

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday - May 13, 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, Trustee 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 Oberlin; Marian Volek – The Reporter; Ernie Schmidt – ICRC; Residents. Trustee Wodzinski, Constable Demboski and Commissioner Wills were absent.

ATTENDEES

Franzene moved to accept the minutes of the April 8, 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:	\$	105,267.52
Sewer Fund:	\$	105,595.38
Water Fund:	\$	215,684.99
Road Fund:	\$	141,026.01
Liquor Law:	\$	

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Wills was absent.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Sewer Grant – Nothing new to report.

Sunset Lake Pump house – Helgemo stated that there was a meeting with the higher ups at UPPCO. Many others attended including Don Autio, Kleiman, Ahlberg and Attorney Atanasoff. UPPCO stated that they're not going to help the township. The township is looking at installing a variable frequency drive unit to clean up the power. Ahlberg assured us the unit will protect our pump and motor. Currently there is about \$16200 in the well. This unit is about another \$6800. Plus there is a used pump and motor in the well. This has been going on for 3 months. Soon the township will be putting a package together to turn into the Insurance Company. Attorney Atanasoff stated that the best thing to do is to have the insurance company reimburse the township and let them fight with the power company. A motion was made by Franzene to authorize the purchase of the unit from Kleiman. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote: Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Bobnock, yes; Franzene, yes; Wodzinski, absent. Motion carried.

SUNSET
LAKE
PUMPHOUSE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Zoning Administrator Stowell stated that he issued about 3 permits, and has had additional complaints on Don's Road. (He submitted photos) Helgemo stated that this is the 3rd time. Last year Supervisor Schmidt had to deal with this. The Board will be updated again next month.

Cemetery/Park Cleanup – Cemetery cleanup is done. Benson did a great job on the pavilion. Assessor Nelson said it was beautiful. Helgemo stated that there is a person that started 5/12 from Michigan Works and he's cleaning the park. Derek will start as soon as school is out.

CEMETERY/
PARK
CLEANUP

Chicagon Mine Pump house/Hall Repairs – Helgemo stated that there may be possible grant money available. He's been playing phone tag. The township originally gave Hohensee 60 days to do the project. Helgemo will keep in contact with Hohensee about going forward with the project.

CHGN
PMPHS/HALI
REPAIRS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

Digital Mapping – Franzene and Assessor Nelson attended a presentation by AECOM. It appears that they offer a better program than WUPPDR but it would cost more money. They would also train each municipality. Franzene stated that AECOM could have the program up and going within 3 months. No money has been spent yet and there will be more information at the June meeting.

DIGITAL
MAPPING

Memorial Day – Moncivais stated the Lindbeck can no longer do the program and Powell is currently in the hospital out of town. Franzene suggested that maybe Sue Passamani would be a speaker. Atanasoff suggested that maybe Aubrey would do roll call. Franzene and Moncivais will continue working on the program. Moncivais stated that Evelyn Javoroski and Lou Baumgartner will handle the Continental Breakfast at the hall.

MEM. DAY
PROGRAM

Road Projects – Helgemo stated that the bids on the roads should come in around 5/18/09. Waiting to see if Chicagon Mine Road can be turned into gravel all the way to Helgemo Road and also, old US2 where the blacktop ends.

ROAD
PROJECTS

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Junk Car Ordinance was discussed otherwise nothing new to report.

COPS Hiring Recovery Program – A letter was received from WUPPDR noting that it was the intent of the IC Sheriff's Dept to apply for Federal assistance for this program. A motion was made by Helgemo that Bates Township go on record as being 100% in favor of this. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried. Clerk Moncivais will follow-up with a letter.

COPS REC.
PROGRAM

Wellhead Protection Information – Helgemo stated that he had a meeting with AECOM. There is some grant monies available and the DEQ strongly urges the townships to do this. Wodzinski and Helgemo felt the township should hold off another year. There are just too many other projects going right now. Maybe we'll be in a better financial position next year. Atanasoff stated that he doesn't see it happening here. And he doesn't think the township should spend any money. Schmidt stated that the best protection is to get a sewer system down Chicagon Mine Road.

WELLHEAD
PROTECTION
GRANT
MONEY

Iron County Road Commission – Ernie Schmidt from the Road Commission made some brief comments regarding his thoughts that brine spreaders would be an asset to the county. There is a lot of traffic between Iron River and Crystal Falls. These would also be great to help keep primary roads such as Sunset Lake Rd safer in the winter months. Also there was discussion on the various townships' recommendations for how the county should spend its proposed millage.

ICRC

Junk Car Ordinance – Helgemo stated that he's getting calls constantly regarding junk cars. Stowell got an ordinance copy from IR Township. It's really simple and clean cut. Stowell however has nothing specific to enforce with. A motion was made by Helgemo to have Atanasoff work on a junk car ordinance that could be reviewed and passed at the next board meeting. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

JUNK CAR
ORDINANCE

West Side Veterans Council - A motion was made by Moncivais to donate \$50 that goes towards the Memorial and July 4th parades/events. Supported by Bobnock. Roll call vote Franzene, yes; Helgemo, yes; Moncivais, yes; Bobnock, yes; Wodzinski, absent. Motion carried.

WESTSIDE
VETS
COUNCIL

Camp Ottawa Closing – A motion was made by Helgemo to send a letter of support to keep the prison open to our Senator/Representatives. We'll lose children in the school system. It could be devastating to the community. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

CAMP
OTTAWA
CLOSING

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Gravel Pit – Schmidt reminded the Board that at one time it was discussed to open the township’s own pit for township use only. Just something to think about.

GRAVEL PIT

Section 16 Road Blacktop – ZBA Oberlin questioned what the maintenance program is on this road. It’s getting bad cracks and he hates to see the money spend and then wasted due to lack of maintenance. Schmidt stated that the road commission will bring a crack sealer. Helgemo Rd, East Park Dr and Forsberg & Demboski Rds should be checked also. Schmidt stated it’s from the frost. Helgemo stated its Mother Nature.

SEC 16 RD REPAIRS

GUEST COMMENTS

Exploration Mining – Rich Sloat made a presentation to the Board and noted that he also gave information to the Zoning Board about the dangers and ramifications of exploration mining. There is a possibility that a company may want to pursue this near Perch Lake. He would like to some the township adopt some ordinance and regulations that will insure the water quality. He stated that the DNR has some regulations in place but the ambiguous language doesn’t hold anyone accountable. Sloat provided the Board with additional information to review.

EXPLORA – MINING PERCH LAKE

Paint River Lots – Rich Sloat stated that he submitted a plan to the Iron County Watershed Council regarding these lots and would the township help maintain them as a primitive park. A motion was made by Helgemo to agree to participate in the maintenance of such and that Sloat could include Bates Township’s agreement in his plan. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

PAINT RIVER LOTS

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall – Nothing new to report. / Sewer - Some materials have arrived for the lagoon repair. The project will begin when they’re all in. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Park – Elmo will be back at the park on the 14th. / Water – Chicagon Mine Rd – magnetic starter is in. / Cemetery – The cemetery needs a new flag. Benson will talk to Perlongo about purchasing one through them. Also, they’ll discard the other one in proper fashion.

CORRESPONDENCE ...

- MTA Iron Cty Chapter meeting is June 2 at Mansfield Twp.

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, absent. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Franzene to adjourn. Supported by Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM. All ayes. Unanimous. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held at the Township Hall on Wednesday – June 10, 2009 @ 6:00 PM.

Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: _____