fee. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Franzene, yes; Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

SECTION 14 RD

Pump houses Telephones – Moncivais got clarification on disconnecting the lines at the Sunset Lake and Chicagon Mine Pump houses as the telephone lines are no longer needed.

PUMPHOUSE TELE. LINES

**NEW BUSINESS**

Attorney Report – Atanasoff reviewed the Land Division ordinance and application that he prepared. After some discussion Helgemo suggested that the Board approve the ordinance and table the fee issue at this time. A motion was made by Trustee Bobnock to pass the Land Division Ordinance. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Motion carried. Atanasoff will handle the publishing of the Ordinance.

LAND DIVISION ORD & APP

Sunset Lake Pump house – Helgemo stated that our lost our pump and motor this past week. We should know by Monday the extent of the damage and the problem. Currently Residents are being serviced by the Chicagon Mine Road pump house. Various companies are involved in finding the problem, Kleiman, Werner Electric, Rockwell, UPPCO and Talsma.

SUNSET LAKE PUMPHOUSE

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Employee Health Insurance – Nothing new to report.

EMPLOYEE  
HEALTH  
INSURANCE

Board of Review Dates – Assessor Nelson has announced the BOR dates as follows: March 3<sup>rd</sup> Organizational Meeting 9-12 and 1-4. March 9<sup>th</sup> 2-5 and 6-9. March 10<sup>th</sup> 10-12 and 1-5. Clerk Moncivais will get the dates published.

BOR DATES

Dust Control - Helgemo stated that the Board received a bid from Team Svcs for the same amount as last year for dust control. Konoske stated that they should be advised that there are some new roads to add to the list. Benson reminded the Board that last year they were at the end of the last road with the very last drop so they will need to bring more this year for sure. A motion was made by Franzene to use Team Svcs again for 100% of the dust control. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes; Moncivais, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

DUST  
CONTROL

Budget Workshop – The Board set the date for the Budget Workshop to Monday March 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM.

BUDGET  
WORKSHOP

Poverty Guidelines – A motion was made by Helgemo to adopt the Federal Poverty Guidelines Used in the Determination of Poverty Exemptions for 2009. Supported by Moncivais. All ayes. Motion carried.

POVERTY  
GUIDELINE  
ADOPT.

Business Permits – There was some discussion that there are some new businesses in the township. Stolberg stated reminded the Board that they pointed out that people are being permitted to death. Assessor Nelson questioned as to whether or not there was any ordinance for this and do the owners have to meet a certain requirement. The Board tabled any action at this time.

BUSINESS  
PERMITS

Groundwater Permit- Clerk Moncivais notified the Board that the Township received it annual Groundwater Permit.

GROUND-  
WATER  
PERMITR

Board Salary Resolutions - Helgemo pointed out that the Supervisor position hasn't been raised for awhile and is way below what the other townships are at. He said that he'd like to see the salary raised so that someday in the future a younger maybe self employed person could afford to take the job. Right now it's only good for a retired person. He proposed an increase to \$12,500/year. Trustee Wodzinski stated that he's comfortable with the \$150/meeting. Trustee Bobnock agreed. Treasurer Franzene stated that she would stay where she is at and she's too tired to fight for a raise for all the work that is done. Clerk Moncivais agreed that after what they had to go through last year she would stay at the same wage. She added that it's really disappointing to have to fight for a few dollars more. While some Residents appreciate the work that is done there are plenty who have no clue what is involved with these jobs. We have a pretty efficiently run township. How do you think the work gets done, by magic? Moncivais also stated that the Assessor's position is grossly underpaid and that Assessor Nelson is a very valuable asset to this township. Moncivais stated that she would definitely like to see Nelson get a raise this year. In turn Assessor Nelson stated that the other Board members should get some kind of increase. It was suggested perhaps a cost of living increase. Konoske stated that he knows what the Clerk, Supervisor and Treasurer have to go through. Benson stated that all of those positions are underpaid for the work that has to be done. Supervisor Helgemo stated that maybe the other Board members should get at least a cost of living increase. All action is tabled until the March meeting.

BOARD  
SALARY  
RESOL.

**GUEST COMMENTS...**

Resident Tarsi questioned as to whether anything is going to be done about the Bates Amasa Road.

**GUEST COMMENTS (cont'd)...**

Helgemo stated that they will probably resurface another stretch. Konoske pointed out that if it goes through as a State Hwy (extension of M189) then the township will have to move it's water mains. Helgemo stated that this would be a long way down the road. Wodzinski stated that there is no way that the State will accept the road as it is. Resident Erickson pointed out that that the Stated versus the County will have more easement than the county.

**HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...**

Hall – The employee's cleaned out the registers. There is a problem with the ceiling lights. It could cost about \$242 to repair. Action tabled until the well situation is resolved. / Sewer - Nothing new to report. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Park – Nothing new to report. / Water – The Employees did some insulating and window replacement to it more efficient. Helgemo asked Hohensee for an estimate on the roof and to board up some windows. Franzene asked about other Bates Township contractors. Helgemo stated that at least the estimate will see if the project can fit in the budget. / Cemetery – Nothing new to report.

**CORRESPONDENCE ...**

- ICRC Letter regarding proposed road projects.
- Perch Lake Resident regarding zoning.
- IC Planning Committee meeting minutes.
- LDE – Letter regarding fire hydrant repair costs.
- Shopper's Guide Ad – No action taken.
- Forest Park Sports Calendar Ad – No action taken.

Zoning & Planning Commission Schooling – A motion was made by Franzene to pay for the registration, meals and mileage for those that may want to attend. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

**INVOICE APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Helgemo to pay the township invoices. Supported by Bobnock. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Franzene to adjourn. Supported by Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried. The next regular meeting to be held at the Township Hall on Wednesday – March 11, 2009 @ 6:00 PM.

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Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

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Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: \_\_\_\_\_