

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday, March 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 & Pozniak; Constable Demboski; Marian Volek - The Reporter; Ernie Schmidt - ICRC; Residents. Commissioner Wills was absent.

ATTENDEES

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

MINUTES

Treasurer's report for the month of February 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

Sewer Grant – Supervisor Helgemo stated that he and Trustee Wodzinski met with STS (aka AECOM). There was a conference call with Rural Development. Bates is considered too wealthy based on Resident's average income. To do a project the township would have to raise sewer rates from \$24/month to \$34 month or do a special assessment district along US2 and Chicagon Mine Road resulting in a monthly sewer rate of \$84/month for those Residents. There wouldn't be a grant available just a low interest loan. STS was confident that we could get the engineering grant that was discussed at an earlier meeting. Then the township would have engineering plans on paper and would be ready to go in the event in the future that we had the money. Another option was for the township to seek a traditional loan themselves for the project. Wodzinski stated tat we should try to get the sewer line in before there are environmental problems around 28 Lake. Trustee Bobnock stated that at least the engineering would be done. A motion was made by Wodzinski to go forward with the engineering project. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

SEWER GRANT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Zoning Administrator Stowell noted that he has been working with a few Residents. Kruger, Javoroski-Reiman Road and Dirks-Emily Lake.

LAND DIVISION ORD & APP

Sunset Lake Pump house – Helgemo stated that the well is still down. It's been about a month. Both the pump and motor were replaced. Helgemo is confident that Talsma who installed the soft start will figure out the problem. Alhberg ordered a new transformer which will go in on Friday. Don Autio is also involved. Helgemo stated there is a good chance that that township can collect some insurance money on this. The township is currently waiting on vendor invoices which could total \$13000 before done. A motion was made by Franzene to authorize payment to the vendors as they invoices came in. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

SUNSET LAKE PUMPHOUSE

Budget Workshop – The Board set the date for the Budget Workshop to Monday March 16th @ 3PM. / Budget Hearing will be March 30th @ 3PM.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

UNFINISHED BUSINESS(cont'd)

Zoning & Planning Commission Schooling – A motion was made by Moncivais to cover the seminar, meals, mileage for the members that would like to go. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Motion carried. Clerk Moncivais reminded the Board that she needed to know who was going for sure in order to make reservations.

ZONING &
PLANNING
SCHOOL

Board Salary Resolutions - A motion was made by Moncivais to increase the Supervisor position to \$12,500/yr. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, abstain. Motion carried. / A motion was made by Helgemo to give the Clerk's position a 3% cost of living increase. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Helgemo, yes; Franzene, yes; Moncivais, abstain. Motion carried. / A motion was made by Moncivais to give the Trustee's position a 3% cost of living increase. Supported by Franzene. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Franzene, yes; Bobnock, abstain; Wodzinski, abstain. Motion carried. / A motion was made by Helgemo to give the Treasurer's position a 3% cost of living increase. Supported by Moncivais. Roll call vote: Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Moncivais, yes; Helgemo, yes; Franzene, abstain. Motion carried. Moncivais pointed out that for the Clerk's and Treasurer's position based upon a 40 work week the increase would amount to maybe \$.10/hour more.

BOARD &
SALARY
RESOL.

Employee Health Insurance - Supervisor Helgemo stated that Konoske is not going to retire. He has decided to stay on for 3 more years. Konoske and his wife met with Hillabrant and it appears that by changing insurance carriers the township could save approximately \$10,000-\$11,000/year. A motion was made by Franzene to authorize Helgemo and/or Moncivais to go forward with the enrollment once the final figures were in. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Motion carried.

EMPLOYEE
HEALTH
INSURANCE

Board of Review – Supervisor Helgemo extended the Board's thanks to the BOR members for doing such a great job. He stated that the township is very lucky to have them. The State continues to change the rules and it's nice to have three knowledgeable and courteous individuals acting on behalf of the township.

BOR

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – At the last board meeting the board approved the language of the ordinance and the application. A motion was made by Wodzinski to adopt the ordinance. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried. Atanasoff stated that he would have it published. Moncivais asked about the application fee. No action was taken. Tabled until next meeting.

LAND
DIVISION
ORDINANCE

Iron County Community School Program – A motion was made by Helgemo to support the program with the same dollar amount as last year (\$1292). Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Bobnock, yes; Moncivais, yes; Helgemo, yes; Wodzinski, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ICCS
PROGRAM

Bates School - Helgemo stated that there has been talk again about closing the Bates School. The Board might want to think about forming a committee. Ernie Schmidt stated that Mr. Burby never did prove that the township didn't own the school. The title insurance indicates that the school is owned by the township. Pozniak stated that they better fix the roof before they walk away. The township will have to keep an awareness of what is going to happen to the building. Helgemo also stated that Nancy Nelson did clarify that the township does NOT own a lot on Sunset Lake. In 1902 the parcel was deed by John Soderquist to the township school. In 1935 when the school closed the property reverted back to Soderquist.

BATES
SCHOOL

BATES TOWNSHIP

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Budget Amendment – A motion was made by Franzene to authorize Moncivais to amend the budget accordingly upon the close of the fiscal year. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

BUDGET
AMENDMT

MDOT Performance Resolution – A motion was made by Helgemo to adopt the resolution. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Motion carried. (A copy of the resolution on file.)

MDOT
RESOLUTION

Insurance Risk Control – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the Insurance Audit recommended that the township register its employees with the Dept of Motor Vehicles. This program will be confidential but the township will be notified when an employee gets a ticket.

INSURANCE
AUDIT

Summer Youth Worker – Clerk Moncivais explained that it has been the township's custom to give the previous year's summer youth worker a chance to come back. A motion was made by Moncivais to hire back Derek Grisset who would like to come back again this year. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried. Helgemo pointed out that Konoske and Benson were pleased with Grisset. Also, there is a youth program that possibly Grisset could get enrolled in and then he wouldn't cost the township anything.

SUMMER
YOUTH
WORKER

Dump Truck/Trailer – There was Board discussion that instead of the township buying a dump truck they could get a dump trailer. A motion was made by Bobnock to authorize the purchase of a dump trailer up to \$7000. Supported by Wodzinski. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Helgemo, yes; Wodzinski, yes; Bobnock, yes; Moncivais, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

DUMP
TRAILER

Sewer School – A motion was made by Helgemo to pay the expenses to have Benson become certified in sewer. Supported by Moncivais. All ayes. Motion carried.

SEWER
CERTIFICA-
TION

GUEST COMMENTS

Ernie Schmidt from the ICRC stated that the State denied Bates Amasa Rd as a state trunk line. Also the RC is getting some stimulus money. They should finish 651 from Gendzwill to Demboski to Phillips Rd. Wodzinski questioned if there will be work done on the Bates Amasa bridge? Schmidt stated that the structure of the bridge is sound. Maybe it will get painted. Demboski wanted to know if there was anything that could be done about the traffic speed on Demboski Rd. The board stated that it falls under the jurisdiction of the State/State Police. Helgemo asked if something could be done about the large dips in Chicagon Mine Road. Schmidt stated that maybe the township should scarify the road and do 100% dust control on it. Schmidt also stated that the township might want to put up some concrete posts by the hydrant located by Luckey's Bait Shop.

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 ...

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INVOICE APPROVAL

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Franzene to adjourn. Supported by Wodzinski. The meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried. The next regular meeting to be held at the Township Hall on Wednesday – April 8, 2009 @ 6:00 PM.

Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: _____