

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – June 10, 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 Bobnock and Wodzinski were present. Also in attendance were Sewer & Water Dept's Konoske and Benson; Assessor Nelson; Attorney Atanasoff; Zoning Administrator Stowell; Zoning Board of Appeals Oberlin; Zoning Board Kniivila; Constable Demboski; Marian Volek – The Reporter; Commissioner Wills was absent.

ATTENDEES

Franzene moved to accept the minutes of the May 13, 2009 regular meeting. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

MINUTES

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:	\$	99,788.28
Sewer Fund:	\$	107,884.15
Water Fund:	\$	230,251.17
Road Fund:	\$	146,528.27
Liquor Law:	\$	

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Wills was absent. Supervisor Helgemo stated that in an earlier conversation with Wills the IC Board maybe looking for support for Economic Developer Melchiori. The cost would be \$2.00/capita (\$2040) from Bates. Discussion tabled until next meeting for further review.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

DS Rostagno CPA Audit Presentation – Dianne Rostagno presented the audit. She stated there was an 11 month operating reserve in the general fund which is very good. She noted the accomplishments of the township during the fiscal year. She stated that there is a healthy net asset balance. The township pretty much maintained the equities and did a good job of holding costs down. She stated that the Clerk and Treasurer have done a very good job. A motion was made by Moncivais to accept the audit. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

AUDIT PRESENTATION

Digital Mapping – Supervisor Helgemo stated that in a meeting with Wills the County Board accepted WUPPDR's bid for digital mapping. Helgemo stated that he understood that because it appeared that AECOM offered a better package that the municipalities would have another opportunity to decide which program to go with. He stated that the township shouldn't send a penny until we know what's going on. Treasurer Franzene stated that she didn't think that WUPPDR had the manpower behind them to do the project. Crystal Falls City and Crystal Falls Township said no. Tabled until the next meeting.

DIGITAL MAPPING

GAD Presentation - Some of the township residents were present to voice their concerns regarding the recent announcement that Waste Management will discontinue their residential garbage pickup service. Mr. Curt Spears of GAD did a presentation of what some alternatives might be. 1) The residents could bring their garbage to the Waste Mgmt Transfer Station 2) If the township thought it was feasible they could provide a mini transfer station with minimum requirements of a 6' high fenced in area approximate 60' x 60' in size under lock and key. The township would have to provide the manpower. There would be a charge to the township and the township in turn could charge per bag to the Residents at the time of drop off. Once the township had the location he could implement this program in about 2 weeks. 3) He would need as many Residents to call in with their information before he could do a projection on the cost of curbside pickup. If this choice was chosen he would need about 60 days. His # is 800-774-9006.

WASTE MGMT CLOSING/GAD PRESENTATION

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GAD Presentation – Some of the residents concerns and solutions were to add the garbage pickup to the cost of the monthly utility bills and have curb side service. Have an election so the residents could vote on what they would like to have. Have the township consider a recycling program. Have dumpsters spread throughout the township. Have an entrepreneur start a garbage pickup service and keep the township out of it. Have the township purchase it's own trucks and pickup the garbage and deliver to the transfer station. Underlying concerns were people littering the roadways and woods because they would be too lazy to bring their own garbage to the transfer station. Waste Mgmt service will cease residential pickup effective June 30, 2009. Some of the Board's concerns were the health hazard of unsupervised dumpsters spread throughout the township. Would the DEQ become involved if we had a mini transfer station. Some residents complain with a \$3/mo water bill increase and certainly would not go for a \$15 + garbage pickup fee. The Township doesn't have the financial resources to provide this service. Supervisor Helgemo stated that this problem can't be solved tonight. The Board is willing to do what it can and we're happy to try and help coordinate a solution but reluctant to become involved in garbage pickup because he can foresee massive problems. There is too much information still needed. Franzene provided GAD with the reader meter route. Maybe that could help him determine a projected cost for curbside service. There was mention that maybe a special meeting would be called. The Board will investigate possibilities further. In the meantime the residents can bring their garbage to the transfer station if they want.

