

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Wednesday – April 14, 2010 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 present. Also in attendance were Sewer/Water Dept Konoske (Benson not required to be there); ZA Stowell; Assessor Nelson; Constable Demboski; Attorney Atanasoff; Robert Pozniak, ZBA; Marian Volek –The Reporter; Residents. Commissioner Wills was absent.

ATTENDEES

Franzene moved to accept the minutes of the March 10, 2010 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:	\$ 176,975.67
Sewer Fund:	\$ 88,992.39
Water Fund:	\$ 250,163.45
Road Fund:	\$ 191,810.21
Liquor Law:	\$

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT – Commissioner Wills was absent.

GUEST COMMENTS

Wayne Koski wanted to make sure the Board is pushing for dust control on the end of Park’s Farm Rd.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

PROPOSED WATER PROJECT

Proposed Water Project – Supervisor Helgemo stated that he the Clerk and the Treasurer and employees have been working together to gather all of the preliminary information for the project. Nothing new to report.

WIC MIDDLE AUTHORITY

West Iron County Middle School – Supervisor Helgemo stated that there still isn’t an anchor tenant. Global North is no longer a quick option. Nothing new to report.

LIFT STATION PROJECT

Sewer Lift Station Projects – Supervisor Helgemo and Treasurer Franzene had a meeting with MSB on 4/12 about financing. It was a promising meeting. We will not be able to refinance. MSB will only finance material or parts, not labor or engineering. The employees are gathering a list to make sure that we have the proper materials to do the projects. The project is estimated at \$160,000. There is a tentative meeting set for 4/19 with the bonding agent. All and all loans must be bonded. Tabled until next meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zoning Update – Zoning Administrator Stowell stated that there were no ordinance violation notices. There is a building going up on Nicholson Rd. He wrote up one permit for Lot 2 on Shady Lane for a basement under a house. Lots of calls and inquiries. There is the potential to be a busy year. Clerk Moncivais has a copy of the monthly report on file.

ROAD RENEWAL NEWSLTR

Road Renewal Newsletter - Clerk Moncivais presented the Board with the newsletter. Franzene provided the labels. Moncivais will mail them out within the next week. Helgemo stated that he would almost like to see a newsletter maybe 4 times a year. The purpose of this newsletter was to let residents know that the May election ballot is seeking a renewal of the road millage.

BATES TWP SIGN

Bates Township/Nick Baumgartner Sign – Clerk Moncivais showed the Board the proposed signs from 3 Vendors. The Board agreed to display the signs at the upcoming election and see what type of feedback was received from the Residents on their choice.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONT'D)

St Germain Blasting – Nothing new to report. The inspection should be done in May.

GROUND
STORAGE
TANK
INSPECTION

Summer Youth Workers – Clerk Moncivais sent a letter to Michigan Works and the Iron County Board requesting two summer youth workers. Also, a notice will be published in the paper. Letters of interest will be reviewed at the May meeting.

SUMMER
YOUTH
WORKER

Road Blacktop Bids – Northeast Asphalt won the bids. The bids were as follows: Sec 14 Rd from Bates/Amasa Rd to O. Nichols was \$29542. Section 22 Rd was \$143258. Shoquist Rd was \$38548. There is not enough funds to do all of this so the Board may not do Shoquist Rd and might just do Section 22 Rd from Bates Amasa Rd to Thunander Rd. Tabled until next meeting.

BLACKTOP
BIDS

DNR Notice Violation - Last year the township received a letter from the DNR that the dock, launching area and the playground area at the park needed work. In 1981 the DNR paid for these items but the township agreed to maintain them. The work is currently being done by the employees.

PARK
REPAIRS

Stambaugh Twp Waterline Hookups – There are 8 Stambaugh Twp customers on Kofmehl Rd that we will start to service soon. Stambaugh Twp will pay for the complete hookup process. Franzene talked to Pellizaro about adding a clause in the agreement that says that Stambaugh Twp will pay us for the delinquencies and then they can collect through the tax rolls. Konoske will find out if their meters are compatible with ours.