Clerk's footnote: After the meeting it was learned that the Waste Mgmt Station does plan to remain open. Out of nearly 575 residences in the township there was Waste Mgmt curbside pickup service provided to only 60 homes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Zoning Administrator Stowell reported to the Board that there were three garage building permits issued, 4 violation letters sent out, an inquiry about have a dog boarding kennel, a lake lot setback inquiry and monitoring of a blithe residence. A copy of the report is kept on file by the Clerk.

Sunset Lake Pump house – Helgemo stated that the township attorney sent a letter to the Public Service Commission and Darlene Gendron of UPPCO has been assigned to the investigation. She will be in contact with the township. Also, Ahlberg discovered that the vendor had sent the wrong unit. The correct unit will be sent at no extra charge to the township. Helgemo spoke with Hannula Insurance and there was a chance that the township does have a valid claim. More information will be available for the next meeting.

SUNSET
LAKE
PUMPHOUSE

Dust Control – Supervisor Helgemo stated that dust control would be done on the 18th & 19th. Chicagon Mine Road was turned back to gravel so that will be done also. Residents seem to be pleased that this was done as its better than it was. Assessor Nelson asked about the Perch Lake Boat Landing – Clerk Moncivais stated that it's usually taken care of by the employees with bags of brine. There will be 100% dust control done again.

DUST
CONTROL

Road Projects – Supervisor Helgemo reviewed the bid for the Rogers Location blacktopping project. It was for \$83,500. A motion was made by Franzene to go forward with the project. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. Contract will be signed and returned. There are noted concerns that there is a telephone pole or post and a rock that come up each spring that will have to be removed prior to blacktopping.

ROAD
PROJECTS

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Attorney Atanasoff had sent a letter regarding blithe to a resident’s property on Don’ts Rd. It was noted at the meeting that there has been a great improvement in the clean up.

Junk Car Ordinance - A motion was made by Wodzinski to adopt the Junk Car Ordinance as drafted by the Attorney. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Moncivais, yes; Helgemo, yes; Wodzinski, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. Atanasoff will publish and then the ordinance will go into effect 30 days later.

JUNK CAR
ORDINANCE

Ordinance Enforcement Officer – A motion was made by Helgemo to make Zoning Administrator Stowell the Bates Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE
ENFORCMENT
OFFICER

Speed Limits – There have been some resident complaints regarding the traffic speed on Reiman Rd and Demboski Rd. This is the jurisdiction of the Road Commission and the State Police will have to do a study. The township has no control over this and it’s a lengthy process.

SPEED
LIMITS

Iron County Fair Book Ad – A motion was made by Moncivais to support the fair by placing the annual ad at this year’s price of \$80. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Franzene, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

IRON CTY
FAIR BOOK
AD

MTA Principles of Governance – Clerk Moncivais read the document. A motion was made by Franzene to adopt the policy for the Board members to abide by and adhere to. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried. A copy on file in the office.

PRIN. OF
GOVERN.

GUEST COMMENTS

Exploration Mining – Rich Sloat stated that there is a statute to file a request to exclude a parcel of land from mining. He will get the info to the Board before the next meeting. Also, he would like a copy of any letter that a resident may have received to do explorative mining on parcels near the Paint River.

EXPLORA –
MINING

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall – Nothing new to report. / Sewer - The employees would like to get some more manholes replaced in Rogers. There are approx. 7 left to do. They will get bids. Last year Tarsi charged \$7500 to do 3. Benson stated that the Lagoon project is nearly ½ done. He would like some gravel for the project. The Board said to get it, it’s a maintenance issue. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Park – Nothing new to report. / Water – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – Benson would like the board to consider purchasing a sod cutter unit. It does an amazing job. Price is approx. \$325. He’ll get literature and the board will table action until the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE ...

- Summer Tax Collection – A motion was made by Franzene to have Franzene collect Summer Taxes for the Schools on behalf of Bates Township at the same price as last year. Supported by Moncivais. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Helgemo, yes; Franzene, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

SUMMER TA)
COLLECTION

INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Franzene to adjourn. Supported by Wodzinski. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM. All ayes. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held at the Township Hall on Wednesday – July 8, 2009 @ 6:00 PM.

Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: _____