STAMBAUGH
TWP
WATERLINE
HOOKUPS

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Report – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the Zoning Board met in March and reworked the ordinance book for typos and corrections. Perhaps when the draft is final and adopted the township might consider going to a book version. / Attorney Atanasoff stated that he researched the type of notice needed to abandon a waterline. There are no clear requirements but it should probably be at least 30 day minimum. In the past the Board has always provided free water with a 2 year notice.

Employee Health Insurance – There was an annual increase in the insurance but Supervisor Helgemo stated that it is still cheaper than what we were paying. We will continue on with the same carrier. Konoske was happy with them.

HEALTH
INSURANCE

Consumer Confidence Report – Konoske will let Clerk Moncivais know when the Consumer Confidence Report is ready. Moncivais will publish the availability ad.

CONSUMER
CONF.
REPORT

Westside Veteran's Council – A motion was made by Wodzinski to give \$50 towards the Memorial Day and July 4th ceremonies. Supported by Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

VETS
COUNCIL

Project Graduation – A motion was made by Franzene to give \$40 to this event. Supported by Wodzinski. All ayes. Motion carried.

PROJECT
GRAD.

Salute to EMS Personnel – A motion was made by Franzene to do an ad for \$40 to salute the Emergency Services Personnel. Supported by Bobnock. All ayes. Motion carried.

EMS
SALUTE
AD

Cemetery/Park Cleanup – Clerk Moncivais asked about the cleanup. In the past the high school senior class did the cleanup as a fund raiser. Most recently the employees have done the cleanup because the summer part time workers don't start until the end of May. The employees will do it this year and have the cemetery ready for the Memorial Day ceremony.

PARK/CEM.
CLEANUP

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Memorial Day Ceremony – The Board is always looking for volunteers. Moncivais will talk to Evelyn Javoroski about the Continental Breakfast. Helgemo suggested talking to some of the Sunset Lake people about handling the cemetery ceremony.

MEMORIAL
DAY
CEREMONY

Township Hall Flag - Moncivais will order a flag. The other was tattered and laid to rest through the proper procedure.

HALL FLAG

KSK Inc. – Supervisor Helgemo stated that the township received a letter from Krist Atanasoff regarding his company looking to sign an exclusive agreement with the township to be a natural gas provider. The Board's immediate response is that we may not be able to grant a franchise, we will need detailed legal opinions, we'll probably have to bid it out, there is concern for the use of the township sewer line easements. The Board will refer the matter to our legal department.

KSK INC.
NATURAL
GAS
FRANCHISE

Election Reminder – Clerk Moncivais reminded everyone that there is an upcoming election on Tuesday May 4, 2010. The polls open at 7am and close at 8pm.

ELECTION
REMINDER

Upcoming Training Seminars - There are several valuable and informational seminars coming up. The Board agreed to pay the seminar costs, meals and mileage for the township officials that would like to attend.

TRAINING
SEMINARS

Assessor Comments – Assessor Nelson stated that in recent correspondence the State's new legislation states that timber cut over land adjacent to your vacant land can be claimed under the PRE Homestead. The paperwork must be in by May 1, 2010.

ASSESSOR
COMMENTS

Stimulus Grant Money – A motion was made by Wodzinski to have Clerk Moncivais explore the grant possibility for a new truck for the township. Supported by Franzene.

STIMULUS
GRANT
TRUCK
MONEY

HALL, WATER, SEWER REPORTS...

Hall – The Sunset Lake Assn will do the roadside cleanup of Sunset Lake Rd. They will put the bags in the park dumpster. Pozniak reminded the Board that the old dumps road needs to be blocked again before people start dumping there. / Water – Nothing new to report. / Sewer – Nothing new to report. / Constable – Nothing new to report. / Park – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – Nothing new to report.

CORRESPONDENCE ...

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INVOICE APPROVAL

A motion was made by Franzene to pay the township invoices. Supported by Wodzinski. 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 Bobnock. The meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM. All ayes. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held at the Township Hall on Wednesday – May 12, 2010 @ 6:00 PM.

Grant Helgemo, Supervisor

Barbara Moncivais, Clerk

Date approved: _____